May 2019

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

The old WMIAA Committee is dead – long live the new WMIAA Committee!

A great turn-out for the AGM, with a generous quorum, wine, food and good will. Office bearer and group reports were submitted (but not read), and have been included as a separate attachment to this edition of the Dodger. All positions for the new committee were filled, often by the same people! Someone tried to resign. This was eventually successfully opposed. A special welcome to new committee member Laurice (and Winston), and a a big thank you to the potters who came along to offer their support!!

Repair Cafe Update & Meeting

Exciting times - our first Repair Cafe session will be on Sunday July 7! Bring your broken stuff, and we will see what we can do to help you!

New WMIAA Life Member!

We are very breathtakingly happy to be able to announce that Denise Farran is the newest WMIAA Life Member, and look forward to celebrating this award at a future event to be held in her honour. The citation follows.

Denise Farran is a YES person. It's the answer she gives to just about every "Could you...Would you… Will you" request that comes her way. Warrandyte as a whole has benefited enormously from her agreeable nature, the WMI&AA in particular.

For forty odd years Denise has been lending her talents to our productions, mostly behind the scenes with just the occasional sally onto the stage itself.

She has constructed countless sets, painted backdrops by the mile, produced exotic costumes and operated lights and sound in the bio box, often entertaining the cast on final nights with Gail Macrae with their finely orchestrated bio tricks. Including one particular sparkler-fuelled conflagration only saved by the bucket of water they wisely had at the ready.

Denise's broadly smiling face backstage has settled many a nerve, and her ready and infectious laughter from the audience at rehearsals and performances provided tremendous encouragement.

Denise met her longtime partner Gus McLaren at the WAA. She has served, and is also currently serving on the central committee. Been a friend to all. And no doubt contributed in other ways we have forgotten, not having her uncanny ability to recall just about everything worth remembering at our disposal for this citation.

But when the question of making Denise a Life Member of our Association was put to the committee, there was only one possible answer. YES.

Group reports

Pottery News

Term 2 is in full swing, everyone has a focus – some creating birds or bird themed items for the future exhibition in September or others with some focus of their own.

As a group we love two things; one is working with clay and the other is celebrating members' birthdays. First day of Term 2 began with lots of chatter and thinking about what to create. Tuesday's group also held the further excitement of being back together and getting ready to celebrate Bo's 80th and Ceri's birthdays; you can imagine that not much work was done.

This year raku clay was added to our supplies and this has inspired Sally to organise a raku firing. This should be very exciting for those who wander off to Monbulk at the end of July. The results of their pots should be amazing.

Di Philips

Group reports

Visual Arts News

For our Still Life group, we had a collection of pumpkins & gourds from the Warrandyte Community Garden. The shapes & brilliant pumpkin colour was wonderful. The still life session runs on Fridays 1.45-3.30. Life drawing continues. During May we are engaging a model for 3 consecutive weeks. Please call if interested in either group.

Marion Cooper

Group reports

Theatre News

All My Sons

The current production - All My Sons by Arthur Miller – is directed by Alastair Rice.

Rehearsals are proceeding apace. The cast had to move to the Community Centre hall to allow Donvale Christian College use of the hall but the change into a nice warm space was actually welcome! The CC hall makes a very acceptable rehearsal space – for future reference.

Grant, Adrian and Simone think about walls.

All My Sons is just over 3 weeks from production so make sure you set aside your night and get in early for your tickets.

Meanwhile Donvale Christian College transformed the hall for their production of Midsummer Night's Dream. They have been good to work with; very considerate tenants.

And the news you've all been waiting for … Follies will be back at the very special new time of November 2020!

2020 – The Visionary Follies.

Directed by Caroline Shaw and Simone Kiefer. The title should manage to encompass most types of sketch, dance and song … And since we now have plenty of lead in time we will soon be putting a call out to writers and actors to a. get cracking and b. save the dates. We want all splendid and talented actors tried, tested and true as well as many enthusiastic new talents to make this a very big show.

Season 3 '19. The Lady from the Sea. Coming up in August.

Season 4 '19.

Hot off the press. Confirmation that we will be staging two plays:

"Contractions" by Mike Bartlett
Directed by David Tynan
"Elegy for a Lady" by Arthur Miller
Directed by Adrian Rice

These two plays are both two-handers. Auditions will be in late July/early August.

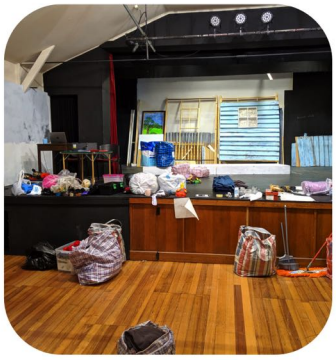
"Contractions" 2 female actors. 1 x 25 – 35 approx. and 1 x 35-55+ approx.
"Elegy for a Lady" 1 male 50+, 1 female 25-35 approx.

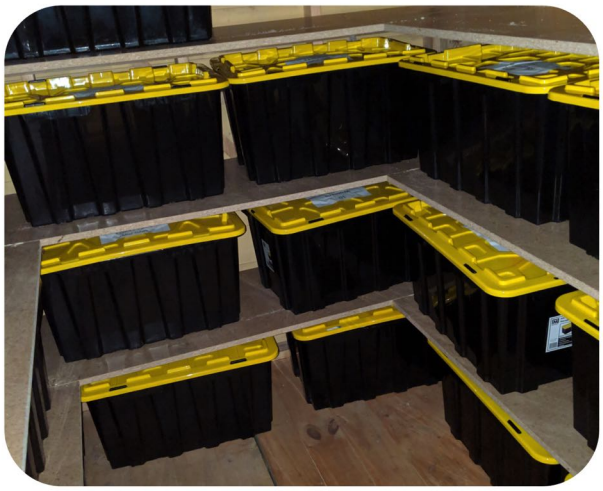
And also big news is that at the most recent committee meeting we have nominated plays for the next three years. Yes, I know it's incredible but we have a swag of plays in which we are interested and will be approaching directors soon. That said, certain other plays on which we have our sights and which are not available for amateur companies yet, may become so within the next 18-24 months, so we will remain flexible. It wouldn't be WTC if we weren't !

Adrian

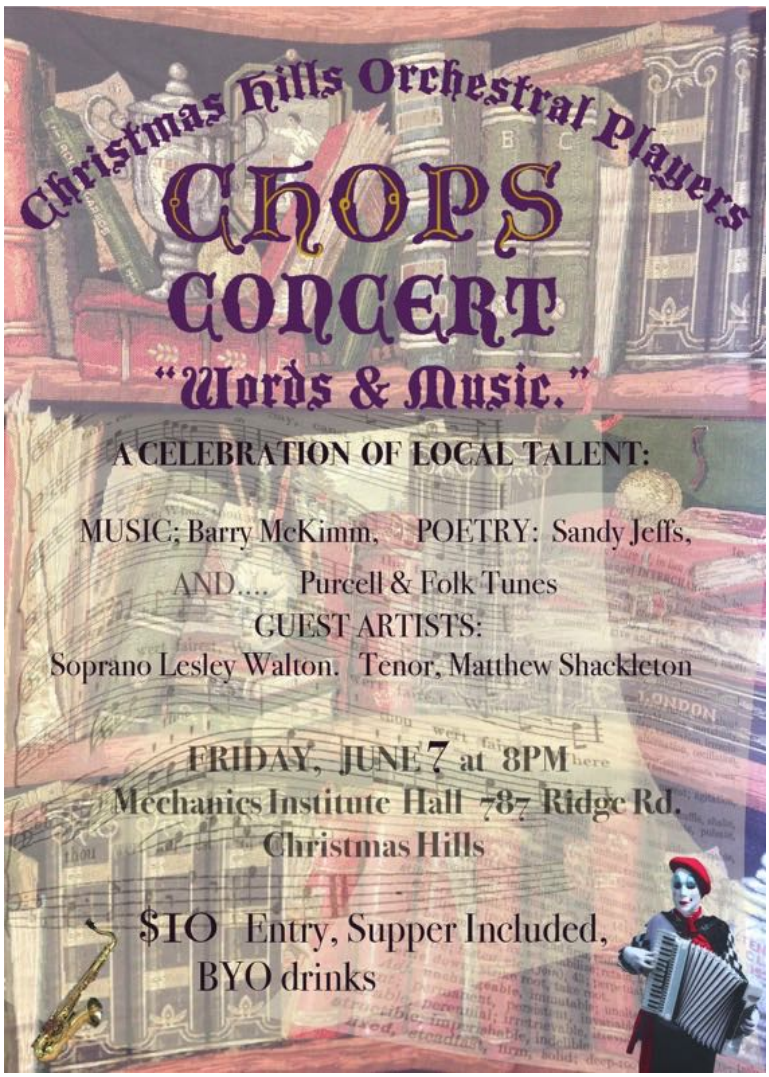
Costumes & Props Working Bee

On the weekend of May 4/5, a hardy group of members gathered together to yet again attack the costumes and props cupboard, and the bags of stuff that flow out from there into the hall supper room. The preparation had been done - shelving had been constructed in the sheds courtesy of Simone's bonus dad Rudi. Everything needed re-organising, boxing, and for many of them safe passage to one of the new storage sheds. Special arrangements had been made so that Adrian was away that weekend, so that not much was actually thrown out. Under the clear leadership of Caroline, we managed to fill 45 boxes, and make space where previous that did not exist.Many thanks to Lisa & Tony, Laurice, Caroline, Kit, Noelene, Simone, David, Renata and Callum for their efforts.





CHOPS Concert



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!

For more about the Sharp End, go to

http://www.robertblack.com.au/the-sharp-end

"I have no idea what's inside, but the instructions on the box say to give it a *big shake* before opening."

Other local events

Join Reconciliation Manningham in a special Reconciliation Week event supporting the national theme for 2019 *'**Grounded in Truth: Walk Together with Courage**'*

Simon Wonga -His Life Journey

Through the medium of an innovative digital mapping program being developed by Reconciliation Manningham, you will follow in the footsteps of the famed local Aboriginal leader Simon Wonga, as he makes his life journey through time and across the landscape.

WHEN: **7.30 to 9.30pm Friday May 24th**

WHERE: **Warrandyte Community Centre**
168 Yarra St Warrandyte (Melways 23 F 11)
(Victory Room, above Library. Parking at rear via Webb St.)

BOOK: ph. 9842 3598 or E: jimpoulter@bigpond.com

Following a **Welcome to Country by a Wurundjeri Elder l**earn about the life and achievements of the charismatic and visionary Simon Wonga. Although best known for having against all odds established Coranderrk in 1863, he also organised the last ever Kulin Nation corroboree (the first Warrandyte Festival) at Pound Bend in 1852. He also won the contract to build the first pub in Warrandyte in 1854, and then had a suburb named after him!

Supported by

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This project is supported by Manningham City Council's Community Grants Program

MANNINGHAM

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, Inc New York.

WARRANDYTE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

ARTHUR MILLER'S ALL MY SONS

7,8,14,15,20, 21,22 JUNE

MATINEE 2:30PM 15 JUNE

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