March 2017

The Artful DODGER

1.*n.* roystering young pickpocket from Charles Dicken's *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 David Tynan on 98445727 or davidtyn@gmail.com

Its a busy Follies time!

Hard working directors Louise Phelan and Simone Kiefer are busier than the proverbial shaping the 2017 Open Book Follies, which opens very shortly. There is talk this may be the best Follies ever - I guess we will have to wait and see. See more detail in Adrian's report inside.

Don't forget to book your table via https://www.trybooking.com/OUKV

Warrandyte Festival 40th Anniversary Book

In the hall Saturday night (Mar 4), the Festival Committee launched a fabulous 40th Anniversary limited edition book – celebrating 40 years of Warrandyte Festivals from 1977- 2017. This beautiful, large format, full colour book celebrates 40 years from 1977 in words and pictures including all the fun and highlights of the Parade, Billycart Derby,

Kids Market, Bands, night entertainment, waterslide and all the special themes and displays that have made our festival so unique and "Warrandytish".
To order your copy, go the festival web site at **http://www.warrandytefestival.org/**

Recognition for the most recognisable face in Warrandyte!

At the recent Community Australia Day Awards (for Federal seat of Menzies), arguably the most well-connected and generous person in Warrandyte was recognised for her highly valued and consistent contribution to the local community. She is an amazing contributor to the local arts community, including the WMIAA and the WTC. Well deserved Denise!

Group reports

Pottery News

First term has begun with a bang.
Four birthdays - one very big one for Noelle - congratulations and welcome to the top row!
Welcome back from Africa to Brenda and welcome back after a couple of years break to Liz - it is great to have you with us again.

Marjorie Beecham

Theatre News

The Open Book Follies 2017

It's Follies time again! Hopefully you already know this and are well on the way to organising several tables of friends to come and along and enjoy the show. A small but perfectly formed and enthusiastic cast under the creative eye of Simone and Louise will bring you "Open Book Follies" with an original film by Lawrence Phelan and Matt Wallace.

Dates: 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th, 31st March; 1st, 6th, 7th, 8th April
Tickets online at www.trybooking.com/oukv
Enquiries to davidtyn@gmail.com

Congratulations … to:

* Lisa Upson on her "Lyrebirds" award – best actor female for her part in "Becky's New Car" at Peridot Theatre.

* Susan Rundle who is now an elected member of the Victorian Drama League Committee.

Warrandyte Festival - come and march in the annual parade!

The festival is on Saturday/Sunday 26th/27th March and as usual we aim to march along Yarra Street. It is generally the cast of the Follies who march but since we represent the whole WTC and further, the Arts Association we would like to extend an invitation to all members to come along and join in. In 2016 we almost didn't arch since there were just a handful of us available. You'll agree I'm sure that this sends the wrong message and we need a large mob to promote the activities of the WMIAA.

We will be cooking breakfast for you from 9 ish at the hall, then donning costumes and assembling around 10.45 to walk along Yarra St. The aim is to have more marchers than the Ringwood bagpipe band!

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Please RSVP to Adrian on 0439 311 428 or aderice@tpg.com.au for catering purposes.

WTC Committee news

After 7 years on the committee and 2 as President (I think it was 2) Daryll Mitchell is stepping down. We thank Daryll for his contribution, time and hard work. The committee at the moment is:

- Adrian Rice – President
- Lou Phelan – Secretary
- Simone Kiefer – Treasurer
- Tony Clayton
- Lisa Macgibbon
- Renata Levin-Buckland
- Susan Rundle
- Naomi Oosting – Casual
- Lisa Upson - Casual

We would like to hear from you if you are interested in joining the committee. You would be very welcome. Recently we have "created" Casual Membership of the committee in recognition that people generally have a lot on their plates and multiple other demands and commitments. Please have a think if you can spare us some of your time. We meet once a month – every third Monday.

And a summary of other items from the last meeting.

* Potential movement of productions in the calendar with no OAPs this year but two full length productions – Sept and Nov/Dec. TWYT production in July not Sept.

* Brief Encounter to be the end of year production. Arian to direct with David Rackham putting together the musical team.

* Adrian to complete Community Grant applications to request support from Manningham CC to purchase new equipment: Microphones, projector and laptop.

* Entry of items into VDL and Lyrebird awards schemes. While noting that we are not "award driven" it was felt that entering these competitions with increased adjudication would raise our profile among the theatre goers of Melbourne. It is noted that it is often not known that we have an active Theatre Company here.

A final note from one of our members - Liz Long, a big shout for a show in Melbourne ... "The Play That Goes Wrong" at the Comedy Theatre. Liz enjoyed the show and highly recommends it.
If anyone wants the alternative view of this show I know someone ...

Adrian Rice

Noelene looks disdainfully at what Caroline has handed to her. Sometimes creativity has limits - except when it comes to Caroline's costumes, which will feature again this year!

Warrandyte Music Concerts

Our recent concert on February 25th was another evening of stunning music from highly accomplished local musicians. We are still considering how to encourage awareness of the concerts in the Warrandyte and greater community as a number of people on the evening commented "this music is so great, why aren't there more people here?". We had an intimate and very attentive audience and it's a great question "how to bring greater awareness to the community of the concerts?"

Every musician or band that plays at our wonderful local hall are of the calibre to play at the Salon or the main hall at the Melbourne Recital Centre. I do really encourage you to write down the following dates for the next two concerts and give yourself a very special evening of fine music!
April 22nd - Concert pianist Danae Killian will play for us classical piano works and contemporary piano pieces composed by local composer Eve Duncan.
And May 27th sees the return of the exceptional ensemble The Light Quartet. The Light Quartet comprise two of Australia's best musicians on percussion and bass - David Jones and Evripides Evripidou, joined by Matthew Arnold and his rich and masterful violin playing of many musical genres and Michael Johnson on harp who creates the exciting, divine and deeply textured music the ensemble play.
Please share our concerts with your family and friends and perhaps even receive a surprise yourself when you come down to the hall and experience the exceptional performances on offer.
We hope to see you at a future event!

Lisa Pearson

... and a review from Pat

What a shame there was such a small audience for a magnificent performance in the Warrandyte MI Hall on Feb 25th by Free Reign. This concert was organised as part of a series by Lisa Pearson. These performances occur approximately once a month and, like local theatre, are local (no need to drive to the city and pay for parking), inexpensive, intimate (because of the size of the hall) and of a surprisingly high standard. If you haven't yet been to one, then give it a go and support someone who is endeavouring to bring musical performance to the public stage in Warrandyte.

Free Reign is an amazing quartet led by Tony Leonard and comprises Tony on guitar, or mandolin or keyboard and voice, supported by Jenny Rowlands on 'cello, Matthew Arnold on violin and Wendy Rowlands on keyboard, or piano accordion or viola. All their songs and instrumental numbers are original. The style of music is hard to categorise, being somewhere between folk, jazz and classical chamber and involving improvisation.

Warrandyte
Mechanics Institute
& Arts Assoc Inc

Warrandyte Theatre Company presents

OPEN BOOK FOLLIES

March 23, 24, 25, 30, 31. April 1, 6, 7, 8.

Mechanics Institute Hall corner of Mitchell Ave & Yarra St

8PM. TICKETS $ 25 (Concession $20)

Bookings https://www.trybooking.com/OUKV

The Warrandyte Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following organisations

Ruby Tuesday Handmade Jewellery

gardinermcinnes a good move

Warrandyte Community Bank® Branch Bendigo Bank

Scenes from WTC BBQ.

To Lou Phelan as the winner of the inaugural Theatre Company Finska competition. Lou romped home in emphatic style, quashing the hopes of early favourites Kiefer, Rice and Upson. Accusations and protests that the umpire was too lenient in his interpretation of the front foot rule led to nothing and crowd darling Phelan richly deserved her prize which must be kept dust free until the end of the year. Additional photos show the crowd, enthralled at the action and Cornell, J, not allowing the tea break to cramp her elegant style. Though if she had put her plate down, maybe should would've made the final.

The Sharp End

One of our multi-talented members and WMIAA Web and all things digital guru Robert Black moonlights as a terrific cartoonist - you may have seen his work in other publications, including in the Warrandyte Diary. Robert generously permits us to publish one of his 'gently twist' cartoons each month - thanks Robert!

"And in news just in … the giant ape, King Kong, has taken an elevator to the top of the Empire State Building. Why that's news, I don't know."

Other arty stuff happening …

Warrandyte 40th Anniversary Festival

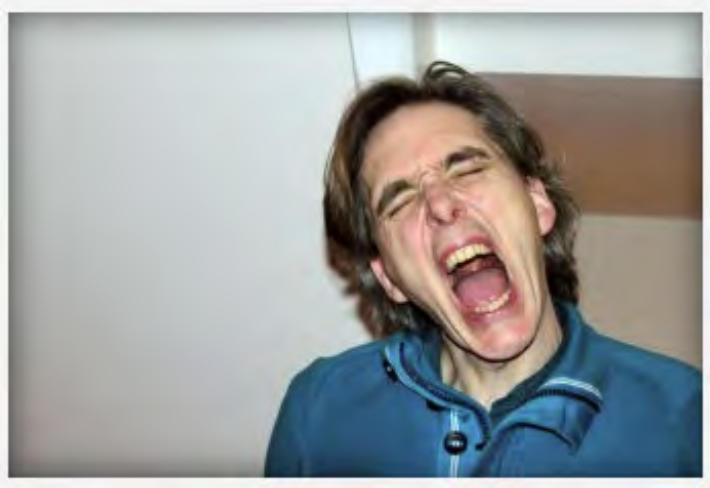
Dust off your flares and prepare to disco like it's 1977! It's time to celebrate 40 years of the Warrandyte Festival! Come and join us as we eat, drink, dance, billy-cart, parade, create, sing, watch films and celebrate on the banks of Yarra River in beautiful bushy Warrandyte.

There will be a craft market, delicious food stalls, live music, a light sculpture competition, dance classes, street parade and loads more! The complete program will be released shortly. Check http://www.warrandytefestival.org/ for the complete program.

Chocolate Lilies on Radio National

If you missed hearing Chocolate Lilies recently on Radio National, Life Matters (March 2) don't worry , you can download the episode from the web site:

http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/lifematters/convincing-the-tone-deaf-they-can-sing/8316394



The program focused more on another choir as we had no-one that felt they were tone deaf, Laurie however spoke about perceived pitch problems (I don't hear them!). Do however listen to the very end of the program as it includes us singing Harriet Tubman and some very nice comments from both presenters

Nerida Kirov

The Melbourne Passion Play

Not exactly Oberammergau in the Bavarian Alps, but this annual event that takes place locally on Palm Sunday (April 9 at 1.30pm) and Good Friday (April 14 at 10am).

It may be too late to be involved in an acting role (details at www.passionplay.info), but as an audience you can be carried along through the story. The event has been taking place in Templestowe since 2009. When I attended once, it was in Ruffey Park. The audience could follow the events by being part of the crowd, by being intimidated by roman soldiers etc. It is certainly theatre with a difference.

Pat Anderson

You can own the book celebrating 40 Years of Warrandyte Festival!

ONLY $40

Author **Cherie Moselen** provides a wonderful history documenting four decades of Warrandyte festivals with vivid descriptions accompanied by quotes and insights. Art Director and photographer **Stephen Reynolds** has illustrated the book throughout with historic images, posters, programs, memorabilia and splendid colour photographs.

For anyone involved in Warrandyte Festival in any way over the last 40 years it is an absolute must-have.

- **Large format book**
- **140 full colour pages**
- **Over 750 photographs**

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE the Parade, Billycart Derby, Kids' Market, Pet Parade, Duck Race, Local Schools, Buskers, Monarchs, Arty Farty Folk, Bands, Musicians, Entertainers and more…

Purchase your copy through the festival website: *www.warrandytefestival.org* or buy direct from the Information Caravan on the festival weekend, 24 – 26 March. *(The book will also be available at the Warrandyte Museum from 1.30 – 4.30pm on Saturdays and Sundays following the festival weekend).*

Our new membership information leaflet

Many thanks to the committee and especially Alan Cornell for coordinating the work on the updated version of the WMI&AA Membership Information Leaflet. Thanks also to Jock for redsigning the artwork. I am sure you will agree it retains the Warrandytish character of our wonderful organisation!

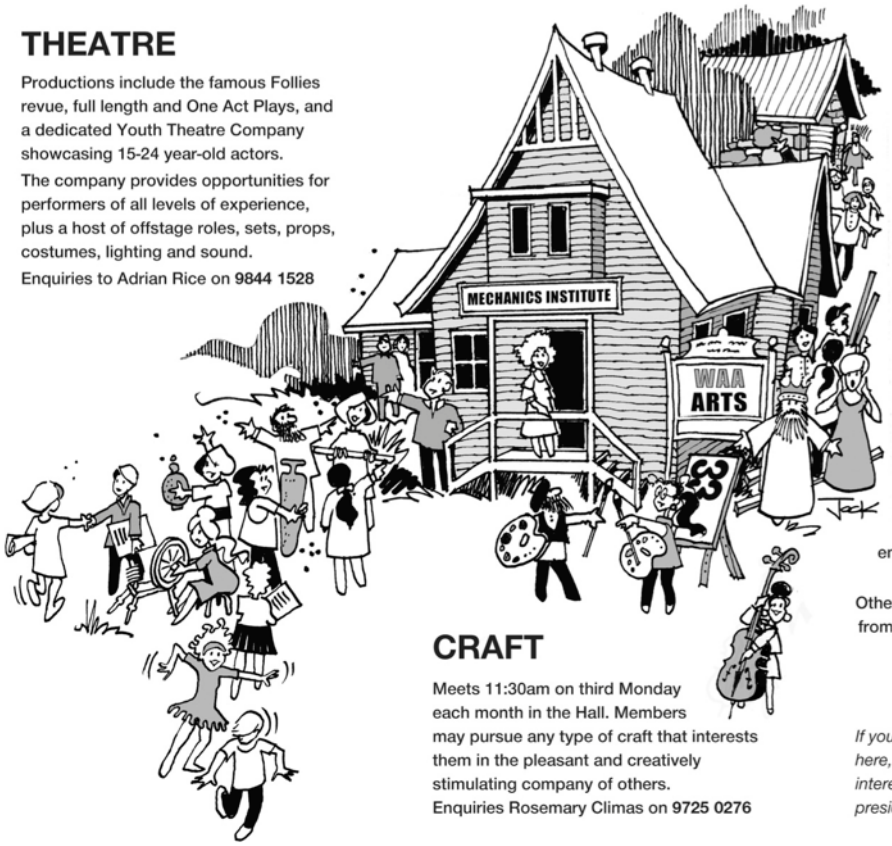
Also, a reminder to current mebers - your 2017 membership fees are now due - please arrange payment at http://warrandytehallarts.asn.au/membership

THEATRE

Productions include the famous Follies revue, full length and One Act Plays, and a dedicated Youth Theatre Company showcasing 15-24 year-old actors.

The company provides opportunities for performers of all levels of experience, plus a host of offstage roles, sets, props, costumes, lighting and sound.

Enquiries to Adrian Rice on **9844 1528**



POTTERY

Groups are held on Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 10am in the Studio directly behind the Hall. Groups are run as a workshop where each person works at their own pace, with a tutor to help with problems. Facilities are available for earthenware and firing.

Enquiries to Marjorie Beecham on **9844 3206**

MUSIC

Most active at the moment is affiliate a cappella choir *The Chocolate Lilies* who enjoy the Hall's fine acoustics each Monday night at 7:30pm under the encouraging direction of Nerida Kirov, enquiries on 9439 4816.

Other less formal activities are organised from time to time including concerts and musical get-togethers.

CRAFT

Meets 11:30am on third Monday each month in the Hall. Members may pursue any type of craft that interests them in the pleasant and creatively stimulating company of others.

Enquiries Rosemary Climas on **9725 0276**

If you can't reach any of the numbers given here, or have any other more general interest or enquiry, please contact our president, David Tynan, on 9844 5727.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO Warrandyte Mechanics Institute & Arts Association, PO Box 150, Warrandyte 3113

ADULT: $25 FAMILY: $35

Name:.....

Address:.....Postcode:.....

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

Please send Newsletter by email ☐ I will collect Newsletter from Hall ☐ Pottery studio ☐

Join the

WARRANDYTE MECHANICS INSTITUTE & ARTS ASSOCIATION

www.warrandytehallarts.asn.au