



Batemans Bay Performance and Exhibition Centre  
Working Group Inc.

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## NEWSLETTER NO. 19 OCTOBER 2012

Hello to all PerfEx Members, donors and supporters

We couldn't believe it was April/May that our last Newsletter was sent out! However, now that things have started to happen again in regard to the Hanging Rock complex, we thought we should let you all know.

Also, the Cultural Events Board in the Bridge Plaza was officially opened and is now operational, and a Bay Players fundraiser has been organised for the performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance" on Saturday 3rd November. We are also working on the next Literary Award to be drawn at the 2013 *River of Art* and a Photography Award is still also on our agenda.



### Hanging Rock Sunset Committee

In our last newsletter we stated that the original Hanging Rock project using an architecture firm had been cancelled. The Council decided that the new approach would be for a study to be taken first as to the needs of various existing and potential users and recommendations made as to which facilities will be included. The agreed recommendations will then be passed to a new firm of architects to produce a Hanging Rock plan. It is hoped this work will be completed by early 2013. Some of you will have seen the invitations from ESC for submissions on what you would like at Hanging Rock, so I hope you all put down a Performing Arts and Exhibition Centre!

The consultant chosen to conduct the first exercise is Kym Shilton who is a director of Montemare, a business and leisure consultancy. The study is in two parts - discussions with the users of Hanging Rock and secondly a telephone based household survey (random sample of 400) which will seek the views of the public on what facilities they would like to see there.

Kym commenced her work in Batemans Bay on Wednesday 26 September when she attended a Hanging Rock Sunset Committee meeting, the first to be held in over a year. Jeannie Brewer and Dave Harding attended the meeting on behalf of PerfEx and the Eurobodalla Shire Council Cultural Infrastructure Sunset Committee.

The meeting was chaired by returning Councillor Rob Pollock. He apologised for what he termed had been a "wasted 18 months" and also stated that at the moment,

nothing was either in or out of the Hanging Rock complex; in other words, Council has no pre-determined plans.

Present at the meeting were representatives on behalf of the tennis, soccer, swimming, yachting and rugby union clubs, the basketball court, the Marine Rescue Patrol centre, the aquatic centre lobby group and the Wollongong University campus. In a meeting lasting 2 hours each was given time to state what their aim for Hanging Rock was. (It was interesting that the Aquatic centre group was proposing a 25m indoor pool but the Swimming club insisted on a 50m pool.)

Kym is also having individual discussions with some of the interested parties and at lunch time that day Jeannie and Dave had over an hour with her explaining the history and aims of PerfEx; a briefing paper had previously been sent to her.

It is pleasing that work has recommenced.



### Bay Players Night

Our PerfEx Members will by now have received a flyer notifying them of a performance of "Pirates of Penzance" on Saturday 3rd November which will be a PerfEx fundraiser.

Tickets are \$30 and are available from Noreen Ralston Birchall 4472 2386. Chris Kelly 4472 8905 or Jeannie Brewer 4471 1630 or you can email us at info@perfex.org.au.

People who attend are encouraged to have something of a "Pirate" theme in their dress to make the evening more fun. Please invite your friends and family and come along to support us; it is our only fundraiser this year.



### Cultural Events Board

The official opening of the Cultural Events Board was held on 21<sup>st</sup> June with the unveiling kindly performed by the Council CEO Mr Paul Anderson, who had given us much assistance along the way. Present were some potential users of the board as well as people who had contributed in

some way to its construction and hanging, together with invited guests, including Monika McInerney our Cultural Co-ordinator and John Clague, ESC Divisional Manager of Cultural Development, a new office in our Shire.

Once again, our thanks particularly go to the *Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild*, for their generosity and very professional workmanship in the design and construction of the board. Thanks also to *All About Glass* for donating the glass and only charging us cost price for the lock and fittings and finally to *Ron Price, Sign writer* for a materials only charge. Thanks should also go to 'Disko' of 2EC who always gives us great coverage!

We were wonderfully entertained by the Seaside Ukulele Orchestra and afterwards, we all enjoyed coffee and cake at 3Fish Café, helped by a generous \$100 donation from the Village Centre.

If you haven't seen our Cultural Events Board, it's located in the entrance passage to the Bridge Plaza from Clyde Street (between Noni B and the Public Toilets!)

There were a few posters on the board for the opening and over the next couple of months it filled up. There are issues though that we need to resolve as to what can be considered cultural events!

If you or anyone you know is interested in using the facility, then a well-presented A4 poster needs to be delivered to Browns Books in the Village Centre. Thanks to new owner Felicity Collins for making life so much easier for us, by offering this collection point.



#### **Four New Members**

Since our last Newsletter, we are very pleased to welcome new members Chris and Steve Kelly (Chris is on our Fundraising sub-committee, so huge thanks to her), Jan Hanlon whom some of you will remember as a past President of the South Coast Music Society and Ray Sillett, of Tuross, representing the Eurobodalla Photographic Club. A warm welcome to you all!

#### **2012/13 Literary Awards**

We had hoped to launch this competition this month, but have had some trouble securing sponsors this year. We are very pleased to have received a cheque for \$500 from the ESC Cultural Department, so a huge thanks to Monika McInerney here. Also, Felicity of Brown Books is pledging \$200. We also have books from Harper Collins, publishers. Eurobodalla Adult Education has just come on board with a \$100 cash prize and a free workshop attendance, which is wonderful! Ian Campbell of ABC Radio is very keen to assist in on-air promotion for us again, for which we are extremely

grateful. Last year we had 5 prizes and had hoped to at least match it this year. We keep writing letters of request, so fingers crossed. Any ideas, *please* let us know. Maybe a Member would like to donate any annual award in their name?? We're delighted to have Lyn Brown and Robyn Edgar on this Literary Award sub-committee.



#### **President's comments**

One of the reasons for the delay of this Newsletter is that I had a wonderful couple of months break in July and August, camping in the NT. There's nothing like getting away from it all, especially from mobile phones and computers to really unwind. I came back feeling refreshed and enthused. Not long before I left, I addressed the Eurobodalla Pastel Society and must say was very impressed by the level of enthusiasm and participation displayed by this very active group and congratulate them for it. I also had the immense pleasure of being asked to open Grace Paleg's *Digressionists'* Exhibition back in May. It was a fun night; whatever Grace is involved in seems to be fun and what a talented bunch of students she has!

We look forward to catching up with many of you at 'Pirates of Penzance'. Remember it's Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November!

'Til then, warm wishes from us all,  
Jeannie and the Team



#### **The 2012 PerfEx committee is:**

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*Please feel free to contact any of us should you wish to discuss anything, have any ideas or suggestions. Don't forget to keep up to date at [www.perfex.org.au](http://www.perfex.org.au)*