

Portland CEMA Inc. - Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts

Newsletter - April 2010

President's Report

Another busy arts month of arts events which have encapsulated great stories. Congratulations to Nicky Pevitt, Joanne Allwood and Angela Phillips on their current exhibition at The Arts Centre. I have noticed a wide age group engaging with this exhibition which is both personal and accessible.

Last Saturday night saw Film group hold a very successful screening of **15 Amore**, with a pre show talk by the writer/director/producer Maurice Murphy. Maurice sang the praises of his industry start with the ABC and told the story behind the story of the film. He recounted many anecdotes of his time working at the BBC on comedies and eventually with the likes of Graeme Bond and Rory O'Donoghue on the Aunty Jack series, and with Gary McDonald on Norman Gunston. Maurice's chat and film inspired a great deal of conversation between members and guests. Thanks to the Film Group committee for offering such fine hospitality to the visitors and locals alike.

I've been sidetracked in getting started on my newsletter today as I picked up my copy of Tilley and Andy Govanstone's book- **The Women Behind the Roses**. I'm a self confessed non-gardener. I love visiting gardens, walking through gardens, sitting in gardens and picking flowers to bring inside from the garden but am not good at the hands on stuff. It doesn't matter that I know nothing of roses because it was the social history aspect of this book grabbed me from the outset. Beautifully presented the book contains many historic photographs of the women and their worlds. The first rose described is the Jessie Clark, named after Alister Clark's niece. She grew up in a military family and spent part of her childhood in Queenscliffe. Information about the development of Jessie Clark the rose, and Jessie Johnston (nee Clark) the woman, is cleverly interwoven and readable. I look forward to many happy hours reading about the other women, pouring over the historic photos (and of course admiring the rose photographs). I thank the authors and publishers for using a good size print font, sensible index and great bibliography.

The Women Behind the Roses was launched at the Portland Library recently in front of many friends from this community. I enjoyed hearing the story behind the book. Congratulations to Tilley and Andy for seeing this project to its fruition whilst parenting your lovely daughters and contributing so much to the Arts and Social fabric of Portland. If CEMA members and friends would like to buy an autographed copy of this book phone Andy or Tilley. Did anyone pick the mistake on the last newsletter header?? Enjoy your arts.

Jan Colliver (President)

Membership Secretary's Report

As usual we welcome the new members who have just joined their various groups. We now number 144 members, slightly less than this time last year.

In the heyday of CEMA, theatre productions were our most prominent activities. Sadly most country theatre groups are struggling or have been wound up. A leaf could be taken from Dramus theatre group in Hamilton. After the heady days of big expensive musicals and big casts Dramus have met the difficulties with an annual program including a theatre restaurant which they tour, a one act play production and a Christmas show. They now appeal to Hamilton students who are keen to work with adults. Drumborg look forward to their performance of "Sailing South" on Saturday March 27th.

Met a chap from Melbourne at a family gathering last weekend and reflected on a play "All For Mary" performed in Heywood in 1966. Several of the cast members went on to dizzy heights, one as a senior diplomat another a well known senator. The reviewer went to New York and is still a regular columnist but alas for the rest of us that was not so. However there is always a need for someone to try and keep the home fires burning!

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

CEMA Online

Please make contact if your group's site needs updating.

Warren Mars (Webmaster)



Tilley and Andy's recently released book

THE ARTS COMPANY

It has been a concern for some time that The Arts Company space is under utilized. We are happy to welcome the 'Painting with Parkinsons' art therapy group. We have also met with a representative of the University of the Third Age, (U3A). They are working on starting branches in country areas. There is a possibility of sharing our space if the project goes ahead in Portland.

The Management decided to re-apply for funding to regenerate the Portland Emerging Artist Residency (PEAR). It is interesting to see that the historic pear trees at the rear of The Arts Company have been pruned and protected with a fence. These century old trees were used as a symbol by the previous PEAR program.

It is important to attract more visiting artists to the June Hedditch Studio Apartments. Members are asked to distribute the new advertising postcard to practitioners of their art medium to encourage more residencies.

The Artists Society are working on their new Easter exhibition. They have plans to hold a number of exhibitions in 2010.

The Pioneer Quilters were invited to show their quilts at the Portland Dahlia and Rose Festival. They exhibited 25 quilts!

The new Portland Visitor Handbook has been produced by the Portland Tourist Association and The Arts Company features prominently in the 'Attractions' section.

Note the 2010 Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th April, 6pm with guest speaker Steve Robertson will speak on Drama in Art.

Nominations for new committee members are most welcome.

Lesley Jackson (Chair)

Fibre Group

Meet at The Arts Company every Thursday at 10.30am to Knit, spin and chat!

Dorothy Longney



"Boots and All" Artist- Betty Trewavis

PORTLAND FILM SOCIETY

present:

The Damned United

Directed by Tom Hooper, released 2009

Starring:

Michael Sheen, Colm Meaney, Timothy Spall

Portland Arts Centre

Saturday 17th April 7.30 pm

Taking over England's top football club Leeds United, previously successful manager Brian Clough's abrasive approach and his clear dislike of the players' dirty style of play make it certain there is going to be friction. Glimpses of his earlier career help explain both his hostility to previous manager Don Revie and how much he is missing right-hand man Peter Taylor who has loyally stayed with Brighton & Hove Albion.
Written by [Jeremy Perkins \[fjwp@aber.ac.uk\]](mailto:fjwp@aber.ac.uk)



FILM SOCIETY

Thanks to everyone who helped make last Saturday's screening of 15 Amore and talk by the writer and director Maurice Murphy such a success, especially to our wonderful audience who are always willing to enter into the spirit of the evening with enthusiasm and participation.

Maurice and partner Helen expressed their enjoyment and thanks for a "wonderful mini holiday, and the company of so many friendly people"

Next month on Saturday April 17th we will be screening 'Damned United' a film about a British football club. Four stars each from David and Margaret..

Also don't forget to look out for our matinee films, usually screened on the same day as the official program.

Why not come along and join on the night-
6 months \$40. Conc. \$35, or
3 months \$20. Conc. \$18.

Berice Jones (Secretary)



Creative-Kids

Papier Mache
Animals
(left)

Historical Society

The next meeting of the Portland Historical Society will be on Thursday, 1st April at 1:30pm.

This meeting is to celebrate the Society's 46th Birthday and will be at the Tea Rooms of the Uniting Church Manse in Percy St. New members and interested persons welcome.

Betty Vivian (President)

Leadlighter's Guild

Continue to meet Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings and continue to welcome new members

Heather Clark (Secretary/Treasurer)

PIONEER QUILTERS

Next Meeting 12th April to work on Foundation Quilting. Members bring sewing machine and usual sewing requirements

Dorothy Longney (Secretary)

portland bay press

"down on the farm"
print exhibition, April 9th to May 31st.

Therese Dolman (Secretary)

ARTISTS' SOCIETY

Hello to all our friends at Artist Society. I hope everyone has their paintings finished for the Easter Art exhibition. Paintings are to be delivered to the gallery by the 26th March. A Sunday afternoon tea will be organised for the opening on Easter Sunday. Any donations of sponges, slices or scones will be gratefully accepted. Everyone is most welcome to come along, bring your friends or offer to help in the kitchen.

In May we will be attending the Camberwell Art Show so put it in your diary!

Sue Sambell workshop will be on Saturday the 19th of July. She paints in all mediums and will be teaching us how to paint a portrait with a live model. If you know anyone who would like to be a model please let us know.

Submitted by Emma Waters.

Contact: Anna Deacon (Secretary)

Poetry Reading Group

Continue to enjoy meeting on the Third Sunday of each month at 2pm at the Portland Arts Centre.
Newcomers welcome!

Dawn Turner (convenor)

VDL Summer School Report

On January 10th I set off to Melbourne for the week. The first day of the Summer school started on Monday with Mickayla and Di. We all got to know each other through group activities and discussions. We chose monologues that we'd be performing on the Fridays to our parents. That day was really, really hot, so after the day had finished Jo, the lady I was staying with (along with Joe, Chop and Jason), took us to the beach after tea.

After surviving the hottest night on record in Melbourne, we set out to the CBD. Here we took a tour of the Vic Arts centre and Her Majesty's Theatre. I really enjoyed this day because it gave me an insight into theatre life, and if I pursue an acting career I'd definitely be a stage actress. On Wednesday Jo taught us a dance that we'd perform on Friday, from 'Bugsy Malone'. I finally got the hang of it too, which was amazing.

Wednesday night we went to a dress rehearsal of a play that Jo was involved in.

Thursday was clowning, which I loved. We painted on our faces and dress ourselves in costume. We learnt how to juggle and balloon model. Heaps of laughs!

Friday was performing day. We worked on our monologues and the performance went smoothly. Over all, I really enjoyed the week. I got to meet people around my age who were interested in the same sort of things as me. I'd never been away from my family for a week, staying with people I didn't know at all, I think I really grew up. A really great week and I recommend it to anyone thinking about a life as an actor or even if you just love performing.

D'Arcy Crossley - CEMA Scholarship recipient

The "Bugsy Malone" dancers are featured below.



D'Arcy Crossley front left and Liam Barr back right



A Community Partner of CEMA Inc
2008-2010
"Arts For Life"



Victorian drama League– Summer School clowning workshop

Layout: Venetian Press

Coming Up School Holiday Entertainment

➤ **ALICE IN WONDERLAND** – a pantomime
Date: Monday, 29 March, 11.00am and 1.30pm
Venue: Portland Arts Centre
Admission: Full price \$15 Child \$10
Special Ticket deal: 'ALICE IN WONDERLAND'
plus 'THE GRUFFALO' Full price \$20 Children \$12

➤ **THE GRUFFALO**
Date: Wednesday, 7 April, 12.00pm and 2.00pm
Venue: Portland Arts Centre
Admission: Full price \$15 Child \$10

Bookings: Portland Arts Centre 55 22 22 63



Design your own beautiful silk painting and hair ribbon with local artist Kathryn Weatherly.

With all materials provided students will learn techniques to produce two unique artworks guided by an experienced artist.

Date: Saturday 27th March

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm **Cost:** \$70

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Send submissions to: newsletter@portlandcema.org.au