

THE Artful DODGER

July 2013

1.n roosting young pickpocket from Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*.
2.n printed handbill full of tidings from the WMI&AA with a closing date for contributions of 25th of each month. (ken.virtue@hotmail.com) 9844 2795



Painters still enjoy 'still life'

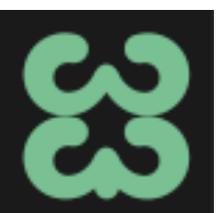
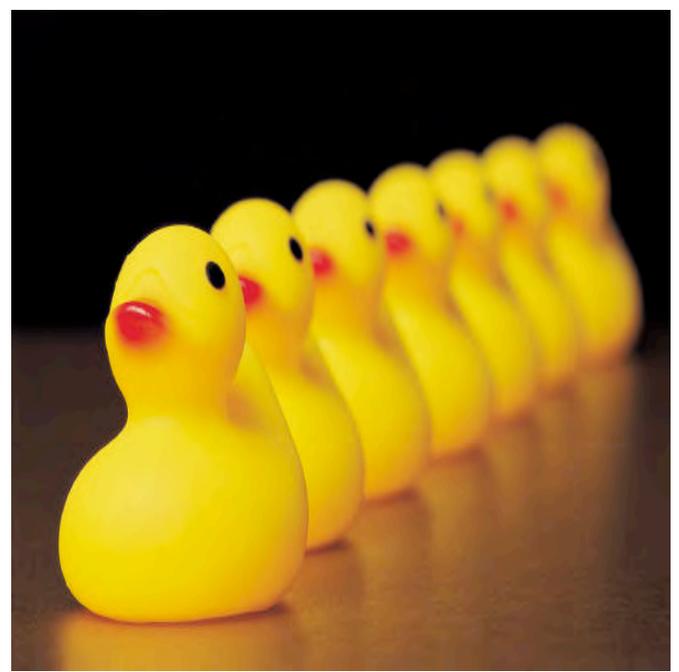
The Painters Group had a morning with Gill Beddington at their last meeting. The weather was wintry but five members enjoyed the get together with Gill. Gill was glad of the company of course, and they painted a still life of flowers.

The Dodger distribution

Some hardy volunteers from the Central Committee will meet soon to investigate ways of improving our membership records.

It appears that over the last 50 years or so we have developed an interesting variety of systems for email, postal and general records.

Perhaps we can 'get our ducks in a row' so that new members, updates, subscriptions and contact information can move firmly into the 21st century. But don't get me started on computers.. Ed.



Contact: Rosemary Climas
9844 2154



Thank you to Julie for the generous donation of a new urn – it has been dubbed “The Julieurn”
Next term dates are Wednesday July 10th and Tuesday July 16th. WE have some great plans for third term so watch this space!

Enjoy the holidays.

Contact : Marjorie Beecham 9844 3206



We had a pleasant day painting today, the weather was perfect, some of us painted out and others settled in the warmth of the Hall.

Winter holidays begin next week, we will return again on the 17th July, meeting down at Everard Drive Reserve.

Our Bargain Sale is coming up, Sunday 21st July, 10 to 4pm in the Mechanics' Institute Hall. Paintings to be delivered between 9am and 9.45am. Paintings can be oil, watercolour, pencil, pastel, framed or unframed.

Unframed works on paper must have a mount and covered with cellophane.

Contact Pauline Cross 9439 1775



Theatre fans,

The One Act Plays are a sight for sore eyes. I always love that every year we have the energy to deliver these great opportunities for aspiring actors, directors, producers and crew. Three very different plays with great people working hard and having fun. Keep your eyes out for the upcoming One Women show with Marney McQueen 19th July, Youth Theatre production, and our end of year play “*The 39 Steps*.” I can feel another fantastic year coming on....see you at the One Acts.

Contact : Daryll Mitchell 0423 088 217

Marney McQueen returns to Warrandyte.....via New York, London and Edinburgh.

This very talented young woman is an hilarious comedienne, gifted also with an amazing singing voice. She has performed in over 600 shows of Priscilla Queen of the Desert, played Velma von Tussle in Hairspray and Princess Zeena in Cat Steven’s musical, Moonshadow. Marney’s cabaret show ‘Rump Steak at a Vegan BBQ’ was a smash hit at the Melbourne Comedy Festival last year and went on to tour London, Sydney and Perth. She last visited Warrandyte as Rosa Waxoffski, the Russian beautician, a most memorable performance. We can only wonder at what she has in store for us this time! Marney will be performing at the Mechanics Institute Hall on Friday 19th July at 8.00pm. Tickets are \$30.00, with monies raised going to a development project in India.

Supper is provided and wine is for sale.

Book online: www.trybooking.com/CZVF

Enquiries: Maxine Chapman 0400 948 334



One Act Plays impress in 2013

Brief Reviews by The Editor

Tudo Ou Nada (All or Nothing)

Director, Bill Connolly

Cast (Lto R) : PeterMuirhead, Tony Clayton, Joy Flanagan, Farhad Zaiwala, Jennifer Aitchison and Sarah Dempster.



A lighthearted look at an unlikely culture clash between Portugese and Aussies.

This was a challenging play, with so many characters injecting their biases into this family meeting story, especially over eating, drinking and talking at the same time. I felt that the central dinner scene could have been spread out further, as the small round table was a tight squeeze at times. However, I believed in the variety offered by each cast member, and particularly liked both Tony and Sarah's character developments. Jennifer, Joy, Farhad and Peter were solid as well, and it's a credit to Director Bill Connolly that he was able to bring it all together in time for opening night. All in all a fun addition to this year's one act play season.



At First Sight

Director, Susan Rundle

Cast : Flora Terrens
James Littlewood

What a delightfully surprising one act play.

UK playwright Barney Norris allows us to explore the fragility of our minds as we sometimes struggle to reconcile actual events as opposed to the way we choose to remember them.

I thoroughly enjoyed both James and Flora's depictions of "Jack" and "Holly" – they both showed ample maturity with well-crafted timing and stage movements.

In the romantic winter city of Salsburg this young couple cycle through their recollections of an awkward first meeting and the week of love that followed. The Director used lighting and repetitive cast situations to clever effect in a lovely short play to remember.

Sisters in Paris

Director, Ruth Richter

Cast: Simone Keifer, (R) Gemma Porter, Helen Erskine-Behr, (L-R below) Flora Terrens



This play was a lot of fun and heartfelt at times. I particularly liked the Director's use of projected images that denoted Paris scenes and situations of travel as the plot unravelled. The three sisters each portrayed their characters well, as did the surprise character, Ashira, (Flora Terrens) who showed the right combination of a world-weary yet vulnerable young woman.

The elite brands 'shopaholic', played by Gemma Porter was forceful and interesting, whilst the youngest sister, Helen Erskine-Behr, was rock solid as the sensible sibling. Particular credit goes to Simone Keifer, who brought many in the audience to quiet tears as the oldest sister with the biggest secret. Simone displayed her considerable ability for strong drama, in addition to her usual skills with comedy.

I really enjoyed the pace of this play and how the Director deftly moved the action between scenes so that audience interest was focussed on the unfolding relationships.

Bravo, all.

MANNINGHAM VICTORIAN CERAMIC ART AWARD 2013

Finalists Exhibition 10 July - 17 August

Sue Adeson	Vanessa Lucas
Ash Allen	Chris Mason
Robert Barton	Sharon Masson
Zak Chalmers	Danni McGinn
Tim Clarkson	Tracy Muirhead
Evo Close	Fiona Murphy
Alan Constable	Nandita Nadkarni
Glen England	Angela Nagel
Sarah Field	Sophie Neale
Bridget Foley	Mela Ouro
Neville French	Ches Piliand
Christopher Headley	Mary-Jou Pillard
Terunobu Hirata	David Ray
Fiona Isaac	Jane Sawyer
Peter Hook	Petrus Spronk
Robyn Hosking	Vpoo Sivikasa
Wendy Jagger	Jasmine Targett
Kate Jones	Julian Twigg
Isanna Kanellopoulou	Prue Venables
Janelle Kim-Grant	Sally Walk
Beau Keyte	Akshar Whyte
Lene Kuhl Jakobsen	Kirk Winter
Robyne Latham	Chapin Ye

Manningham City Council and Manningham Art Gallery invite you to the exhibition opening

Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award 2013 Finalists Exhibition

To be officially opened by the Mayor of Manningham, Councillor Jennifer Yang, Judge – David Hurlston, Curator of Australian Art at the National Gallery of Victoria. Award winners to be announced on the night.

Wednesday 10 July, 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm
 RSVP by Friday 5 July to Manningham Art Gallery on 9840 9067.

Public Programs
 Artist Floor-talk
 Saturday 13 July, 2.00 pm
 Finalists from the 2013 Award discuss their work and contemporary trends in Australian ceramics.

For online exhibition material and artist information visit www.manningham.vic.gov.au/gallery
 Exhibition Dates: Wednesday 10 July – Saturday 17 August 2013

Manningham Art Gallery MCG (Manningham City Square) 657 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108 Melways ref. 47 F1	Gallery Hours Tuesday to Saturday, 11.00 am – 5.00 pm Free admission	Contact Us p 9840 9067 e gallery@manningham.vic.gov.au www.manningham.vic.gov.au/gallery	
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Diamond Valley Singers & Eltham Orchestras PRESENT
GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S
the Pirates of Penzance
 JULY 5th to 13th | TICKETS \$10 to \$30

OPENING NIGHT ADULTS \$25

WARRANTYTE HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

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www.dvsingers.org | 9439 7843 | dvsboxoffice@netpace.net.au

THE VIRTUE OF VOLUNTEERING

Warrandyte is blessed with many things. The river, birdsong and precipitous driveways come to mind. Another is volunteers. I have always had tremendous regard for those exceptional individuals who step up to run the scout troop, or the netball club, or in this case the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association. Because Ken Virtue has done that, not just for a year or two, but for twenty of them.

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and the Warrandyte Arts Association amalgamated in 1986 leaving the WMI&AA responsible both for the maintenance and care of the historic Mechanics Institute Hall and the fostering of a range of creative endeavours including theatre, pottery, painting and craft. That it continues to thrive is purely down to a dedicated group of individuals who maintain their enthusiasm through leaks, termites and all the ills old halls are air to.

Ken Virtue took on the presidency of the WMI&AA in 1992 taking over the baton from Doug Macrae, and has steered the course ever since with a rare balance of drive and diplomacy.

He has overseen an ambitious program of Hall improvements that includes reroofing, renovation of the committee room, asbestos removal, a memorial path and garden, major renovation of the foyer and toilet area, stage replacement, improvements to the pottery studio and a host of other equipment and maintenance projects. And, of course, painting.

Ken's career path was rendered almost entirely in paint. He even has a colour named after him. And whatever the project, Ken would always come good with the paint, to the point where Dulux has been one of the Association's greatest benefactors. He has painted most parts of the Hall, inside and out, some of them several times over. In fact the only thing Ken prefers to a fine glass of red is a tin of Heritage Green Weathershield Semi Gloss.

The doing part of the job has been managed with a seemingly endless energy that typifies most of the things Ken takes on. But it is the manner in which he engages with others that has endeared him to all. He has led a happy team.

With much of his time now spent enjoying (and renovating and painting) a recently acquired beach house at Aireys Inlet, Ken has decided it's time to hand the presidency over to a younger man; Jack Stringer doesn't quite match that particular criteria, but excels in so many others, including playing Vice President for many distinguished years, that he will do a fine job. And Ken remains on the committee in various roles as he tries to wean himself altogether off the addiction to community service.

Most men need a shed to satisfy their lust for odd jobs. For Ken Virtue, it took a large Hall. Well done Ken, and thank you.

Alan Cornell



Warrandyte Theatre Co presents

 Warrandyte
Mechanics Institute
& Arts Assoc Inc.

3 One Act Plays

At First Sight

Sisters in Paris

Tudo Ou Nada
(All or Nothing)



28-29 June & 5-6 July, 8pm

(matinee 2:30pm Sat July 6)

Book at warrandytehallarts.asn.au/tickets

Tickets \$22 (Concession \$20)

Mechanics Institute Hall, Cnr Yarra St and Mitchell Ave

