



NEWSLETTER NO. 3

December 1 2007

Senator Brandis visit

On Friday 5th October at the Batemans Bay Community Centre Senator Brandis (Minister for the Arts and Sport) and Joanna Gash met a number of people from the local visual and performing arts community. They all put forward very forcibly their view that Batemans Bay needed a Centre to cater for its vibrant arts scene.

Prior to the meeting Senator Brandis and Joanna Gash had met PerfEx representatives together with Jim Levy (the Council Chief Executive) and Mayor Neil Mumme at Hanging Rock to see possible sites for a Centre at that location.

As a result of the arguments put forward at the meeting, and following discussions between she and the Senator, Joanna Gash indicated that the Commonwealth Government might be prepared to donate a substantial grant to assist PerfEx in funding a Feasibility Study.

This was confirmed the following week when the announcement was made that we would receive a grant of \$30,000!

This means that we no longer need to continue with application that was made to the Commonwealth Government's Regional Partners Program for a grant of \$25,000. This application has been formally withdrawn. However, it can be taken up at a later date when we are seeking construction funding.

Thanks are due to all PerfEx members and supporters who turned up at the meeting

and made the visit such a successful one from our viewpoint.

Thanks are also due to Anne Minato and Robyn Edgar who prepared and served a sumptuous morning tea.



Donations

Two major donations have been received, each worth \$1,000, from the South Coast Music Society and St Cecilia Music Scholarships, for which we are extremely grateful. Every amount helps.



“One PerfEx night”

What an event!!!!

One PerfEx Night was designed to be a fun filled fund raising event and it certainly fulfilled expectations.

Around 150 guests turned up at the Soldier's Club in their black and white clothing (mostly - a group of hen's night participants brought some colour to the evening!) to be met by a beautifully laid out area with black and white balloons rising from each table.

While guests arrived and dinner was served we were entertained by performers Josiah Oddy on classical guitar, the Slocky Brothers with Aboriginal dance and

didgeridoo, two groups from the Stepz dance academy, 'Embellish' featuring Emma Davies (keyboard) and Bella Duke (vocals), and Peter Poole's 'Jazz' em Bio'.

The whole evening was expertly steered by MC Allan Baptist. Allan lives locally at Bawley Point and is the person most responsible for getting the Cultural Centre in Nowra to its current stage of development where building has just commenced.

Amazingly nearly sixty businesses and individuals had donated items and money, vouchers and services to raise funds for PerfEx on the night (see next page). They included items as varied as a Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb, paintings, a sky dive, music lessons, and the highlight, a signed photograph of Nicole Kidman.

Some items were laid out for a silent auction, and these raised nearly \$2,000, while the remainder were sold by auctioneer John Law who managed to squeeze every extra dollar out of a very supportive audience.

Finally the evening was topped off with an hour and a half of dancing to local band "On the Rox".

A large number of PerfEx members and supporters worked very hard to make the evening the success it was and their efforts are very much appreciated.

And what a success – "One PerfEx Night" raised nearly \$11,000!!! Together with the Government and Council grants, and donations, PerfEx now has sufficient funds to proceed with organising the Feasibility Study.

Feasibility Study

The current plan is to draft an invitation brief for a consultant to conduct the Feasibility Study by early in the New Year, and with the assistance of the Eurobodalla Shire Council, finalise the document so that the study can commence around March 2008; the Commonwealth Grant has to be spent this Financial year.

AGM

The PerfEx AGM will be held on 3 March, 2008 at the Community Centre, to which all members are invited.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable Christmas period.

Jean Brewer
President

Our Committee consists of : -

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Jan is our latest recruit and comes with great credentials and enthusiasm! Moreover, she represents the visual arts, filling the void left by Joyleen.

Please feel free to contact any of us if you would like to assist or have any questions



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