

From the Vice-President

Poor Robyn! I think everyone will agree that, although a holiday in Europe and the US must be lots of fun, she picked a terrible time to go...

Who could have thought, given the struggle that it initially was to bring a cast together for *Carousel*, that the show would have looked so great, sounded so wonderful, and by all accounts, have been such an enjoyable experience, both for our appreciative audiences, and for the cast and crew?

I know one small cast member (and for that matter one somewhat bigger one) who says "I love my shirt of stars and horses, but I miss my *Carousel* friends in all my heart!"

Sincerest congratulations and thanks to Elaine, Ben, Barb, Megan and all their various teams, helpers and performers - you have all done EUCMS proud!

Don't stop now, though: please consider how you can be involved with *Seussical*, to make sure that we maintain and even exceed the very high standards of production, performance and community spirit set by *Carousel*.

And also, since every great show of the past, whether as recent as *Carousel*, or dating back to any high point in the last 46 years, creates a lot of good friends, and good memories to be shared, make sure you get your booking in for the Mid-Year Dinner.

It will be a really fun night, with some opportunities for sharing stories, experiences, photos and memorabilia from the history of EUCMS - an opportunity to get to know others, and hear their stories, and to relive the trials and triumphs that we have shared together as well.

Bring along a few visual aids to memory if you can!

Penny Wilson (filling in for Robyn Mead)

Carousel News

Stop Press!!! Audiences declare "Carousel - 'a great show', 'I had goose bumps', 'everyone was obviously enjoying themselves', 'the characters were completely convincing', 'the best yet (!)' and "you had me in tears" (no, not the Director).

There is really no need for me to elaborate on these comments other than to reiterate how proud I am of the whole Company who took possession of this lovely show and achieved their first priority - to entertain the audiences.

We were all blown away from the first curtain opening to reveal THE carousel until the closing scene with two families - the Snow family and the "Carousel" family - sending us all out on a high with "You'll Never Walk

Alone".

Thank you all for your commitment and hard work which paid such handsome dividends. I hope you can all say with me - "and we all had a real good time"!

Blessings, Elaine

COSTUME RETURN: 17 June from 7.30pm at Lynn Bock's house: 11 Lyndelle Place, Carlingford, 2118.

SEUSSICAL News

Stop the Presses, Again!!!

'Take a tip from the Cat

And hold on to your hat!"

Because away we go! Quite literally - EUCMS is on the move again.



Following the technical difficulties experienced by particularly the lighting team for *Carousel*, and the greater technical requirements for *Seussical*, the Executive has voted to perform *Seussical* at a different venue - **Epping Boys High School**, and for the performances to be one week earlier, so that we will now bump in and hold our first full dress rehearsal on Saturday 1st November, and perform on the weekends of **7-8 and 14-15 November**.

We believe that the advantages of these decisions are significant, and outweigh the inconveniences of yet another change of venue - and that you will see the benefits in the show we produce!

Our intention at this stage is to also perform our 2009 show at Epping Boys High School.

Seussical is promising to be a really joyous and exciting show to be involved with, and with a promising roll-up at our Orientation Night, held just days after the closing night of *Carousel*, there is lots of enthusiasm building already.

For those of you who don't know the show, and for those who couldn't make either the closing night or the Orientation night, we have included a plot synopsis and brief character notes for auditions with your bulletin. We are really keen to have a strong chorus for the show as well - as they have plenty to do!

In fact, one chorus just can't do it all, so we will need three groups, all of whom have plenty of action. And we are looking for all types of performers there too:

First of all, there are the Who's (the tiny civilisation befriended by Horton the Elephant, who are in comic peril for most of the show). This will be a small, featured group - we are looking at only about 6 strong voiced adults (although they will also be supported by a few of the principal characters in most of their numbers) and up to 12 kids between 8 and 14 years of age. They

will form 4 family groups (the fourth couple being Mr and Mrs Mayor) from the town of Whoville. They will have a great time, playing a parody of the classic conservative townsfolk our chorus often plays, but in a really crazy situation. And, as this group will include the kids, they will also usually finish rehearsals at supper time (and have the opportunity to help out with painting sets afterwards, if they wish!)

Then there are the Apes - again a smaller group, and with a real emphasis on movement and physical comedy. They will be the followers of those cheeky monkeys, the Wickersham Brothers, and will perform in all the Jungle numbers, all the Wickersham's scenes and then double as the very silly Cadets at General Ghengis Kahn Schmitz' Military Academy. We hope for about 6 or 8 funny and flexible performers here.

Finally, the largest group of the chorus, who will also need to be the most versatile character actors and singers. They will play the other Jungle citizens, with the opportunity to work with the creative team to develop an individual animal identity, but in other scenes, they will also play a school of fish, some crazy circus performers and the "Hunches" - characters who exist in Jojo's imagination, and who (in our production) will be based on the mischievous "Things" from the classic "Cat in the Hat" story.

At first chorus rehearsal, everyone will be given the opportunity to nominate which group they would prefer to be in, and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes, although if we have too many requests to join one of the smaller groups, we may need to have a quick "in-house" song or dance audition, since a few Who's need to carry a lot of singing, and the Apes will need to do lots of movement.

So, please consider performing in this thoroughly entertaining and touching show - there will be lots to enjoy for people of all ages.

Let me remind you again of our Audition dates: Friday 27th June and Tuesday 1st July at Marsden Road Uniting Church for adults. (Callbacks, if required, will be on Friday 4th July.)

Children's auditions (for Jojo, or new members wishing to be Who kids) Saturday 28th June, in the daytime, at 32 Pinetree Drive, Carlingford. If you are/have a young performer (8-14) who has performed with EUCMS before, you don't need to re-audition, but you should contact Bess anyway, as we do only have a limited number of spaces for children in Whoville, and we need to know if we are going to need to restrict our number of new members, or even hold auditions among our previous performers.

Production Roles Available

If you can't perform onstage for Seussical, there are still lots of ways you can contribute to making it a great show, with a number of key production departments all

still open to offers of help.

We are putting together some excellent teams for Costume, Décor, Lighting/Sound and Staging, (details in next month's bulletin, as this is getting pretty long) but each area could use additional helpers, and as yet we are without a Team Leader for Make-up.

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

Penny Wilson

EUCMS News

Mid-year Dinner

Don't forget to let us know you're coming to the mid-year dinner - it's not far away now! We need to have numbers for catering by **Monday, 23rd June**. Why not pick up the phone or open your email straight away, so you don't miss out? (There may still be the chance to add your name after the Monday, just give us a call and we'll see what we can do.)

As a reminder, the dinner is on Saturday, 28th June from 7pm in the Epping School of Arts hall (Oxford St, Epping). The cost is just \$22 for dinner, soft drinks and dessert (let us know if you're vegetarian), and you may BYO alcohol. Parking is available behind the hall in Cambridge St.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and especially to seeing you on the night!

Caroline (9449 4561, 0401 307 088, or cazthelion@hotmail.com) and the team.

Mid-year Service

Feeling "homesick"? The EUCMS Mid-Year Service will be held at **Lakeside Road Uniting Church** this year! It is at 6:30pm, on the 3rd August. Rev. Andrew Williams from Eastwood U.C. will be preaching on the night, and would love to foster stronger links between EUCMS and the youth of Eastwood Church at this service.

No Longer Financial?

Check your bulletin label on your envelope to see your current financial status. In the case of where there is more than one member at the one address, only the status of one person will be shown. If you are unsure of your status, please give Lynn our Treasurer an email or call and she will be able to tell you: kbandlb@optusnet.com.au or 9871 6869.

For those no longer financial, this will be the last bulletin posted to you.

New Members' Auditions

Bring your friends and family along to New Members' Auditions on 24 June. Contact Beth Madden to register names for this on beth-madden@hotmail.com or 9874 2009. If we miss anyone in June, we will hold a second date if required on 18 July.

Wellington Anniversary

A letter received:

Dear Friends, on Sunday, August 10th the Wellington Uniting Church will be holding a service to celebrate the Centenary of the former St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 9.30 a.m. This will be followed by morning tea. The preacher for this occasion will be the Moderator, Rev. Niall Reid.

As your group has been generous to us during the drought we wanted to send you all an invitation to join us at this time. Would you please pass this on to your group as we are very short of addresses.

We realise that it is a long way to come but it would be lovely if some of your folk could join us at this time.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours sincerely

Gwen Cosier (Secretary Church Council)

If anyone is interested in attending, please speak to Elaine Gow on 9872 6453 as there is already a few EUCMS people planning on attending.

Members' News

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, email Adam.

Dr. Seuss

Theodor Seuss Geisel (March 2, 1904 – September 24, 1991) was an American writer and cartoonist, better known by his pen name, Dr. Seuss. He published over 60 children's books, which were often characterised by his imaginative characters, rhythms and rhymes. His most notable books include the bestselling classics *Green Eggs and Ham*, *The Cat in the Hat*, and *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*. His work has been adapted numerous times, including eleven television specials, three feature films, and a Broadway musical.



Geisel also worked as an illustrator for advertising campaigns, most notably for Flit and Standard Oil, and as a political cartoonist for PM, a New York magazine. During World War II, he joined the Army to work in an animation department of the Air Force, where he wrote *Design for Death*, a film that later won the 1947 Academy Award for Documentary Feature.

Important EUCMS 2008 Dates

24 June	New Members Auditions
27 June & 1 July	Seussical Auditions
28 June	Seussical Kids auditions & Mid Year Dinner
22 July	Seussical Read Through
25 July	Seussical First Ensemble Rehearsal
3 August	Annual Church Service, 6.30pm at Lakeside Road Church
1 November	New date for Seussical bump-in and dress rehearsal at new venue - Epping Boys High School
7-8 November	New dates for first weekend of Seussical performances
14-15 November	New dates for final weekend of Seussical performances

Executive Members 2008

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

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

Next Executive Meeting

7 July at Adam & Penny Wilson's house, starts 8pm.