

From the President

It is a great pleasure to hear about the success of the "Carousel" season. A show season is never without its moments, doubts and uncertainties, but when the team are working in different environments to "the norm", then such success is even more credit to those involved. From all accounts Elaine and her cast and crew did a magnificent job bringing everything together to present a great show.

Our next director and her team are well into the planning for "Seussical". Please support Penny and her team in this exciting production. Dates for rehearsals are in the bulletin.

There are quite a number of other significant dates in this bulletin and I urge you all to read them carefully. I would like many of you to take the opportunity to join us in worshipping together in our Church Service to be held at Lakeside Road Uniting Church on 3rd August at 6.30pm. Rev Andrew Williams is the new minister for Lakeside Church and he is very keen for us to worship there. Please think about joining the choir for this service.

Yes, believe it or not, work HAS BEGUN. Not only is this great news, but it is advance notice if you are planning to join us at the church service. When you arrive you will see a lot of construction fencing. Don't be put off or think we have made a mistake. There is a pathway provided up to the church.

One of the unique aspects of EUCMS is the caring family atmosphere that we try to maintain amongst our members. We share the happy times and the sad times and last weekend was a sad weekend for the EUCMS family. Sylvia Foulcher, one of our life members, passed away last week. She had contributed so much to music in Eastwood. Not only was she a life member of EUCMS, but for many years was the conductor of the choir for Lakeside Road Church. Her love of music and life was always evident in everything she did. We extend our sincere condolences to her daughter, Maxine and the family.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Rosemary Roach whose father passed away last week and with Simon Ward, whose mother also passed away.

My sincere thanks to Penny for accepting the responsibility of the presidency while Steve and I were enjoying 9 wonderful weeks overseas. We certainly covered some distance and visited many of the famous landmarks in Europe, Britain and America. The home of Mozart and the live concert of Mozart and Strauss music in Vienna were certainly highlights. However, Norway must be one of the most beautifully scenic countries in the world. But I am now well and truly back to reality.

Robyn Mead

SEUSSICAL News

*"Oh, the sights that you'll see -
Why, our big top is packed!
And there's no telling where
We will find our next act!"*



Come Join the Show!

But we'd really like to know! EUCMS has done itself proud at *Seussical* auditions, and we are very pleased to announce the following Cast -

Horton The Elephant.....	John Hogan
Cat in the Hat.....	Rosemary Roach
JoJo	James Baguley
Gertrude McFuzz.....	Caroline Reddel
Sour Kangaroo.....	Cathy Bulfin
Mayzie LaBird.....	Kat Sharpham
Bird Girls.....	Celeste Cohen
	Beth Madden
	Annemarie Murphy
Wickersham Brothers	Nathaniel Burgess
	David Lang
	Stephen Lee
Mayor of Whoville.....	Adam Wilson
Mrs Mayor	Jess Allen
General Genghis Kahn Schmitz.....	Tim Keith
The Grinch	Andrew Forbes
Yertle the Turtle.....	Roger Perry

This very strong cast will be joined by an enthusiastic group of Who Kids, some of whom have performed with EUCMS before, and some joining us for the first time. They include: Isobel Bongers, James Bongers, David Forbes, Matthew Forbes, Melody Newberry, Jessica Saxon, Sara Saxon, Tamasin Schmiga, Sarah Wanstall, Edward Whelan, Harry Whelan.

But these Who Kids need Who Parents! 3 ladies and 2/3 men are needed to form our families in the perfect little world of Who - strong singers and comic actors, who are happy to work hard (until supper time!)

Then there are two more groups to fill - firstly a minimum of 4 comedians/comediennes who can move and shout to be the Ape followers of the Wickershams, and also the General's Cadets.

We also need a group with a good balance of voices, plenty of flexibility in role-playing and at least some great dancers, to form "Chorus A" - the Jungle Animals, who also play Fish, Circus Performers and the mischievous Hunches (inspired by Thing One and Thing Two, if you've read *Cat in the Hat*). We probably need a minimum of 8 people in this group.

So you can see we really are hoping that we'll "find our next act" in you!

This will be a fun show, with lots of involvement and opportunity for the chorus to be featured, as groups and individuals, so please consider joining us for the show.

We'd love to see as many of you as possible for our read (sing) through on Tuesday, July 22nd, and our first full cast rehearsal on Friday, July 25th, but it would be really helpful to the team to have an idea in advance of how many we are likely to have in our chorus, and which groups people would prefer to be in (we can't guarantee first preference, but we'll do our best!) Are you planning to be involved with *Seussical*? If so, please let Penny or Bess know - contacts below!

Production Roles

Of course we understand that not everyone can commit to a performing role, but we would still love to hear from you if you can help in other ways.

We welcome to the team Michael Zarate as Stage Manager. He will be assisted and advised by Peter Dracakis, and have support from Delia Zarate, Keith Barry and Harry Bedford. They will have help from "Hat Man", Andrew "Ox" McVey, (who is working on a sideline in magic tricks for our circus performers) and we thank Bernard Carroll for his technical advice and support.

Andrew Yager is heading up the Technical team on sound and lighting, with help from the extended family, and Wayne Chee will be working with Epping Boys High Technology Department and the lighting team to make it a really wonderful experience. We must record an official thanks to Wayne for his tremendous efforts in liaising with the school on behalf of EUCMS.

Megan Carroll is creating some (literally) fantastic set designs, and we welcome also our Décor director, Lynette Jones, who will lead the team in bringing them to life. There have been a few informal offers to help with Décor, and there will certainly be plenty of painting to do, (not to mention a lot of pompoms to make) so please, let Bess know if you can help, occasionally or often, so that she can give Lynette a list.

Heather Gutherson is hard at work, coming up with patterns and fabrics to create the costumes designed by Penny Wilson and Lyndall Hord. Jenny Lyle has the unenviable task of finding all the things we need for a large percentage of the cast in the somewhat dispersed EUCMS wardrobe. These ladies would also really love some help - particularly experienced help, but they'll take enthusiastic as well!

Our biggest need is still for a Make-Up director. As we are keeping the make-up quite simple, the design side of the task should not be difficult. There are some willing helpers, ready to work with a good organiser prepared to lead the group. Please think seriously about this one - we'd love to resolve it quickly.

Please let Bess Yager (9481 4143) or me (8812 2575) know if you can help in any of these ways.

Penny Wilson

EUCMS News

Mid-year Church Service

This will be held in the Eastwood Uniting Church, Lakeside Road, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday 3rd August and Niki Barton is very keen to enlist choristers for the choir we are planning. Rehearsals for this will be on three Thursdays nights at 8 p.m. at Lakeside Road and commence on 17th July. If anyone would like to sing with this group during the service they should contact Niki on 9802 9686.

Please come and encourage your friends and families to worship with us on this special evening (supper will be served afterwards). Rev. Andrew Williams will be speaking at the service and he says 'he is really looking forward to it'.

Mid-year Dinner Thanks

A huge vote of thanks for Caroline, Jess and Beth, as well as Keith Barry, Brian Madden and all those who helped make the Mid-Year Dinner so successful. It was a great night attended by 51 people and it was a wonderful time of catching up, sharing a meal and playing trivia!

New Members' Auditions - Last Chance

Bring your friends and family along to New Members' Auditions on 22 July. Make sure you contact Beth Madden to register names for this on beth-madden@hotmail.com or 9874 2009.

EUCMS Costumes

Because of the relocation of our costumes to various locations and the logistics involved in access and keeping track of them, the executive has decided that until further notice members will not be able to borrow costumes to wear to private functions. Jenny Lyle and Heather Clarke are our wardrobe librarians and are in the process of compiling a database of all our costumes and related items. Once we move our costumes back to Lakeside Road, and the database is up and running, we will be working out an appropriate new borrowing system. If you do have any questions about costumes then please contact Jenny on 0418 630 061 or by email at jjlyle@gmail.com.

Wellington Anniversary

If anyone is interested in attending the Centenary celebrations (See June bulletin for details), please speak to Elaine Gow on 9872 6453 as there are already a few EUCMS people planning on attending and they are taking a "Birthday Present" of \$100 from EUCMS.

Granny Smith Festival

We will again have a stall at the Granny Smith festival at Eastwood on 18 October, 2008. We ask that you pop this date on your calendar immediately as the *Seussical* team have great things planned for that day to help promote the show and EUCMS and they will need lots of willing helpers. Contact Tony Quance 9874 3326.

2009 News

Although we know many members are keen to hear about the show for 2009, we cannot reveal this yet as the decision is still in the final stages of being examined. A Stagecraft Workshop is in the planning stages for March and more news re date, venue and world-renowned presenter (we kid you not!) will be available by the August Bulletin. However, we can promise it will be exciting!!!

Members' News

Condolences

We send our deepest sympathy to Rosemary, Peter and Thomas Roach on the death of Rosie's father. Also to Simon Ward whose mother passed away the same weekend. Our love and prayers are with you all.

Sylvia Foulcher

Our EUCMS family also mourns the death of Sylvia Foulcher, one of our foundation members and also a Life Member of the Society. Sylvia passed away after a fall and we are all saddened by this loss and extend our love and sympathy to Maxine, Lloyd and the girls. Many of our members travelled to Gosford for Sylvia's funeral and were reminded of all the wonderful contribution she had made to the success of EUCMS by directing and musically directing so many shows as well as conducting church service choirs and taking principal roles and singing as a chorister in so many productions. Sylvia's commitment and loyalty to EUCMS was a shining example of how to make a really significant difference with the many talents with which she had been blessed not least of which were her lovely voice and quirky sense of humour.

Sylvia served on the Executive Committee for a number of years and when not engaged with a production, took on roles such as House Manager etc.

Her last role with the Society before she retired to the Central Coast, was conducting the 2001 Choir for the Church Service and she will be sadly missed but very fondly remembered by her many friends. Vale Syl.

Congratulations

To Ros and Phil Boyle who are again grandparents with the birth of Richard Jack, a son for Robyn and Peter, brother for Stephanie and great grandson for one of our foundation members, Jack Kefford.

I Can Hear the Bells....

Congratulations to Brigitte Carroll and Paul Madden (Brian's son and Beth's brother), on their engagement and loads of good wishes for future happiness together.

Twins!

Jeni Sistrom is thrilled to announce that she and Warren are expecting twins in November. Paul and Clare will be grandparents again but not before Jeni's niece makes them great - grandparents!

Bon Voyage

Bon Voyage message to Lynn and Ken Bock as they set off with the Cathedral Singers on a tour of some U.K. cathedrals, including Westminster Abbey, where Lynn will be singing with the choir.

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

Important EUCMS 2008 Dates

22 July	<i>Seussical</i> Read Through and New Members Auditions
25 July	<i>Seussical</i> First Ensemble Rehearsal
3 Aug	Annual Church Service, 6.30pm at Lakeside Road Church
18 Oct	Granny Smith Festival
1 Nov	<i>Seussical</i> bump-in and dress rehearsal at new venue - Epping Boys High
7-8 Nov	First weekend of <i>Seussical</i> shows
14-15 Nov	Final weekend of <i>Seussical</i> shows

Executive Members 2008

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Join our official EUCMS email list by sending a blank email to:

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

euchat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Next Executive Meeting

11 August at Adam & Penny Wilson's house, starts 8pm.