December 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

Warrandyte Repair Cafe finishes in style

Started in July, the Warrandyte Repair Cafe has now successfully established itself as a monthly event on the community calendar. The last three cafe's attracted between 30-40 per session.

People bring things from well clear of a two mile radius of the hall, but all are welcomed and helped to the best of our abilities. It has also brought together a lovely bunch of new people as members of the WMIAA.

I want to take this opportunity of thanking the 'fixers' for their generous help over the past year as we set the cafe up, and continue to learn about how best to help the community reduce waste and obsolescence. Finally, I want to thank John Anderson, for creating an additional step at the front of the hall entrance, so that fewer people trip as they enter the Repair Cafe!

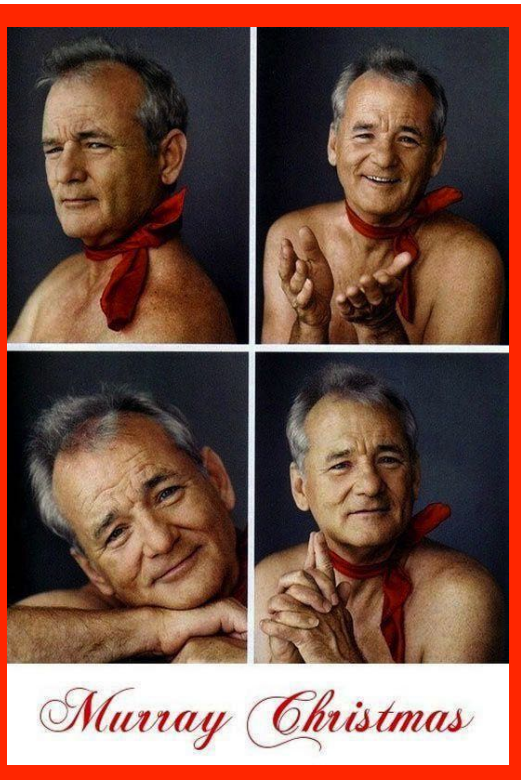
Look how happy Pat is with the reduced chance of public liability claims!

Merry Christmas to all members

As President of this beloved WMIAA, it falls to me to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your contribution this year. Big or small, what we do is rare - we maintain a treasured local building on behalf of the Warrandyte community, and entertain, educate and inspire others in their artistic pursuits. So take a pat on the back, and have a restful break. See you in February when it all starts again!

David

p.s. – apologies for the Bill Murray reference at right – he is a particular favourite person of mine.



Dodger electronic only from 2020

For many years the Dodger has been available in bot electronic (PDF) format, as well as mailed out to those who have requested that option. The numbers requiring mailed out versions has dwindled from about 60 to around 20 now. For many years, Marjorie Beecham and Noelle Burgess would personally organise to envelope, address and stamp these, but now we think that this time has passed. Starting from the February 2020 edition, the Dodger will only be available in electronic from - either by email, or by accessing the Dodger via the WMIAA website.

Group reports

Pottery News

The potters are looking forward to our annual get together where the Tuesday and Wednesday groups join to celebrate another great year of creativity. We are especially excited to be able to share our Christmas fare at the home of one of our very experienced and skilled potters, Jan.

A chance to see all the beautiful pieces of pottery Jan produces in the studio combined in her garden mosaics is quite exciting. It's a bit sad to have a break from weekly pottery sessions, but of course that means time to research ideas for the new year!

Wishing all a very merry Christmas and hope to see everyone back at the Marjorie Beecham Pottery Studio for another creative year in 2020!

Brenda Koochew

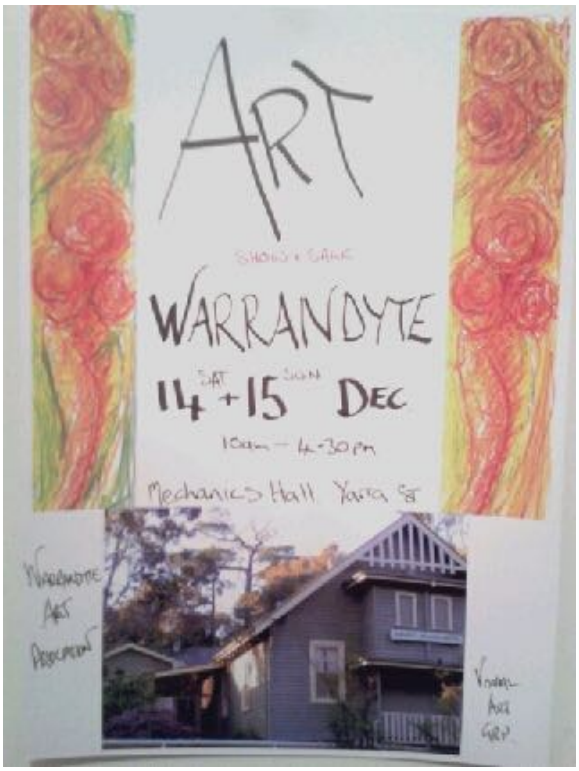
Visual Arts News

Thanks to all for contributing to the year. For your attendance and amicable personalities, providing easy running of our group. May that continue!

For 2020 we shall look for some new models to challenge us & I'm open to any suggestions. We shall return Friday 31st for life drawing & our afternoon still life study group.

May we experience another great art show 14 & 15 December and wishing all an enjoyable festive season.
Keep well & safe. See you in 2020.

Marion Cooper



Group reports

Theatre News

Well our OAPs this season 4 left the reviewers pretty confused; if only they'd do a little research …. I am actually going to contact them via their editors to suggest we supply a copy of the scripts prior to the shows. Reviews really should aim to be balanced and when personal opinions given, backed with reasons. Enough said.

So what should theatre be about anyway:
Presenting plays that we know will please audiences or those which challenge audiences? And if the latter how should we challenge audiences? By providing them with food for thought, by jolting their status quo, by dramatising and or satirising contemporary issues, by giving them something to cogitate afterwards too.

We heard, via a grapevine that perhaps our plays have been "too challenging." They're meant to be; we can't do panto every year. We need new actors on our stage and that means presenting worthwhile shows. If they're challenging, that's a bonus.

Following performances of our one act play season – "Crimes of the Heart" wrapped on Saturday. I had some decent conversations after lights up with patrons and many sat chatting at table. Both plays attracted a lot of feedback, and clearly a lot of people left discussing the messages in these plays. Long may they ponder.

Our thanks again to the team that produced the show and as this is the last report for the year, let's extend those thanks to each of the teams that produced shows this year: Animal Farm, All My Sons, The Lady from the Sea. We had four very different productions, involving many people behind the scenes and more than thirty actors of whom a baker's dozen were brand new to our stage.

Christmas Party Sun 15/12
A reminder of our annual Christmas BBQ and Finska competition at Stiggants Reserve on Sunday December 15 from 4 pm onwards. All WMIAA members and friends are welcome! BYO meat, vegan treat, salad, grog, and playful attitude.

In addition, we collected a host of nominations for the Lyrebirds Awards:

Sound and Lighting in a drama - Lady from the Sea – Pam and Callum
Best Director in a drama All My Sons – Alastair and Lady from the Sea - Grant
Best Actor female in a drama – Donna – Lady
Best Actor male in a drama – Reg – Lady
Best Actor male in a drama – Tony - Sons
Best production in a drama – Lady from the Sea
Best Set in a drama – Jock – Sons, Grant -Lady
Best costume in a drama – Lisa Mac - Sons
Highly Commended performance in a drama – Flora – Sons

Which leads to next year's shows: Calendar Girls, Love Letters, Love/Sick, The 2020 or Visionary Follies.
We look forward to the challenges.

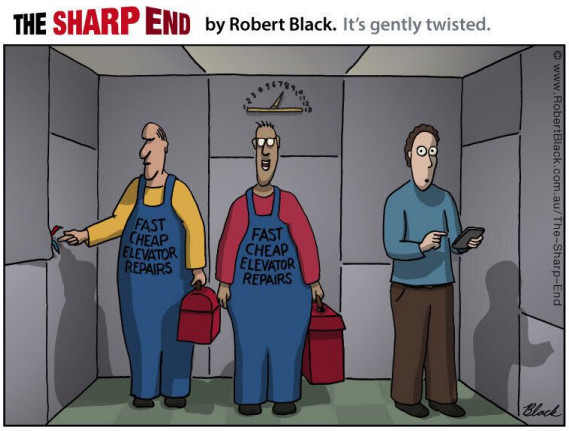
Adrian Rice

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'm *pretty* sure this is the good one — anyway, Harry reckons the elevator we're here to repair is literally hangin' by a thread!"

So who owns the hall?

This is an edited excerpt from the 1928 rules and regulations regarding the purpose, ownership, membership of the Warrandyte Mechanics Hall. It is an eleven page document, so not produced in full here. We thought members might find it interesting that membership and part ownership extends 2 miles from the old post office (near Warrandyte Historical Society building), not the bridge as often stated.

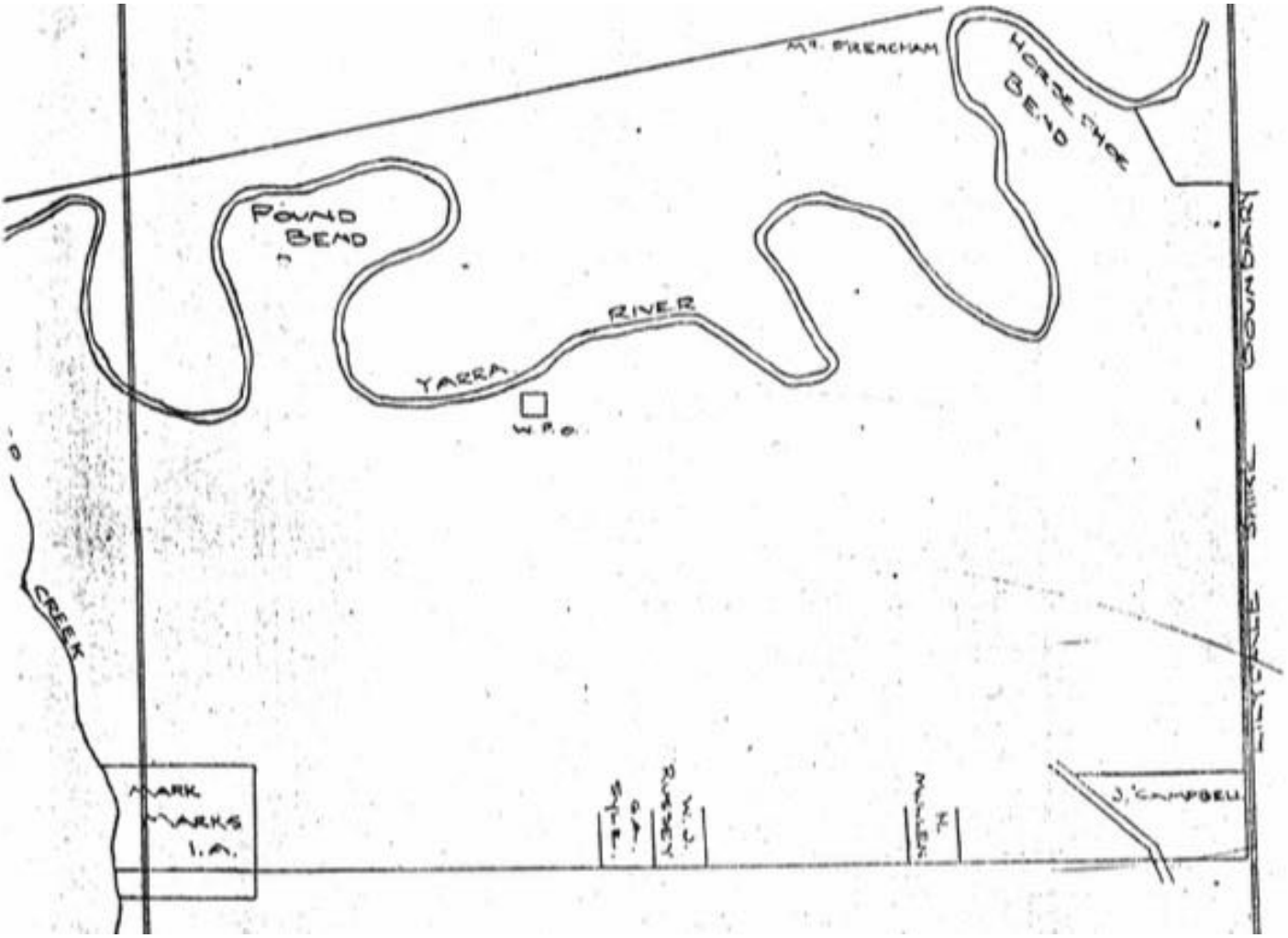
SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Rules and Regulations.

1. NAME - The name of the Institute is Warrandyte Mechanics Institute.

11. OBJECTS - The objects for which the Institute is established is to provide a non sectarian and non political place of recreation and social intercourse for the advantage or benefit of those persons from time to time entitled to membership as hereinafter mentioned either gratuitously or in consideration of any money payment or on such terms as the Committee hereinafter referred to may from time to time think fit,

111. MEMBERSHIP - (1) Such persons over the age of twenty one years as shall from time to time be residents of the locality living within the boundaries of the plan drawn hereon such locality commencing at the intersection of Mr. D. Frencham's property with Horse Shoe Bend shown on the said plan thence extending in a straight ling South Westerly to the intersection of such line and the point where Deep Creek flows into the River Yarra thence extending South Easterly along the Eastern boundary of the said Deep Creek to the intersection of such Creek with the property shown on the said plan as "Mark Mark's 1.A." thence by a line extending Easterly to the property of Mr. J. Campbell shown on the said plan adjoining Lilydate Shire boundary thence ------ extending Northerly along the boundary of the said Lilydale Shire to the River Yarra and shall have for a period of not less than three calendar months been living within a radius of two milds of the present site of the Post Office at Warrandyte shall comprise the membership of the said Institute.



Memories from WRC@WMIAA 2019