

Season's Greetings

On behalf of all the Executive, we would like to wish all our members a truly special and blessed Christmas time with family and friends and a happy and rewarding New Year. We look forward to your involvement in *Carousel* and *Seussical* in 2008!

A Christmas card was sent to the Wellington/Yeoval U.C. Parish, with best wishes for Christmas and lots of lovely rain in 2008!



Carousel

What can I say about this fantastic musical? If you've never seen it onstage (and please don't judge it by the film) you will be thrilled with the music, the contrast of raw emotion with light hearted fantasy, the fun and excitement of the first clambake of the season and the entire population of a small New England whaling community getting together to have food and fun (sounds a bit like EUCMS doesn't it?) and, of course, the two couples whose stories have such different outcomes with perhaps a life lesson or two thrown in.



Ben and I would love to have you take part in this production so please accept our personal invitation to be at the Orientation Night the first Tuesday in February 2008 at Marsden Rd. U.C. Hall (Remember NOT Lakeside Rd.)

Auditions have been held and as soon as we have finalised the cast we will announce it. Meanwhile, thanks to all those who auditioned and we did appreciate all the effort you had taken to prepare.

Blow high, blow low, a-whaling let us go

Elaine

Show Dates

All performances at Marsden High School as follows:

23, 24, 30 and 31 May 2008 at 8pm

24 and 31 May 2008 at 2pm

Rehearsals

Will be held at the Marsden Road Uniting Church hall on the usual nights of Tuesdays and Fridays from 8pm - 11pm starting 5 February. The cut-off date for deciding to stay in the show is the 22 February.

Please be aware that we may not park on the grass at Marsden Rd. Uniting Church - there is ample parking around the back of the church (just go to the next dip in the gutter) or in Mobbs Lane.

Before considering to be part of the show, please look carefully at your other 2008 commitments that may clash with standard rehearsal times. Lack of cast attendance is a concern raised by previous production teams and they have asked the Executive to look seriously at this issue. Missing more than three rehearsals gives the production team the right to ask you to step down from your involvement in the show.

Production News

MEN - we need you for "Carousel - lots of great work for you

to do and to complement all the lovely ladies in the show.

If you have a score or lib for *Carousel* which you would like to sell, now is your chance. Please advise Barb Sharpham (9817 2779) or Megan Willis (9869 7413), preferably before rehearsals start, so that they know the number of scores/libraries which will be needed for the rest of the cast. If you require a score, the hire charge will be \$20.

We are pleased to announce that Jenny Beddoe will be our booking agent for the show.

EUCMS News

2008 AGM

Don't forget our AGM is on again, on 26 February 2008, in the Marsden Rd. U.C. Hall - starting at 8pm. Stay tuned to your letterbox for the arrival of all the necessary information to prepare yourself for the meeting within the prescribed time. If you wish to put forward a notice of motion for consideration at the AGM you will need to get it to Belinda by 25 January so that it can be included in the AGM material to be posted to all members. Feel free to telephone her or any other exec member if you want to discuss whether your proposal needs to be by way of notice of motion, or if you need help in wording it.

Your annual \$20 subs will be due at the meeting to allow you to vote for the year. If you intend to pay on the night, allow time before the meeting starts to do this.

2008 New Members' Auditions

For anyone who might have a friend or family member who is keen to also get on stage, New Members' Auditions are on 22 January at approximately 7.30pm. People mustn't just turn up, but must ring, as if there are a lot of new members wanting to come, Niki Barton will advise them individually of a time to arrive and needs to know how many people intend to audition so that appropriate numbers of panel members can be organised. Call Niki on 9802 9686 to register your interest or to answer any questions that a new member might have.

People who are keen to help out as a non-performing member are asked to also come on the night for general society information and filling out of forms.

Music Man wrap

There are still a few cast who have not yet returned costumes and who have not made or kept arrangements with Jess Allen to do so. If you are one of those members, PLEASE respond to Jess's requests or ring her and make arrangements to return the costumes to her at her convenience.

There is still some lost property as detailed in the last bulletin: a box of books, mostly about plants, which were not collected at the end of *Music Man*, or a square blue plastic plate which had cup cakes for the after show party. If you don't claim the property it will be donated to charity.

Directors' Seminar

NOW ON 15 JANUARY AT 8.00PM

If anyone else is still interested, contact Elaine on 9872 6453 so that she can prepare for whatever number there may be, as

she intends to give each person a copy of her notes for future reference.

Even if you have the slightest interest in directing in the future, it will be a valuable evening to talk to Elaine and others who have directed previous EUCMS shows. If you have directed before, we are sure Elaine would love your input on the night too.

Copyright

Most members should be aware that copyright owners take breaches of copyright very seriously. Every contract the society enters into to secure performing rights for shows contains an express term that the performances are not to be recorded. Signs to that effect are placed along the walls of the hall for our performances and a note is included in our programs. The executive is therefore very concerned to learn that some members appear to regard the ban on recording as something they and their friends can ignore. Copyright owners are not hesitant in suing those who breach copyright. If you or any audience member decides to illegally record a show you should be aware that you are opening the society, and possibly yourself, to the very real possibility of a very expensive fine.

2008 EUCMS Plans to come Moving from Lakeside Road

As outlined in recent bulletins, our move is finally imminent. There has been a disappointing response to our requests for volunteers. PLEASE consider making some time available for this important task.

We were hoping to be able to give you a list of dates on which various things were happening and for which you could volunteer. Unfortunately the logistics are complex, particularly because those members who will be co-ordinating various parts of the move have been busy with end of year and Christmas activities and may not be around during January. However, those holidays also mean that we may not be restricted only to Saturdays, so you can volunteer for weekdays if you happen to be available.

Please telephone Megan Willis on 9869 7413 and let her know that you will be available to help on various dates in January or February. When the co-ordinators have dates settled, hopefully in early January we will ring you if those dates match your availability.

We are looking for help not only in emptying the cupboards and understage/church areas, but also with the following: photograph all costumes, compiling databases of costumes, props, lights and other equipment etc. We would love offers of the use of laptops and digital cameras, plus anyone with knowledge or expertise for the best ways to approach these tasks.

Christmas Festivities

A great time was had by all who attended our Christmas Party at Blenheim Park at North Ryde for the Christmas brunch. A great evening was also had by the many EUCMS members who attended Eastwood congregation's Christmas service on the evening of Sunday 23 December. Many thanks to Andrew McAlpine for organising our involvement and to Sarah Keith and her group's choral item on the night.



[Have you returned your questionnaire?](#)

Members' News

Congratulations

Congratulations to Robyn Mead who has just been appointed Head of the Performing Arts Dept. of Cheltenham Girls High School commencing in 2008. Break a leg, Robyn!

21st Birthday Wishes

Congratulations and best wishes to Daniel Tambasco on reaching his 21st year (and birthday!) Hope the future is rosey for you.

Get Well Wishes

Best wishes to Megan Carroll who had to have an operation on her wrist. Hope this will assist with the Make up Dept.!

Best wishes to Jan Foulcher who is joining the fashionable set and having knee surgery in January.

The "Pope-mobile"

Have you ever wondered how the production team for a EUCMS show gets the props seen on stage? Well they come by all means! Some are found lying under the stage, some are found lying around in people's homes, while others are just lying around on the



kerb waiting for the council clean up. So when eager-eyed and opportunistic EUCMS members unite with a resourceful and well-equipped accomplice, the result is props for use in "The Music Man" and "Carousel"; more concisely known as "The Pope-mobile"! How is this so, you ask? Well one afternoon while walking from Hornsby to Normanhurst, Megan Willis noticed a pair of bar stools and commented to Caryn Kneale, "we need bar stools for Music Man", so the bar stools were collected. Thus began a conversation about props that were required, including the need for a barrel for "Carousel". A few blocks further on, low and behold, there was a barrel! Unfortunately this was too awkward to carry. Never mind! On arrival at Normanhurst, prior to a pre-show dinner, Megan and Caryn were met by friend and Scout Master, Geoff Smithson, who had the resources, ability and nerve to drive back and snaffle the barrel! First a large piece of discarded cupboard was found to span the roof-racks then the barrel was secured with regulation barrel knots (isn't it handy to know a Scout!). With another 30 minutes until dinner the trio decided to cruise the streets. To the collection was added another bar stool, and a wooden, straight-backed chair for the gymnasium scenes in "The Music Man". However the only way the wooden chair would fit was inside the barrel. Thus, with a chair on the roof, the vehicle was aptly named "The Pope-mobile". Sadly we didn't find the Pope, or anyone else willing to ride seated on the chair, but we did have lots of fun collecting props! Many thanks, Geoff, for your contribution to our shows! Caryn Kneale

Next Executive Meeting

21 January at Megan Willis' house, starts 8pm.

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