

# The BACKDROP

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A 'better late than never' quick and easy December / New Year edition : )

## WHITE CHRISTMAS CURTAIN RAISER & AUDITIONS

In an effort to get things off on a less formal foot for the new decade; rather than straight into the sometimes daunting 'audition process' we will be holding this year a **Pre-Audition & Information Night Curtain-Raiser @ 7pm** at the Theatre Company Hut. **3rd February**.

Anyone wishing to audition or half interested in being involved with our 2010 musical 'White Christmas' - please come along.

We encourage both old and new members to come along; bring a friend or budding thespian or two; meet the Director and learn a little about the show, the rehearsal schedule, the expectations etc; but mostly what to expect at auditions and how to prepare for them.

The evening will go for just an hour and be followed by supper. We would expect anyone wishing to be part of the show to be there and it will be wonderful having our experienced members to welcome new members and encourage them to join us. We are trying to make the whole audition process a little less traumatic and hopefully this evening will do just that and also be lots of fun. **Wednesday 7pm February 3rd 2010. BTC Hut**

**Auditions themselves are 2pm-6pm and 730pm-10pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> February and 630pm-10pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> February at the Hut**

If people want to have a look at the script or more importantly book an audition time please **contact Emily - 0400 639 536 or 5762 3682 or [briteiz41@yahoo.com](mailto:briteiz41@yahoo.com)**

While this evening is primarily aimed at those who wish to strut the stage, it's never too early to remind people of the innumerable opportunities for involvement behind the scenes.

A Production Committee will be forming/meeting in the near future (thanks to those who have already volunteered services) to ensure we get to Opening Night and beyond in a semblance of order and preparedness : )

## Pre Christmas Stuff/Gigs

Thanks to all members of the company & choir who participated in any of our shows for the end of 2009 – another busy time. It's fair to say that even with the odd hiccup or two all were a resounding success and we can look forward to even bigger and better in 2010.

### Carols by Candlelight

Special thanks to the Carols organising sub-committee (Molly, Deb, Mary-Ann & Elaine); Jamie travelling up to MC and all the special item performers for the particular success of that evening; which saw a longer and more varied programme that was (we hope) more enjoyable for both patrons and performers. We had a few sound problems (necessitating all our 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' finesse being a tad lost : ) but with the earlier set-up; nice BBQ and good weather it was a very pleasant evening all round.



Some piccies from Carols by Candlelight at the gardens on Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Top L. The crew (with young audience) have a semi-nuanced bash at 'Go Tell It On the Mountain'

Top R. Di Feldtmann graces the stage for her song accompanied by Steve with obliging page turner and MC Jamie B (sans elf suit : ) looking on.

L. Only the floodlights outshone the 'Mariah Carey tribute quintet' with Molly looking angelic on piano and Steve searching belatedly for that G string.

Note to self – remember gaffer tape next year or paint brick black

### Carols up the Street

The usual band of 'wandering minstrels' caroused and carolled their way thither and yon along Bridge St in competition with various other groups and the street announcer. We had the usual sprinkling of appreciative 'stoppers-by' and were even worthy of a piccie in the Ensign but 'Jingle Bell Rock' was starting to wear a bit thin by lunchtime : )

### Legacy Widows

A portion of the Raffetys program plus a selection of Carols was much appreciated by the Legacy group at the Bowls Club; as were the drinks on the verandah thereafter.

## Lodge Night

The other (greater) portion of Raffetys items – plus the Hallelujah Chorus and some carols (one of which we managed to forget the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse : ) were used to entertain the lads and ladies from Marangan & Faithful Lodges at the Masonic Hall. Was about our 18<sup>th</sup> annual concert there and again appreciated by the attendees; though I think only Kath won anything in the raffle this time.

## Other Stuff

With our beloved Marg Brooke no longer with us; the Prom Concert scene is a bit up in the air, but I'm sure if the opportunity arises we'll have some willing providers of entertainment.

Using our grant from Benalla Rural City Council, we have installed a hot water unit on the wall in the kitchen; which just about completes our amenity improvements in the meeting/tea room – almost downright civilised now : )

With a grant from CVGT and a wonderful donation from Rotary we will also be installing full length mirrors across the front wall of the rehearsal room; which will be a great benefit for everybody in making sure actions, angles and timing are pretty much the same (within limits : ) We may have to find some curtains to cover them for choir practice so as not to distract the diligent or encourage the narcissistic; but the benefits should be significant. Thanks to David & Paul for remaining resolute in finding that last elusive screw holding up the coat rack that needed to be removed to make way for the new mirrors.

A working bee will probably be organised soon after rehearsals start to further 'rationalise' and tidy up all our stuff in both huts and the compound (which was found open but hopefully nothing pinched over the New Year)

Yet another indicator of time flying was the recent 3<sup>rd</sup> (yes third !!) birthday of young Aria Winkler and the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> of Kate Jolly. Congratulations to both on these milestones. I can remember both as just twinkles in the eye which perhaps means I should be thinking of 'doing a John Ellis' and retiring??

## AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be upon us soon (usually last Tuesday in February but yet to be formally set : ) – so if you're feeling like contributing to the management of the company; consider being nominated for a position on our committee. Nomination forms will go out with the next Backdrop.

## Important Dates

**Wed Feb 3rd**  
**Sun Feb 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mon Feb 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tues Feb 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Curtain raiser Information / Pre-Audition Night**  
**Auditions at Hut 2 till 6 and 7-30 till 10**  
**Auditions at Hut 6-30 till 10**  
**Most probable AGM date**

## HUMOUR

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go". - **Oscar Wilde**