



Robbie Burns is well and truly installed in his new home!

To the skirl of the pipes, the refurbished Robbie Burns statue was officially installed in the foyer of the Shire Offices by Premier Baillieu on Friday 27th January! A large crowd gathered, including a group of nurses quietly defending their working conditions and the health of the community. Burns himself - a lover of egalitarian causes and social justice - would probably have worn a red ribbon in support of their cause. He may even have penned a line or two!

The new Shire offices were also officially opened and the doors were thrown open to the public for viewings led by staff members. The new offices are airy and very comfortable. The public reception area is also flanked by some meeting rooms and offices which allow space for ratepayers who may need privacy in their consultation with staff members.

The gardens outside the offices - a source of varying opinion around the town - looked well on the day. While some residents mourned the passing of a tree on the corner, others applauded the adventurous design.

I find it a very interesting space and personally I'm delighted that we have used a local designer - William Martin from Noorat- to create the new look! I also like a whiff of controversy about artwork and this garden landscape is healthily thought provoking!

Gail Watson - Editor

The above photo is of the stonemason, Smiley Williams with the renovated Robbie Burns.

Congratulations to Peter Daffy and Luke Plumb

Congratulations to Peter Daffy and Luke Plumb on having their CD so favourably reviewed in the Weekend Australian's Review page on Saturday 7th January. Peter is the leader of the Tune A Week Group which meets each Wednesday afternoon during school term in the Corner Room at 5.30pm. Tune a Week is open to musicians of all ages who play or are beginning to play an instrument. The group features celtic music. If you wish to be part of this group, please phone Pete on 0417 379 859 to confirm details.



Hello to all Corangamite Arts members

Welcome to the first Arts Matter of 2012

A letter from the newly elected President Chris Maguire

The year is going to start off on a positive note, with the restoration and relocation of Camperdown's Robert Burns statue to the foyer of Shire Offices in Manifold Street. The contribution of the community to this project shows the pride that people have in our local heritage. As someone who takes extreme pride in their Scottish descent I would like to congratulate literature. Hopefully, this event will become a permanent and expanded fixture in the arts calendar of the shire.

The last meeting of 2011 was held in Terang where Fiona Pugh's students gave a concert and the Josie Black encouragement awards were presented. It is very satisfying being part of an organisation that promotes with optimism the youth of the community.

There have been some slight changes made at committee level:

We now have two vice-presidents in Marion Manifold and Gail Watson. Thanks Marion for helping with a smooth transition to the president's role. Lyn McLean has taken on the secretary's role from Lynn McDonald. Thanks to Pam Redgewell (Treasurer) Berice Jones (Minutes Secretary) Eve Black and Fiona Pugh for taking on committee positions .

Thank you to all who have taken on roles on the committee. It all takes a lot of time and commitment.

Chris Maguire: President

The first meeting of Corangamite Arts this year will be held on Saturday Feb 11th in the Corner Room, Cnr Bath and Little Manifold Sts, Camperdown at 10am. Members are welcome to attend. Apologies to Lyn McLean: 5593 1959

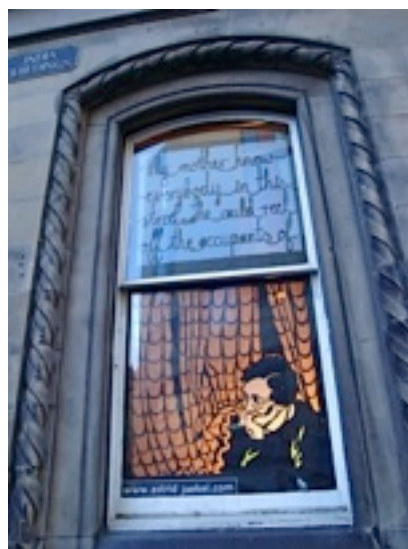
A snippet from Don & Angela in Scotland

A photo from members Angela Preiss and Don Grieve who are currently in Scotland. This photo was taken on a visit to the Edinburgh Writers Centre.

The artist is astrid jaekel. To see more of her work, check out her website www.astridjaekel.com.

This is one of a series of window artworks - not stained glass as I first thought - but paper art. I could imagine using local art in this way on the inside of windows of the Corner Room.

Anyone who has any ideas about creating ephemeral artworks for the windows, please contact Gail Watson on 5593 3388 or speak to any of the committee members.



Camperdown Theatre Company Puppets

Congratulations to Puppet Master Ellie Blackney and the Corangamite Theatre Puppetry Group who performed so well at the Camperdown Christmas Carols and Cobden New Year's Eve celebrations. Future performances are planned for the Uniting Church Festival and the Lakes & Craters Festival. Anyone interested in joining this enthusiastic group, please ring Lyn Mclean on 5593 1959.



Farewell to Camperdown Doctors Tony Brown and Ruth Stewart

The arts community and the community as a whole are saddened by the move of these two dynamic and hardworking doctors to the tablelands of northern Queensland. Ruth and Tony have been fantastic patrons of the arts in this Shire, as late as 2010 opening their garden to the community to celebrate the work they had commissioned by local stonewaller and sculptor - Alastair Tune. Ruth with her passion for writing, instigated a wonderful poetry evening for people of all ages in the community a few years ago. Ruth and Tony have also had a very long and active involvement in the Camperdown Theatre Company. We will miss them both greatly, but we also wish them the very best in their new ventures. We thank them sincerely for all that they have given to this community.

A taste of what's on offer in Corangamite and surroundings

Camperdown Theatre Company

Auditions for the play Dimboola

will be held on Sunday 5th February at 2.30pm and Mon 6th of February at 7.30pm
Auditions will be held at the Gallery, Theatre Royal, Camperdown for the well known play Dimboola by Jack Hibberd. Needed: a cast of sixteen (Over 18 years)

For more information contact: Lyn McLean 5593 1959 or Andrew O'Flynn 5593 1392

Dimboola

Director Cameron McAdam

"It's awful," says Maureen Delaney, the just-married bride, in tears at the chaos around her. "No worries," says her nervous new husband Morrie McAdam. Their fractious reception is under way in a tiny Mechanics' Institute hall in Dimboola. Relatives are throwing punches, the priest is drunkenly reciting dirty limericks, Astrid, the bridesmaid, has wet her pants and as Uncle Horrie the life of the party arrives late he refers to everyone as a "pack of possums" because they have started without him.

'Dimboola', a play by Jack Hibberd and first performed in 1969, is an outrageously funny celebration of a wedding between Maureen and Morrie. As the audience (or guests) arrive they are greeted by the parents and welcomed, Dangles the sleezy best man is attempting to kiss all the women in the room, and then as 'Lionel Driftwood and the Pile Drivers' strike up 'Here comes the Bride' the bride and groom enter and the fun begins.

Amongst the wedding meal the wedding party and family members deal with various disasters, unruly relatives, vulgar gate crashers Mutton and Bayonet create havoc as they berate and then seduce members of the family and take on the role of government inspectors of the "Amber Fluid Act", much to the embarrassment of his wife Uncle Horrie gets the night moving with songs and gags, MC Father O'Shea can't remember the names of the bride and groom, the father's scuffle, and Aunt Aggie looks down her nose at the nights events.

The play paints an ugly picture of Australian life in the late 1960s where a veneer of the lucky country with 'No worries', was unveiled to reveal casual sexism, sexual hypocrisy, religious bigotry, entrenched binge drinking, and the inevitable aggression and violence. Believe it or not, more Australians have seen Dimboola than any other stage musical, comedy or straight play. The play, is well known, includes lots of audience participation and people come looking for a great adult night out.

Director: Cameron McAdam

Production Manager: Rebecca Bradshaw

Provisional performance dates: Friday & Saturday May 18th and 19th
Friday & Saturday 25th and 26th

Stay tuned for more news!

Thursday Pictures - autumn season

In this its second year, the Society will be experimenting with a new double screening format to bring twice as many films for the same price. Members can now choose to come to the 7pm screening, or the later screening or to both films and enjoy the supper in between.

First Screenings for the year are:

2 February 2012	at 7pm sharp:	Of Gods and Men (France 2010)
	9.30pm	Beneath Hill 60 (Australia 2010)
1 March 2012	at 7pm sharp:	The Illusioniste (France - Scotland 2010)
	8.50 pm	Monsieur Hulot's Holiday (France 1953)

Become a member of Corangamite Film Society

Become a member by paying an annual membership fee of \$50. This fee covers full membership for the 2012 calendar year and entitles members to admission to 5 film-nights (up to 10 films) across the year including supper. A \$95 subscription entitles members to admission to all film screenings. For membership forms email: [thursdaypictures@gmail](mailto:thursdaypictures@gmail.com) or phone 0407 931 457, or pay cash at the door on any screening night. Post membership forms with money order or cheque to: Corangamite Film Society, PO Box 89 CAMPERDOWN VIC 3260

Corangamite Writers Group

will have its first meeting for 2012 on Saturday Feb 4th at 1.30pm in the Corner Room, Theatre Royal, Cnr Bath and Manifold Sts, Camperdown. The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month during school holidays. All ages are welcome! \$5 per session
Enquiries: Gail Watson 5593 3388

Leura Literati BOOK CLUB CAMPERDOWN

meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Commercial Hotel Bistro at 6.30pm for a meal (optional) before commencing the book discussion which begins around 7pm There are currently several vacancies in the group. Anyone wishing to join please contact the Group Secretary Jan Ellis on 5593 2143 Mob: 0408366803 This month's book: *Jewels and Ashes* by Arnold Zable

Johnston Collection Lectures

Writing Your Family History with Glenda Banks

Wednesday 28th March 2012, 10.15m - 12.45pm Cost: \$30 - concessions do not apply.

Glenda is the author of seven non-fiction books. She has just finished an historical novel based on the experiences of Victoria's mid-19th century goldfields women as described in found diaries, journals, family histories and site records.

For more information about this and other events organised by the Friends of the Johnston

Collection: phone 9416 2515 email: info@johnstoncollection.org

web: www.johnstoncollection.org

The Cobden Painting Group meets on Thursdays during school term. Cost: \$20 per term.

If interested in joining the group, please phone Gwen Benallack on 5593 1645 to confirm meeting times and dates.

The All Age Textiles Day will recommence on Saturday 28th April in St Paul's Parish Hall, Church St, Camperdown. All welcome. Gold coin donation. Show and Tell Day More to come!

Thanks to Karen Redlich for the work she did taking after school art classes for primary school children last year. Congratulations on her new position in the Camperdown library where she stills manages to catch up with some of her students.

Camperdown Lakes & Craters Festival

Fri 16 - Sun 18th March 2012

Groups and individuals are welcome to take part and attend.
Let's make this a great Festival!

Fri 16th March St Pat's Fun Run

Saturday 17th March 11.30am Street Parade and Best Decorated
Bike competition
Assembly point: Bath St ,11 am

Saturday Market: The Avenue

Sat 17th - Sunday 18th March 10am - 4pm

Theatre Royal Table Setting Competition

Theme "Wine and Food" or just "good fun". Tables can be supplied and set up Friday evening 4.30 - 6pm or between 8.30 - 9.30 am Saturday morning

Sat 17th - Sunday 18th March

Display in the Theatre Royal

Your organisation is invited to set up a display or demonstrate your activities in the Theatre. Send your application in early to secure a place.

Sunday Cycle Criterion: The Avenue Camperdown

Sunday Bus Tour of historic sites

To register activities: phone Pat Robertson 5593 1104 for registration forms
The Lakes & Craters' Festival is co-ordinated by the Rotary Club of Camperdown Inc.

Stay posted for new activities!

Corangamite Arts supports the Lakes & Craters Festival. If any member could assist in any of the following ways, please phone Gail on 5593 3388:

- 2 or 3 people to supervise a childrens' art & craft table,
- someone to face paint,
- others to help with a "making music" session - Corangamite Arts has percussion and other instruments
- artists to demonstrate their work
- any other art based activities!

The Corner Room could be made available for displays or sales of members' art works if any member is interested.

Printmaking Workshop Report

Thank you to Marion Manifold for a wonderful printmaking workshop held late last November. As always Marion's generosity imparting her knowledge, sharing her presses and her materials is overwhelming. Every participant comes away feeling inspired. The experience includes not only the business of printmaking, but the joy of working in the beautiful old Wiridjil Homestead surrounded by the embryonic works of one of Australia's leading printmakers.





Acting Classes Camperdown

Tuesdays

14th of February to the 27th of March

Primary aged class 3.30 - 4.30pm

Teens/ Adults Class 5 - 6pm

\$65 for a seven week term

**St. Paul's Church Hall, Church St.,
Camperdown**

**This class teaches real theatre skills, develops
strong communication, group work capabilities
and it all happens while you're having fun!**

**If you or your child have a flair for the dramatic,
would like to be more expressive or want a fun
way to be physically and mentally active for an
hour a week, this is the class for you.**

**Ask anyone who attended last term -
we had a blast!**

**For bookings or further information call Enat
Atherden on 0428584792 or
email kolakgenat@yahoo.com.au**

DRAMA CAMP REPORT 2012 BY JACOB "VIJILANTEE" PUGH

From 16th January til 20th I attended the Victorian Drama League Summer School in Ashwood in Melbourne.

A mixture of people from Melbourne and rural areas attended. I was billeted with Daniel from Gisbourne and Rebecca from Sunbury. We stayed with the Watt family, Joanne, Xavier, Dominic, Oliver and Nichol who are really into theatre and are members of the local Hartwell Theater Company. Joanne also runs a Dance and Drama school near their house, which is where we had classes each day. We walked to classes each day.

We did an array of things such as clowning, monologues, dance and singing etc. We were taught by 5 different teachers with different expertise.

On Wednesday, we toured theatres such as La Mama's, 45 Downstairs and Her Majesty's. At Her Majesty's we got to go on the actual stage, which was pretty dope! La Mama's and 45 Downstairs were fairly intimate and nicely air conditioned, which was good relief after walking all over Melbourne the whole day in the heat. On one day, we went to the Carrum beach which was good to cool off as well. On the Thursday, myself, the Host son and his dad went to the Big Bash which was a good cricket game at the MCG.

We did our showcase on the final day. We did our dance to "Consider Yourself", did our monologues – mine was a character from the play *Cosi*. It was an extract of the psychopathic pyromaniac Doug, which was interesting and fun, because I took on the role as a very intimidating character, so it was very unpredictable which was a great asset to have during the performance. We did other cold reading scenes and stuff. To end it all, we did the song "Thirteen" from the musical "Thirteen" which was a good way to end the whole experience.

Thank you to Joanne Watt and everyone else at the Victorian Drama League for making it a worthwhile thing to do during the holidays.

I recommend any aspiring actors/singers/dancers etc. to attend next year because you will get a lot out of it.

Thanks to Jacob for this great report. Jacob is one of Gnat Atherden's drama students and an award winning rap poet.

Jacob will be performing at Blarney Books, Port Fairy on 25th February @ 7pm Go and see him in action!

Here's something tantalising for lovers of Persian art and poetry:

Geelong Gallery Friday 3rd Feb (this Friday) 11am

Susan Scollay Garden of Love: Persian poetry & its admirers

As part of the First Fridays lecture program hosted by the Friends of the Gallery, join noted art historian and specialist in Islamic culture, Susan Scollay, for an illustrated lecture in which she explores the beauty of Persian poetry and the vibrant tales of human and divine love that have been told in the Persian cultural sphere for centuries.

The lecture will also provide a preview of rare manuscripts from the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, that are brought to Australia for the first time in 2012 as part of the State Library of Victoria's major international exhibition, *Love and devotion: from Persia and beyond* (on display at the SLV from 9 March to 1 July 2012)

This lecture is a joint Geelong Gallery and State Library of Victoria event.

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: Members \$10; Non-members \$12

(includes morning tea from 10.30am)

Image:

The marriage of Yusuf and Zulaykha (detail), from Jami, *Yusuf u Zulaykha*, 1595
Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford

Boite Annual Music Festival at Daylesford 13 – 15 January from Fiona Pugh

Some of you may be familiar with The Boite, based in Collingwood who promote community music and choirs, and world music. They hold this annual Festival, and run the Millennium Choir Festival for community and school choirs in August each year, and hold weekly performances from a range of artists at St. Mark's in Fitzroy.

My sons, Jacob aged 12 and Ari aged 6 and I all enrolled and had a wonderful weekend of music, camping at Jubilee Camp ground with other attendees.

Jacob participated in the Hip-hop workshop with Yung Philly, a rapper/MC from Melbourne; Shani, a break dancer from Bendigo and Andrea Khouza, who runs a hip-hop choir in Melbourne. The group also learnt beat boxing. They performed that night at the Daylesford Town Hall and had huge audience reaction. Jacob performed a 'freestyle' (improvised) rap with Yung Philly which he really enjoyed. Jacob also went to song writing workshops with Geoffrey Williams, who ghost wrote a song for Michael Jackson!

Ari went to Daylesford Primary School and learnt circus skills with Ruckus Circus and African Drumming and dance with King Marong and Valanga Khouza. His group performed at the final concert on their djembes and King Marong on drums.

I went to workshops with Stephen Tabener, amazing spooky choirman! from Sydney and did vocal improvisation with Andrea Khouza. Ego Leste, a well known musician and permaculturalist from East Timor taught us songs and dances. I also went to a kinesiology session where we worked on our mouth, lips and nose. It was a real workout! and we now have a new awareness of how our mouths, noses and lips not only affect our voice production, but also our whole bodies! Try doing pelvic tilts and rolling your eyeballs back and forward!

There were also lots of concerts and performers to attend. The Red Tent singers from Warrnambool also performed there with other community choirs from around Victoria. It was a great weekend and something we should all do more often!

Thanks to Fiona for this report and for all she does for music in the Shire.

Photography

Corangamite photographers will be "Klicking" again this February. For information about joining this group please contact Belinda Bennet on 0409 535 408. Rumour has it the Klickers have done some very interesting photography, which may be on display at the Lakes & Craters Festival.

If photography is your thing then don't miss ***ABC OPEN Up Close competition***. The competition closes on 26th February. You've still got time! Website for details: <http://open.abc.net.au/projects/up-close> Have a look at what others are doing or have a go yourself!

Celebrate Greening Australia's 30 years of action and 10 years of protective on groundwork on the ***borrell a kandelop*** project on World Wetlands Day Thursday Feb 2nd at Leslie Manor Homestead. The borrell-a-kandelop photo competition entries will be on display at the homestead where winners will be announced.

For more details - phone GAV Colac 5231 6190

The Annual Ball Fashion Parade

Congratulations to Dorothy Nicol from Lismore on a stunning fashion parade at the Theatre Royal last November. Auspiced by the Lismore Progress Association with support from Corangamite Shire and Corangamite Arts, the parade was spectacular, supported by young and old alike. Keep an eye open for a follow up ball to be held at the Lismore Hall this year. A great community event and a wonderful opportunity to frock up!

Check out the photos from the event on Reginal Arts Victoria's (RAV) website: homeiswherethehallis.com/ The models, ushers, comperes, musicians, Dorothy and the Theatre Royal itself all starred on the night. Thank you to Dorothy and her helpers from Lismore for a spectacular evening!

As always, thanks to Corangamite Shire for assisting with the printing of Arts Matter

