



From the President

Where is this year going? How do we continue to make time for everything? It is a testament to so many of our members that they commit the time to be involved in EUCMS activities as part of their very busy schedules.

Rehearsals for *Brigadoon* are in full swing and details of bookings are to be found in this bulletin. Please ensure that when you are making bookings that we are notified if any of the people for whom you are booking is in a wheelchair. Special seating arrangements do need to be made at the time of booking. Also remember our special price for Opening night - \$10 for all tickets.

Last Sunday evening about 50 people attended our Mid Year Church service at Marsden Road. Sarah Ledley is a young lady who spoke of her first hand experience of World Vision's work in Africa. Her passion and her ability to share the reality of the life of the people she visited was conveyed in a very moving way as she spoke during the service. It is perhaps summed up by the response she received from a little child who when asked what he wanted in the future, responded "a pair of shoes". Perhaps we really do demand or want too much of our own lives.

Our SSSC has been hard at work over the past few months and shows for 2004 have been chosen. One season for 2004 will be the 1999 revised Broadway version of *Annie Get Your Gun* while the other season will be Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* AND *Trial by Jury*. *Pinafore* is one of the shorter G&S shows and *Trial* is only 45 minutes. Providing opportunities for first time directors and/or musical directors is difficult, but it is hoped *Trial By Jury* will

provide just that. The order of the seasons will be determined by the availability of production teams for each show. There is a questionnaire included with this bulletin for expressions of interest from potential Directors, Production Managers and Musical Directors for these shows. Please complete this form and return it to Heather Clarke, our secretary (mail address is on page 4), give me a ring on 8824 6301, or email me at mead_19@hotmail.com if you are interested or want further information. We would hope to make a decision within the next month, so responses are needed in the next few weeks.

Thankyou to all those who volunteered to help with plans for Christmas activities and I will be in touch with those people in the next few weeks. As I said, "where has this year gone?" Other upcoming activities include involvement in the Granny Smith Festival and a cast BBQ to make publicity banners. Details are included in this bulletin. And all this in our "free time".

This quote from a poem may help put the demands on our time in perspective:
"Like a traveller on a plane journey - we can take with us limited luggage in this life. Only those things which are important, standing the test of time, meeting the deepest needs of our inner being, contributing to our ultimate welfare and the welfare of others, are worth taking on this journey."

Thank you to all who contribute and support in so many ways.

Robyn Mead Ph: 8824 6301 or mead_19@hotmail.com

Inside this issue:

From the President	1
Brigadoon	2
Publicity	3
Granny Smith Festival	3
Member's News	4

Editor's Corner....

A gentle reminder.... Enclosed with the bulletin you will find a small questionnaire asking about your involvement in production teams for next year's shows. Please fill this in ASAP and return it as Robyn has mentioned above, even if you all your answers are NO! This will give us the best indication how to plan these shows. Thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue.

Adam Wilson Ph: 9873 5639 / 0425 313 336 or panda@tig.com.au

Brigadoon News Highland Highlights



A bonny good day to ye all and I hope you are already setting aside the dates for the performances of *Brigadoon* in your diaries and urging your friends to do the likewise.

All of us who are involved are excited about the progress to date (in spite of the terrible bugs which are flying around this winter) and we are enjoying the great music and fun to be had in this show.

We now have a new Meg, as Niki Barton has taken on this delightful role and Simon Hutley will be playing the part of Frank, our Yankee bartender. Barbara Lyle will be looking after the ladies' hairstyles.

Any time you would like to come and visit us at *Brigadoon* we would be verra happy to welcome ye (so long as ye don't sit up the back and chatter!) and we would certainly welcome an audience when it comes to dress rehearsal nights as this helps to give cast and idea of audience response and reaction. Of course, this will also inspire you to sell heaps more tickets and book tickets for every show for yourself!

Our Decor Director will be working at the hall on Saturdays for some weeks and if you are one of those who were looking forward to working in this area, please give Barbara a call and she'll let you know when to come (in your old clothes, of course).

Farewell for now!

Elaine Gow



Painting and props needed for Brigadoon—can you help?

We are looking for the following props for the show... can you help us? A single white sheet, old fashioned knapsack, pots and pans (old style with hole in the handle), wooden hand mirror, large old bible or old book, black and/or white stockings (not panty hose), natural wool skein. Call Barb on 9817 2779 if you can help.

If you are handy with a paintbrush, we have some fun *Brigadoon* painting waiting just for you! There are jobs ranging from easy to hard. Come and be part of the action! Call Barb on 9817 2779 if you can help.

Important Dates:

Bookings: **Preferential bookings:** 12 September
 General bookings: 16 September

Shows: Opening night - Friday 24th October, Sat 25th October, Friday 31st October, Saturday 1st
 November, Friday 7th November, Saturday 8th November, Matinee - Saturday 1st November

Anyone wanting more information in regard to a specific area please contact the following *Brigadoon* team members:

Director - Elaine Gow - 9874-7231

Musical Director - Gareth Young - 8354-0191

Production Manager - Barb Sharpham - 9817-2779

Ushers?

Liz McCann is already starting to ask for ushers for *Brigadoon*. Let her know now which show dates you can help with before you get booked up otherwise. Call Liz on 9484 9628 and make her day!

BRIGADOON Banner Making Day

Join us from 5pm on 6th Sept at the McAlpine's
 (4 Treeview Place, Epping) for some food and fun
 while making banners.

Please let Karen and Andrew know beforehand that
 you intend to come on 9877 0856. SEE YOU THERE!!

Spotlight on EUCMS.... Publicity and the Granny Smith Festival



Publicity

Andrew McAlpine and Adam Wilson head up the publicity for EUCMS. Most of this happens in the background, but here is a bit of an indication as to the sort of things that happen and how you can help. We are ALWAYS looking for new ideas and suggestions.....

Publicity is a very important part of the show process to ensure that we do our best to sell as many tickets as possible and therefore donate as much show profit as we can to charity.

The greatest number of ticket sales come from a keen and enthusiastic cast wanting their friends, workmates and family to share in the experience of 'their' show with them. You don't want to be performing to an empty hall! Start making those lists of names now for the preferential booking night on 12 September. **This job of selling tickets belongs to all EUCMS members regardless of whether you are in the current show or not.**

To advertise outside of the society, we use a variety of methods that include: large publicity banners in public places, the notice board at the church, printed B & W and colour flyers (for handing out, letterboxes, noticeboards etc), newspaper/magazine articles, community radio, our website, email, the Association of Community Theatre and other public events such as the Granny Smith Festival. Other ideas that we are investigating include meal & show tickets for local Eastwood restaurants. If you have any other ideas or can help in any way, please let Andrew or Adam know.



The Granny Smith festival will be on at Eastwood on October 18th this year. EUCMS plans to have a covered stall for the day to promote *Brigadoon* and the Society generally. The publicity team is looking for volunteers who can spare an hour or two during the day between 9am and 4pm so we can have 3 or 4 people around to hand out dodgers, talk to people about the society, try and sell tickets etc. Please let Andrew Mc know if you can help (see contact details on page 4).

A history lesson..... Who was Granny Smith?

'Granny Smith' was born Maria Ann Sherwood in the rural parish of Peasmarsh, Sussex, England, in late 1799. Her father worked as an agricultural labourer and Maria also went into farm service. At the age of 19, she married Thomas Smith, a farm labourer from the neighbouring parish of Beckley. They were married in the small church at Ebony, across the border in Kent. The Smiths lived in Beckley for the next 19 years, during which time Maria bore 8 children. The emigrant families arrived in Sydney on 27 November 1838 aboard the Lady Nugent.

In 1855 and 1856, Thomas Smith senior bought, for £605, 2 blocks of land [Lots 12 & 13] totalling around 24 acres on the edge of the Field of Mars Common. The farm lay between the present North Road and Abuklea Road, Eastwood, with its northern boundary midway between today's Irene Crescent and Longview Street and its southern boundary crossing Threlfall Street.

Thomas and Maria Smith, like their neighbours, were orchardists. From the earliest days of European settlement the district of Ryde had enjoyed a reputation for fruit growing. It was here the Granny Smith apple came to be!

Maria Ann Smith died on 9 March 1870 and was buried in St. Anne's cemetery, Ryde. Her husband died six years later. Their headstone still stands in the churchyard.

Her apple never became a commercial variety in her lifetime but continued to be cultivated by local orchardists. It was exhibited as 'Smith's seedling' in the 1890 Castle Hill Agricultural and Horticultural Show. In the 1891 show 'Granny Smith's seedlings' took out the prize for cooking apples. By 1892 many growers were exhibiting 'Granny Smith's'.

You can read more at: <http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/news/granny.htm> and we look forward to lots of members helping us on the day!

Note: If you have another area of the society you would like 'spotlighted' let us know!

Members' News.....

Our church service was a wonderful night of celebration and it was very moving to see how Sarah's World Vision visit to Ethiopia earlier this year was incredibly life changing. Sarah spoke very passionately about her experience and it was great to see World Vision's work first hand to give us an indication as to how our money is being used. The service was attended by about 50 people and donations from the night totalled \$300.10 for World Vision. A huge supper after the service topped off a great evening.



Our new sponsor child, Recelyn from the Philippines



A message from **Kirrily Matthews:** Sadly I have been struck with the chicken pox - yes I managed to get through childhood without them - only to find that they can be twice as hard to have as an adult. If I have seen you recently I may have been kind and shared this with you, unknowingly of course. (Kirrily was at the church service on Sunday. Ed)

So, if you have never had them, apparently there is an immunisation you can get that should work faster than the virus, so get a shot ASAP. Sorry if it's too late - I have no idea where I got them from, I could have picked them up in the last three weeks but I haven't heard of anyone having them around me.

We hope you get well real soon, Kirrily!!

Helen Wilson would like to pass on a big thank you to all those people who enquired about her recovery from knee replacement surgery.... And a big thanks to Colin too for being her Press Agent and answering so many questions while Helen recover.



Don't forget that **Elaine Gow** is the society's Public Relations contact and is also keen to hear of any members' news such as birthdays, births, deaths, engagements, weddings so that the appropriate action such as sending a card can occur. Contact Elaine on 9874 7231. Also contact me so that this information can be put in the bulletin. Ed



A big congratulations to our Bec (Ti-Moune) Kimpton for beating her personal best City-to-Surf time by 9 minutes last Sunday!!

Happy Birthday Scruffy!



Want to join the EUCMS Email Group? It's free! Here you can stay in touch with members or the cast and crew of the last show, get all the latest news and society happenings, organise a social event and share any news, questions and thoughts you might have with the group. Simply send a blank email to: **eucms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com** and follow the easy instructions. Once joined, if you want to send a message to the group, send it to: **eucms@yahoogroups.com** For friends, workmates or family that may want to receive EUCMS upcoming show news only, get them to send a blank email to **eucmsnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com** Any questions? Email Adam Wilson at **panda@tig.com.au**.

The website... Have a look at **www.eucms.org** & check out the secret members-only section at: **www.eucms.org/members.html** Here we will have specific information that is only relevant to our members.

If you misplace your EUCMS Bulletin, remember there is an electronic copy available on the website in the members' section. See you next month! - Adam Wilson

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Next Executive Meeting is Sept 8 at Lynn Bock's place.

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