



From the President

Once On This Island is now up and running and to all those involved in this production, our best wishes for a successful and rewarding performance season. All the time and energy that goes into the rehearsal period comes together as each performance is presented. I urge all members to show your support to the cast and production team by attending at least one of the performances. Tickets are still available from Paul Taylor.

At the AGM I mentioned the need for forward planning for our society. I am not suggesting that we choose shows for the next few years, but rather take the time to look very carefully and thoughtfully at the process involved in selecting and producing a show. Over the past 40 years we have had a very strong, committed group of members and the processes have been very successful. Times are changing - our membership is much more floating, time commitments are much more limited, the experience level, particularly in some areas of production, is very different. How can we benefit from the experience of members, how can we develop the talents and potential of our members, are we making the most appropriate decisions for our current membership?

On Friday 20th June at 8pm at the Church Hall we will be holding a FORUM to provide the opportunity for ALL

MEMBERS to gain a fuller understanding of the processes of our society and to express their ideas and suggestions as to how we can best continue to move forward.

Have you wondered why things are done in a particular way? Do you have some suggestions as to alternative ways to achieve something? Are you interested in becoming more involved in a particular aspect of EUCMS but don't know what's involved? Do you wonder if you have the talent to attempt something? I would urge all members, the new, the more senior, the highly experienced, the novice, to come on the night and listen, have your say, discuss ideas and suggestions with other members. I understand that one night may be just a starting point, but the executive do respect the opinion of each and every member. After all it is "your society". The executive have set aside a Sunday afternoon to look carefully at the suggestions that are raised. If you have some particular issues you would like raised at this forum, please contact me **BEFORE** the night so that they can be included.

Please give this matter your prayerful consideration and thought between now and the 20th June and take the opportunity to join us.

Robyn Mead Ph: 8824 6301 or mead_19@hotmail.com

Have your subs been paid?

As of this week, 9 out of the 44 members who were blue-dotted (indicating that your annual subscription fee is overdue) last month have paid... What does this mean? Our treasurer, Lynn Bock, tells me that she has begun removing people from the member list and this will be your last bulletin until you are financial again. How do you pay? Not sure if you are financial? Give Lynn a call on 9871 6869 or email bock@zip.com.au to organise payment or send a cheque via mail to The General Secretary, EUCMS Inc., PO Box 246, Eastwood, 2122. We currently have 35 blue-dotted members that we would hate to lose!

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Editor's Corner....

Thanks to all those who have personally given me a hand the last few weeks by building props, setting up AV equipment and giving hugs, massages etc! Here's to a wonderful show and I hope all members come and see what a fantastic show *ONCE ON THIS ISLAND* is. Please continue to give me feedback on the new look and content of the bulletin, as well as ideas, submissions, stories and news that you would like to see shared with your fellow EUCMS' members. This is **YOUR** bulletin, please make use of it! Thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue. Adam Wilson Ph: 9873 5639 / 0425 313 336 or panda@tig.com.au



We tell the story - at last!

For so many months now, life has fallen into a pattern of rehearsals and meetings: it started to seem like this time would last forever. But now time seems to have done its usual trick and vanished, and all of a sudden here we are - show time!

I'm almost a little sad in some ways. Working with a terrific cast who have always been up for a challenge and prepared to stretch themselves beyond their previous experiences, and with a production team and crew of infinite patience, creativity, dedication and flexibility has been a rare privilege. Now it's finally time to share the story with everyone else!

Dress rehearsals have flown by, the stage is set, the orchestra are bringing the wonderful rhythms of the show alive, and nobody seems to be able to stop dancing! Ti Moune's story is coming alive, and in a way that should make everyone involved feel very proud and excited.

Although this is not a show many of our regular audience members would know, it is a wonderful adventure, with surprising depth as well as truly infectious song and dance - I would strongly encourage everyone not to miss out. As of this printing, there are still some good seats available, particularly on the first weekend, so be sure to call Paul Taylor (9888 7383) and make your bookings before they're all gone.

To cast, crew, orchestra and team - thank you so much - have a wonderful show. You deserve it! To Frank - our thoughts and prayers are with you as you recover, and we hope you'll be back very soon, in time to share in the rewards of your hard work.

To Elaine and the **Brigadoon** team - all the best! The news from the Highlands sounds fantastic - here's to the start of what will certainly be a great show.

To God be the glory! Penny Wilson

Brigadoon News

Elaine Gow and her team are already meeting and planning for our next show, *Brigadoon*.

Some preliminary news for your diaries:

Auditions: 1st and 2nd July, information will be available at the last night of *Once On This Island*. Ring Barbara Sharpham (9817-2779) for audition times.

Suggestion - if you are intending to audition for a Scottish role, listen to *Taggart* or *Monarch of the Glen* or get someone to tape them for you if you are in OOTI.

Offer - If you need help with the music, Gareth (8354-0191), Jenny Gillespie (9879-6787) or Elaine (9874-7231) would be happy to tape the accompaniment for you.

Rehearsals: Begin Tuesday 15 July - orientation night - all urged to attend; Friday 18th July - chorus and principals.

Shows: Opening night - Friday 24th October, Sat 25th October, Friday 31st October, Saturday 1st November, Friday 7th November, Saturday 8th November, Matinee date T.B.A.

*We also welcome to the team Joan Foulcher as Wardrobe Mistress and Heather Clarke as assistant.



Our Mid-year Functions

We have three mid-year functions planned as follows:

Friday 20th June - Open Forum evening to discuss EUCMS with all members. See Robyn's message on Page 1 for further information.

Saturday 21st June - Mid-year Dinner - a night for all members to meet casually to share a meal while all the Open Forum thoughts from the night before are still in our heads. This will be at a reasonably priced restaurant in the area to allow lots of members to attend. Bookings essential.

Sunday 10th August - Mid-year Church Service - 7.00pm, a celebratory church service at Marsden Road Church with a guest speaker. All invited.

Call an executive member (see Page 4), or email me at panda@tig.com.au if you intend to be part of one of these events.



New Member Auditions

Will be held on the 8th July at the hall. Please let all your friends and family know that they need to audition to become a performing member of the society. Once auditioned, you can be part of the chorus of a show without needing to audition again. Principal roles, however, are always auditioned for each show. Contact Kath Sharpham for details and bookings Ph: 0411 111977 or sharp_kat@hotmail.com

Newly appointed positions...

The Executive are pleased to announce the following appointed positions:

Public Relations - Elaine Gow

Bulletin Editor - Adam Wilson

New Member's Convenor - Kath Sharpham

Show Selection Sub Committee - Elaine Gow

Don Glover

Rebecca Kimpton

Andrew McAlpine

Penny Wilson

Publicity Committee - Andrew McAlpine

Adam Wilson

Rosie Pocknall & Margaret

Stuart to assist

Public Officer - Lynn Bock

Mail Bookings - Helen Wilson

Wardrobe Librarian - Tom Leslie

Assistant Property Manager - Ian Wesley

Wigs - Barb Lyle

P.C/Elders/CC - Narelle Murray

Fire Officer - not confirmed

Lighting Officer - Peter Roach

First Aid - Nicole Barton

Archivist - not confirmed

Christian Community Aid - Paul Taylor

Usher Co-ordinator - Liz McCann

Concert Party Organiser - not confirmed

OH & S - not confirmed

There are still some roles to be filled, so ask an Executive member for details of a position that you know needs filling.

We are always looking for people to assist with publicity!

Name Badges? Your last chance!



EXECUTIVE

Kath Sharpham is organising next week a new run of engraved EUCMS' name badges for any members who would like one. They will cost around \$6 and will have the EUCMS logo on the left and your name on the right as shown here except they will have a black background and white engraved writing. Call Kath Sharpham on 9481 8376 or sharp_kat@hotmail.com if you would like to place an order.

Members' News.....



Best wishes to **David Bland** as he recovers from a recent illness.

Best wishes to **Frank Evans** as he recovers from surgery this week. We are missing you on stage Frank, come back soon!

Our thoughts continue to be with **Robyn Mead** and her family as they recover.

We wish **Clare Burgess** and the Toongabbie Christian School team all the best in the Christian Rock Eisteddfod on Friday 16 May at *The Hills Centre*. Wish we could be there, wish you could be here!



Normanhurst Uniting Church Musical Society Proudly presents Lionel Bart's award-winning musical **OLIVER!** at the Normanhurst Uniting Church, Buckingham Avenue June 14, 21, 28 at 2:00 p.m. and June 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 at 8 p.m. Bookings: 9680-1442

A few EUCMS faces involved - **Trama McGee, Shirley Sharpham** and if you really pay close attention, you might even see **Ian Wesley** in a cameo role!



Don't forget that **Elaine Gow** is the society's Public Relations contact and is also keen to hear of any members' news such as birthdays, births, deaths, engagements, weddings so that the appropriate action such as sending a card can occur. Contact Elaine on 9874 7231. Also contact me so that this information can be put in the bulletin.

Want to join the EUCMS Email Group? It's free! Here you can stay in touch with members or the cast and crew of the last show, get all the latest news and society happenings, organise a social event and share any news, questions and thoughts you might have with the group. Simply send a blank email to: **eucms-**

subscribe@yahogroups.com and follow the easy instructions. Once joined, if you want to send a message to the group, send it to: **eucms@yahogroups.com** For friends, workmates or family that may want to receive EUCMS upcoming show news only, get them to send a blank email to **eucmsnews-subscribe@yahogroups.com** Any questions? Email Adam Wilson at **panda@tig.com.au**.

The website... have you seen our new website? Have a look at **www.eucms.org** as there is a lot of information on there for the public and for our members. Check out the secret members-only section at: **www.eucms.org/members.html** Here we will have specific information that is only relevant to our members.

Liz McCann is still on the hunt to fill a couple of **usher spots** on her roster for *Once On This Island*. Call her immediately on 0401 454 659 if you can help.

Are you interested in being part of an **Amnesty Concert** run by EUCMS? **Tom Leslie** is seeking interest for this event as part of the second half of 2003. Contact Tom ASAP on 9868 5527 with your thoughts.



EUCMS' 40th Anniversary **Coffee Mugs** are still available for \$5. Contact an executive member with your order!

If you misplace your EUCMS Bulletin, remember there is an electronic copy available on the website in the members' section.

See you next month! - *Adam Wilson*

Executive Members

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Next Executive Meeting is June 16 at Barb Sharpham's house.

Our postal address:

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