

Tel: 9685 3757

web-site: www.operasociety.org.au

October 2018

email: operasociety@bigpond.com PO Box 389 South Melbourne 3205

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Spring is here; the gardens are glorious and the Opera Season is starting!

Enclosed is a Booking Form for our end of year Christmas Lunch at the Windsor Hotel on Thursday December 6^{th} – a festive occasion not to be missed with entertainment courtesy of Opera Australia.

The next important item is the Membership Renewal for 2019. There is no increase in the subscription fees again this year so perhaps members could consider making a tax deductible donation to Opera Society Donation Fund. All donations go towards providing training for emerging young singers and the recipients of recent scholarships have benefitted greatly from our support. Our current scholarship holder, Stephen Marsh, was a finalist in a very even and talented group of singers in the 2018 Herald Sun Aria competition but although he sang beautifully he was outclassed by a lovely soprano.

On payment of your membership subscription, the appropriate number of dress rehearsal vouchers will be posted to you. In January, when we have been advised by Opera Australia of the dress rehearsals which will be made available to our members in 2019, we will send you the details so you can then make your dress rehearsal bookings. In 2019 the Opera Society will sponsor "Rigoletto" one of operas outstanding and much loved Verdi opera so hopefully that will be one of the dress rehearsals next year.

The Insight we had hoped to bring to members before the performance of Metamorphosis was unable to be finalised much to our disappointment. Enclosed is some information from The Richard Wagner Society regarding talks before "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" for those of our members who are attending this wonderful opera.

During the year we lost a long standing former Committee Member and loyal supporter Rose Levin who was a wonderful member of our team and a great raffle ticket seller. For many years Rose organised the volunteers who man our table at the State Theatre before each Opera Australia opera so we are very keen to hear from any members who may be available to man our table and if more information on the role is required please ring the office on 9685 3757 between 10.30 am and 1.30 pm on weekdays and we will let you know more about what this important voluntary position entails.

The construction of the building which will be Opera Australia's new Melbourne home is on schedule so we should be back in our old spot in City Road/Fawkner Street Southbank by the end of 2019. All the office volunteers are cheering!

Valma.

Valma Allaway PRESIDENT