

From the President

“Seussical” is well underway and I am sure Penny and her team would love to think that by the end of this month that many of the tickets had been sold. That’s right – preferential bookings are Friday 19th September (next week!) with General Bookings opening the following week. Some colourful new advertising is happening and we are pulling out all stops to advertise broadly and effectively. Perhaps you can join us at the Granny Smith Festival, possibly take part in a letter box drop of our new “coloured postcard” advertising. Every little bit of effort goes a long way and a great way to show your support for the members of the cast and crew is to help with the publicity events.

A Musical Directors’ workshop will also be held between now and the Christmas service.

Events at Christmas will take a different approach this year. We will be joining with Eastwood Church for an Advent service on Sunday 7th December at 6.30pm. Our Christmas party will have a new format catering for members of all ages and their children on Saturday 13th December.

Planning for our big year -2009 – is now well underway with lots of workshops being organised and our show in September 2009.

Details of many of these activities are in this bulletin. Please find them, read them and then contact the coordinator of each activity that you want to be involved in. You – our members – have asked for these activities – so now let’s see you support them.

Robyn Mead

SEUSSICAL News

*“Somethin’ big is getting nearer
Somethin’ big is comin’ through
Got some monkey business
That’s what we intend to do...”*



And so all of a sudden, we find ourselves at the literal “business” end of Seussical. There is still a lot of work to do, but everyone is starting to get a sense of how fantastic it is going to be. To help us to fulfil the promise of the show, we now need to start moving on both busy-ness and business.

First of all, we should thank and welcome the following additions to our team - Alison Anderson (House Manager), Tony Quance (Booking Agent) and Jonathan Boer (Lighting Director).

Next - what monkey busy-ness can you get up to?

- Our need for a co-ordinator for the make-up team continues to be urgent. We can provide designs, products and helpers, but unless someone steps up to be a hero pretty soon, I’m going to be doing it myself! (Which will mean everyone having to get to Epping Boys very early, so we can be finished with makeup 20 minutes before curtain)
- Our stage crew, as this goes to print, are hard at work creating the shapes of our Seussian world, and readying them for painting. We will need lots of hands, but the work will be easy, since the Seuss style uses black outlines (which will be provided by Lynne Jones, our décor director) and block colours - it’ll be just like colouring by numbers! Contact Penny or Bess for details of venues and dates.
- The publicity campaign is ready to roll, with very professional posters designed by Andrew Yager, as well as lots of cool postcards. We will have plenty for the cast to hand out, to friends and at the Granny Smith Festival, but we also intend to have an official day for a barbeque and letterbox blitz. Plan to be there - look out for information as to where and when.
- The now traditional banner making feast day will be held at Penny and Adam Wilson’s home (32 Pinetree Drive Carlingford) on Sunday 21st September, from 1:30pm. Bring something to share, a pair of scissors and a big appetite - it’s always lots of fun!
- With thanks especially to Elaine Gow and Rosemary Roach, we have a good store of pink wool to start making pom-poms. If you can make some, or if you are willing to learn (it’s easy-peasy according to even some of our youngest Who kids!) please contact Penny who will set you up with wool, a cardboard donut and some tips for getting started.
- Eastwood’s Granny Smith festival is always a fun day, and this year, with a show we intend to market to families, should be even better than usual. Lyndall, Beth and Jess have come up with lots of ways we can get kids interested in visiting our stand, and buying tickets - from a red and white themed guessing lolly jar, giveaways, Seuss drawing or colouring competitions, face painting... and much more. Whatever we choose to do from this smorgasbord of great ideas, it seems the EUCMS stall will be the place to be on Saturday, 18th October from 8am-3pm. You don’t have to be involved with Seussical either - there will also be lots of information about EUCMS, as well as those wonderful photo boards many of you saw at the Annual Dinner. As Tony Quance will be enjoying



a brief holiday (until 19th September), contact Jess Allen with the times you will be available. **This is really important so that we know we have the whole day covered.** You can also leave a message for Tony on 9874-3326, or email him at Tony.quance5@bigpond.com.

And as to business - **Preferential**

Booking night is almost upon us! Next Friday night, 19th September - plan to arrive early, as bookings start at 7:00pm, and if you are a member of the cast, you need to have completed your purchases and be ready to rehearse at 8. There will be several friendly Executive members there to help you make your bookings, and I strongly encourage you to speak to friends, family, EUCMS members not in the show etc **THIS WEEK**, because you will not want to miss out on a terrific opportunity which can be yours if you make your bookings on Preferential Bookings night.

Peter Bulfin has very generously donated to EUCMS a voucher to the value of \$100 for cleaning services from his cleaning company. If you book tickets (or if a member of the cast or crew book in your name) on Preferential Booking Night, your name will be placed in a draw (to be held at supper on that night) to win this fantastic prize!

So don't forget to confirm numbers for each date you wish to book, and have your money with you. Tickets cannot be reserved without payment on this night. While a cheque is the preferred payment option, cash is also accepted, but no credit cards.

Seussical is going to be a fantastic show - let's snap up the best seats for the people we really want to see there!

A list of props we would like to find or borrow for the show include: white labcoat, some plastic leis, pair of aviator style sunglasses, inflatable palm tree, hula hoops, crutches, large water pistol or super-soaker, plastic cocktail glass, fairy wings and a small Christmas tree (1m height).

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

Penny Wilson

EUCMS News

Questionnaire Returns



Don't forget we need your questionnaire returned by 1st October, ready for the next Executive meeting so we can successfully plan for 2009. If you have misplaced your printed copy, ask Belinda

for another one, or jump on the EUCMS website (www.eucms.org.au) and download a copy in Word or PDF format.



Daffodil Day

EUCMS members raised \$195 at rehearsal on Friday, 15th August for Cancer Research by purchasing Daffodil Day merchandise. Thanks to Elaine Gow for organising this - we hope and pray the funds will be put to effective use.

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.

An Invitation

Members of EUCMS are presenting a concert on **27th September** at Thornleigh Hillcrest Uniting Church, Paling St., Thornleigh at 7.30 p.m. and you are most warmly invited to come and support your fellow members in this venture.

The money raised will be going to South Africa, to a young missionary couple who have now taken on the care of 4 very young children, one of whom is handicapped, which is a tremendous task for two people who've only been married under 2 years.

If you would like any further information, please ring Elaine on 9872 6453. Tickets \$15 for Adults, \$12 Children, (16 & under). Supper will be served at the conclusion of the concert.

ACT Conference 2008

The Association of Community Theatre has announced details of its sixth conference of community theatre to be held at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts in Sydney on Saturday the 11th and Sunday the 12th of October. A dynamic weekend of seminars is planned from NIDA staff, community theatre leaders and guest celebrities.

Legendary actor Charles 'Bud' Tingwell will deliver the keynote address on the importance of amateur theatre in Australia. Bud will reveal that he got his start in acting in amateur theatre and remains a great supporter as patron of the Victorian Drama League. Later he will chair a seminar on how to audition for a play.

On Saturday night Bud will present awards to those being inducted into A.C.T.'s Hall of fame. Another very popular seminar will be from A.C.T.'s patron Nancye

Hayes. Squeezed in between her performances in *My Fair Lady*, Nancye will help teach participants how to dance like a legend in 90 minutes. Peter Cousens the founder and C.E.O of Kookaburra, the National Music Theatre Company, will chair a music theatre audition class.

Other seminars include Stage Combat, Choosing a Show, Shakespeare, Accents, Budgeting, Building a Character, Stage and Production Management, Gilbert and Sullivan master class, Marketing your Show, Directing a Musical, Stage Safety and Lighting.

Cost will be \$70 for the Conference including two lunches and afternoon tea and all seminars. \$110 for the Conference and Conference dinner inclusive. \$50 Conference dinner only. **The EUCMS Executive has approved a limited number of Conference subsidies for members wishing to attend.**

If you are interested in attending or if you wish to enquire about a subsidy, please let Adam or Penny know ASAP on 8812 2575 or ozpanda@optusnet.com.au

Christmas Party

Mark your diaries now for the EUCMS Christmas Party to be held at Penny and Adam Wilson's house in Carlingford on 13 December with a late afternoon start and dinner at 6.30pm. This is a family friendly event to look forward to! More details in the next bulletin.

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

Our Thoughts

Our love and sympathy is extended to Valmai and Jim Murch and Family on the death on 4th Sept of Valmai's mother and we assure them of our support and prayers.

Our love and best wishes are with Narelle Murray as she recovers from an operation and we wish her a speedy and full recovery.

Congratulations

A big cheer for Clare Burgess, who received Honours in her recent dance exams. This will come as no great surprise to the cast of *Seussical* - we knew we were in good hands with our choreographer!

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

19 Sept	7pm Seussical Preferential Bookings
23 Sept	Seussical General Bookings open
11-12 Oct	ACT Conference at NIDA
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
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

Next Executive Meeting

13 October at Adam & Penny Wilson's house, starts 8pm.