

From the President

Have you bought your tickets for “**Seussical**” yet? With only just over 2 weeks to opening night, make sure you ring and book tickets. This is one way of supporting your society even when you are not in a show.

You are a member of a very busy and active society and my many thanks go to those who are supporting it in many ways. We were fortunate to be offered some free promotional time by 2HHH, a local community radio station, of which we took full advantage. Thanks to Peter Bulfin for his offer and to those who performed. Thanks also to Tony and those who helped with the Granny Smith festival stall, thus further promoting our society to the local community. Thanks go to those members for their participation in recent concert parties and the concert at Thornleigh Uniting church and to Elaine for her coordination and organisation of these events.

Your executive is spending many hours planning the promised busy 2009. There may only be one show next year, but as promised, (and thanks to Elaine for her many hours of negotiation) we currently have plans for 6 workshops during the year. As requested through questionnaire responses and by our members, there will be workshops on:

“**How to prepare for an audition**”

“**Dance Workshop**”

“**Makeup**”

“**Using your voice properly**”

“**Costume making**”

“**Stagecraft**”

We are attempting to time these so that what you learn can be put into practice for next year’s show, but you do not have to be going in the show to be a part of the workshops. For example – “How to prepare for an audition” will be prior to the auditions for “**Anything Goes**” but will obviously be very useful for any other show in the future.

Some of these workshops will be led by well known professionals from the musical theatre industry and some by our extremely talented and experienced EUCMS members. Make sure you keep watching for our calendar of events.

Planning is also under way for our Christmas Service on Sunday 7th December at 6.30pm and for our Christmas Party on Saturday 13th December. These occasions provide us with the opportunity to celebrate two very important aspects of our society; - our bond with the

church, and our immediate and wider family who support each of our members.

Planning is also underway for the move back to Lakeside Road church – new storage areas that need to be fitted out, a new environment in which to perform.

And a seemingly long way away, but never too early to start thinking about, is the 50th Anniversary of EUCMS.

If you have thoughts or ideas on any of these activities, or better still, if you are interested in being involved in one or more of them, please speak to any member of your executive.

Our biggest plea to our members is that you participate in some of these activities. They are responses to your requests; please make the most of the opportunities.

Robyn Mead

SEUSSICAL News

“And will you succeed?”

You will! Yes, indeed...

Ninety-eight and three-quarters per cent guaranteed!”

Well, the quote to start this month’s news couldn’t have been more obvious, particularly as a result of the massive efforts that so many of you have been putting into preparations for Seussical - now just a couple of weeks from opening night!

Things still feel pretty crazy, both in good ways (this is Seussical, after all) and in disturbing ways, but we are massively grateful for everyone’s hard work, and it looks as though we have a great show coming up.

- Thanks to Sarah Hogan for stepping into the breach as Makeup Coordinator. There are still some spaces in her team, so please contact Bess (9481 4143) if you can help out.
- Huge thanks to Lynne Jones, Michael and Delia Zarate, (along with a range of other helpers on different occasions) for doubling up on their roles and putting in so many long hours of painting - the sets and props are looking fantastic! There are still a few items to complete, though, so if you can pitch in, contact Penny (8812 2575). There are not many days when I won’t be about and painting, (unless I’m running around on other Seussian business) so call any time you are free.
- The postcards and flyers have been a huge success, and since our letterbox drop was rained out, we should also thank those many cast members who trudged “across the hills and deserts” on their own to promote the show.

- Some cast members also recently performed at the Open Day held by the Hornsby Community FM radio station, (HHH 100.1FM), and were very well received, both by the live audience and when broadcast half an hour later. Big thanks to Peter Bulfin for arranging the opportunity, to Andrew Myles and Lyndall Hord for the music, to Robert Schmiga for the loan of his equipment and to our cast representatives, Nathanael Burgess, David Lang, Stephen Lee, James Baguley, John Hogan, Celeste Cohen, Beth Madden, Annemarie Murphy, Caroline Reddel and Kath Sharpham. You did us proud!
- The Granny Smith Festival was a huge hit, with the EUCMS stall (and helpers) all decked out in red and white, and busier than we have ever been before. Thanks to all who helped - you really promoted EUCMS and Seussical beautifully. As for our Musical Director's generosity in donating, tying and training others to tie so many fabulous balloon creations - well, all we can say is, Lyndall, you are a legend! Thanks so much to Tony Quance, Beth Madden, Jess Allen and Bess Yager for your organisation of the event.
- Thanks also for the great response to our pom-pom making appeal - Horton will now have a very luxuriant field of clovers to search through, and you will all have hours of fun trying to pick tiny pink fibres out of your clothes and lounges!
- We are still searching for a few elusive prop or costume items - most urgent at this stage are a broken camera, with a working flash, a white lab-coat and a Christmas tree with fixed decorations (so we don't have to dress it for each show, or carry it to storage in fear of dropping ornaments everywhere. Anything over a metre tall would be great).
- Bess would also like to thank those who have been so faithful in helping out with suppers throughout the rehearsal period, and is now appealing for volunteers to provide suppers for cast and crew for the last few rehearsals and the performance season - a behind the scenes job that is very much appreciated by us all! You can contact her by phone on 9037 0660 or at elizabeth@rwts.com.au
- On a personal note, I'd like to thank Caroline Reddel for stepping in to direct when I was down with pneumonia and hepatitis this month, and Clare Burgess for taking on both extra work and providing the extra energy I was lacking both while I was getting sick and while I was recovering.
- As a natural follow on to that, I'd like to thank the cast for their enthusiasm, and willingness to learn extra quickly! You are a wonderful group to work with, and I speak on behalf of Lyndall and Clare, when I say that you are going to be fantastic on stage. That said, please, please keep up your energy,

your health and your concentration, and don't forget to keep revising at home - time is so short, and now that we are running the show, anything that needs extra revision means having to create time out of thin air... now, we've all seen that Lyndall has some magic tricks up her sleeve, but I don't think that is one of them!

- Finally, a big appeal to everyone - please sell tickets!!! Sales of the matinees are doing very well, but we need to remind our "grown-up" friends that this is also a funny and clever show, with plenty to entertain adult audiences who would like to come in the evenings! Dr Seuss, and (perhaps even more pertinently) our wonderful cast have so much to offer; we don't want to spend our days playing to large audiences of small people, then our nights playing to small audiences of large people!

Penny Wilson

EUCMS News

Outstanding Questionnaires

If you have not yet returned your Questionnaire for 2009, it is not too late for your voice to be heard, or for your offers to be involved in "**Anything Goes**" to be considered.

If you have misplaced your printed copy, ask Belinda Bongers (9874 7334) for another one, or jump on the EUCMS website (www.eucms.org.au) and download a copy in Word or PDF format.

Return it to any member of the Executive at rehearsals, or to Belinda via the post office box, or fill it in online for immediate contact.

Musical Directors' Workshop

Have you ever wanted to know what is involved in being an "M.D."? (Musical Director)

- * Do you want to know how to conduct?
- * Do you have to be able to read music?
- * How do you know what instrument to use?
- * What skills do you need to be an M.D?

If you are interested in knowing the answers and having an opportunity to conduct then you need to ring Robyn Mead on 9736 3432. She will be running a workshop over several nights in November, possibly Tuesdays and/or Fridays, depending on numbers and your availability. So ring and talk it over soon.

Concert Reports

We are delighted to be able to report that the Concert given by members of EUCMS on 27th September to aid the work of Richard and Lindsay Parker in South Africa was a resounding success and has raised in excess of \$1300.

Our thanks go to Niki Barton, Cathy Bulfin, Linda and Wendy Cosier, Jenny and Denys Gillespie, Kath and Barbara Sharpham and Neil Litchfield for their work in the concert and our thanks, also, to those members of the society who came to the concert to support us.

On Sunday afternoon, 12th October, EUCMS also presented a concert for Leisure Lea Retirement Village which was extremely well received. We have now been sent a cheque for \$200 which they would like us to add to our donations to Eastwood CCA.

Our thanks to Niki Barton, Linda and Wendy Cosier, Jenny Gillespie, Barbara Sharpham, Neil Litchfield and Daniel Tambasco for giving up their Sunday afternoon to entertain these folks.

Elaine Gow

Christmas Party

It's time to start thinking about Christmas – and what better way to relax and celebrate the year than at the EUCMS Christmas party? We're extending an invitation to members and families to join us at the Wilsons' (32 Pinetree Dr, Carlingford) on **Sat, 13th Dec**, any time from 4pm for dinner at 6pm. All you need to bring is \$15 for dinner (or \$8 from K-6 children), a picnic chair or two, and we'd love you to bring a donation (they have requested cash, in a sealed envelope rather than gifts) for CCA. The evening will also be BYO drinks.

You can RSVP and give your money in advance to Caroline, Jess or Beth at Seussical rehearsals or performances (we're sure we'll see everyone there!) or call Caroline on 0401 307 088/ 9449 4561.

CCA Drivers

Current EUCMS members such as Tony Quance, Jim & Valmai Murch and Lynn Bock have been drivers for *Christian Community Aid* medical appointments for a number of years. The drivers for medical appointments don't have to be available on a regular basis; just when they are asked - sometimes once a week, or once a month, depending on one's availability. Other drivers are needed for other things, such as Meals on Wheels and have to make a weekly or monthly commitment. If you would like to find out more about this great community service, call Tony Quance.

Members' News

Golden Congratulations

Our warmest congratulations on attaining 50 happy years of marriage go to Max and Betty Whelpton, whose anniversary followed those of Colin and Helen Wilson and Jim and Valmai Murch recently. Lots of good wishes to you, Max and Betty, for all the years ahead!

Baby News

Congratulations to Brian Madden, who is now a first-time grandfather, with the birth of little Rosanna and, of course, also to Aunty Beth. Hope you have lots of fun spoiling your new little bundle!

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

1 Nov	Seussical bump-in and dress rehearsal at new venue - Epping Boys High
7-8 Nov	First weekend of Seussical shows
14-15 Nov	Final weekend of Seussical shows
7 Dec	EUCMS Advent Service
13 Dec	EUCMS Christmas Party

Executive Members 2008

President - Robyn Mead

Ph: 9736 3432 mead_19@hotmail.com

Vice President / Current Director - 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

euchat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Next Executive Meeting

10 November at Adam & Penny Wilson's house, starts 8pm.