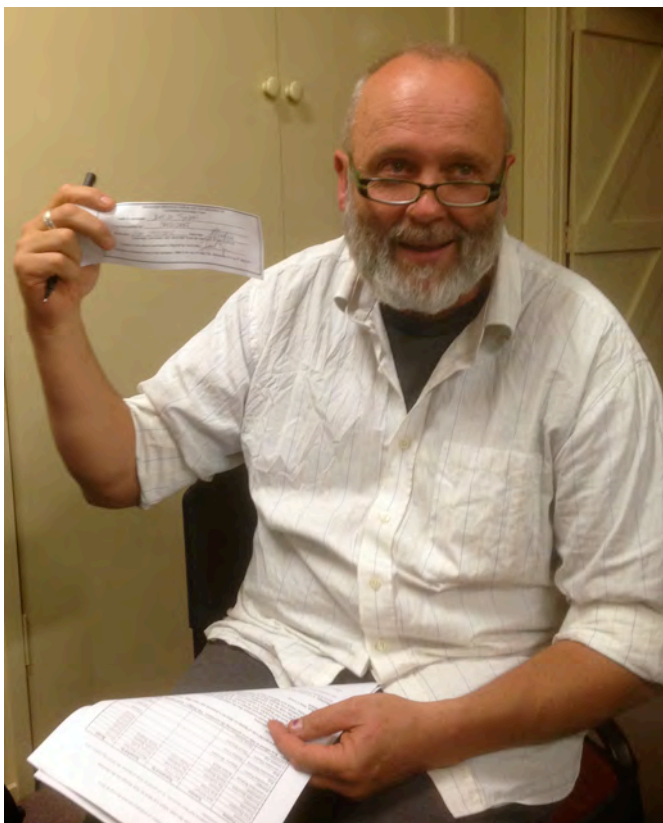


THE Artful DODGER

May 2014

1.n.roystering 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 to Ken Virtue on 0411238377 or kenjvirtue@gmail.com



Meet our 21st WMI&AA President

David Tynan has been elected as our Association President for 2014.

Former President Jack Stringer stepped down due to his pending move to Ivanhoe, however he will remain on the new Committee as Immediate Past President and Membership Secretary.

David was a former Theatre Company President and is a Secondary School teacher.

Welcome, David !



Contact :
Rosemary Climas
9844 2154



Thank you to Amanda for the exciting watercolour workshop that she ran for us during the holidays. All those lucky enough to attend had a great day and agreed we would like some more of such workshops.

Vale Joan Dines : 29.5.1923 - 11.4.2014

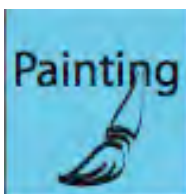
Eight Tuesday potters joined with Joan's family and friends at Inglewood Eltham to farewell a much-loved member of WMI&AA Pottery Group.

Joan died in her sleep at her daughter Sue's home on April 11th.

As in the words of the song written and sung by her grandson at the funeral : "Old friends all of them gone leave a treasured path behind them."

We enjoyed your creativity and originality, Joan.

Contact : Marjorie Beecham 9844 3206



5x2 hour painting and learning sessions with noted local painter and teacher RON REYNOLDS.

[\[www.ronreynolds.com.au\]](http://www.ronreynolds.com.au)

Wednesdays 9.30-11.30 at various sites around Warrandyte or indoors at the Mechanics Institute Hall if raining.

COST \$50.00 plus your own materials.

Starting Wednesday 21st May till Wed. 18th June.

Enquiries 0457 121 477



Hi Theatre lovers,

We are in now gearing up for the annual One Act Play season. Auditions finished and cast almost there, we are excited to be putting on a variety of plays, with a couple of debut Directors including one of our Youth Theatre enthusiasts.

Dates: June 27th and 28th; July 4th and 5th.

Plays as follows :

Cicatrice by Mark Lucas

Writer's Block by Lauren Dunlop

Universal Language by David Ives

Dock Brief by John Mortimore

Look forward to seeing you there and remember our AGM Monday 12th May 8pm at the Hall. Bring a friend along and get involved.

Contact : Daryll Mitchell 0423 088 217

OUTDOOR PAINTING CLASS – Your chance to paint!

A short term course that will explore an exciting and creative approach to outdoor painting will commence on Wednesday May 21st 2014 near to The Bakery in Yarra Street.

Ron Reynolds (Artist & Teacher) will conduct two hour tutored sessions limited to 10 students each Wednesday for 5 weeks between 9.30am & 11.30am.

The cost per student is an introductory offer of only \$50 for the five week term and will be payable in advance on the first day.

The intensive program will encompass the following issues related to landscape painting:

- Composing instead of copying
- Descriptive & non-descriptive colour
- Learning to “see”
- Experimentation & invention
- Geometry & distortion

Various on location classes are designed for students to develop their work in an encouraging & innovative environment.

No class style is taught, as students are encouraged to pursue their chosen direction.

Please register your interest ASAP by text to 0457 121 477

(See www.ronreynolds.com.au or call Ron for more details on 9846 1847)

Mother’s day Classic (reminder)

As indicated in the last Dodger WTC lost one of our much loved members when Sara Sharpe tragically lost her battle with breast cancer.

On Mother’s day, “**Team Sara**” will walk – around “the Tan” to raise awareness of breast cancer and money for research. Rather than just donate, this year we thought we would join the team and extend the potential for reaching a larger number of donors.

Details and fundraising donations at :

<https://mdc.mothersdayclassic.com.au/fundraising.php?id=16355>

Remember, Sunday May 11th – let’s try to gather a huge team from Warrandyte.

Adrian Rice has contacted some members via WTC email groups.

Finally, ***Vocal Agents***, which includes member Lisa Upson, have a gig.

A Capella music is gaining popularity so come and have a listen at **The Northcote Uniting Church on Saturday May 10**. Tickets are very reasonable at \$15 and \$10 concession. They sing a variety of styles including soul, funk and gospel with a little bit of contemporary pop. They cover artists like Eric Clapton, Katy Tunstall, Pharell Williams and Melody Gardot but bring their own style and arrangements. Hope you can make it.

Diamond Creek
Saturday afternoon
CONCERT
SERIES

Admission
 5 concerts adult \$100 / \$75
 concession
 (bonus two free concerts)

Or \$20 / \$15 per concert

Venue
 Uniting Church, Wensley
 Street, Diamond Creek Mel.
 Ref. 12, B 6

Contact
 Graham
 gford@bigpond.net.au
 0419 361 487

2014 Programme
 All concerts commence at 2pm

April 26 Karen Van Spall – mezzo soprano
 Esita Morgan – soprano
 Dr David Kram – accompanist

May 17 David Soo – piano

June 14 Annalisa Kerrigan – soprano (tbc)

July 19 Daniel Carison – baritone
 Geoffrey Urquart – accompanist

August 16 Vivien Hamilton – soprano
 Len Vorster – piano
 Lachlan Dent – cello

September 13 Amir Farid – piano
 David Patterson – violin

October 11 Anna Whitehead – soprano

Proceeds to the Church

Diamond Valley Singers & Eltham Orchestras Present

HELLO!
dolly!

4th – 12th July, 2014
 Warrandyte High School Theatre
 Alexander Road, Warrandyte

Book Now <http://www.trybooking.com/ENIH>



The newest & still smiling members of the WMI&AA Central Committee – Jan Cornell (L) and Noelene Cooper.



2014 Central Committee

Back (L-R) Robert Black, Ken Virtue, Graeme Breadmore

Centre (L-R) Jack Stringer, Daryll Mitchell, Simone Kiefer, Alan Cornell

Second row (L-R) Noelene Cooper, Jan Cornell, Pat Anderson

Front (L-R) David Tynan, Marjorie Beecham, Pauline Cross (now retired) Noelle Burgess

WMI&AA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013.

The words 'Warrandyte' and 'Arts' have always gone together and we in the WMI&AA are privileged to have a central role in support of the local arts scene and a building of such character to help our work. We are lucky too to have such a dedicated, talented and hard working group of people on our committee who do so much to coordinate the work of the various groups in providing that support.

In 2013 I swapped the roles of President and Vice President with **Ken Virtue** and he has continued to be a central supporting pillar of the Association helped by the indefatigable **Pat Anderson** as Secretary, **Simone Kiefer** as Treasurer, **Graeme Breadmore**, Hall Curator and the Group Presidents **Marjorie Beecham**, **Pauline Cross**, **Rosemary Climas** and **Daryll Mitchell**. They have in turn been supported by **Noelle Burgess** [Mail] and **Robert Black** [Website] and the irrepressible **Ken Virtue** [Newsletter]. A new position of Membership Officer has been created [See below] and I have filled that role so far. The committee is not only dedicated, talented and hard working but is as cooperative and good humoured a bunch as anyone could wish for.

Thanks to **Graeme**, **Ken** [once again] and **Phil Dyer** our old hall and the Pottery Studio continue to be cared for with skill and dedication. During 2013 this has been particularly notable in the constant battle to deal with and eventually [we think] conquer water leaks. In February the stairs in the Pottery Studio were replaced. In April the front of the hall was painted and arrangement made to complete the painting [reaching a climax as I type]. In September the hall foyer was redecorated with felt walls and a new colour in time for the wonderful production of THE 39 STEPS.

Applications were made for grants from various bodies and we received new black tab curtains for the stage [Manningham Small Grants], considerable financial help with the completion of hall painting [Manningham Heritage Grants] and the purchase of a follow spot [Warrandyte Community Bank]. **Pat Anderson's** contribution to the work of grant applications continues to be an inspiration. Sadly our application for a new Kiln for the Pottery Studio failed and this is an important issue that we have begun to deal with by setting up a Term Deposit account.

Two years ago the Victorian Government imposed new administrative rules on incorporated organizations and we, of course, had to comply. This resulted in some slight alterations to our own rules – all of them to our advantage. Thank you to those who assisted in the not all that riveting task of trolling through reams of bureaucratic detail in order to remain a legal entity. Among the new governmental regulations were some regarding recording of membership. A subcommittee met and established new procedures and, through the expertise of **Robert Black**, a computerized membership database with strictly limited access. So far this is working well.

In November **Pauline Cross** tendered her resignation as President of the Painting Group. Pauline has been a wonderful leader of her group and a loyal and committed member of the committee. She is a life member of the Association and her presence and friendship on the committee will be sadly missed – as of course will her leadership of the group. Her paintings will, of course, remain in so many Warrandyte homes and beyond.

In June WMI&AA made a huge contribution through the Theatre Group to a locally produced film on fire awareness which was widely shown throughout Victoria and won plaudits for the quality of the contribution in writing and performing. Well done Theatre Group.

2013 has been the first year in what seems to me to be something of a watershed period in the life of the WMI&AA. Changes in our familiar patterns will require some hard thinking and perhaps innovative solutions as significant sections of our membership ages and commitments shift.

Due to a change in location for Lea and me I am, reluctantly, relinquishing my role as President. I thank the WMI&AA for its confidence in me and offer myself in any capacity, other than as President, the committee thinks fit for the coming year.

Jack Stringer
April 27th 2014

Pauline Cross

a plein air impressionist painter, influenced and inspired by the bushland around Eltham and Warrandyte and who in turn has inspired many other locals

We have all recently enjoyed another successful Warrandyte Festival: the Parade, the music, the stalls, the Follies, the regular events, and, the plethora of attractive banners hanging from the telegraph poles, reminding us of the marvellous community in which we live.

I wonder how many people know when the Festival Banner project began and, more particularly, who started the initiative?

The answer is the 1983 Warrandyte Festival and the initiative came from Pauline Cross who was at the time (and until her recent retirement) the co-ordinator of the Painting Group of the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association. Pauline had seen a banner display a few years previously at the Adelaide Festival and thought, "We can do this in our own community". Pauline was involved with a Saturday morning children's art group at the time and saw the potential for involving the youngsters of Warrandyte in this initiative. So she sought the support of the various local school art co-ordinators, joined the Festival committee and obtained financial support from the Australian Arts Council. There was considerable organisation involved, procuring the correct materials and paints, inviting schools and other community groups to take part and, of course, liaison with Council, the State Electricity Commission (the banners hang from the power poles) and the Country Roads Board. The Warrandyte Arts Association contributed further monetary support, members of the WAA craft group helped with hemming and the Apex Club manufactured the hanging brackets for the cost of materials.

After some teething troubles with two days of stormy weather, the banners had to be taken down and reinforced, but after re-hanging, they proudly added colour and local input to the Festival and were left hanging for three weeks until Easter as they were such a tourist attraction.

From time to time the banners get replaced or updated and even added to by other groups, but the idea continues and how much better it is for the community to own its banners than having uniform, municipal banners as appear in some other places or even commercial banners advertising businesses? Thank you Pauline on behalf of Warrandyte for this inspired initiative.

The name "Pauline Cross" is a household name throughout Warrandyte and beyond. So many people have fallen in love with her beautiful paintings of the bush in her unmistakable impressionist style in shades of blues and yellows, and have subsequently purchased one or more of her paintings at one of the many Warrandyte Arts Association Exhibitions that she has helped to co-ordinate. One of my neighbours boasts of having at least six of Pauline's paintings. Pauline's particular style of painting is so appealing to anyone who loves the bush.

Many locals will have stumbled upon the Warrandyte Arts Association Painting Group at work around Warrandyte on Wednesdays, come fair or foul weather although mainly in the former, diligently painting landscapes and streetscapes out of doors from the genuine article, without recourse to painting from photographs – surely a more advanced skill. So what is this group and where does Pauline fit into the story?

Pauline developed her unique style over several years. When she first joined the Warrandyte Arts Association in 1968, it was as a young mum who had been encouraged to return to her artwork and she attended one of two classes run at the time by Christine Aldor. Pauline recalls what an excellent

teacher Christine was, encouraging her students to explore different styles and media and to think laterally about what they wanted to achieve. Consequently it was a great loss to WAA when Christine died in 1971.

Initially, after Christine's passing, the painters floundered with no leadership, but Christine's husband, Emil, came to their aid, followed by Cyril Ardern, who took interested painters out on Wednesdays for some years, a tradition that continued until the end of 2013. The group was also tutored by Dale Marsh up to 1974 and then by Ken McFadyen until 1977. Pauline also took lessons over the next few years from Daryl Carnahan (Victorian Artists' Society), Wesley Penberthy (Melbourne University) and David Veltman (Box Hill Technical College).

This eager WAA group of artists was both keen to make progress with their skills as well as working towards having their own studio. Doncaster & Templestowe Council was approached for permission to hold Outdoor Art Shows by the river, under the Warrandyte Bridge, the first being in 1972. Over the years, paintings sold well, but the outdoor shows gradually fizzled out, partly because of problems with the site such as smelly sludge and stormwater.

By 1978, the group had 47 members as a great interest in the arts was emerging. Rotary groups, private schools and charitable organisations saw the potential of art shows as alternative fund-raisers to the traditional bazaars. These gave members of the WAA painting group other options for displaying and selling their work and many prizes were won. The first Warrandyte Rotary Art Show was held in 1985 in the Warrandyte Primary School and the "This is Warrandyte" award was won by Pauline with a watercolour of the Yarra River.

May 1974 saw a group of eleven WAA members, including Pauline, set off on its first 'safari' to the Howqua, inspired by the golden hues of autumn. This proved to be a rather wet experience by all accounts, but was the first of many more painting expeditions to places like Maldon, Wye River, Walhalla, Yallourn, Eildon Sorrento, Walhalla, Daylesford, Tarnagulla and the Castlemaine area. Sometimes they stayed in caravan parks and at other times in holiday houses belonging to members, sleeping on an assortment of lilos and stretchers. These trips provided the inspiration for a great many varied paintings that were displayed at the annual exhibitions in the Mechanics Institute Hall. They also added to the camaraderie of the group from which Pauline and the majority of members found friendship, support, personal growth and self esteem.

For several years Pauline assisted with the co-ordination of this painting group in various roles and, after joining the central committee of WAA in 1980 as the painting group representative, she assumed the responsibility of co-ordination of the painters. She also served as secretary of the amalgamated WMI&AA from 1986 to 1992 and continued her group co-ordination role until the end of 2013. For her enormous contribution to the association, she was given life membership in 1998.

Pauline's many other awards include "Signatory Membership of Distinction" for continuous artistic achievement from the Victorian Artists' Society (1994), a "Menzies Community Australia Day Award" for twenty years of valuable contributions to community arts (2004) and "Life Membership" of the Melbourne Society of Women Painters and Sculptors for outstanding service (2007).

Pauline has had many successful 'one person' exhibitions and her works are in various collections both in Australia and overseas. In 1992 she was invited to exhibit her works by an Australian director of a gallery in Brussels. This invitation came with sponsorship from the Australian Embassy in Brussels, which enabled Pauline to accompany her works and to spend time painting in

the South of France, in Holland and in England. Pauline was also invited to send paintings to an exhibition in Toronto in 2006 that preceded the Commonwealth Games.

In spite of these honours, Pauline is very modest about her achievements and, when asked about the highlights of her painting career, she stresses that it is the friendship, mutual support and personal growth that she has acquired from the local group that counts for most in her estimation.

That said, there have also been some local highlights for the group. Two of these were in 2001. First of all, there was the launch of "The Women of the Heidelberg School" website, where, with other Art Groups, members shared in the celebration behind the Warrandyte Historical Society Museum, painting along the Yarra together. Then later that year came Warrandyte "Celebrating Gold" -150 years. Various members of WMI&AA, including painters, took part in the re-enactment and tent city along the river at Stiggants Reserve. Then of course, Pauline recalls the pleasure of the build up to the themed annual exhibitions that were held in November with the potters and craft groups of WAA up until 2001.

So now, with Pauline's retirement from the group, WAA is looking at new directions and new ways of fostering the arts in the community in addition to the on-going pottery workshops, the craft group and the active theatre company. As the painting group as we have known it for many years grew out of painting classes, there are plans to organise a number of short courses to develop various aspects of art. The first of these will be conducted by Ron Reynolds .

So many people have been involved with the WAA Painting Group over the years and so many people have benefitted from Pauline's dedication and inspiration. For this and for her contribution to the Warrandyte community in general through the Festival Banner, the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association wishes to say a "Great Big Thank You" to Pauline!

