

# The BACKDROP

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## **RIP Ellie Greenwich**

Not a direct impact of course on anyone at BTC; but nevertheless sad to note the passing recently in New York from a heart attack of Ellie Greenwich – the fabulous song-writer who was the subject of our 2009 musical ‘Leader of the Pack’. Only 68 - so you’d think before her time – but the legacy of her hit songs will remain for a long, long time. O’ that we all could contribute so well in our field of endeavour; but the least we can do is our numbers at Raffetys with extra gusto in homage to one talented and gutsy lady.

## **RAFFETYs 2009**

As we all know by now – this much anticipated night will be on **FRIDAY OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>** Rehearsals have been going for a couple of weeks and already the two medleys (one a Beatles and the other a Lerner/Loewe) are sounding pretty good – provided of course the predominance of men don’t get too enthusiastic. We will also be doing four numbers from ‘Leader of the Pack’ – obviously with a bit more conviction given the above sad news. Others are working on a variety of other numbers to fill out the program with practice for our skit - ‘Vicar of Devenish 2’ to commence soon : )

## **Carols By Candlelight**

Practice for group and other items will take place mainly in November (depending on overlaps with any of the Raffety’s stuff : ) but this promises to be a re-invigorated and enjoyable evening for both performers and public with the input of the new ‘creative team’.

Emily also advises that an old friend from the 90’s in Corrine Bujard-Delaney (she was in South Pacific and a couple of others) will be in town come December. She sends her love and she will be hoping to catch up with us all around then.

## **Shows for 2010 and 2011**

It’s with great pleasure and anticipation that we announce our musicals for the next two years. The reading sub-committee has spent a fair bit of time getting scripts/libretti for perusal and then sorting out what would be good shows to do from both a Benalla public perspective and what would fit best into the anticipated mix/ability of the company.

Two shows stood out from the pack as a 'good fit' and there was robust debate as to which we should do/try first; the deciding factor being BPACC availability next year – so the perhaps lesser known show will be tried first during only a 2 week run in 2010 (though perhaps only one less show??) We are therefore happy to announce that next year's musical will be '**White Christmas**'; and the year after we are planning to stage the evergreen '**Oklahoma**'.

These are sure to be both challenging and enjoyable shows for BTC – and for next year we are seeking **expressions of interest from Directors** who would like to be 'dreaming of a **White Christmas**' over what will be probably a hot Australian one in preparation for auditions that if all goes to plan will be held in February.

**Please contact Molly (0417 058 567) or Emily (0400 639 536) if you are; or know someone who is; interested in directing 'White Christmas' for BTC next year.**

'White Christmas' is a musical adaptation of the famous 1954 movie starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney amongst others; with a host of fabulous and famous Irving Berlin tunes padding out a tale of performing army buddies; singing sisters and a retired General in financial distress. It should be a hoot to do and appeal to our loyal Benalla audiences.

## **Other Stuff**

### **GRANT APPLICATION**

We have applied to the BRC council for a grant to install a hot water system at the hut. Hopefully successful so that the days of the urn (filling, connecting etc) will be past. If you know a good/obliging plumber who could help with installation 'at a reasonable price' : ) please contact someone on the committee.

### **BENALLA FESTIVAL PARADE**

We have decided (foolishly or otherwise : ) to put in some sort of float/item in the Benalla Festival Parade in November. The theme for the parade is 'Celebration of the Rose' or the 50<sup>th</sup> year thereof; so creative/willing types get your thinking hats on (a whole haep of Bette Midler look-alikes maybe??) – but closer to the day we'll be looking for participants to man or woman the mobile and melodic feast that will no doubt transpire with an absolute minimum of effort : )

### **ZONTA NIGHT – PICTURE PARADE**

The organisers of the Zonta Awards (on **Thursday Oct 15**) are looking to have a display of pictures from Zontas past. So if anyone has a good photo from one of the last 20 years (shock horror gasp – has it been that long !!!) please contact Molly and we'll see about getting together a contribution from BTC. There will certainly be a few good ones – though perhaps not all will or should make it to the public display : ) And lucky we didn't have a camera in the driveway of those Charles St flats several years ago Marty – though perhaps we could just put a full translation of the 'rabbit joke' on the display board instead ?? : )

So please contact Emily with any contributions (digital or hardcopy) you may have to the Oct 15 décor at The Gateway. And of course – if you'd like to go to either of the Awards Nights (Georgy or Zonta – see dates below) also contact Emily [briteiz41@yahoo.com](mailto:briteiz41@yahoo.com) 0400 639 536

## WANG PLAYERS & ALBURY

Wang Players are putting on 'Seven Little Australians' in Sept/October at the new theatre complex in Wangaratta (keep an ear out for a group from BTC that might bbe hoping to check this out : ) and Albury-Wodonga Theatre Co are doing Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast' from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September at the Albury Entertainment centre.

## HOLIDAYS

A few members will be taking holidays to thither and yon in the lead up to Christmas – so we hope you all have an enjoyable and safe time. Come back tanned, taut and terrific and ready to launch into the Christmas festivities or a huge 2010

## GET WELL

Get well wishes also to a few other members who have not had the best of health recently. No fun not being 100% but rest assured all your BTC friends are thinking of you.

## Important Dates

<b>Thurs Oct 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ZONTA Awards Night</b>
<b>Fri Oct 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Raffetys Night of Entertainment</b>
<b>Sat Oct 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Georgy Awards at Echuca</b>
<b>Sat Nov 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Benalla Parade Day 'Celebration of the Rose'</b>
<b>Sun Dec 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Legacy Widows at the Bowls Club</b>
<b>Sun Dec 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>Lodge Night</b>

**HUMOUR** A few interesting/amusing quotes plucked off the net : )

To err is human, to blame the next guy even more so.

The key to being a good manager is keeping the people who hate you away from those who are still undecided.

It may be that your whole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.

Today is the yesterday you worried about tomorrow.

Opportunity may knock only once, but temptation leans on the doorbell.

Nobody knows the age of the human race, but everybody agrees that it is old enough to know better.

There are two rules for success... 1) Never tell everything you know.....

Common sense is what tells you that the world is flat.

Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.

We live in an age when pizza gets to your home before the police.