APRIL:2010

THE Artful DODGER

1.*n.* roystering young pickpocket from Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*. 2.*n.* printed handbill full of tidings from the W.M.I.&A.A. with a closing date for contributions of 25th of each month to Alan Cornell on 98444111 or alan@commercialventure.com.au

"An artist is a creature driven by demons. He doesn't know why they choose him and he's usually too busy to wonder why," said William Faulkner.

And haven't we been busy this last month!

Anyone involved in the Follies is looking forward to a merciful break over Easter.

We can vouch for the fact that the builders have been busy - you remember why they're called conveniences when you don't have them. And aren't we enjoying the fruits of their labour which are largely completed.

Pauline, Noelle and Marjorie agonised over colour cards and came up trumps.

Painters, potters and crafties have been as productive as ever as their first term draws to a close. Already?

Many of our members were busy in the Festival in one way or another.

The Andersons were busy garden bees with an Open Garden the weekend leading up to the Festival. I am grateful to Sandra Finger Lee for the photos she sent me of the event.

And as you can see, our president continues to paint the town of Shanghai red, with the recent help of Brian Laurence who was over there with Erin McKimm doing wonderful sounding things for the Australian Pavilion at Shanghai Expo 2010.

While mentioning Ken, we were sad to hear about his Dad, who died very recently.

In other news, Jack Stringer is in hossy having a bionic knee installed. We hope it goes well, especially considering he's required back on the piano stool for the last week of the Follies.

So have restful Easter. Because when Term 2 starts, it's time to get busy again.

Dates to Remember:

8, 9,10 April - Final Follies Performances
13 April - Potters Second Term starts
15 April - Theatre Company AGM
6, 9 May - One Act Play Auditions
23 May - Painters & Potters Bargain Sale

Group reports.

Theatre

1.Follies

Speaking of love, how about that Follies? The best Follies ever some were heard to say.... Serious thanks to the cast and crew for making the magic happen yet again - what a community we are, and what magic things we can make when we row in the same direction!

2. WTC AGM (Thu 15/4)

While our committee is happy with the progress we have made this year on a number of fronts, there will definitely be some fresh committee blood needed to fill various roles in the next 12 months. Please consider joining the committee for 2010-2011, and find out what real community commitment means! The AGM is where it all happens - reports, outrageously ambitious ideas, and lots of big statements - see you there!

3. OAP Auditions (6th & 9th May)

Although we have a little time in April to reclaim our non-theatre lives, don't forget that we have One Act Play auditions coming up on 6th and 9th May. We are still seeking one more director - might that be you? It is an ideal opportunity for someone to try their hand at directing for the first time, with excellent support offered! Let me know if you are interested.

- *Red Hot in Amsterdam (by Patricia Robertson).* Running from the amsterdam Police, diamond thieves Frank and Mickey find an open window, clamber inside, and discover they are in a brothel. they hide the diamonds and escape, planning to return later. corrine and kora, two working girls, have other ideas.
(Directed by Phyl Swindley.)

- *The Shock of Recognition (by Robert Anderson).* Playwright Jack Barnstable auditions Richard Pawling for a role that requires nudity and discovers the overeager actor is more than willing to show his stuff.
(Directed by someone who has not yet put their hand up.)

- *Mental (by Jo brand and Helen Griffin).* How thin is the line between madness and sanity? are lunacy and genius inextricably linked? two disturbed women get down to the knitty-needle.
(Directed by Adrian Rice.)

Production dates are 25,26 June & 2,3 July with OAP Festival dates to be announced when available.

4. Deck Love

Can I finally, on behalf of other company members, confess an already deep and true love for our new deck - it has quickly become our leisure lounge of choice, particularly with a couch, good company and a glass of red. Thank you one and all for yet again verifying the proverbial "if you build it, they will come...".

David Tynan 9844 5727

Pottery

Second term looms as a busy one. We have taken delivery of our first letter box and Ceri has already designed a bird theme for it.

The Painters have invited us to contribute to their bargain sale to be held in the Hall on Sunday May 23rd. The plan is to glaze all the orphans we have accumulated over the last five years and sell them as pure profit for the studio. I would be most grateful for some help.

Next term dates are 13 April to June 23rd. Have a great Easter.

Marj Beecham 9844 3206

Painting

Congratulations to Pat & John Anderson for their most successful "Open Garden" weekend.

Dates to remember - BARGAIN SALES Sunday May 23rd, 10-4 pm. We welcome the POTTERY GROUP to exhibit with us this day. The following sale will be Sunday 26th September, 10-4pm. Paintings framed, unframed, must have mounts around the unframed. All mediums, any size. To be delivered to the Hall between 9am - 10am.

Hope you all have a pleasant and safe Easter Season.

Pauline Cross 9439 1775

Craft

Rosemary Climas 9844 2154

On 1st March, The Australia Council for the Arts launched its research report on our participation in the arts.

The bottom line is:

- Over 16 million Australians are actively participating in the arts.
- Visual arts and crafts is the most popular creative activity, with 22 per cent of people doing some form of painting, sewing, woodwork or art photography, for example.
- Literature is also popular with 7 per cent of people writing a novel or short story. 5 per cent of people have written poetry.

Now that's a sobering statistic.

The 4th April marked the anniversary of the death of Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey". Although Larry died peacefully at the age of 84, it became a traumatic time for his family as they lowered him into his coffin. They put his left leg in, and then the trouble started.

The Garden of Anderson

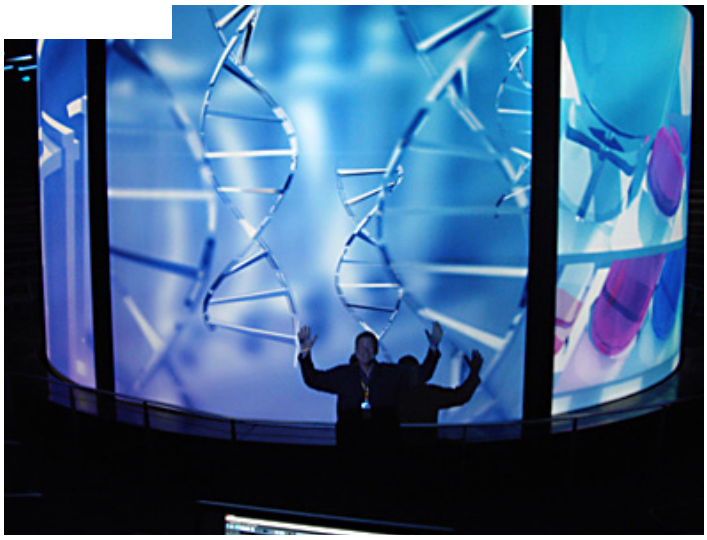
On the weekend of 13/14 March, Pat and John Anderson opened their beautiful garden to hordes of admiring visitors and raised $16,500 for the North Warrandyte CFA. Botanic beauty and fragrance was further complemented by delightful music from Barry McKimm, his daughter Caitlan on bass guitar, friend Peter Smith on acoustic guitar and, on Saturday, Jack Stringer on piano on the back lawn.

Thanks to Sandra Finger Lee for the pics.

Ken's brush with Expo

70 million visitors are expected to visit Australia's pavilion at Shanghai Expo between May and November.

Our man in Shanghai, Ken Virtue, had a sneak peak to check the paintwork, and reckons our $85 million creation is in the top few for quality. He also caught up with Brian Laurence who is working on the sound for a 12 minute audio visual presentation that features 6 large revolving screens which raise and lower during the presentation.



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