

The BACKDROP

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A quickie 2 page issue for July :)

The PLAY(s)

Unfortunately due to a lack of audition numbers we were unable to continue with the proposed series of One Act Plays earmarked for September. Thank you very much to Alan Stone for his idea/commitment and to those who made the time and effort to audition anyway – and fear not; there will be plenty of creative opportunities still available for all your talents.

As a dear friend and elder statesman Alan was disappointed but philosophical about not being able to get something off the ground – but at least had the chance for a great get-together with Kath, Molly & Rhonda to talk about times both old and new. It's perhaps a recognition of where we are as a company (and others in a similar boat?) with the core membership from 'the old days' (when we did musicals and plays at equal frequency) being a bit older and fewer; while the fresh-faced influx of talent for shows – especially musicals – tends to be a bit more transient and short-term – though nevertheless equally passionate once they become involved.

I fear no contradiction in saying that Alan has been one of; if not the greatest influences upon, and contributors to BTC – not only in the outstanding and award winning show packages he directed and ultimately presented – but instilling in us over the years an innate professionalism and invaluable knowledge of basic stage craft, choreography, timing and perhaps of most value - what actually works on stage. And in homage to that legacy the company will do all it can to involve Alan in a suitable play or project that can again showcase his creativity - before it is of necessity lavished full-time on the mansion and menagerie at Kyneton :)

RAFFETYs 2009

Time to get the permanent marker out on the calendar for our choir, singers, trios, quartets, poets, skit-so-and-so's etc etc – because Con & Jan are happy to have us again out the back at Raffety on **FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th**

Rehearsals for this (nearly) annual showcase of our talent will commence on **Sunday Aug 16th** at the Hut 7-30pm and continue thereafter on Wednesdays and Sundays to put together some new choir medleys/numbers and whatever else we can fit into a great three part programme. More info will become available once the organising committee has been finalised; but please let family & friends know **NOW** that the night (only one Friday performance) is on and that the disappointment will be ours and theirs if they don't make it :)

Carols By Candlelight

A couple of meetings have been held between representatives from BTC, Rose City Band and Benalla Lions to get the ball rolling on what we hope will be an improved, longer and more entertaining Carols by Candlelight event this year. We will certainly have more control/input over the content and set-up of the singing presentations – and already a few of our talented members have put their hand up for a contribution. Speak to Molly if you want some more insight – but like Big Kev – *we're excited* :) Practice for group and other items will take place mainly in November (depending on overlaps with any of the Raffety's stuff :) but mark Dec 20th in your diaries now for a pleasant summer evening by the rotunda (weather permitting :)

Constitution

In what was perhaps a world record for Special General Meetings (all of about 6 minutes :) the assembled multitude of BTC members (read – bare quorum plus one?? :) passed a resolution on July 28th including in our constitution a new Rule (no 19) relating to the settlement of disputes; thus bringing our Constitution into line with content recommended by the 'League of Justice' (can't be fussed finding out exact corporate name of that part of our beloved bureaucracy :) Thanks to Laurie, Molly & Jim for their efforts on the sub-committee.

Theatre Alliance

A 'Memorandum of Understanding' will soon be issued that sets out the basis on which paid-up members of participating theatre companies in the North East Including us :) can get admission discounts for each others shows (nominally at concession instead of full adult). Yet another good reason to pay your subs ASAP after the AGM in Feb :)

Beatles Babe Belting Beautifully

Congrats to LotP cast member Ellen James who has apart from a great predilection to Beatles music; a wonderful talent on the guitar and vocals side – which she has demonstrated already at the open mike nights at Fairholme. Keep up the faith and the good work Ellie. U Rock Girl.

Important Dates

Sun Aug 16	Start of Raffetys/'End of Year' Rehearsals
Fri Oct 30	Raffetys Night
Dec 20th	Carols by Candlelight
TBA	Legacy & Lodge Nights

HUMOUR

Two Irish hunters got a pilot to fly them to Canada to hunt moose. They managed to bag 6. As they were loading the plane to return, the pilot said the plane could take only 4 moose. The two lads objected strongly. "Last year we shot six. The pilot let us take them all and he had the same plane as yours." Reluctantly, the pilot gave in and all six were loaded. However, even on full power, the little plane couldn't handle the load and went down. Somehow, surrounded by the moose bodies, Paddy and Mick survived the crash. After climbing out of the wreckage, Paddy asked Mick, "Any idea where we are?" Mick replied, "I think we're pretty close to where we crashed last year."