

## From the President

Between the last and this Bulletin, EUCMS has held its AGM for 2007, and I am extremely excited to be able to write my very first "From the President" spiel in this Edition! For those of you whom I have not yet been able to meet, I am characterised by a rather ebullient manner, a spectacular wolf-whistle (given out, not received), and a stout figure. I have been married for just over seven years (my husband – John – is keen on the "seven-year-itch" he's heard about), and have 3 children under 5: therefore, nothing frightens me. I have been involved with EUCMS since 2001, and so hope to bring just enough EUCMS experience, coupled with a large dose of "newness" to this very challenging role.

As expressed by our outgoing President, Robyn Mead, at the AGM, 2007 is a year in which EUCMS will need to either adjust to the changing needs of our society, or else begin to flounder. However, far from seeing this as an insurmountable task, I view this challenge as a tremendous opportunity to morph EUCMS into a Musical Society that will continue strongly into the Teenage years of this Millennium and beyond.

Our Society began in 1962 as an offshoot of Eastwood Methodist Church's Youth Group. We continue as a community musical group, always respecting our Christian roots, and looking to donate our profits to charitable works. The changes that I see needing to be made at EUCMS will respect our history and aims, while tapping into the needs of our changing audience to see shows that entertain and challenge, and a production quality that distinguishes us from our neighbours. But moreover, I want to see EUCMS as a Community – an extended family of music lovers who come together in this medium that seems to get under our skin! Like all families (especially mine!) I am completely aware that there will be very few times when we are all in agreement, and times when there are rumblings of malcontent over some issues. But,

I want our community to be one that pulls together, supports each other, and has a good time in each other's company. It is our history and aims as a Society which distinguish us from our neighbouring Musical groups; and it is those qualities that inform the Spirit of our group. It is this Spirit that, once nurtured in our casts, in our Production teams, and in general, that will allow us to grow and continue.

I thank the outgoing Committee for their efforts over the past year (or years), and wish the newly resigned members the very best in their free monthly Monday night.

I look forward to seeing all of you around the traps as *Pirates* gets underway. I urge you to begin talking about the show to friends, neighbours, workmates, the random man on the bus, church friends, your beautician, the checkout operator... anyone you can. For all we know, these people might be looking for just the kind of diversion and entertainment that a Musical can provide in their lives.

Please feel free to contact me with any issues and ideas that you have for EUCMS. I look forward to travelling 2007 together.

*Sarah Hogan*

Illustrious leader ☺

## Pirates Information

*"To-morrow it may pour again*

*I hear the country wants some rain...."*

What a great launch of "Pirates" we have had with a terrific cast of pirates and bee-u-ti-ful maidens!

We are thrilled to welcome 6 new members and hope you all enjoy the voyage enough to stay with us for future shows.

The BIG news re "Pirates" is that we will set sail for Yeoval (in the Wellington parish) to perform in the hall there on Saturday, 9th June (Queen's Birthday Weekend).

It has been a long time since EUCMS did a "country" show and it is especially exciting that we will be contributing to the Moderator's Drought Appeal with this FREE performance for farming families in this badly drought affected area. No rain since July last year seems a difficult concept for us lucky people to comprehend, but I can assure you that in parts, even the gum trees are dying out there.

As thrilling as this will be, it will also be tiring and demanding of a great deal of co-operation from all concerned and I cannot thank my wonderful "P-o-P" company enough for their willingness to be involved.

Jim Murch will be heading up a Working Group to plan the various aspects of this trip and the Co. will receive Special Bulletins from time to time to keep you informed.

To those members not in "Pirates", we ask for your support and prayers as we plan this extension to our Marsden High School season.

Lots of other info. elsewhere in the Bulletin so, keep reading!

Bon voyage

*Elaine*

### "What Is The Moderator's Drought Appeal?"

This is an appeal instigated by the moderator of the Uniting Church in N.S.W. (Mr. Jim Mein) which aims to assist those in the drought stricken areas of the State. As one of their efforts, apart from raising much needed money, they had a seminar which comprised representatives of drought areas and reps. from the U.C. at which they asked "What else can we do to help, apart from raising money?"

One of the answers was that it would be great if someone could come and give a concert for the families, where they would have the opportunity to forget their problems at least for a short time, and also have conversation with others who were struggling like themselves.

Hence EUCMS' offer to take "Pirates of Penzance"

to a country venue which was suggested by one of the Outback Pastors in N.S.W."

## Ticket Bookings

**Preferential ticket booking night for Pirates is 10 April and public bookings open 13 April.**

For those new members, Preferential booking night is a chance for those involved with the show to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the general public. Your friends and family can have great seats....



All you need to do show up early on the night with the numbers, the dates and the money (cheque preferred but cash is OK too!). It is first in, best dressed on the night before rehearsal.

Start organising your bookings NOW!

Our booking agent for *Pirates of Penzance* will be Jenny Beddoe.

## EUCMS News

### 2006 AGM - 20 February 2007

Thanks to those who attended the AGM to hear all the latest news about the society and to say a big thanks for all the hard work from those Exec members who are not re-standing this year. You will find Robyn's report from the meeting included in with this bulletin. We also welcomed in a new (and full) 2007 Executive committee whose names are listed on the back page of this bulletin. I wish all Exec members both new and old all the very best for 2007 for what is looking to be an exciting year ahead.

Copies of the Audited Accounts for Year ended 31 Dec 2006 and the NEW EUCMS Constitution are available for every member on request to Belinda via email or phone 9874 7334.

### New Members

After the recent new members auditions, we welcome the following people into the EUCMS membership: Cathy Bulfin, Erika Conlon and Jenny Firth. We trust that you will have a fantastic time with us in Pirates and other upcoming shows. There may be other new members who have since auditioned and they will be welcomed in next month's bulletin.



### 2007 Subs Reminder



Have you **paid your \$20 subs** for 2007 yet? Just a friendly reminder to do so immediately. You can pay Tristram Fieldhouse in person or post a cheque to our PO Box. Remember

that without your membership payment this might be also the last bulletin you receive!

### The Music Man

For our second show for 2007, *The Music Man*, we are pleased to announce our Director will be Clare Burgess, our Musical Director is Sarah Hogan and Production Manager is Jess Allen. We wish them well in the months ahead as they prepare for their upcoming show in the second half of 2007.



### Mid-year Dinner

Another date for your diaries is our mid-year dinner to be held at *Sam's Pizza and Pasta*, corner Victoria Road and Marsden Roads. More details in next month's bulletin.

### Mid-year Church Service

Our Mid-year Church Service is on 12 August. If you are able to assist with preparations or assist on the night, please let Belinda know.

### No More Dumping Please!

Those who have been cleaning up under the stage ask that we remind all members to NOT dump old costumes and other material under the stage when so much hard work has been done in cleaning this area up. Please see Elaine Gow or Barbara Sharpham, so they can suggest where things should be left.

### Learning Make-up?



Since the last bulletin went out, Megan Carroll has been to her makeup course and would love to hear from you on 9868 2840 if you are interested in learning make-up skills, as she would love to train others up with her new found knowledge. She looks forward to working with the cast of *Pirates* to make the men look especially brutish!

### Workshops

While speaking of training, the Executive is looking into the idea of running some workshops for members to attend later in the year. If you think you are willing and able to lead a workshop on a particular topic or would like to suggest some workshops you would like to attend, please speak to or email Adam Wilson.

### Questionnaire

Included in next month's bulletin will be our March questionnaire. It will be asking about your intention to be involved in *The Music Man* and looking for feedback and suggestions for workshops and 2008 shows. Start thinking now!



## Members' News

### Birthday News

Big congratulations to Jenny Byron who recently celebrated her 21st birthday.

### Baby News

Bronte Rachel McAlpine arrived safe and sound Friday 9th February 5.20pm. Vital stats were:

3.2kgs (7lb 1 oz), 49.5cm long, 35cm head circumference.

Our biggest congratulations go out to Andrew, Karen, Lauren and Cameron.



**Pirates of Penzance Trivia Questions**

1. **In the opening song, what are the pirates drinking?** *Rum, Vanilla Coke, Brandy or Sherry*
2. **Ruth apprenticed Frederic to the pirate band. What profession was she supposed to apprentice him to?**
3. **How old is Ruth?** *47, 48, 45 or 50*
4. **Why does Frederic reveal his presence to Major-General Stanley's daughters?** *He wants to warn them about the pirates, He is shocked by what they are about to do, He is stunned by Mabel's beauty, or He wants to ask for their help*
5. **What is NOT one of the things that Major-General Stanley knows about?** *All the songs from "The Mikado", Hard acrostics and paradox, Binomial theorem and the square of the hypotenuse, or Babylonian cuneiform*
6. **Why did Major-General Stanley plead with the pirates to take pity on him?** *His wards relied on him for support, He was in love with Ruth, He didn't have long to live, or He was an orphan*
7. **What does the cast sing 'Hail' to towards the end of the first act?** *Piracy, Poetry, Orphans, or Love*
8. **What is the repeated phrase in the policeman's song, sung when they first appear?**
9. **Although Frederic has lived 21 years, if we go by birthdays, how old is he?** *5, 6, 4 or 7.*
10. **Why do the pirates want to kill Major-General Stanley?** *He insulted the Pirate King, He lied to them, He told the police where they were, or He stole their flag*
11. **When does Frederic tell Mabel that he will turn 21, and be free to marry her?** *(a year)*
12. **The policemen love their work?** *True or false*
13. **What is not one of the things which Samuel distributes to the pirates during 'With Cat-like Tread'?** *Crowbar, Skeletoic keys, Silent matches, or Hammer*
14. **What time does Major-General Stanley invariably go to bed?** *Eight o'clock, Seven o'clock, Half-past ten, or Half-past nine*
15. **What is the pirates' secret?** *They're not really orphans, They're actually all noblemen, They don't like piracy, or Ruth is Frederic's mother*

Answers next month

**Important EUCMS Dates**

<b>26 May 2007</b>	<i>Pirates</i> Opening performances
<b>1, 2 June 2007</b>	<i>Pirates</i> performances
<b>9 June, 2007</b>	<i>Pirates</i> tours to Yeoval
<b>23 June 2007</b>	Mid-year Dinner at Sam's
<b>15, 16 July 2007</b>	<i>Music Man</i> auditions
<b>4 August 2007</b>	<i>Music Man</i> rehearsals start
<b>12 August 2007</b>	Mid-year Church Service

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**Next Executive Meeting**

Monday 19 March at 8pm