



NEWSLETTER NO. 4

March 24 2008



Annual General Meeting

The first PerfEx Annual General Meeting was held on 3 March at the Batemans Bay Community Centre with over a dozen people in attendance.

There were vacancies on the committee resulting from the resignations of Liza Swaine, our first vice president, and Committee member Tania Bohun, due to other commitments. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them both for their input and enthusiasm over the past 12 months or so. (Some of you may know that Liza is a new co-owner of TOSH Gallery, and we wish her well). However, I'm very pleased to welcome Jan Lewis as the new vice president and Peter Boys and Noreen Ralston Birchall as Committee members. Peter was our fundraising Chairman for "One PerfEx Night" and many of you will know Noreen, as she is the current acting President of the Batemans Bay Arts and Crafts Society. The officers for 2008 are listed on the next page.

The audited financial report for the 2007 year was passed and this showed -

- Members subscriptions of \$1,060
- \$3,530 of donations
- Net profit from the fund raising dinner of \$9,420, less
- General expenses of \$570

leaving a profit and balance at the end of a very successful year of \$13,440.

Feasibility Study

During December and January a draft of an invitation to consultants to tender for the conduct of the PerfEx Feasibility Study was developed. The first draft was prepared by members of the Committee with the assistance of Greg Bowman, (past Business Development Manager of the Eurobodalla Shire Council), and Allan Baptist. Those of you who attended "One PerfEx Night" will remember Allan as our MC and also that he has been heavily involved in the development of the Nowra Performing Arts Centre.

This draft version of the invitation to tender was passed to officers of the Eurobodalla Shire Council and a number of the comments received were incorporated into the document.

We were ready to go out to consultants in early February as planned but decided to check on the status of the grant from the Commonwealth Government prior to going ahead. Unfortunately the grant had been caught up in the review of expenditure being undertaken by the new government in Canberra.

As of today we still don't know if the grant will be made available nor when the decision will be finally taken. (Joanna Gash has contacted the relevant Minister's office to see if the process can be speeded up and Senator Marise Payne asked a question in the Senate as to progress - PerfEx in the Parliament!)

Should any of you wish to write letters to the Minister, urging him to follow through with the previous Government's commitment, you can direct correspondence to:

The Hon Peter Garrett MP
Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

(If you want more detail, please contact either Dave Harding or myself).

However, we remain hopeful of the funding and as soon as we know the result, and assuming it is positive, we will commence the tender process.

What is the Feasibility Study?

The Study will answer such questions as –

- Can a Performance and Exhibition Centre operate successfully in Batemans Bay,
- If so, what facilities should it offer and what size should it be,
- Where should it be located,
- Where can the funding for the design and construction be sourced,
- What organisation should manage the design and construction, and
- What management structure is required for the Centre's operation and what charging for use should be sought.



Membership

PerfEx now has 55 members with the latest members we welcome to our cause being Christine May and Helen Murray.

At the Committee meeting following the AGM the decision was taken to introduce a family membership of \$30.

Members are reminded that membership renewals should be made by 1 July 2008 (\$20 individual; \$30 a family).



Our Committee consists of : -

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Jan Lewis (Vice President)

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Dave Harding (Secretary)

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

Jean Brewer
President

(A copy of the President's Annual Report presented at the AGM is also attached)