

From the President

The building work at Eastwood Uniting Church, on Lakeside Road is nearing completion, and it certainly is a beautiful modern complex which we will have the privilege of calling home for rehearsals and performances. There will, by necessity be changes to our ways but none which cannot be overcome.

On a more challenging note – with this good news – comes the process of moving everything back into very different storage spaces in the new complex. We will be asking for people to give some time on a number of Saturdays to assist with this huge task.

One of the suggestions during the open discussion at the AGM was to provide a venue for children to be looked after while parents helped out for an hour or two. Details of specific dates will be in the next bulletin.

We are coming into a very busy time of year. Our own EUCMS service, our Mid year dinner, “Anything Goes” starting rehearsals, our costume workshop and all the moving. I look forward to seeing our members not only at the social events, but at the working bees as well.

Robyn Mead

Anything Goes News

All aboard!

Have you been wondering in what kind of world you're going to be spending the next few months, if you become a chorus member of *Anything Goes*? Let me, as I did at the audition workshop in February, set the scene.

The year is 1934. Jazz is just going out and Swing is just coming in. The world is in the grip of the Great Depression. Tensions are growing within Europe, which will eventually lead into the second World War. And Cole Porter is writing music to lift the spirits of America, and give them an escape from an often-bleak reality.

Anything Goes is set on a luxury ocean liner and features a great deal of light-hearted silliness with an element of wish-fulfillment, combined with musical numbers that are guaranteed to get stuck in your head. There are comedic mishaps and farcical situations involving gangsters, disguises, mistaken identities, arrests, a good helping of romance, unexpected riches, and the discovery that as long as a person is a celebrity, what they're famous for doesn't matter – even if it's being Public Enemy Number One!

After a long wait, EUCMS' *Anything Goes* is finally setting



sail, with rehearsals just about to start – so this is your last chance to come aboard as an on-stage participant. We're opening with a read-through for principals on **Tues, 19th May** (chorus welcome), followed by the first chorus rehearsal on **Fri, 22nd May**. Rehearsals will begin at **Marsden Road Uniting Church**.

Important: The first rehearsal on the 22nd will be crucial for casting the minor roles and determining the amount of dancing each chorus member will be suited to, so **PLEASE** make sure you **let me know** if you would like to do the show, but for some reason will have to miss the first rehearsal. For everyone who will be there, **please bring shoes you can dance in to the first rehearsal!**

I'm looking forward to taking this voyage with all of you!

Caroline (9449 4561 or cazthelion@hotmail.com)

Cast update:

Mrs Evangeline Harcourt – Lynn Bock

Can you help?

Do you have any patterns for fairly straight, long skirts/dresses?

Do you have a space at home (an unused garage etc) in which our stage crew could construct and store parts of the set?

EUCMS News

Mid-year Dinner

It's that time of year again – we'll once again be holding an evening function for EUCMS members and their guests at the **Epping Community Centre** on **Sat, 27th June**.

Last year's dinner was a really enjoyable event, with a great turn-out by our members!

The cost, including dinner, dessert, soft drinks and a great evening, will be **\$25**, and we will start taking bookings and payments in the first few weeks of *Anything Goes* rehearsals (or contact Jess Allen on 0405 654 533) It will be a great chance to spend some time relaxing with your friends in the society!



Mid-year Church Service

Our mid-year church service will be held on 5 July at 6.30pm at Eastwood Uniting Church. Penny Wilson and a small committee are planning the service, and we anticipate being involved in Bible Readings, Prayers and Music (with potential extra opportunities for dance and/or drama). If you are interested in serving in one of these ways, please contact Penny on 8812 2575.



Workshops

Our remaining workshops are:

4th July - Costume workshop - Barbara Lyle & Pam Bland

21st August - Stagecraft Pt 1 - 8pm - Stuart Maunder

22nd August - Stagecraft Pt 2 - **time to be confirmed*** - Stuart Maunder

* **Note:** please keep daytime and evening free at this stage on 22 August until we confirm with Stuart the exact timing.

Register online or call Lynn on 9871 6869.

For those of you who have paid for all workshops, could you please let Lynn know if there are any you don't plan to attend. The assumption is that you will be at all of them, which has been giving us a misleading number of people expected to turn up on the day.

Those that have registered for the upcoming workshops will be sent an email or given a phone call to confirm their attendance during the week leading up to the workshop date.

MD Workshop



Big thanks to our President, Robyn for the Conducting Workshop which was attended by 8 enthusiastic members. We are looking forward to lots more offers of Musical Directors or Assistants in the future, as well as maybe even more conducting workshops to build skills still further. The society will really benefit from a wider pool of experience in this area - even if that only means that 8 people have a better understanding of how to follow a conductor!

Makeup Workshop

A big thank-you also to Megan Carroll who ran a wonderful make-up workshop recently! All those that attended learnt lots! Thanks too, to all the people who helped with the organisation of supplies, mirrors etc to help the day run as smoothly as it possibly could under the circumstances.



Directing Workshop

Thanks to Penny for her efforts to offer a Workshop for those interested in Directing. Unfortunately at this time it has not been possible to find sufficient man/woman power to adequately support this project even though there were members who would like to delve further into this aspect of theatre, but we are hopeful that this can be done in the not too distant future. We know who you are!

Biggest Evening Supper



EUCMS will have a Biggest Evening Supper on Friday, 5th June during supper time at rehearsal for "A.G." and everyone is invited whether in the show or not! Please bring a gold coin to donate for your supper (or even folding money if you wish) to help the Cancer Council raise money for this good cause.

Costume Moving

We need to do our final removal of costumes from Chesterfield Road on **May 30th**. At this stage we will move them to Lynn Bock's house. Can you help?



Please let Adam or Penny know if you can help out even if just for a short time.

Questionnaire

Yes, it's only May, but there is lots of planning already underway at EUCMS, both for the rest of this year and for 2010.

Therefore, our questionnaire, covering society events in 2009 and forward planning for 2010 is included with this bulletin. Please fill it out and return it ASAP.

We are looking for offers for production teams and choice of shows for next year so our Show Selection Sub Committee can get started very soon.

You will also find an electronic version of the questionnaire on the website on the members page.



Where do you find the members page? Click on the little black note on the left hand side of the main page at www.eucms.org.au

Adam would also love to hear from you if you find any problems with the website! Suggestions are also welcome too!

Stay tuned for our new seating plans for the Eastwood Hall to be put on-line to make booking those best seats for *Anything Goes* even easier!

What's On?

If anyone has a use for more *What's On* brochures listing all the community theatre shows for 2009, please let Adam know and he can get some to you.

Members' News

Baby Congratulations

Congratulations to Barbara and Ron Lyle who have just become first time grand-parents with the birth of Hunter Robert Lyle (and of course to Auntie Jenny also).



Recovering Well

Our thoughts continue to go out to Barry Barton who is now at home and convalescing very well. Elaine says, "If you haven't seen him lately, he is just a shadow of his former self, but thrilled at his new physique and improved health!"

Happy 21st Birthday

A big congratulations to Stephen Lee, who recently celebrated this important milestone. And many more....

Cumberland Gang Show – July school holidays

The CGS is two hours of live, fast-moving, musical comedy theatre for all the family – kindies to grandparents! It showcases the talents of local Scouts and Guides.

EUCMS members James Baguley, David Lang and Isobel Bongers are in this year's cast.

This is the Gang Show's 40th anniversary year, so it promises to be an even greater show. It's packed with loads of fun, fantastic sets and costumes and some wonderfully catchy songs and dances.

The Gang Show is a \$100,000 plus production with a cast of 144 enthusiastic young Scouts and Guides, a 20 piece orchestra and around 250 people working behind the scenes. There are over 2,000 costumes and around 25 complete set changes every year!

Show dates are July 17 & 18 and 21 to 25, at the Riverside Theatre Parramatta. Very reasonable prices and family tickets. Early-bird discount of \$3 off every seat booked before 13 June (except family tickets). As the saying goes: "If you haven't seen a Gang Show before, make this your first – it certainly won't be your last!"

To purchase tickets and get more information contact Belinda Bongers on 9874.7334.

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

Anything Goes Trivia

- *Anything Goes* open at the Alvin Theater, New York on November 21, 1934.
- *Anything Goes* ran for 420 performances, becoming the fourth longest-running musical of the 1930s, despite the impact of the Great Depression on Broadway patrons' disposable income.
- Over 125 people died on the S.S. Morro Castle right around the beginning of rehearsals, so the musical had to be rewritten and was renamed from *Hard to Get* to *Anything Goes*.
- The London performance rights were bought during the show's Boston run, and it was produced at the Palace Theatre. The show opened on June 14, 1935 and ran for 261 performances.
- Lucy and Ethel sang "Friendship" in an episode of *I Love Lucy*.
- In the 1984 film, "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom", Kate Capshaw performs the title song in Cantonese.

Executive Members 2008

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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: 8 June at Adam & Penny's house