June 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

New Central Heater!

After many years of service, the ducted heater gave up the ghost, and with the aide of Callum and nearly $4000, we have now replaced the heater. Not before time - its a bit cold in Warrandyte presently, with lots of chills and fogs. The audiences for *All My Sons* certainly appreciated the change, as did the choirs and all who use the hall during the week!

In other news, we are looking for a new hall cleaner, as Michelle has resigned as she will soon by a mother for the first time! We wish her well with the birth and the excitement afterwards.

Repair Cafe – a fortnight to go!

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!

Working with Children!

The recent production of *All My Sons* showcased both old and new talent, but none younger than young Charlie Craig - son of Ian Craig and Joe French. Look how relaxed he is on stage! [More dress rehearsal pictures inside courtesy of Drew].

Group reports

Pottery News

A Tuesday Potter's Profile - Melissa.

The potters at the Marjorie Beecham Pottery Studio are a mix of multi talented people and Melissa from the Tuesday group is a good example of that. Melissa's creativity is expressed in her love of cooking and her beautiful garden as well as her love of "playing with clay".

Melissa is a very talented chef and it makes our group very happy when she brings delicious homemade goodies to our sessions.

Unfortunately, Melissa's expanding managerial role has meant fewer days for her in the studio, so there's lots of talk about plants, food and pottery when she drops in.

Melissa creates beautiful organic shapes in her works.

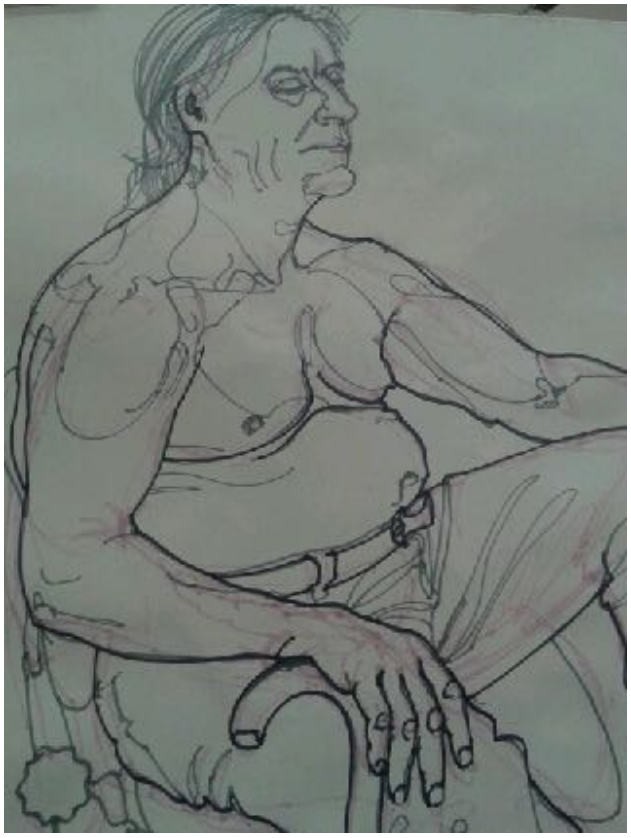
Brenda

Group reports

Visual Arts News

As winter arrives, we are calm & cosy on Fridays. Continuing to nurture our creativity with life drawing & still life. Over the past month, we concentrated on one model, one pose, for 3 weeks. Some embraced the time frame, creating a single picture & followed that journey. The interval time during this, was also a learning experience. Time to observe the direction of ones work & critique it. Although initially daunted by a 3 week set-up, I think we shall look at repeating it later in the year.

Marion Cooper



Group reports

Theatre News

All My Sons

As I write, bookings for All My Sons are going well and sit comfortably above 400. I'm quietly confident with such an excellent play and cast and all round fine production that we will make the 400 and the 50 seats per show average we are aiming for. Congratulations to the entire cast and crew and Alastair for a great show. *[Editor's Note: We actually broke 450 in the end, or about 56 per show on average]*

The Lady From the Sea

Another classic play (by Ibsen) which, by the time you read this will be in rehearsal.

"The Lady from the Sea is one of Ibsen's more elusive and enigmatic plays. There are many moments of laughter, but beneath a sense of restlessness that seems to infect all characters as the play builds slowly to a tense and highly dramatic conclusion. This is a powerful play, full of barely controlled emotions." Again we have a number of new faces gracing our stage. Directed by Grant Purdy, bookings are now open for this innovative production – to be staged in the round. Production dates are Friday 16th to Saturday 31st August

Auditions upcoming - Contractions & Elegy for a Lady

We are auditioning for our season 4 plays on July 24th at 8 pm and July 28th at 6 pm. We can arrange other times by appointment up to August 5th if you can't make those dates. Here are the play synopses

"Contractions" a very funny and satirical look at employee relations by Mike Bartlett. Originally a radio play, it has been slightly modified for the stage. An HR manager (though these days I suppose she'd rearrange her title to Head of "People and Culture" or similar) request that Emma attend a series of short contractual discussions to be reminded of the clause that precludes employees entering into romantic liaisons with workplace colleagues. Emma, young and a little naïve in these matters butts up against "The Manager" (whose name is not given.) An unctuous and somewhat patronising woman determined to enforce company policy. [2 female actors: 35-55 and 25-35]

"Elegy for a Lady" by Arthur Miller. Yes Miller again! Another classic.
A Man enters a small boutique, hoping to find a suitable gift for his much younger mistress, who is facing a grave operation. Unaccountably he quickly finds himself confiding in the Proprietress, speaking without hesitation of the pain he feels that her condition may be fatal and she is stopping him from seeing her. The Proprietress consoles him, suggesting that perhaps she wants to spare him, that she needs to face her ordeal alone and without added burden that his involvement would impose. They discuss a series of unresolved concerns he has and the shop owner somehow takes on the role of the mistress. What makes the play even more fascinating is that Miller himself had a much younger mistress – Marilyn Monroe. [1 female actor 25-35 1 male actor 50-65]

These plays will be directed jointly by David Tynan and Adrian Rice.

Adrian

All My Sons – a triumph!

WARRANDYTE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
Henrik Ibsen's
THE LADY FROM THE SEA
Directed by Grant Purdy
16, 17, 23, 24*, 29, 30, 31 AUGUST
Mechanics Institute Hall (*Evening and Matinee)
trybooking.com/BCVCR
Warrandyte Mechanics Institute & Arts Association