

The Moe Arts Council PO Box 292 Newborough 3825

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Send any articles, profiles, quotes exhibition info and more to
artfxpaint@netspace.net.au or Phone me on 0409 436 268
You can even send it via Australia Post.

regards Sharon Anderson

MOARTZ inc
ABN 68 398 033 963

Georgia O'Keefe

'To create one's own world in any of
the arts takes courage.'

Presidents report for 2008 Graham Scott

This year has seen the committee and particularly the executive engaged in some strategic decisions and actions. The negotiations for these are great soakers up of time and effort. And paper. We all seem to have bulging files nowadays.

Alongside these have been some heartwarming arts activities and Moartz Theatre has only just finished an outstanding season of Dimboola. More of that later.

Our next general meeting will be in the Moe Community Arts Hub, so named to ensure that our use of this facility reflects our aims as an Arts organization. We wanted a space to store our Theatre props and equipment; the council wanted some arts activities in the Moe Heights Neighbourhood and we have come to an agreement to help organize that here. As there was no place to store our large flats we wrote a submission for a minor Capital Grant to enclose the front verandah. As we can see we have been successful in that. I would like to place on record our appreciation of the support and interest shown in this project by the Council Building Maintenance Department. They have been extremely helpful.

The Committee also set up a working party to investigate the potential development of the Uniting Church and its environs as a Community Arts Centre. We can now report that their efforts have been successful and that Moartz will be working collaboratively with Moe Life Skills to develop an arts focused program for the site. Stay tuned for future developments. And huge commendations to the working party on their efforts

At the launch of the Moe Community Arts Hub here in early September Sharon and Jeanette put together an exciting program of arts activities that really did involve the local community. Elizabeth Street School had a choir, it had winners in the art competition and the parents and friends who came to see and hear the acts were very impressed. Who could forget the singing and accompanying guitar from Moe Life Skills and the empathy shown by Spotto the Clown with her younger charges. All in all it set the place in the minds of the local people as a supportive and inviting environment. We hope to continue that theme.

Dimboola finally hit the road, literally, and has been an amazing success story. Firstly Richard and his cast have to be commended for putting on a play with such verve and excitement. Secondly it is one of the few plays which has been toured around to other small country towns. They loved the occasion and supported it well. Moartz Theatre is seen as an enterprising get-up-and-do-it operation. It is almost their brand now. The show was made for just such a tour, but the way the cast and crew did it was really professional. We dips our lids to them all.

Graham Scott

Moartz Committee

President - Graham Scott
Secretary - Sharon Anderson
Treasurer - Jeanette Teague

Ordinary Committee members: Kathy Ross, Violet O'Donnell, Lauren Perkins, Helena Phillips, John Teague

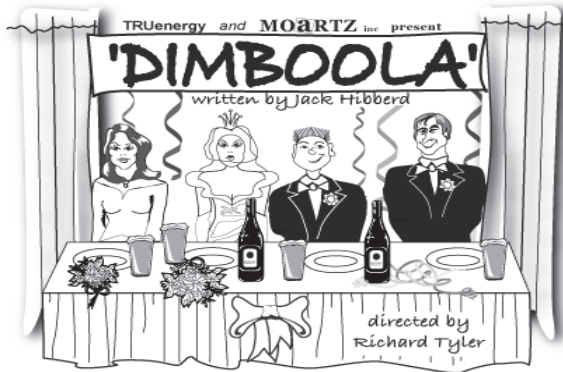
Meeting Date for 2008

MOARTZ
General Meeting
& artist talk

Tuesday 16th Dec
2008 @ 7.30pm

at 33 Elizabeth street Moe
John Mutsaers will be telling
us all about his creative
ventures both overseas
and in Oz

please RSVP Sharon Ph 51276163
or email artfxpaint@netspace.net.au



Moartz Theatre's season of "Dimboola" by Australian playwright, Jack Hibberd was an outstanding success.

We had 826 people see the seven performances across six venues in Moe, Warragul, Yallourn North, Mirboo North and Newborough. The logistics of moving the show around to different venues was a real challenge but well worth the effort as the patrons embraced the show for it's difference (to our normal format), the meal aspect and the fact that "Dimboola" was a well renowned play.

We partnered with four community groups being Lowanna Chaplaincy Committee and Rotary Club of Moe who provided the meal and bar at Yallourn North and Newborough venues and the Mirboo North Chaplaincy Committee and Cricket Club of Mirboo Nth who, likewise provided the meal and bar at the Mirboo North show. It was a bonus to partner with these community groups and see the funds raised (from meals and drinks) go into community purposes.

"Dimboola" was a financial success with just over \$9,000 profit being made which was gratifying after all the hard work and after the disappointment of the previous 4 shows that have made small losses.

Thanks must go to the fabulous team that made "Dimboola" possible:
 Director Richard Tyler, 16 cast members; Julie Strini, Bruce Mapperson, John Teague, Judy Gray, John Lord, Maree Adams, John Black, Annette O'Shea, Payge & Jasmine O'Shea, Cameron Cook, Krissi Thomas, Kathy Ross, Bruce Beamish, Lawrie Fildes and Aron Toman, Band members; Bill Lawler, Ray Woolley, Carl Ross and Chris Bishoff, Production Team: stage manager Andrew Hood, props manager Linda Beamish, stage hand Allie Kohana, assistant to the Director, Carmel Tyler, photography & assistant to the production manager, Dot Teague, front of house display Annemieke Van Vliet, poster & programme design Sharon Anderson (Art FX), costumes Judy Gray & Kathy Ross.

Finally thanks to our generous sponsors who also helped make the show a success:
 TRUenergy, Moe RSL, LV Express, Wesfarmers Federation Insurance, Moe Veterinary Centre, Hot FX Digital Imaging, Turfside Function Centre, Sage Technology, John Kerr Real Estate, Safetech, Bendigo Bank, Latrobe City, Pazazz Printing, Art FX Sharon Anderson, The Wren's Nest, Trak Music, Moe Amcal Pharmacy, LV Cake Supply, Rotary Club of Moe, Lowanna & Mirboo Nth Chaplaincy committees and Lilly Pilly Flower Boutique who did a fabulous job being our main ticket seller.

Jeanette Teague (Production Manager)

Moartz Inc. is delighted to announce that we have successfully partnered with Moe Life Skills Community Centre Inc. to purchase the former Moe Uniting Church at Langford Street in Moe. Both groups successfully tendered for the sale of the property on 25th November and the results were known later that day. We are currently in the settlement period and will own the church and church hall on or about 25th March 2009.

The purchase marks the beginning of a new and exciting phase of Moartz's existence and an opportunity to further live up to our mission: "to be the catalyst for all manner of arts related activity in the community".

The combined vision (of Moartz and Moe Life Skills) is for the church and Wesley Hall to become a community arts centre that will be able to be accessed by the wider community to practice their interests in the arts. The hall, which has a stage will become the "home" and base of both Moartz Theatre and MLS's Curtains for Certain Theatre ensemble. The vision for the church is for it to become a studio and sometimes gallery to promote and practice the visual arts.

One of the most exciting aspects of the project is the partnership between us and Moe Life Skills and the opportunity to combine our activities on occasion and involve participants of MLS in community based pursuits of the arts.

Early in 2009 (once the sale goes through) we will publicly announce the project and begin to gather community support and seek grants to refurbish the centre.

A combined meeting of Moartz & MLS is planned for March (date to be advised) where the wider membership of both groups will get together to get to know each other and to brainstorm ideas for the future of the Community Arts Centre. Please keep an eye out for this date and come along to share your ideas.

33 Elizabeth Street Moe

As most of our members already know Moartz is currently leasing a residence at Elizabeth Street in Moe. We have our meetings there and it is also storing the growing sets and costumes, props etc for Theatre.

In September Moartz held a 'Welcome Arts to the Neighborhood' event which was a great success with a sausage sizzle, artist demonstrations, music and theatre performances. We allowed the local people know who we are and what we are doing. It was a great day.

