

Christmas Message From The President



As 2008 draws to a close we look back on a very challenging year, but one where each challenge has been met due to the determination, creativity and support of our members. "Seussical" has been wrapped up after showcasing incredible enthusiasm and energy. Our Christmas service was well attended and provided the opportunity to worship as one with the Eastwood Church congregation. Our Christmas party saw a great range of ages mix socially and celebrate a successful year.

It is heartening however to realise that just around the corner is our move back to refurbished premises and the exciting, yet daunting task associated with finding where everything will fit and belong.

Can I urge you to put dates in your diary now for the workshops and activities that have been planned and for "Anything Goes."

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas and a wonderful 2009.

Robyn Mead

EUCMS News

Anything Goes News

"I can't wait to get the stage all set..."

If Lord Evelyn Oakleigh couldn't wait to let the "gypsy in (him) out" - well, I can't wait to start putting together EUCMS' 2009 production of Anything Goes! It's beginning to take shape for me, and I'm so looking forward to sharing it with all of you.

I'm pleased to be able to announce that Robyn Mead has joined the team as musical director. Watch this space for further team announcements – there are a few roles filled, and a few more close to being filled. I will still gladly take offers of help! Now is the time, as you plan for 2009, to think about where you might be able to be involved in this show, and your musical society in general. Please feel free to contact me.

We'll be auditioning for the show towards the end of March (audition material to be released in 2009), with rehearsals to start in mid May. The performance season will then run from **4th – 19th September**, in the refurbished Lakeside Road hall (what a homecoming that will be!)

The show should present some challenges, some

opportunities, and mostly (I hope) be a lot of fun! I'll remind you that there really should be something for everyone in this production – after all, as we will be constantly reminded by Cole Porter's catchy music throughout rehearsals and performances – "anything goes"!

Caroline Reddel

Donations

At the last Executive meeting, it was agreed we donate \$500 each from the proceeds of Seussical to these charities nominated by our members:

- Children's Hospital, Westmead (for oncology)
- Parramatta Mission
- Allowah Children's Home
- Technical Aid for the Disabled
- Black Dog Institute (depression)
- Heart Research Institute

We also agreed to donate \$1,000 to Eastwood Uniting Church to purchase paving bricks stamped with our name for the new pathways at the church. Bricks cost \$250 and this is a fund raiser by the church for interested parties to contribute financially and have their name in the path as a sponsor.

2009 AGM

Don't forget our AGM is on again, on 24 February 2009, 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 our PO Box before our January 5th meeting so that it can be included in the AGM material to be posted to all members 21 days before the AGM. Feel free to telephone any 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.

Christmas Wishes from Afar

We recently received a beautiful Christmas card from our sponsor child, Charity, who lives in Zambia, wishing us all a Merry Christmas.

Last Call - Directors and Actors

A few members have expressed interest in a Director's Laboratory Series, to be run by Penny Wilson on Tuesday nights before the rehearsal period for Anything Goes. At this stage there are probably not enough people to go ahead.

Please let Penny know if you would like to be involved so that we can either sort out some dates (I envisage Feb/March) that suit everyone, or we will shelve the project for the time being.

If you didn't see or had forgotten the outline from last month's bulletin, this is a repeat:

This series would involve a few people who were interested in learning to direct scenes or short plays (musical or non-musical). They could be chosen by the directors or provided by Penny.

The first week would involve scene analysis, then other volunteer members interested in some performance practice would be asked to attend for the next 2 - 3 Tuesdays to be guinea pigs for the student directors to work with in their pieces.

We would look at a very small performance for an audience of the directors, actors and guests to follow these series.

If preferred by members, this type of series could also be held in October/November, but would then have a specific Christmas focus, with the aim of producing performances for the EUCMS Celebration of Christmas 2009.

If you think you might be interested, either as a director or as a volunteer performer, please phone Penny on 8812 2575 or email: ozpanda@optusnet.com.au

Christmas Church Service

Thanks to Robyn and her team who organised EUCMS' contribution to the 'Celebration of Christmas' church service at Lakeside Road. It was a lovely evening of reflection on many aspects of Christ's birth. Supper was a treat too!

Christmas Party

Thanks to Caroline, Beth and Jess for organising a fabulous Christmas party and to all those who contributed tasty Christmas treats for entrée and dessert. The party rocked on until 1am and was attended by about 50 of our members at Penny and Adam's house.

Members' News

Grandparents Again!

Congratulations to Ros and Philip Boyle who have just become grandparents again to Arman, the son of Richard and Ritu - we are certainly expanding the ranks

of future young members!

Best Wishes

Good wishes for a speedy recovery to Ern Sharpham who is currently undergoing rehab after a nasty illness. Our thoughts are with you and the family.

Twin Girls!

A big congratulations to Jeni and Warren Sistrom with the recent birth of twin girls, Rebecca and Hannah. We all hope you are both getting enough sleep!



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

President - Robyn Mead

Ph: 9736 3432 mead_19@hotmail.com

Vice President - Penny Wilson

Ph: 8812 2575 ozpanda@optusnet.com.au

General Secretary - Belinda Bongers

Ph: 9874 7334 bbongers@froggy.com.au

Business Secretary - Megan Willis

Ph: 9869 7413

Treasurer - Lynn Bock

Ph: 9871 6869 kbandlb@optusnet.com.au

Property Officer - Adam Wilson

Ph: 8812 2575 ozpanda@optusnet.com.au

Floor Member - Jessica Allen

Ph: 9716 6832 jessa_melb@hotmail.com

Floor Member - Beth Madden

Ph: 9874 2009 beth-madden@hotmail.com

Floor Member - Tony Quance

Ph: 9874 3326 tony.quance5@bigpond.com

Floor Member - Caroline Reddel

Ph: 9449 4561 cazthelion@hotmail.com

Mail: P. O. Box 246 EASTWOOD NSW 2122

Phone: 02 8061 7195

Website: www.eucms.org.au

Join our official EUCMS email list by sending a blank email to: eucms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Or our members' chat list by sending a blank email to: euchat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Next Executive Meeting

5 January at Adam & Penny Wilson's house, starts 8pm.