

THE Artful DODGER

SEPTEMBER:2012

1.n. roystering young pickpocket from Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*. 2.n. printed handbill full of tidings from the W.M.I.&A.A. with a closing date for contributions of 25th of each month to Alan Cornell on 98444995 or alan@commercialventure.com.au



GAIL'S SEACHANGE

Gail Macrae moved to Ocean Grove last month to be nearer to her grandson, Finn. At this stage she's just seeing how she likes it, but her input around the WTC will definitely be missed. While Gail has certainly performed on the stage (pic from *Heaven Help Us*) her contribution offstage has been even greater, directing a couple of Follies, Stage Managing, Producing countless productions, and serving on the Drama and Central Committees. We hope things work out well in your little unit, Gail. If anyone's down that way there's a warm welcome waiting for you.

ONE CLASS ACT

The One Act Plays were a great success with a sell out on the first Saturday night. Eight of the eleven cast members were new to WTC which is always refreshing. As Peter Greene reported on radio MBS, it was "A great night's entertainment...very professionally carried out." Also highly successful was the introduction of online booking, which accounted for 75% of ticket sales.

PRODUCER REQUIRED WITH SHORT FUSE

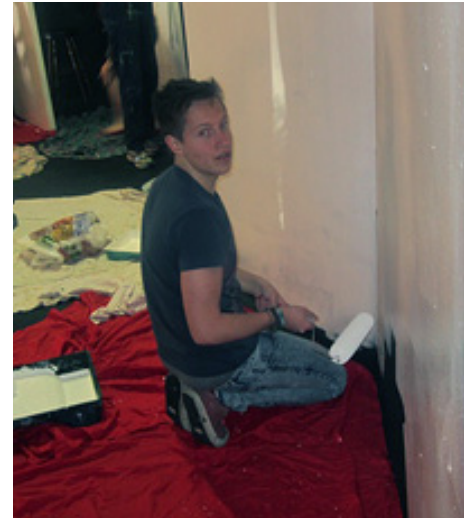
The Theatre company's next production, *Bombshells*, is desperately looking for a producer. And probably several backstage folk as well. Contact Lisa (9844 1436) or Adrian (9844 1528).

WITH FOLLIES IN MIND

The first brainstorming for the 2013 Follies produced a deluge of ideas. One prospective director has expressed interest and would welcome someone to share the responsibilities, so let Adrian know if you're at all interested.

YOUTH THEATRE REGENERATED

One of the most exciting developments this year is the emergence of the Warrandyte Youth Theatre, who's premiere performance of 3 One Act plays is well into production.



There have been a number of times when the WAA has enjoyed active youth groups. Yvonne Reid ran childrens' groups from 1956 when the WAA was first formed which at various times taught dancing, drama, painting and pottery. In fact she ran theatre kids for some 20 years, no doubt with the help of many others along the way. *The Ring of General Marcias* was the Junior Drama Group's first production, directed by Judie Irving, which won the VDL Festival in 1957. In 1975, Yvonne wrote and directed *The Wizard of Warrandyte* and reprised the show for the first Warrandyte Festival in 1977.

Mandy Lidell also led a kid's group for a while which presented a play in the 1982 Festival.

In the late eighties, Helen Cahill started an active and accomplished Youth Theatre, culminating in at least a couple of quality productions.



And now it's happening again, as Adrian Rice reports on progress:

Preparations are in full swing as we move towards the inaugural Youth Theatre production. Youths and others began the painting of the set ready for the expert hand of Denise Faman.

It's always a challenge to design sets when we have multiple one act plays but we think these will be striking. We are also very keen to attract good audiences for this initiative so please, spread the word - especially to young people who may want to get involved.



Group reports.

Pottery



Hi. It's great to be back. The Spring beauty in Warrandyte simply blew me away. I thought how kind of Warrandyte to dress in the beautiful blossoms to say "Welcome home".

The other news was not so good. Somebody or bodies saw fit to break into the studio and stole our antique ounce scales and our new electronic ones. The police were notified. Thankyou to John who repaired the damaged door jam. Speaking of John his fish have become quite famous. We have had a request from the U3A arts director for a loan of them for an Artistic Showcase exhibition.

During the holiday our studio was host to SRS group which Manda runs. The great new art complex being built by the Manningham Council was still under construction.

Thankyou to Denys and Cheryle for opening and closing while I was away; apart from the break-in everything looked great.

Marjorie Beecham 9844 3206

Theatre



The OAP's have come and gone with 4 fabulous plays and record audience numbers for an OAP season. Congratulations to all involved! We are very pleased with the popularity of the Trybooking system. It was interesting to note that Templestowe was a major location for ticket sales. We obviously have some fans in Templestowe and so will have to take this into account for the next Follies!

WYT

For our next production, it's over to the Youth Theatre and their selection of One Act Plays. This will be their very first time treading the boards at The Hall and we hope you all come along to support their hard work and to see some quality youth theatre. Performances are October 12th and 13th starting at 8pm so make sure you put those dates in your calendar and hop on to Trybooking.

Bombshells

Our major production of Bombshells, written by Joanna Murray-Smith, has been cast and rehearsals have already started. Directed by Adrian Rice, Bombshells is a wonderfully funny and poignant look at the lives of 6 women in various stages of their lives. The cast is as follows:

Meryl - Gemma Porter
Tiggy - Simone Keifer
Mary - Georgia Westgarth
Theresa - Gabby Llewelyn-Salter
Winsome - Susan Rundle
Zoe - Lisa Upson

Performances are Nov 15th, 16th, 17th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 29th, 30th and Dec 1st at 8pm with 2 matinees on Nov 24th and Dec 1st at 2:30 pm.

Lisa Upson 9844 1436

Painting



Our Bargain sale last Sunday went quite well, not as exciting as our previous, we did have our regular customers in the morning and we made some sales. It was quieter in the afternoon, I guess the Wattle Festival at Hurstbridge attracted the visitors.

Pauline Cross 94391775

Craft



Rosemary Climas 9844 3206

*In its premier performance,
Warrandyte Youth Theatre is proud to present*



THREE ONE ACT PLAYS

12 OCTOBER 8pm,

13 OCTOBER 2:30pm & 8pm

Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall, cnr Yarra St & Mitchell Ave

BOOKINGS www.trybooking.com/BVUR

or 0408 333 575 Tickets \$22 (Concession \$20)