

June 2017

The

Artful

DODGER

1.*n.* roystering young pickpocket from Charles Dicken's *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 David Tynan on 98445727 or davidtyn@gmail.com

Brief Encounter cast announced

After an exhaustive search for talent, Adrian has finally cast our major end of year production. It promises fine acting, clever staging, spiffy costumes and a band! For those who have forgotten, or have never seen the original work on which the play is based, take a trip to the following link - the entire movie is available on Youtube at <https://youtu.be/HcT8S-Aio5M>.



Why are these two spunks smiling?

Alan & Jan Cornell, the former, a long time servant/picaroon of WMI&AA in many roles, including the transformation of the newsletter, the design of many posters and programs, involvement with major works at the hall such as the asbestos survey, and the new roof, not to mention years of involvement with the theatre company with acting, script writing & editing and performing many original songs year in year out for the Follies, noted at the recent AGM that they would be stepping down from the committee in view of their imminent move to Barwon Heads.

David expressed, on behalf of the committee his heartfelt thanks to the Cornells and how indebted we are to Alan for his extraordinary contribution for so long. David also noted that there would be a special farewell occasion later in the year .

Alan responded effusively and indicated his willingness to continue to contribute when possible with posters, scripts etc.

Sigh.



Warrandyte Mechanics Institute & Arts Association Inc. 0009153X
warrandytehallarts.asn.au

Group reports

Pottery



Pottery News

The studio is a sea of fascinating teapots. We have had such fun creating the most amazing “objets d’art”. Ceri wins the prize for the largest and the smallest. Brenda has posted some photos on Facebook. Now for the glazing. They should all be completed by the middle of July.

Marjorie Beecham



Theatre News

General Meeting - Planning

Monday June 19th at the hall.

The aim of this meeting is to hear two short reports on the state of the WTC and to consider plans. We would like you to have your input. You do not have to be a financial member to contribute to planning – just interested in the future of the Company.

This planning is in lieu partly of the Focus Group meeting which in turn will be held later in the year.

Youth Theatre

Unfortunately we failed to get sufficient young people at auditions for a youth play. We had selected *The Hounds of the Baskervilles*, partly because it presented a good number of decent roles. So – back to the drawing board – see above.

Brief Encounter

We held three auditions for the new version of the Noel Coward play and film. The cast is now established:

Sean Collins plays Alec, who falls in love with ... Laura, played by *Gabby Llewelyn*, in the station café run by Myrtle played by *Lisa Upson* and is regularly inspected by *David Tynan* as Albert the ticket inspector ... who also keeps an eye on Beryl played by *Simone Kiefer*, the eye-appe (sorry) of Stanley who will be brought to life by *Tony Clayton*.

Sean is new to the company. We welcome him and look forward to his company and performances. He is an experienced actor who has previously worked with Susan.

The band is being established by *David Rackham*. At the time of writing we are still seeking guitar, drums and possibly wind/brass players. Please pass the word around to people you know. We open in November.

Plays Reading

We recently read parts of several plays and are well placed for making 2018 a busier year.

Plays in the pipeline include:

- * Vere by John Doyle
- * Doubt by John Patrick Stanley
- * Proof by David Auburn

In addition we already have three One Act Plays lined up for the first quarter of 2018 – in the old Follies slot. More about them soon.

Follies 2018

Is it my imagination or is time we started thinking about next year's Follies? We will have a Follies specific get together in the not too distant future – stay tuned.

Adrian Rice

From the AGM

At the recent AGM, the following generous souls enthusiastically agreed to contribute (or to continue to contribute) to the life of the Association for the 2017-2018 period. We also thanked Jan and Alan for their enormous contribution - a WMIAA celebration will follow later this year.

Position	Generous soul
President	David Tynan
Vice President	Adrian Rice
Treasurer	Simone Kiefer
Secretary	Pat Anderson
Assistant Secretary	Noelle Burgess
Committee/Web Officer	Robert Black
Technical services Officer	Callum Robertson
Committee Pottery Rep	Amanda Sgourakis
Committee/Pottery Rep	Marjorie Beecham
Committee/Membership	Noelene Cooper
Committee/Painting Rep	Rhonda Stewart
Committee Member	Denise Farran



Warrandyte Music Concerts

Ohhhh what a night!!!

Saturday May 27th saw an almost capacity crowd in the Hall for The Light Quartet.

It was our largest audience yet and I would love to thank the Warrandyte Diary for printing a review of the previous piano recital concert, to those that wrote the review and to those that made it all happen - namely the hall committee for giving me a big helping hand. I am extremely grateful as many more Warrandyte locals came along for the first time. They had a fantastic evening and were excited to hear of the ongoing concerts. There are also now a dedicated regular crowd and some that organise a group of friends for dinner and follow with the concert. The concerts have become an event to look forward to and I am so pleased to be able to offer beautiful music to our local community in this way.



It goes without saying that the band was fantastic. We heard music from the new forthcoming cd written by Michael Johnson and Evripides Evripidou, an amazing drum/percussion solo by David Jones that is a feast to listen to as well as to watch how he manipulates instruments and creates instruments out of errr... feather dusters! Together the four musicians Michael, Evripides, David and Matthew Arnold created an atmosphere of absolute joy with times of contemplation and excitement through the music. We wish them much luck in their application with the Regional Arts Council for funding to tour the band through venues in Victoria.

The concert calendar for the remainder of the year is still under way and I hope to release dates and artists soon so you can plan your Saturday music nights at the hall.

Contact Lisa Pearson for bookings on 0401 167 223 or warrandytemusic@gmail.com.

Lisa Pearson

The Sharp End

One of our multi-talented members and WMIAA Web and all things digital guru Robert Black moonlights as a terrific cartoonist - you may have seen his work in other publications, including in the Warrandyte Diary. Robert generously permits us to publish one of his 'gently twist' cartoons each month - thanks Robert!



WMI&AA President's Report for 2016

At the tender age of 55, with the committee's blessing and notwithstanding a surprise coup, I enter my 5th year as President. As I reflect on the 2016 year, my memory needs jogging, and I now need to check the monthly Dodgers to remind myself what actually happened in that year.

There have been many transitions this year, and quite a few highlights.

I will remember 2016 especially as the one where Ken finally put down his tools for the WMIAA. We held a fitting celebration of his contributions at Vanilla Orchid in September, and a memorable night was had. The chooks were a highlight!

On the same night, we congratulated two other WMIAA legends Pat Anderson and Jock Macneish, who each received Order of Australia medals recognising their many and varied contributions to local community organisations. Pat excitedly reported that the award made it harder for her to resign from her tiring role as our secretary. I am busy lobbying to make her a dame before the next AGM.

We also took that opportunity to induct Gail Macrae as a life member – wasn't she surprised!

Surprises were the order of late 2016, as an extraordinarily elaborate plan was hatched to update the signage for Pottery Studio. Marjorie had no idea that it was also being named in her honour – Marjorie could you repeat the facial expression you used when the truth finally dawned?

In 2016, we farewelled two well-loved members – Keith Wilson & Rae Danks – long serving WMIAA contributors. They will be sorely missed by many.

The hall saw two major renovations. Firstly, the hall floor was sanded back and beautifully polished to bring back its shiny glory.

Our internal and external lighting, sound and other electrics were very thoroughly upgraded, largely due to the efforts of a young Callum Robertson, who brings both expertise, innovation and generosity to this aspect of hall life. So impressed were we, that we insisted he join the committee! Actually, it was his idea.

We finally attacked the termite problem, restored the damaged wood, and addressed drainage issues near the toilets. Our thanks to Karl Heine for his help with this. In November, we held a successful working bee where the weary few cleared out some excess props to make way for some new ones probably!

Our online booking system and calendar of events was established, and the transition smoothly managed by Graeme, with help from myself, Adrian and Robert. Our membership systems have been enhanced greatly by Noelene's diligence and persistence, and Robert continues to work quietly during the night to make us look good online.

There were many group highlights, but I will leave our hard-working group leaders to make their reports of these.

The music concerts, via Lisa, have continued to attract praise, and we are grateful for efforts here. We look forward to supporting her further to grow this part of the Association.

Thank you to the many who have supported the WMIAA in 2016 – but especially to all members of the 2016 committee. I will not this year, mention you all individually, but the sentiment is the same.

Well – I will make one exception. Alan Cornell, sage mentor and master of all things silly is taking his sweetheart Jan closer to the beach. We will miss them both greatly, and I don't feel I can in this brief report satisfactorily sum up what a gap this leaves for all of us. So, in the WMIAA tradition, we will postpone our final thank you to Alan and Jan. Later this year we will make a major fuss of them both over some crappy white wine and gluten-free food.

Thank you all
David Tynan

Teapot Frenzy!

