DECEMBER:2011

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 98444995 or alan@commercialventure.com.au

WETTING OF THE YEAR

On a very soggy November Saturday, our Treasurer and our former Theatre Pres, Simone and David, got married. The ceremony in the state park was moving and moist, followed by a rousing reception in the Hall.

We all wish them a life filled with joy, plus a little drama and a few theatrics in their spare time.

STAGE FLOOR GOES UNDER THE HAMMER

Construction starts on 13 December under the guidance of Phil Dyer. No bookings till the end of January, then Folly on.

PAT YOUNG

In late October, we lost another member and friend with the passing of former Manningham mayor, Pat Young. Pat's interest in our activities, particularly music, included frequent help in obtaining Council funding. A great loss to Warrandyte.

THEATRE COMPANY SPONSORS

A big thank you to all the sponsors who supported the WTC this year. We are now seeking sponsors for 2012, with benefits including ads in programs and publicity material reaching over 2,000 residents, and free tickets to all productions.

We're happy to announce that the Warrandyte Community Bank has taken a $2,000 sponsorship to get the ball rolling. But there are a range of levels available starting from only $125. Contact Naomi Oosting on 0427 171 975.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday 10 December, 5:30pm Christmas on the Deck
Thursday 12th & Sunday 15th January Follies Auditions

Group reports.

As another year rushes to a close may I take this opportunity to wish all the members of the WAA a very Happy Christmas and a fantastic New Year. I would like to thank Alan for his continuous production of the "Dodger", a very taxing job.

The final celebration for the potters (of which there have been many) is a luncheon at Landfall' Tues 6th December at 12:30 (bring a plate). *(Sorry the Dodger's too late, Marj).*

Pottery wise, thanks to Kay and Val- with their help we presented an interesting exhibition for U3A Friday about mixing Pottery with Ikebana.

Dates for next year are 1st day pottery Feb Tues 7th and Wed 8th at 10am. Fees are payable on those days.

Marj Beecham 9844 3206

Our last meeting for the year will be our Christmas luncheon at Samson Hill Winery, Kangaroo Ground, Wednesday 7th December at 12 noon, bring a little gift for our Kris Kringle. *(Sorry the Dodger's too late, Pauline).*

Hope you all have a joyful and safe Christmas holiday season.

Pauline Cross 94391775

Put on your glad rags,
Grab your fare, cheer and all
Then toddle on down for fun at the Hall!

Our wonderful deck is the centrepiece for our Christmas celebration, Sat 10 Dec from 5.30pm. We'll fire up the Bar-B. BYO everything else.

Finally, some Follies dates for next year:
Deadline for scripts : 8 January
Auditions: 12 & 15 January
Performances: 15,16,17,22,23,24,29,30,31 March.

Lisa Upson 9844 1436

Rosemary Climas 9844 2154

Irving Reid *(9 November 1937 - 31 October 2011)*

Unlike Macbeth, Irving Reid was surrounded by "honour, love, obedience, troops of friends" as he lay dying at home and at the monumental celebration of his life in St. Stephen's Anglican Church Warrandyte. In Jock Macneish's extension of the little bush church, gum trees and sunlight, which Irving loved to paint, seemed to flow past the altar.

Unlike Macbeth, Irving did not fight his way to the top. Rather he explored his many talents of painting, philosophy, teaching mathematics, drama, conversation, protection of wild life and the bush, devotion to his family and to Warrandyte. John Barnes remembered evenings of philosophy and literary criticism where Irving did not go for the kill, enjoying, more than an argument, the stimulating exchange of ideas. I have memories of 1960s dinner parties when Irving's face crumpled up with laughter at Stewart Joy's outrageous economic rationalist propositions, common place two decades later. Irving's laughter seemed to say, "I totally disagree with you but let's not spoil a good evening by going for the jugular."

Irving painted a huge portrait of my Father, Professor Edward Gault, Pathologist, a family friend of Irving's mentor, Professor Osborne, Physiology, legend of Professor's Hill Warrandyte. My Mother thought my Father's eyes were not quite right and Irving obligingly made changes. Instead of the heroic, missionary, Irving's portrait gave an impression of melancholy which had dogged my Father's life, but Irving was not to know. Such was his sensitivity.

When Tahn arrived from Vietnam to join Duc, Sasha and Lynton, Irving and Yvonne asked me to be his god mother. The occasion was marked at St. Stephen's Church and afterwards with a photo of exagerated triumph with Irving in John Cleese mode. Our families intertwined. Rosie, whose husband Uche Nawabachili from Nigeria died three weeks after their wedding in 2006, remembers the kindness and sensitivity of Yvonne and Irving. When Stewart died in 1998, they were there.

When I met Daryl in 2007, Irving created a striking portrait of crossed muscled arms over a blue shirt against a brown background. Daryl's gaze was distant, his beard streaked with blue. It seemed to me that Irving understood Edvard Munch's realisation that painting could not compete with photography. Painting offered the vivid image. When we moved to Heathcote we saw remnants of the massive rocks Irving had been given to build his castle in North Warrandyte. The children had played among the rocks for years before the masterpiece emerged.

I have often told of Irving's performance with Tim Sherwood in "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" by Tom Stoppard. After a few years of regular theatre going in London, we returned to Warrandyte for this first rate production. "Nothing in London could be better." I exclaimed.

A week before Irving died, we asked for prayers in the tiny church at Costerfield near Heathcote. "I know Irving Reid," said Jack Frazer who had often heard from his son John at Ivanhoe Grammar School of this most excellent teacher.

Louise Joy
9 November 2011

WMI&AA 2012 (January - December)
SUBSCRIPTIONS Cheques payable to ***WMI&AA Inc.*** Post to ***Treasurer, WMI&AA, PO Box 150, Warrandyte 3113.***

Name:.....

Address:.....

Phone:.....Email:.....

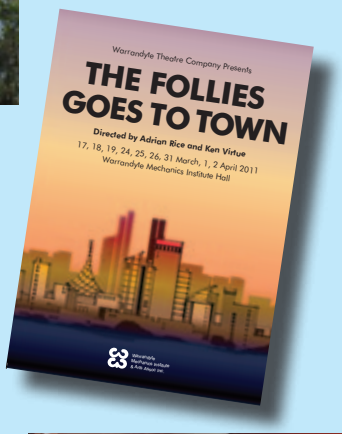
❒ **Adult $20** ❒ **Family $30** Would you like your newsletter sent by email? ❒ YES ❒ NO

A Rave Review.

FEBRUARY

...Potters sign up for another Festival...

...Naomi signs up 19 local businesses to sponsor the Theatre Company's 2011 productions, with Ruby Tuesday as the major sponsor. At last! Colour programs!...



MARCH

...The Follies goes to town under the practised eyes of Ken and Adrian. The audiences flood in, and so does the rain. Send for the plumbers...

MAY

...Potters pack their troubles into Manningham's *Memories in a Box*...

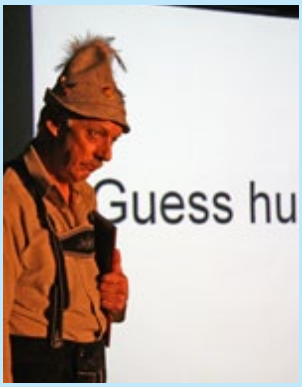
...Painters in the frame for their Bargain Sale...

...David Tynan surrender's the WTC throne and Lisa Upson becomes the Drama Queen...

....AGM draws more people than Pat can count on her hands...

JUNE

...One Act Plays reveal how to burn down a heritage hall, how to make love to a washing machine and what your therapist looks like in a Freudian slip...



APRIL

...Pottery girls line up to try their brand new loo...

JULY

...As the One Act Players tread the boards at Macedon and Gembrook, borers eat the boards in the kitchen. Over the next few months we fix the floor, re-carpet, paint the super room and reconvene around a flash new table...

SEPTEMBER

...Painters are Springing up all over the place, as well as at the Hall for another successful Bargain Sale...

OCTOBER

...The Crafties lose a great friend in Margaret Bourke. A short time later the Theatre Company's loses one of its greatest stalwarts in Irving Reid....

...A wonderful production of *Almost, Maine* puts the Theatre Company up in northern nights....

AUGUST

...Potters take on limestone, with just a splash of gin...

NOVEMBER

...unable to contain their lust any longer, Simone and David marry...

...Ceramic aficionados by the busload visit the Potters' studio, and Marj's studio, on their Open Day...

... Daryll and John McC try to alienate the writers for Follies 2012: A Space Oddity...

DECEMBER

...Thanks to the Central Committee, group co-ordinators and everyone who contributed to another year of WAA (Wonderful Artistic Achievement)...

...and to *Dodger* helpers, Noelle and Anthony.

Merry Christmas, and another creative New Year!