

## Portland CEMA Inc. - Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts

Newsletter - May 2005

### President's Report

Observer reporter Ian Lewis certainly raised a few eyebrows in a recent "observation" column, when he noted that Portland has "no performing arts centre" and "no gallery." I was pleased to see others put pen to paper to set him straight, before I had calmed down enough to respond.

I guess it highlights the constant need to promote the arts within this community. We have facilities to be proud of at the CEMA Arts Centre and at "The Arts Company", and yet many, (like Mr Lewis), seem blissfully ignorant of them.

Some of our members believe that arts lovers will find us and that new-comers to town will seek out like minds. Others amongst us wish there were more hours in the day to promote the advantages of belonging to a CEMA inc group.

I seem to remember someone else with the surname Lewis, galvanising us all into action a few years ago, with some ill informed statements about the arts, and a suggestion about turning one of our most valuable spaces into an internet café!!

As we near our 60th birthday, please encourage your members to support Bev Martin's initiative in bringing George Dreyfus to the CEMA Arts Centre. We want full houses for this event. If each group sold just ten tickets, it would happen easily.

Please make an effort to have all groups represented at executive level. Meetings begin at 7.30 pm on the third Thursday of each month. (9.30 pm is the latest we'll finish, usually earlier). Send an apology, and a newsletter report so that we can all share in the news of the groups.

Enjoy your arts,  
Jan Colliver (President)

### Membership Secretary's Report

Membership is slightly lower than last year. Results from reminder letters to unfinancial members were disappointing, however there are still a few new memberships coming in which is encouraging. We welcome those who are getting their first newsletters.

CEMA Inc. celebrates 60 years of cultural activities on Saturday July 30th with performances by George Dreyfus and his ensemble. Let us all get together and make this a great day to invigorate us and encourage new and past members.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

### THE ARTS COMPANY

Office bearers of the Arts Company Management Committee, elected at the AGM are:

Chair	Berice Jones
Deputy Chair	Mary Sharrock
Treasurer	Annette Taylor
Publicity Officer	Lorraine Campbell
Tourist Comm Rep	Betty Trewavis
Public Officer	Heather Rowsell
CEMA Rep	Mary Sharrock

Any one interested in becoming Arts Company Secretary please contact me.

Thanks to our retiring treasurer Maria Christie, and retiring secretary Paul Worden. The work they have done is greatly appreciated.

Berice Jones (Chair)

### CEMA Online

\*\* All Group Secretaries please note \*\*

The deadline for submissions to this newsletter is the Sunday after the 3rd Thursday of the month, ie the Sunday after the CEMA Executive meeting.

Submissions should be emailed to:  
newsletter@portlandcema.org.au

If you have a digital picture you want included you can email that too!

If email is not possible for you then you can send it or drop it in to my letter box at home.



C Dell - "The Francis Henty Homeward Bound"  
from the Glenelg Shire Cultural Collection  
currently on display at the CEMA Arts Centre

Have you checked out the CEMA newsletters online yet?  
<http://www.portlandcema.org.au/newsletter/newsletter.htm>  
Check out this issue online and compare it with the paper form; you gotta love the colour!  
Let me know what you think; email me at:  
[webmaster@portlandcema.org.au](mailto:webmaster@portlandcema.org.au)

Warren Mars (Webmaster)

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

For those who have not seen it already on the website we reprint some of the very first Portland CEMA President's Report, including details of the very first meeting.

**Annual Report - Portland C.E.M.A. 25 September 1946**  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting to you the first annual report dealing with the activities of the Portland Branch of C.E.M.A.

Our branch came into being on July 20th, 1945, when a meeting called for the purpose was held in the Town Hall. Mr McClintock (a speaker from the Victorian division of CEMA), outlined the growth of the movement, and its formation in Australia, and described the aims and the present activities of the Coop.

Mr W.J. Williamson moved, and Mr Murrell seconded, and it was carried unanimously that a branch of CEMA be formed in Portland.

A draft Constitution was then submitted, and after minor amendments agreed upon.

The following officers were elected:

President: Mr John S. Harris  
Vice-Presidents: Mrs H.V. McLeod & Mr F. Arnold  
Joint Secretaries: Misses J. Beglen and G. Hodge  
Treasurer: Mr F. Redfern  
Committee: One member from each group to be nominated.

Conveners:

Literature and Speech Arts: Mr H. Moody  
Drama: Mrs H.V. McLeod  
Music: Miss E. Hogan

The first meeting was held in the High School on Monday, 30th July, 1945, and took the form of a social evening.

Grand CEMA Concert: Friday, 14th December, 1945. This was our first appearance before the Public and was a great success both as to the quality of the presentation and also financially. The nett profit of £26/16/6, was divided between the hospital building fund and CEMA.

The second CEMA concert was given on Tuesday, 20th August, 1946 - about a year after the inception of our Portland branch. Owing to consistent effort by the conveners and their groups, very appreciable improvement was apparent, and I desire to congratulate everyone on their very fine performance. The nett proceeds amounted to £34/14/3 and were again shared equally by the Hospital Fund and CEMA.

## **Bruce Mathiske (& His Combo) "Roots In Rhythm"**

A spine tingling and enthralling guitar sensation of world acclaim, Bruce's trademark virtuosity involves playing bass, rhythm and melody simultaneously.  
Part of the concert will also feature his combo "Roots in rhythm" on percussion and bass.  
See this brilliant musician whilst you can.

Friday, May 27  
8:00 pm  
CEMA Arts Centre

Adult \$25 Concession \$20 Student \$10 Family \$60

Bookings 5522 2263

There are at present about eighty members of the Choir, Dramatic, Orchestral and Literary Groups. I feel that there are still many people who would benefit from joining these groups and I ask you all to do all in your power to enlist new members.

The promising child born a year ago has now started to toddle and to speak, and at this interesting stage, I as one of it's guardians feel proud of it's progress. From year to year we hope to see the child grow both in stature and understanding.

John S. Harris (President)

## **Community Concert Band**

We meeting weekly on Thursdays. Tune up at 7.45 pm.

We need conductors to help on a rotational basis, and more players. Music supplied.

For more information contact me.

Ron Colliver (Convenor)



Bruce Mathiske & His Combo

**Red Stich Actors Theatre  
present  
"Some Voices"**

This play burst on to the stage in 1994 at London's Royal Court to massive critical acclaim.

Written by Melbourne-born Jo Penhall, it is a darkly funny exploration of love and mental illness involving three characters.

Friday, May 20  
8 pm  
CEMA Arts Centre

Adult \$25 Concession \$20 Student \$10 Family \$60

Bookings 5522 2263

## Fibre Group

The Fibre Group members continue to meet every Thursday from 10:30 am - 3 pm. At present members are working on their own projects.

Four members attended the Sharing Day at Streatham on Tuesday, 15th March. The competition was a scarf in any medium. We took articles to display and some to sell.

New members Jenny Warren and Denise Price have joined us. Jenny has learned to spin and Denise to do wool tapestry. One member, who is in her eighties, is learning to spin and doing a good job.

Three members will attend the Craft School at Glenormiston in the last week in June. Also members will again attend a *sharing day* at Yulecart in July.

At present we have started to work on a woollen woven mat which will be worked on by all members.

Josephine Koch (Secretary)

## FILM GROUP

Next screening will be on Saturday 14th May, 7.30 pm at the CEMA Arts Centre.

### The Leopard

Based on the novel by Giuseppe di Lampedusa Directed by Luchino Visconti. Set in Sicily during the 1850s. Starring Burt Lancaster, Alain Delon and Claudia Cardinale.

Entry by donation.

Allen Jones (Secretary)

## Historical Society

The next meeting is Thursday May 5th at 2.30 pm in the CEMA Arts Centre. Guest speaker Gwen Bennett will talk on "Churches of the Glenelg Shire".

The next History House display will be Hats! Hats! Hats!

Betty Vivian (President)

## PIONEER QUILTERS

The next meeting of the Pioneer Quilters is on Monday, 9th May, 10 am at the Arts Company in Julia Street. Peggy Schwarz will be leading a workshop on dyeing fabrics (to use in creating a fabric picture). You will need to bring the following:

1m of white or cream homespun (unwashed)

A pair of rubber gloves

A photo (to work out which colour dyed fabrics you may need to create this picture).

\* It is advisable to wear "old clothes" for this workshop.

Show and tell this month is: "a piece of handiwork made by an old relative".

\*\* Remember: Green Triangle Day at Horsham on Tuesday, May 3rd, 10 am - 4 pm at the Horsham Town Hall.

Next sit 'n sew day - Monday, May 23rd at 10 am.

New members are always welcome.

Chris Parker (Secretary)



"H Trangmar, Mayor"  
from the Glenelg Shire Cultural Collection  
currently on display at the CEMA Arts Centre

# June Hedditch Studio Artist Residencies

Portland's first PEAR artist, Ilka White, will be in Portland with her "White Works" exhibition in May, a week after returning from an exciting assignment in central Australia with 6 other artists.

She has been invited to spend 10 days at Newhaven, a 262,000 hectare research property owned by Birds Australia, and will have just returned from that experience before coming to Portland.

Portland's conservation groups hope to have Ilka as guest speaker on Newhaven through the eyes of an artist at a joint fund-raiser on Friday, 13th May; keep an eye on the Observer for information about the time and venue.

Lex Chalmers (Committee Member)

## **The Shneedles**

Onstage a lone suitcase stands in its spotlight. The maestro appears - a wizened, scary haired crank - his twitchy puppy-like protege in tow. As the two artists unwittingly steal the limelight from the magical valise, their simple show turns into a full-scale comic nightmare. Plates fly, inanimate objects come to life, a rubbish bin inhales like a man ... it's part theatre, part cinema. Offbeat and irreverent.

Wolfe Bowart and Bill Robison are The Shneedles. In an extraordinary show - 'The Luggage' - this duo combine acrobatic skills and a sense of the absurd, to create their own unique blend of vaudeville, circus, magic and kooky music, in a riotous physical comedy for audiences of all ages.

Tuesday, May 31  
8 pm  
CEMA Arts Centre

Adult \$25 Concession \$20 Student \$10 Family \$60

Bookings 5522 2263

## **Ilka White: "Whitework"**

White work is a textile term referencing white thread/stitching/appliqué produced on a white material. This intricate exhibition uses this technique to explore 'the glory box' tradition, investigating inheritance, family and the making of identity and worth.

Ilka White was the first successful applicant for the Portland Emerging Artist Residency (PEAR) Project initiated in 1999 by Portland CEMA Inc in collaboration with The Arts Company Inc. Ilka was subsequently awarded a Churchill fellowship and has established a reputation as a very talented textile artist.

at the CEMA Arts Centre  
from May 12 to June 3

Gallery opening times:  
2 - 4 pm weekdays

Other times by appointment