

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Benvenuti EUCMS!

Welcome to the season of *The Gondoliers*! The bubbling enthusiasm I am hearing from cast, crew and production team suggests to me that there is not a moment to spare – this is going to be a very special show, so call your friends and family. Book tickets for everyone, before all the best seats are gone!

But after you've done that, don't put away your diary/calendar/organiser/phone – there are a few other big dates for you to mark down... these are busy and important times in the life of EUCMS! Please don't miss the following:

### Curtain Raiser event

You would also remember that last month, I gave you warning that we would be announcing some major fundraising initiatives in this Bulletin.

A founding principle in EUCMS' constitution is that we put on shows with the intention of contributing to local, national and international charities, rather than to make money for the society itself.

It is important to all of us that this remains the case, but in order to keep putting on those shows, we need to replace the curtains which have been rendered unworkable by the renovations to the hall.

We want to do this without cutting into the charity contributions made by any of our shows, so for this year *only*, there will be a number of special events outside our regular show seasons, in order to help all of us, our friends and we hope, many others, share the load of raising the money we need, in as enjoyable a manner as possible.

So first of all, set aside the evening of Saturday 28 August for the Curtain Raiser event! We are announcing this now, not just so that you can make sure you will be free for what will be a very entertaining evening of performances by your fellow members of EUCMS, past and present, but also so that you have time to register and prepare for your own performance, as an individual or group. See the summary below for further details, and please plan to be onstage and to bring your supporters with you!

### Upcoming dates for Guys and Dolls

Without wanting in any way to draw attention away from the delightful *Gondoliers*, there are a couple of dates we also need to draw your attention to in preparation for *Guys and Dolls*.

Because of an overseas work commitment/wedding to attend, our Musical Director, Bec Kimpton, will be away for part of the "between shows" time, which pushes our audition dates to an earlier time than would be the norm for EUCMS – Auditions are on 21 June to 22 June.

For this reason, (with Elaine's permission) we have released audition information with this Bulletin, rather than holding it back to go out with the audition materials at *The Gondoliers* after-party).

To keep the after-party for *The Gondoliers* as brief as possible, we will also be holding an orientation night, with plenty of tips and previews, on Tuesday 8 June from 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

If you have any urgent questions or needs, Bec is happy for you to contact her. (Although not at the expense of your preparations for *The Gondoliers*, please!)

The other dates of which you should be aware are the commencement of rehearsals for *Guys and Dolls*. Read-through will take place on Tuesday 20 July and the first full cast rehearsal will take place on Friday 23 July.

The performance season will take in the last weekend in October and the first two weekends in November.

### Mid-year dinner

Don't forget also to set aside Saturday 26 June for what should be a very special mid-Year dinner - to be celebrated in our very own home at Eastwood Uniting Church, and enjoying all the facilities that have come with the renovation.

### 50th Anniversary celebrations

Finally, some "advance warning" for you to get your thoughts together about the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. We did have a member very interested in the job of heading up the Committee overseeing the events, but health and personal circumstances have intervened and made it impossible for that person to continue.

In the interim though, that person has come up with a fantastic plan to make sure everyone's ideas are heard, and considered, that everyone has the opportunity to nominate how and how much they would like to contribute to any of the events, and that we all have the opportunity to share and build on our thoughts together.

As a result, we plan to hold a Forum Meeting – not a late night, but one in which several tables are set up for people to contribute ideas, comments and/or offers of help for a range of different "expected" activities (as well as a few tables left open for brand new suggestions of ways to celebrate. At the close of this time, the suggestions will be shared aloud, so that everyone can offer opinions, suggestions, extensions, refinements etc.

The date for the Forum is not yet set, and we are currently searching for someone to run the evening. As a result, it will most likely be held between shows – on a "EUCMS booked" Tuesday or Friday, so as not to incur extra hall charges.

If you can't attend that meeting, please don't worry that your ideas will go unheard. We will arrange for collection of absentee submissions prior to the date, and we'll make sure they are added.

There! Don't ever say that you have nothing to do – as a member of EUCMS, your social calendar should always be just as full as can be! Looking forward to seeing all of you, at as many of these events as possible – and first of all in Venice!

*Penny Wilson,  
President*

## **The Gondoliers** News

"Then away we go to ..."

Can we really be about to embark on our maiden voyage of "The Gondoliers" after all these weeks of rehearsing? Yes, we can!

The sets have been built and decorated, the lighting fine-tuned, the costumes made and pressed, the Cachucha (lively Spanish dance if you didn't know) is rocking the hall and all the words and music have been learnt (well, nearly all).

With one more rehearsal for primping and polishing, this promises to be a pretty perfect afternoon/evening's entertainment, so now that the tickets are on sale, we only need them to be snatched up and provide great audiences for us to entertain. Penny and Adam are waiting to be besieged with more telephone calls.

Before the curtain rises on Gondoliers (what curtain?), my sincere thanks to all the cast and crew who have worked so hard to make sure "Gondoliers is the best show we've ever done" ("in joke" - sorry).

Have a sensational season.

Elaine



### **Ticket information**

Tickets are now available for purchase for the general public. Adam Wilson is our booking officer and will continue to take your orders in the Atrium, prior to show rehearsals, from 7:30 pm.

Prices for tickets start from \$12 for children (under 16), \$16 for pensioners and \$22 for Adults.

The first Saturday night of the show (22 May) will be a special concession night for students (\$16). Students wishing to take advantage of this will need to show their student cards as proof.

We will accept credit card bookings in person or over the phone and debit card bookings in person (as you need to enter your PIN). To cover the hiring of equipment from the bank, there is a \$2 surcharge for credit/debit card bookings per transaction, regardless of the number of tickets purchased in that transaction. For phone bookings, this will include posting the tickets to your nominated address. We can process these card bookings in person, both at rehearsals and on show days.

You can still pay by cheque or cash if you prefer.

### **Ticket sales**

(Current at the time of going to print.)

Sat 22 May - 2pm: 61% sold

Sat 22 May - 8pm: 47% sold

Fri 28 May - 8pm: 58% sold

Fri 29 May - 2pm: 76% sold

Sat 29 May - 8pm: 52% sold

Fri 4 June - 8pm: 31% sold

Sat 5 June - 2pm: 63% sold

Sat 5 June - 8pm: 39% sold.

As you can see, we still have plenty of seats left, so please continue to publicise the show, especially for those performances where tickets sales have been lower. (Consult the list above, if you're not sure.)

Remember, publicising the show is something every EUCMS member can do.

If you are looking for places to leave postcards or put up flyers your local shopping centre or public library is a good place to start. If you find suitable locations for flyers please contact Adam Wilson for coloured A4 flyers.

If you need an email-friendly version of the flyer please contact Jess.

## **EUCMS NEWS**

### **Results from our fundraiser suppers**

Many thanks to Millie, Belinda, Lynne, Elaine, Jess and Melody, who provided delicious treats for The Great Australian Bite supper. And a big thank you to all of our members who attended and made such generous donations! We raised a total of \$166, which goes to Diabetes Australia. Thank you to Janette Cosier for organising and coordinating the event.

Thanks must also go to Elaine for organising another successful Biggest Morning Tea (at supper) event (on top of directing *The Gondoliers!*). Many thanks for Jan Grant, Megan Willis, Barbara Sharpham, Janette Cosier and of course, Elaine herself, who provided such delicious goodies for all to enjoy.

Thank you again to all the generous EUCMS members who were prepared to sacrifice their waistlines and wallets for the second week in a row! We raised a total of \$200 for the Australian Cancer Council.

Elaine received a thank you email from the Cancer Council, informing her that the 2010 fundraising initiative raised a total of \$15 million worth of vital research projects, so all those calories were worth it, weren't they!

### **Update: EUCMS committee positions**

The following positions have now been filled for 2010:

- Wardrobe: Heather Clarke and Jenny Lyle
- First Aid Officer: Alison Anderson.

## Mid-year dinner

The mid-year dinner for 2010 will be held on the evening of Saturday, 26 June. We'll celebrate our homecoming to the church by holding the dinner in our very own hall at Eastwood Uniting Church!

As usual, nibblies, dinner, dessert and soft drinks will be included in the low price of \$25.

There will be more details to follow in the June Bulletin, but start getting your RSVPs to Jess Allen or Caroline Reddel now!

## New member

We welcome Aaron Lim as a non-performing member to EUCMS and wish him many happy years working in a technical capacity with EUCMS!

## Last month's quiz

Well done to anyone who spotted the *Guys and Dolls*, *Gondoliers* and *Anything Goes* quotations! Answers below.

"George I'm shot. Who shot me George?" (*The Music Man*)

"A regime change caused by a bizarre and unexpected twister of fate" (*Wicked*)

"I have hot pants for you" (*Anything Goes*)

"Etcetera, etcetera, etcetera!" (*The King and I*)

"To die will be an awfully big adventure" (*Peter Pan*)

"It's always darkest just before you turn on the lights." (*Anything Goes*)

"You're all heroes to me" (*Curtains*)

"Neither did I, Hort. Neither did I." (*Seussical*)

"It hasn't been such a bad day after all." (*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*)

"It wouldn't have hurt you to find out what the gentleman wanted." (*The Music Man*)

"I was raised to be charming, not sincere." (*Into the Woods*)

"But to him who's scientific There's nothing that's terrific In the falling of a flight of thunderbolts!" (*The Mikado*)

"That is his weakness, and we should be tolerant because I am told it is a worldwide weakness! Look!" (*Guys and Dolls*)

"I wasn't looking, look what I found!" (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*)

"Still I feel that one dream is my due!" (*Jekyll & Hyde*)

"I love you, a bushel and a peck!" (*Guys and Dolls*)

"They will never, never, never, never, never, never never, never, never, never cross the sea again." (*The Gondoliers*)

"You're living in America, leave your conscience at the tone." (*Rent*)

"I don't know why you can't just teach us history instead of dwelling on the past!" (*Wicked*)

"As office boy I made such a mark That they gave me the post of a junior clerk." (*HMS Pinafore*)

"When daylight is fading, Enwrapped in night's shading, With soft serenading We sing them to sleep." (*The Gondoliers*)

"For twenty years I have been dead and buried. Don't dig me up now." (*Ruddigore*)

"Pitiful creature of darkness. What kind of life have you known?" (*Phantom of the Opera*)

"They call you Lady Luck." (*Guys and Dolls*)

"You wouldn't be so cruel as to inflict a life-long sorrow on a poor orphan. Please. Please, forgive me." (*Anne of Green Gables*)

"March went out like a lion". (*Carousel*)

"In olden days a glimpse of stocking Was looked on as something shocking" (*Anything Goes*)

"Anything you can do, I can do better." (*Annie Get Your Gun*)

"I talk to the trees". (*Paint Your Wagon*)

## Curtain Raiser event

Have you always wanted to:

- sing a song from one of those small ensemble shows with no chorus, that you know EUCMS doesn't do?
- sing a song that was cut from a show, or was never in a full length show in the first place?
- show your friends your "party piece" that isn't musical at all – a scene from Shakespeare, or a Paterson poem?
- sing a song from a role you missed out on in the past?
- sing a song from a show but didn't go for the part – because you thought you were too old, too young, other songs in the part too high etc.?
- do some serious dancing but found that EUCMS stages were too small when the chorus were squeezed in around you?
- show your versatility by playing an instrument as well?
- relive a special moment from a favourite show?
- have a go at something in a different "type" (even a different gender!) to the one you usually play?
- try choreographing a dance number for a small group of friends?
- build your confidence by singing a solo or in a duet/trio/small group rather than hiding in the chorus?
- try out a variety act, like puppetry, stand-up comedy or juggling, even though you are usually a behind the scenes type?
- contribute to a fantastic night out among friends, and help raise money for the new curtains EUCMS needs?

Your opportunity has arrived! We will celebrate the many and varied talents of our EUCMS members, past and present, at the "Curtain Raiser" on Saturday 28 August. Your act is not just welcome – it is wanted and needed. Both active members and those who we'd love to see on stage just one more time are warmly encouraged to register a performance, simply by phoning Penny on 8812 2575 or emailing [ozpanda@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ozpanda@optusnet.com.au) with:

- the name of your song/performance/item (we need to organise an APRA licence because this is not a free concert)
- the numbers involved and whether you would prefer to use a backing track or a live pianist (if so, please send a copy of the sheet music).

The only restriction is that we want this to be a night you can invite all of your family and friends to come and support you in, so the performances need to be OK for an audience with a wide and varied age range. If you have any concerns, let me know, and if you need to, provide me with a copy of the lyrics, so we can discuss them.

We want this to be a really enjoyable and memorable event, and yes, a real curtain-raiser in terms of getting together the funds we need for the curtains without compromising our contributions to charity, this year (or

ever) so your support and involvement is crucial. Please let us know how you will contribute before Sunday 2 July so that we can work out a balanced programme, and provide musical support where required.

Just think – you get to live out a dream, (at a relatively low cost!) and know that you are doing it for a really good cause!

Your rehearsal commitments, costumes, props, make-up etc. are really your own to sort out – once we develop the programme, you will only need to attend one of the two rehearsals to be held in the week leading up to the night, to confirm timings, and give stage crew a chance to work out any kinks in the flow of the evening.

Please also invite as many friends, family and colleagues as you can; we'd really like the evening to be sold out! And we'd love it if the concept was so popular with our performers that our programme overflowed and we had to run a second evening later on.

The registration fees and ticket prices will be as follows:

Performers pay \$10 for registration regardless of age.

Performers also pay \$15 for a seat for the rest of the show.

Non-performer tickets cost \$20.

Child/Pensioner (Non-Performing) \$15.

OK, yes – it does cost a bit, but what a great way to share around the cost of those curtains! And what price sharing your "dream number" with an appreciative audience of friends and family?

And if that's not enough, we'll put on a lovely supper at interval, too!

Please contact Penny (ozpanda@optusnet.com.au) for more information or to register your interest.

## MEMBERS' NEWS



Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Keith Ramsey and Michelle Duggan who have announced their engagement. "We in sincerity wish you prosperity"!

## YOUR NEWS?

If you have something to share please contact Elaine Gow on **9872 6453** or at [eebeegee@bigpond.com](mailto:eebeegee@bigpond.com) so we can include it in the next Bulletin. **All items for the Bulletin must be received before the next Executive meeting (7 June).**

## EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2010

**President** - Penny Wilson

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**Vice President** - Caroline Reddel

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**Treasurer** - Lynn Bock

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Join our official EUCMS email list by sending a blank email to: **[eucms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:eucms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**.

Or join our members' chat list by sending a blank email to: **[euchatsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:euchatsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)**.

## Next Executive Meeting

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

## IMPORTANT 2010 DATES

<b>22 May</b>	<i>The Gondoliers</i> opening performance (matinee) and evening performance
<b>28 May</b>	<i>The Gondoliers</i> Friday evening performances
<b>29 May</b>	<i>The Gondoliers</i> matinee and evening performances
<b>5 June</b>	<i>The Gondoliers</i> Friday evening performances
<b>6 June</b>	<i>The Gondoliers</i> matinee and closing performance (evening)
<b>8 June</b>	Orientation night for <i>Guys and Dolls</i>
<b>26 June</b>	Mid-year dinner
<b>20 July</b>	Read-through for <i>Guys and Dolls</i>
<b>23 July</b>	First rehearsal for <i>Guys and Dolls</i>
<b>28 August</b>	Curtain Raiser fundraiser