

THE Artful DODGER

December 2015

1.n.roystering young pickpocket from Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist. 2.n. printed handbill full of tidings from the WMI&AA with a closing date for contributions of 25th of each month to Ken Virtue on 0411238377 or kenvirtue@gmail.com



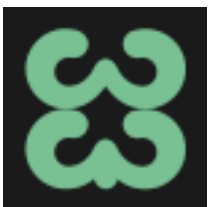
Borneo bound

Our beloved WMI&AA President, David Tynan, is travelling across Borneo as the supervisor of one of his Senior School's overseas educational treks.

The timing of his trip meant that he was unable to see the finished production of his directorship of "God of Carnage."

No doubt he is awaiting the video, and swatting mosquitoes as we speak..

**Don't miss out on seeing WTC's "God of Carnage"
Book now to see this highly acclaimed show !**



WARRANTDYTE
MECHANICS INSTITUTE AND
ARTS ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED



**Contact : Rosemary
Climas 9844 2154**



Christmas is here – again – it seems to come more quickly each year.

To celebrate the end of the year and because it is too late to begin making pots Anne is conducting a Lino printing class on Tuesday 1st. All welcome. Should be a fascinating day and all materials are available for \$5 per head.

Last Thursday was not the best of days. You may remember strong storms... I had packed my car on for an early departure on Thursday morning to the U3A exhibition only to find that my drive was blocked by a huge fallen tree.

What to do? I rang Bo who was exhibiting with me. She, kind lady, came all the way from Greensborough and rescued me by passing pots and props through the mesh of fallen greenery. She then drove me to U3A and helped me to set up. Later that day she drove me plus pots home. So thank you so much to Bo and I hope the Christmas Fairy brings you a lovely surprise.

Break-up Christmas lunch will be at “Landfall”: on Tuesday 15th December at 12.30.

To all WMI&AA members from the Potters, have a fabulous break !

2016 dates are Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd February and fees are due on these days.

Contact: Marjorie Beecham 9844 3206



No further news about reinvigoration of our Painting Group. Any interested members should contact WMI&AA President David Tynan on 9844 5727.

NO LIGHTS NO LYCRA!

“Dance like no one is watching”

Every Wednesday 7-8 pm in the Hall – Entry \$5



A reminder - Christmas party – All welcome

For your diary ... **Saturday December 12th** at Sim and David's after 7pm
121 Brackenbury Street

Another reminder (but I think Ken has this covered). We are very proud of our version of *The God of Carnage* – especially our Saturday night efforts and hope you (and at least half your friends) will be able to get along and see one of the remaining three performances.

A few interesting points to note I reckon. At Saturday's performance there was a lot of audience response. I was reflecting on this and remember that about 15 mins into the play an audience member called something out – audibly. It was perfectly in keeping with the action and not at all disrespectful of the actors, ie: not a heckle. I felt the acceptance of this was, knowing the audience was engaged, that the actors rose to the occasion and the audience continued to engage with laughter, groans and comments. It felt good!

On the other side of the ledger, someone left their phone on and their GPS kicked in audibly! I have no idea why the GPS felt it necessary to give directions during a performance! Said audience member continued to send and receive texts during the show, annoying those around her. Well it was a play about lack of manners.

And back to the positive ... We successfully experimented with the concept of a Q&A with cast following the play. This is a cunning ploy to encourage the audience to take an interval after the action and then ask the cast what it was all about. The concept worked, though I am not sure if we would do it for every show.

Follies 2016

We had a productive writers' meeting a couple of Fridays ago and scripts are creeping in. We are well short of a full show however, so can I encourage those of you with ideas to get writing or at least share your ideas so someone else might turn it into a sketch.

Stay tuned for future meetings.

And finally

We are choosing plays for future production. Can I call upon interested members to send me their suggestions or comments in respect to our choices. This is something we would like to formalize in the future but for now, if you have any suggestions, send them through.

Adrian Rice

WTC President

Email aderice@tpg.com.au

Telephone 9844 1528

Theatre Review – “God of Carnage”

Four very accomplished actors had us enthralled as we watched this exceedingly clever play by French playwright Yasmina Reza. Warrandyte Theatre Company has never been shy in bringing off-beat and perhaps difficult plays to the local stage, but as usual they pulled it off to perfection.

The play particularly appeals to anyone who is a parent, as the plot concerns two sets of parents attempting to meet amicably to discuss Alan (Adrian Rice) and Anita's (Simone Kiefer) son's indiscretion. Their 11-year-old boy has poked a stick at a playmate, Michael (Tony Clayton) and Veronica's (Naomi Oosting) son, in the process knocking out two of his teeth. That's what young boys do, right?

The meeting starts well with mutual politeness, but as the plot slowly unravels, initially with coffee and apple, pear and gingerbread clafoutis but later with much alcohol consumed, the play descends into a delightful farce of parental warfare; the parents behaving worse than the children. The cleverness in the script is the constant changing of alliances. Initially it is one set of parents against the other. Then it becomes for a while the men against the women. Then, one individual siding with or railing against another. The unseen children are not exempt; at one point the aggressor is debated as being the victim as it was the injured son who had dobbed and would not let him into his gang. And this constant changing of alliances onstage severely

taxes the intellect of the audience; who do we agree with and who do we hate now? It was interesting that different sections of the audience laughed at different lines.

The highlight for me was when Alan, who had annoyingly spent much of the meeting being interrupted by his mobile phone and conducting business conversations, had the said phone snatched off him and immersed in a vase of water: a trick I must try when next annoyed in a Warrandyte restaurant!

I said at the start that WTC had been courageous in bringing this play here written as it was in Europe and reflecting more European or particularly American social values. The behaviour was simply not Australian. Perhaps here we don't take these childish altercations so seriously. Certainly we would not have spent the evening in disagreement continually arguing the points; we would have just walked out and agreed to disagree.

But a very enjoyable evening and mentally stimulating for the audience. Brilliantly performed. We are so lucky to have such talent here. And congratulations to David Tynan for his original direction, and to Ken Virtue who stood in later during David's absence. Thank you WTC.

David Hogg
November 2015.

“God of Carnage” Rehearsal scenes



L_R above: Simone Kiefer, Naomi Oosting, Adrian Rice and Tony Clayton.

Left : Naomi and Tony argue about having a drink.

Below: Naomi & Tony discuss the finer points of marriage and world affairs.



Potters learn Lino printing



Above Left : The master Potter, Marjorie, learns from the master Lino printer, Anne.

Above Right : A variety of Lino art including Sheryle's 'pelicans'.

Left: Brenda's 'magpies'

Below Left : Melissa's 'artichokes'

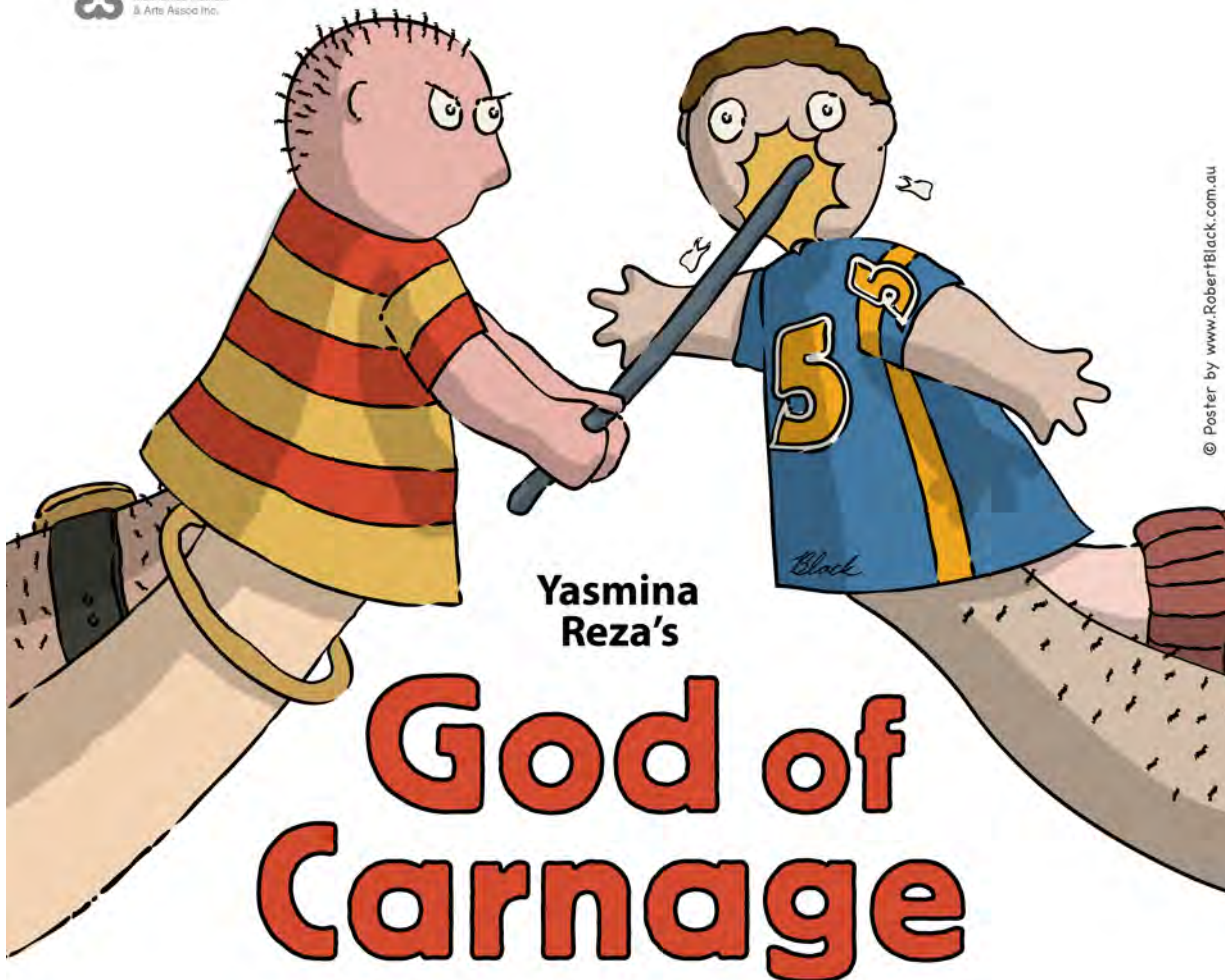


The Potters wish to thank Anne for inspiring the Potters with her beautiful prints and also for sharing tools and directions.

A great day was had by all !

LAST 3 SHOWS ! GREAT REVIEWS! HURRY, BOOK NOW !

Warrandyte Theatre Company presents...



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Yasmina
Reza's

God of Carnage

A Comedy of Manners...
Without the Manners

November 27-28,
December 4-5 at 8pm

Matinee December 5 at 2:30pm

Tickets \$25 (Concession \$20)

Mechanics Institute Hall, Cnr Yarra St and Mitchell Ave

Book at warrandytehallarts.asn.au/tickets





The Light Quartet in Warrandyte

On October 17th Warrandyte Music (our unofficial name) held our third concert at the wonderful Warrandyte Hall with the Light Quartet. The Light Quartet is a dynamic group composed of stunning local musicians - Matthew Arnold - violin & viola, Michael Johnson - harp & piano, Evripides Evripidou - guitar and from across the Westgate, David Jones on percussion. These artists play regularly in venues such as the Melbourne Recital Centre and I am pleased to say that they loved playing in the Warrandyte Hall - they loved the ambience, acoustics and the generosity and good will of the audience.

The evening was a wonderful success in all ways. The music of course was stunning and the comments from those attending were in praise of the music, the musicians and in bringing concerts such as these to Warrandyte. There were a number of comments of how “the music that was played touches the soul” and “brings a joyful feeling”. The music that the Light Quartet play ranges in style from jazz to folk to meditative with incredible improvisations. It is a true joy to experience the Light Quartet as their music exudes a feeling of joy and peace whilst to watch the interplay of the musicians is also wonderful. It is great to look out for their smiles, nods and winks as they too experience a great evening of synergistic connection with each other.

The audience was a great mix of locals and those that had traveled from afar to hear this group play. Having lived in Warrandyte for the past few years now I am very pleased as it has been a dream and a goal to host concerts of beautiful music and I have found the perfect venue and environment.

As audience members left the hall there were a number of dismayed faces to hear that there was not another concert organised at the time. However now there is. There is a wonderful program of concerts planned for 2016 covering many genres of music so that there is something for everyone - look out for classical, jazz, baroque and even a bush dance!

We will begin the year as we left this one - with the very special “Light Quartet” on Saturday February 13th 2016.

We hope to see you there.