

# LANE COVE MUSIC AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

## DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT: 2009-2010

### — Music Program:

The music program numbers during the course of 2010 have increased from an average of 130 to a present enrolment of 180 (including an estimate for Yasuki Nakamura's students). Despite these increased numbers, we still have studio space available on Thursday and in 2011 we anticipate hiring an additional piano teacher.

The Suzuki program introduced late in 2009 has developed well over the last 12 months, with approximately 40 piano students and 10 guitar students. The guitar students have attended graduations at the Sydney Opera House and we expect the piano students will be presenting for graduation by the end of 2011.

#### Staff Movements:

Cheri Valaray, Justine Brown and Kathy Harcus have all moved on. Replacement teachers have been put in place to ensure continuity for all students. New teachers are Joshua Watson teaching the clarinet and saxophone, and Verna Lee teaching the harp.

#### Exam Results:

Justine Brown's clarinet students did exceptionally well in their recent exams, all achieving A or B+. Pamela Hinde's piano students had exceptional results as well. Judith Turner's vocal students participated in a number of eisteddfods and her piano student, Matthew Stow, achieved an A+ in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, an outstanding result.

#### New Equipment:

We have purchased two new music stands, two piano stools and two foot stools. Visitors to the Centre will see our newly lined black wool curtain surrounding the stage area, offering easy privacy for stage teaching and eliminating the heavy screens used over the last 15 years. Along with the painting of the studios and installation of additional soundproofing, staff are very happy with the improvements.

#### Student Concerts:

This Student Recital Series was sponsored by a community financial assistance grant from Lane Cove Council. Funding of this series has been much appreciated, ensuring access to accompanist services, suppers and guest artists. We would like to thank Lane Cove Council for their generosity as this program continues to flourish and serve the local community. During 2009/10, eight student recitals were presented to large and enthusiastic audiences of parents, siblings, grandparents and visitors. These recitals continue to showcase our students from absolute beginners making their very first public appearance to our finest Diploma students.

#### Recitals:

Recitals during 2009/10 have been given by Newcastle pianist Ross Fiddes with soprano Sue Carson and our guitar/piano tutor, Diego Idarraga. A special 'Thankyou Concert' is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> November as a tribute to the Lane Cove West Tennis Club for their most generous donation of \$50,000 for the provision of much-needed improvements to the building and equipment purchases. Details of these purchases are listed below in 'New Facilities'. The concert will be given by selected music staff and students.

## Art Program:

*Small Exhibition Series 2010:* There have been 13 solo and group exhibitions held at the Centre over the last 12 months including the following:

“The Long Journey” by Hong Si

“Age and Memory” - NSW Seniors Week

“Mysteries and Miracles – A Meditation on the Blue Mountains Heritage Area” by Elizabeth Chandler

“Chroma” by Margaret Wright and Judith Macreadie

“Landscapes” by Don Huemiller

“Sathrung” – Multicolours - Sadhana Desai – Indian Art

“Bateson on View” by Irene Bateson – presently on display

“Summertime” - Pat Wilson, Robyn Mah, Joyce Mills, Graham Wilson (final exhibition for 2010)

“Three Different Strokes” by Pat Wilson, Joy Archer and Katsumi Takahashi. This most recent exhibition “Three Different Strokes” sold 29 of the 70 art works displayed.

Art commissions to the Centre exceeded \$1649 in 2009. However, with only two quarters of this current year, we have already achieved \$1509, an indication that as the art exhibition series is developed, additional income can be achieved. The Small Exhibition Series for 2011 is fully booked out.

## Language Program:

Steven Mah continues to enthusiastically teach Mandarin at the Cultural Centre, although numbers are low due to Steven's limited availability. The program may be expanded in the future.

## Hall Bookings:

Bookings this financial year have come from the Aqualuna Choir, Suzuki Association, Yasuki Nakamura, John Philip, Toastmasters, Flute Connections and various other individual music teachers using the facility for their student concerts. In 2011, the Lane Cove Camera Club will move in to the Centre for meetings and workshops.

## Grants:

The Lane Cove Music and Cultural Association has been successful in a number of grant applications.

Local Government Grant from Lane Cove Council - \$1200 was received through the Community Financial Assistance Grants for our annual 8 student concerts.

State Government Grant for NSW Seniors Week 2010 – \$400 for a seniors' Art Exhibition.

State Government 2009/10 – Positive Ageing grant of \$6820 for a Community Mosaic Project which will culminate in 2011.

State Government Grant for NSW Community Building Partnership for Infrastructure for \$10,000 was successful for recarpeting the whole building, including new vinyl/linoleum floors.

An application has been submitted to the NSW Climate Change Fund for Public Facilities Program Community Savers, for environmentally sustainable water use by way of new rainwater tanks, new toilets and taps. If successful, we will achieve a 95% saving on water usage at the Centre. In addition to new shade facilities for the deck and taps and toilets, we employed Environmental Scientist specialist Bronwyn Cumbo to assist with this application.

A Positive Ageing Grant application for 2010/11 was not successful.

## **New Facilities:**

As mentioned above, the Lane Cove West Tennis Club donated \$50,000 to the Association. This donation enabled us to proceed with a number of improvements to the building, and to purchase much-needed equipment.

Studio and office painting - \$4000

Acoustic panels for studios - \$800

New laptop computer for Robyn - \$2400

New router for the office - \$329

Miscellaneous, including vacuum cleaner part and piano stools - \$200

Window tinting on studios - \$1000

Music stands - \$500

New black wool lined stage curtain - \$2574

100 new black upholstered chairs for auditorium - \$9069

New LED art lights supply and install- \$2000

New stage step/platform - \$800

Further purchases will be made in 2011 such as a new computer for the office, a silent practice drum kit to enable us to expand the music program to include percussion, an additional upright piano for Studio 3 and a new retractable awning for over the deck.

Unused funds from this donation have been invested in Term Deposit accounts until such time as they are needed.

## **Building Matters:**

In 2009 Lane Cove Council completed an asbestos audit, and commenced removal of asbestos from the building. To date, the electrical meter box and board have been replaced. Asbestos tiles have been removed and replaced with vinyl. Some minor asbestos sheeting under the deck still requires painting. Donald Gibson from Lane Cove Council is co-ordinating this process.

A new beaut footpath noticeboard has been provided by Lane Cove Council for the Centre. It includes a locked, magnetic notices cases plus clear signage for the centre. This noticeboard is very much appreciated by the community and enables us to have street frontage promotion for all our events, recitals and exhibitions, as well as promoting other community groups such as Aqualuna Choir and the Lane Cove Camera Club who are currently based within the centre.

## **Cracking New Website for the Centre:**

In 2009 the CCD -Community Cultural Development folded due to funding issues and we were fortunate enough to win the bid for their \$10,000 extensively developed website. Robyn is currently working with Nick Boyde, a Hong Kong and Sydney-based web page developer, who we have contracted over the next 6 months to develop the site for us. [lanecovemusicandculturalcentre.com](http://lanecovemusicandculturalcentre.com) should be up and running by May 2011.