



EUCMS Inc. Bulletin

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OPENING AND DEDICATION OF EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2009



From the President

What a wonderful service and sense of occasion.

The official opening and dedication of the Eastwood Uniting Church was held on Saturday 15th August and attended by somewhere between 300 - 350 people. I was delighted to realise that 40 - 45 of those attending were members of EUCMS, of which 4 were past presidents. My sincere thanks to all those who took the time to be a part of the choir for the service and to those who came as members of the congregation. To Jim and Val Murch, David and Pam Bland, Ron, John and Margaret Lyle who travelled significant distances to share the occasion, my special thanks.

The photos on the front cover give you an idea of the magnificent complex which we can now proudly call "home". For many of our members it may seem that the changes have always been a talking point. Well you are probably right. It was 1992 that the suggestion was first made and in 1993 the first meetings took place to look at the possibilities. The decision to amalgamate St Andrews and Lakeside Road congregations was made in 1994, 1996 that the decision was made to sell St Andrews. In 2004 the first application was made to Ryde Council and building actually began in June 2008. And so the opening and dedication was the climax of 17 years of planning and decisions.

And so begins a new phase in the life of the society.

Our focus at this point of time is on "Anything Goes" a show full of energy, music, dancing and laughter. Opening night is just over 2 weeks away. Tickets sales are available through our booking agent and have been made easier in a number of ways. You can pay by credit card for a \$2.00 charge and you can get on our website to see what seats are available. This has proven to be a great way to choose the seats you want before phoning to book tickets. Our matinees are selling well but there still plenty of seats for all evening performances. Caroline and her team would love to perform to sell out audiences at each show.

Once the show is over we will need LOTS of help to move all the costumes, props and equipment back to the church. At this stage we have brought back only what is needed for this show. We have set aside 3 weekends to bring everything back – although it did take 6 months to get everything out.

Saturday 31st October

Saturday 7th November and

Saturday 14^h November

are the 3 dates for the BIG MOVE.

I am asking each and every member, and members of their family if possible, to put at least ONE of these dates in their diary now and make a commitment to

help for a couple of hours. On each of these days we will need help from about 9am – 1pm. Exact times will be determined later.

There are many other activities going on in the life of the society, so I ask that you read the bulletin carefully and note the details. But remember:

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."

(Thomas A. Edison)

Robyn Mead

Anything Goes News

"Now I'm all ready to fly – yes, to fly higher and higher!"

It's hard to believe, but as you read this, there are only a few weeks until opening night of *Anything Goes!*

There's not long left now to book tickets for your friends (and you, if you aren't involved in the show) – it's time now to approach those people you know who don't plan more than a month in advance for anything!

Our stage and lighting crew have been putting in even more extra time than usual, moving us back into the new hall at Eastwood Uniting Church (no small task, I can assure you) and getting us ready for the show at the same time – you fellows deserve medals.

The orchestra have had their first rehearsal, and are apparently already sounding fantastic (cast, look forward to working with them!)

And of course, our truly fantastic, multi-talented cast are busy throwing everything they have into the final weeks of revision and hard work. Thank you all so much for helping to make *Anything Goes* such a great show.

All these are just some of the reasons to – not to sound like a stuck record – keep selling those tickets!!

Looking forward to sharing the end (and most exciting part!) of the S.S. American's voyage with all of you.

Caroline cazthelion@hotmail.com 0401 307 088

Tickets Update

Just a reminder that we now accept credit card bookings in person or over the phone, and debit card bookings in person (as YOU need to enter your PIN). A \$2 surcharge for credit/debit card bookings per transaction applies, regardless of the number of tickets purchased in that transaction. For phone bookings, this will include posting the tickets to your nominated address. We will also be able to process these card bookings in person too, both at rehearsals and on show days.



You will also still be able to pay by the usual means of cheque or cash if this is your preference.

Our booking agent is Jenny Beddoe on 8061 7195. Please call after 7pm (on weekdays) to book tickets.

Ticket sales as of 14 August 2009 are:

4 September 8pm.....40% sold
 5 September 8pm.....40% sold
 11 September 8pm.....20% sold
 12 September 2pm.....71% sold
 12 September 8pm.....57% sold
 18 September 8pm.....18% sold
 19 September 2pm.....89% sold
 19 September 8pm.....32% sold

TOTAL OF SEASON SOLD: 46% = KEEP SELLING!!

Anything Goes Ushers

We are looking for people who are willing to usher for *Anything Goes*.

This is an easy job that people who are not in the show can do, and a very helpful way that you can contribute.

Please help if you can. If you are able to usher for one or more shows, please contact Janette Cosier ASAP on hjcosier@gmail.com or 9868 2535.

If you like, it is possible to usher for the same show as the one that you have booked tickets for - just let Janette know if this is the case, or come and help on another date.

Please contact Janette now if you can help, and tell her:

1. The dates that you are able to help
2. Whether or not you are booking a ticket for that performance.

Ushers need to be at Lakeside Road Uniting Church (back at the usual venue) at 1.15pm for the matinees or 7.15pm for the night shows.

Anything Goes Suppers

The production managers would be extremely grateful for volunteers to oversee cast suppers for the dress rehearsals and performances. The job will be to get out all supplies, attend during supper break to make sure the cast has everything they need, eg plenty of hot water etc, and then to clean up.

We will be using disposable cups so washing up will be limited. You don't need to buy milk or biscuits or anything else. Your help will be greatly appreciated because it is one less thing for the PMs to have to do.

Many thanks to Paul Taylor and Belinda Bongers who have been helping on a regular basis on Friday nights. Please call Barbara on 9817 2779 or barb1010@tpg.com.au if you can help. PLEASE.

Workshops

Sewing Workshop Thanks

This Workshop under the guidance of Barbara Lyle with the assistance of Shirley and Barbara Sharpham, proved to be most beneficial to those who attended. Since there were ladies whose knowledge ranged from quite experienced down to not knowing a pin from a needle, it was good to be able to assist each one personally and all expressed their delight in being shown the "Correct" or "Easy" way to do certain sewing tasks.

Many thanks to each of our ladies and especially Barb Lyle who travelled many miles to assist us.

Stagecraft Workshop

The time is fast approaching for the final Workshop this year with a pleasing number of our members having registered for this exciting opportunity to learn from Stuart Maunder and to improve on their acting skills.

Please ring Lynn ASAP if you haven't yet registered and wish to come and also please note the starting times for each of the three sessions. There will be a break for dinner on Saturday from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. and you are free to bring your own food or else let us know that you wish to order pizza to be delivered to the Hall. Drinks and some biscuits, etc. will be available.

Everyone can be involved in "chorus" type activities and some copies of the music will be available - see Elaine. That said, anyone who has their own copies of *Pirates of Penzance*, *Trial by Jury* or *HMS Pinafore*, please bring them along!

No matter how experienced we are, there is always the opportunity to learn something more or be reminded of ways to achieve a better performance, so this could be the best \$10 you have ever spent!

It is not often that we have someone of the likes of Stuart Maunder who has directed with all the major opera companies in Australia, at our humble home at Eastwood teaching us from his years of experience of working with the stage.

21st August - Stagecraft Pt 1 - **7.30pm - 10.30pm**

22nd August - Stagecraft Pt 2 - **2.30pm - 9.30pm** (with dinner break between 5.30-6.30)

If you would like to join us for a shared pizza meal for dinner, please let Beth Madden know on 9874 2009 or beth-madden@hotmail.com

If there is a reason that you have booked and can no longer attend, please also let Lynn know ASAP.

Epping Street Fair

We have now had confirmation from the organisers that there will be a EUCMS stall at the Epping Street Fair on Sunday 30th August, promoting EUCMS and

selling tickets for *Anything Goes*.

This will be instead of our regular involvement in the Eastwood Granny Smith Festival that this year will be after our show closes.

So please note the date for your diary - we will need some volunteers to promote YOUR society and our wonderful current production. Tickets will be on sale.

Please contact Adam and Penny if you can help us on the day, even if it is for an hour or so. Check the website for planning details too.

Members' News

Our Sympathy

Our sincerely sympathy to Bernard, Megan, Bronwyn, Brigitte & Paul on the death of Bernard's mother. We are thinking of you with love and prayers.

Jenny Firth

Cathy Bulfin writes: I've been in touch again (via Facebook) with an old EUCMS member, Jenny Firth and wanted to share her news.

Jenny joined EUCMS at the same as I did (just before Pirates) and did two shows with us. She was a young lady in the chorus for Pirates and then played Mrs Shinn in Music Man.

After Music Man she left to have a long holiday in the UK and has since settled in North Yorkshire. She has met a British bloke (!) and they are getting married later on this year.

Jenny said that she and Jim have been travelling a lot in the UK, so she isn't doing any musicals this year, but she's been keeping her eye on musical societies in Pickering and York and may do something next year. Guess once you've got the bug it never goes away!

Jenny said she's very happy and enjoying living over there and wanted to say hi to all the EUCMS members that knew her.

Cheers, Cathy

PS Why don't you look her up on Facebook and say hello too!

Broadway to Australia

If you loved being in *Once on This Island*, or *Seussical*, you might be interested in this event, organised by the University of Tasmania Conservatorium of Music.

Lyricist, **Lynn Ahrens** & Composer, **Stephen Flaherty** will present a concert-style Q&A evening about their musicals, including *RAGTIME*, *SEUSSICAL*, *ANASTASIA*, *A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE*, *DESSA ROSE*, *MY FAVOURITE YEAR*, *THE GLORIOUS ONES* and *THE DANCER'S LIFE* for *CHITA RIVERA*.

Featuring the Broadway to Australia Orchestra, the

Southern Gospel Choir and Australian performers:

Christopher Parker - *CRAZY FOR YOU, SIDESHOW ALLEY, OKLAHOMA!*

Kellie Rode - *THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW, MAMMA MIA.*

Julie O'Reilly - *JERRY SPRINGER—THE OPERA, THE PRODUCERS.*

Adrian Li Donni - *THE KING & I (USA), RENT.*

SYDNEY: One night only - September 7 at 8pm

ADULTS: \$77.50

CONCESSION: \$62.50

GROUPS 20+: \$55.00

City Recital Hall, Angel Place

Phone: 02 8256 2222

Web: www.cityrecitalhall.com.au

Some of us have already booked. Adam

Your News?

A reminder for members that they can let us know of their news or other items they wish passed onto members via the bulletin. If so, contact Elaine Gow on 9872 6453 or eebeegee@bigpond.com

Executive Members 2008

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Join our official EUCMS email list by sending a blank

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Or our members' chat list by sending a blank email to:

euchat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Next Executive Meeting: 14 September