



Batemans Bay Performance and Exhibition Centre
Working Group Inc.

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NEWSLETTER NO. 20 FEBRUARY 2013

A Happy New Year to you all!

In Brief

A meeting was held on February 5th at which the consultant hired by Council to examine options for the Hanging Rock precinct announced her recommendations. Our November Bay Players performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance", was very successful. The PerfEx Literary Award competition is underway and the Photography competition will be held during the *River of Art* in May, 2013.



Hanging Rock Report

A meeting was held at the Council chambers on Tuesday 5th February, at which Kym Shilton gave a presentation to Councillors and an audience of interested parties.

Much of the presentation covered the same ground as her presentation to the Hanging Rock Sunset Committee in November.

However there has been a major change in the study. Kym presented three options, the first in line with the November presentation which included a 500 seat Performance and Exhibition Centre, the second with a reduced size Centre (200 – 250 seats) and the third with no Performing Arts Centre at all!

Where the idea came from to look at these options we don't know and it is somewhat concerning given that Council gave its agreement to the priority need for a Performance and Exhibition Centre in its consideration of the Shire's cultural infrastructure needs.

Kym also gave estimates of the capital expenditure and operational costs of each option, with the capital cost of Option 1 being \$53m; of this around \$10m was for the Arts centre.

There is still work Kym has to do and at some stage her report will need to go out for public comment. So a final report with recommendations will not go to Council for a few months.

Also we don't know how the final recommendations will be determined but we will press for both the Hanging Rock Sunset Committee and the Eurobodalla Shire Cultural Infrastructure Sunset Committee have an involvement. We are represented on both those Committees.



Bay Players Night

The performance of "Pirates of Penzance" was attended by a full house, with just a few brave souls in costume. We enjoyed our *parrot wings* and *hard tack* with our pre-show *rum* and the show was excellent. All congratulations to Barb Gellatly, the Director and her cast and crew. We also took the opportunity to draw the raffle for Loretta's lovely painting which was won by a very happy Bay Players' front of house lady. Altogether we made a good profit of \$867.76.



PerfEx Literary Awards

The second PerfEx Literary Launch took place at the Village Centre, which is one of our Major sponsors, on Monday 26th November. The 2013 Awards subject is "Memoirs".

President Jeannie Brewer welcomed everyone and introduced Councillor Liz Innes who officially launched the event. Ian Campbell of ABC Radio South East, our major promoter, drove up from Bega that morning and spent the time as a roving interviewer and during the following weeks the interviews went to air. Entries close on Friday 29th March and can be left at Brown Books, Village Centre. The Bay Post also did a feature on us, so thanks to all our sponsors.

Judges this year are Harper Collins Publisher Catherine Milne, local author Judy Thomson who also judged last year and another local author, Joy Hooton.

The awards will be presented at a morning tea, during the *River of Art* at the Soldiers Club on 24 May at 10 for 10.30am and author Bill Gammage will be present. If you have any questions about the Awards, please contact Lyn Brown on lyn@brownbatemansbay.com.au or ring her on 44729623.

Sponsors, donors and supporters of the Awards are:

Eurobodalla Shire Council,
The Village Centre,
ABC Radio South East,
Harper Collins Publishers,
Brown Books and ABC Centre,
Adult Education,
The Bay Post,
The Coffee Club, and
Excell Print.

2012/13 Open Writing Competition (1500 words) theme "Memoirs"



CLOSING DATE

29th March, 2013

Winners to be announced during the River of Art, May 2013

PRIZES

- 1st Prize**
\$400 Village Centre Vouchers
- 2nd Prize**
\$250 Eurobodalla Shire Council Prize
- 3rd Prize**
Harper Collins Publishers and Brown Books Book Package
- 4th Prize**
\$200 Brown Books and ABC Centre Book Vouchers
- 5th Prize**
\$150 PerfEx Prize
- 6th Prize**
\$100 Eurobodalla Adult Education Prize
- 7th Prize**
\$100 Eurobodalla Adult Education Workshop Voucher

PerfEx is proud to announce the three judges:

Harper Collins Publishers
Non-fiction editor, Catherine Milne

Judy Thomson
One of last year's judges, Judy has had three books published including her autobiography.

Joy Hooton
Joy wrote an autobiography of her childhood, and was an author of the Oxford Companion to Australian Literature.

Entry Forms and Guidelines are available from Brown BOOKS and ABC Centre in the Village Centre, Batemans Bay; Eurobodalla Adult Education Centre, 42 Orient Street, Batemans Bay; Eurobodalla and Bigo Shire Libraries and from the PerfEx website www.perfex.org.au



members coming on board and hopefully we get to meet you all before too long.



President's Message

Unfortunately, I have not been able to find a successor for my position as President, so for the seven months that I'm away, swanning around the Americas and Canada, thankfully, Dave Harding will be in charge. Having put the plans in place for the Literary and Photography Awards, we are deliberately opting for a quieter year. However, Dave really needs another voice on the ESC Infrastructure and Hanging Rock Committees as I will not be here. It is not an onerous position, in that we meet very infrequently, but an ability to speak up when necessary is essential. So, if you feel you could help, please come forward. It is important that PerfEx members get behind Dave in this. You might think that you as an individual can't make a difference, but believe you me, you can. At this crucial stage, we need to ensure that the right sort of Centre is built! Once the options go on public display, please write letters to the paper, attend the appropriate Council meetings, or write to the Councillors and the Mayor. We need our members to speak up for the arts, please!!!

Thank you all again for your continued support and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM as I won't see you again for a while.

Warm wishes to you all
Hasta la vista!

Jeannie & Dave

PerfEx Photography Awards

PerfEx is holding its Inaugural Photography Competition during the *River of Art* in May, 2013 with the theme 'Music' which will require the artists' interpretation of this subject. So the photographers amongst you need to get your creative juices flowing! This is the brainchild of PerfEx Member Jan Draper, but we are thrilled that the Eurobodalla Photographic Club is coming on board as well. Our special thanks to Colin Pass who is producing the Guidelines and Rules of Entry and to member Ray Sillett and his team who will actually see to the hanging and display of the entries. We are very hopeful of being able to use premises in the Village Centre and as soon as this is finalised, more details will be available. Jan is being assisted by Bianca Dopson of Bianca Dopson Photography and Di Gee. So special thanks to these ladies too.



PerfEx AGM

I hope to see as many members as possible at our PerfEx AGM to be held on 26th February at the Community Centre, Batemans Bay in the small meeting room commencing at 6.30pm. There will be two Committee changes this year as Carmel Brophy is unfortunately standing down as Secretary after four years in this position and Jan Draper is also standing down after two years as Treasurer. Jan wants to focus more on the creative side of PerfEx, hence the Photography Awards which will take her energies for the next few months. Thank you girls, you've done a great job for us! I'd also like to thank our Auditor Colin Schofield for keeping us honest for another year!

New Members

We are very pleased to welcome four new financial members - Marion and Henk Roubos-Bennett, Clare Cavanagh, Rhonda McKechnie and Lindsay Hunt. It's wonderful to have new

The 2012 PerfEx committee is:

Jeannie Brewer (President)

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Dave Harding (Vice President)

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Carmel Brophy (Secretary)

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Jan Draper (Treasurer)

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Noreen Ralston Birchall (Committee Member and Fundraising co-ordinator)

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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