

THE Artful DODGER

April 2016

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 kenvirtue@gmail.com



A colourful tale

Marjorie Beecham and Noelle Burgess share an insider tale about their dye colours at a recent workshop in the Pottery Studio.

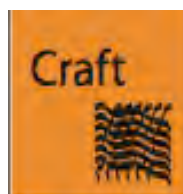
Amanda Sgourakis led the group of eight participants to help them make their own dyed silk scarves on the last day of Potters' term.

More photos on page 5.

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



WARRANDYTE
MECHANICS INSTITUTE AND
ARTS ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED



**Contact : Rosemary
Climas 9844 2154**



Thanks to Amanda's efforts the Tuesday girls had a great end of term day. She organised a silk scarf dying lesson. Eight most enthusiastic dyers produced beautiful and totally different scarves.

We all agreed that the Studio was a most versatile building. On that day it began as a Pottery studio. By moving a few tables we converted it into a silk scarf workshop ! Then came lunchtime and we celebrated the birthdays of three of our members with a gourmet luncheon. We thought it was the best restaurant in town.

Contact: Marjorie Beecham 9844 3206



Any interested members should contact WMI&AA President David Tynan on 9844 5727.



Viral Follies ?*!@!

Which fool suggested we put the term "viral" in the Follies title? Luckily the WTC minutes are as hazy as our memories and no one person can be singled out for blame. Collectively we seem to have hexed the company to a rolling series of maladies that meant that throughout the rehearsal period we had the full cast together for only 3 rehearsals, including the dress. If we add to the microbial pollutants causing gastro and flu, accidents and misadventure, very few of the cast and crew escaped without some sort of woe requiring bed or intervention. Two of our musos went down, one literally and we are grateful that his motorbiking experience enabled him to get away with scrapes and bruises and just a dented fuel tank. Our pianist will hopefully seriously consider the folly of scarfing the bottom of the popcorn bag and the scraps of kernel therein. Cited as a possible cause of a rumbling appendix and a night in hospital, I can personally only hope that this will mean fewer people stuffing their throats with buttery nausea in a cinema near me.

But, even though poorliness continued into actual showtime, it did not impact on the brilliance of the performance as the cast and crew soldiered on to a successful opening week. Thankyou to everyone involved for your commitment, energy and success. And, if you, dear reader. read this

and haven't bought your tickets for the final week, then you had better get your skates on. And of course tell your friends to do theirs.

Future Follies

Considering a change to the format of the show after terrific feedback this week might seem odd, but a number of the writers and likely directors have expressed a desire to at least discuss the nature of future shows. We have earmarked April 29th at the hall to openly discuss this and everyone is welcome. While the committee and of course directors responsible for each show are at liberty to choose to take whichever course they are most comfortable with, we would like to hear what people think. It may be that we cogitate, chat and challenge and undertake to make no changes whatsoever but for the benefit of those who take the time to create the show it is good to start thinking of more possibilities.

One Act Plays

Auditions for the three comedies that will make up our suite of plays will be:

Sunday 24th April - 4 pm; Tuesday 26th April - 8.15 pm.

There are a total of 3 male parts, 4 female parts and 7 that can be either male or female.

It's a Dog's Life – Pam Valentine

Fritz, Fifi, Ginger and Ben wait in their cages at the dog shelter for a visitor to come and choose between them. A very funny comedy which will appeal to all.

4 parts m or f. Various ages

Honeymoon Suite, Part 1 – Tony Layton

Jet Rush, an ageing rock star, checks into a hotel with his wife and ex-PA, Pat. He's past his hell-raising days and it's time to settle into his 3rd age. But does he realise this, and the importance of his new wife, or is there life in the old dog yet?

2 m middle aged, 1 f middle aged

Boise, Idaho – Sean Michael Welch

The narrator chronicles the meeting of a couple in a small Paris cafe in Paris, but starts to lose control of his characters once they realise he exists. This hilarious play blurs the line between truth and fiction

to see which triumphs - reality or a good story?

1 m, 1 f middle aged

1 m or f 25- middle aged

For the rest of the year we are considering not performing *Brief Encounter* since it would stretch us too far musically. Unless we source musicians who can commit in the next few weeks we will consider alternatives. We do have the rights to perform *1984* in September and it is likely this will be the TWYT offering. As for the end of the year we will read and consider: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe* and *Speaking in Tongues*, the play that begat "Lantana."

Adrian Rice

WTC President

Email aderice@tpg.com.au

Follies Goes Viral 2016 – Review

By David Hogg

What an amazing talent we have here in Warrandyte. A cast of 18 performed a total of 42 hilarious sketches and gave nine performances to mostly packed houses.

The theme this year of Follies Goes Viral covered all things to do with smartphones, computers and the internet and the daily struggles we all have with these temperamental and essential assets of modern life. It also touched on viruses, bacteria, and associated nasty things!

A clever series of short film clips shot around the village introduced us to the horror of the internet having gone down permanently in Warrandyte and featured recurring and clever clips woven throughout the program showing the story of sleuths cavorting through the village and along the riverside trying to track down the culprit who had perpetrated this outrage.

Another clever film clip sequence concluded the first half with a choir which started onstage singing I Still Call Warrandyte Home on the lines of the Qantas ad. The choir then was shown in film clip singing in various lovely Warrandyte locations and ended up in the river getting gradually more submerged. I wish I'd been there for the filming.

The highlight for me, and for many in the audience, was David Tynan's rendition of I Shook up a Coke to the tune of I Started a Joke with two sleeping drunks (Richard Bowyer and Lisa Upson) waking up from time to time to warble the waa-waa chorus. Also brilliant was Poxy Chooks (Noelene Cooper and Simone Kiefer) and Stocks and Chairs (John Milburn-Clark) in which the old bloke had totally misunderstood the advice in an investment seminar.

Other clever recurring sketches involved Warrantiques Roadshow and Speed Dating.

The music was brilliant. The versatile Matt Wallace (also accomplished actor and writer for this performance) excelled on piano. Daryll Mitchell played the El Cajón (it's a box drum; I had to look it up!). Richard Pengeley who as Musical Director masterminded the vibrant musical numbers accompanied on guitar. Sound quality and operation were excellent, the lighting clever and the set a simple but brilliant computer desktop.

Plaudits must go to the clever scriptwriters, the versatile actors some of whom had to manage lightning-quick costume changes, and to Lawrence Phelan and Adrian Rice for their excellent direction. A fantastically funny evening.

Thank you.



***Follies Goes
Viral
at
rehearsals***

Potters' Silk Scarf Day



Top Left : Colours in the wind – Beautiful silk scarves drying outside the Studio.

Top Right : The Potters shared a feast for lunch including Sheryle's chocolate layer cake, Melissa's bruschetta and Amanda's potato & sage pastries !

**** REMINDER – WMI&AA Annual General Meeting ****
May 2nd 2016 at the Hall at 8 pm - All welcome!

NO LIGHTS NO LYCRA!

“Dance like no one is watching”

Every Wednesday 7-8 pm in the Hall – Entry \$5

Hello Music Lovers,

So that you won't miss any Warrandyte Music concerts here is the calendar to date and please book early to secure your seat!

April 30th - The Light Quartet - a dynamic, energising evening of compositions inspired with improvisation and masterful skill - David Jones - percussion, Matthew Arnold - violin, viola, Michael Johnson - harp and Evripides Evripidou - guitars.

May 28th - Michael Johnson, harp & Matthew Arnold, violin with the Tudor Choristers. An evening of renaissance music and voice not to be missed.

June 18th - Free Reign CD Launch - Free Reign is the creation of Tony Leonard and is one of the most beautiful, mesmerising, joyful and fresh CD's I have ever heard. The music and lyrics speak of a new expression of Australian Landscape and bring the life of the Land into Sound and Soul.

I look forward to seeing you at one, or many, of our fantastic musical evenings and I deeply thank you for supporting us to grow into being.

Warm regards,
Lisa Pear

**Wednesday 06 April 2016, 11.00 am to
Saturday 14 May 2016, 5.00 pm**

An inspiring array of talent, passion and achievement – with many examples of triumph over adversity – is celebrated in this exhibition.

Awesome Achievers showcases a selection of portraits of Australian of the Year recipients from diverse fields of endeavour. It aims to bring to life the underlying complex and shifting notions of national identity that are exemplified or challenged in the portrait of each person. The portraits were made at different stages in the sitters' lives,

encompassing a range of artistic media and a diversity of styles, capturing unique and often emotionally powerful aspects of these distinctive individuals.

A National Portrait Gallery touring exhibition.

Manningham
Art Gallery

CIRCLE SINGING

Inspired by the work of Bobby McFerrin and Rhiannon...

Circle Singing is...

*a playful and deep
group improvisation practice
for creative, musical,
and personal development.
Primarily vocal and musical, it also
extends and weaves in
explorations of movement,
language and story*

CONNECT

CREATE

PLAY

We welcome...

*voices at any level to engage
from where YOU are, while also
challenging you to expand and
meet your own edge.*

Beginners: *learn to open your
voices and creativity in a safe and
supportive space.*

Advanced singers: *deepen
your expressive and
improvisational skills.*

EXPLORE

DISCOVER

WARRANDYTE MECHANICS HALL
MONTHLY SATURDAYS IN 2016:

JAN 23

MAR 5

MAY 14

FEB 20

APR 9

JUN 11

2:30-4:30PM..\$15..ALL WELCOME!

Find out more: www.circlesingingmelb.com Contact: kirstymorphett@gmail.com



follies Goes Viral

March 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16 @8PM

Book at: trybooking.com/KKOS

Mechanics Institute Hall, Tickets \$25, Concession \$20



Fun Photos from the 2016 Follies – Courtesy of Stephen Reynolds



