

The BACKDROP

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Apologies to all for a lack of Backdrop for a couple of months. Things have been quite busy as such :)

Oklahoma

Or should that be Okla...Okla.....Okla....Oklah-o-o-o-o-o-o...ma!! Yeow !!!!



As you read this the fabulous cast and crew, orchestra and production team are into the last hectic week of rehearsal – where did those months of practice and preparation disappear to so fast??!

The stage of BPACC has been painted (thanks Symo and co) a lovely prairie dapple to augment a fabulous scenic and set triumph. The marvellous Mike Larkin has created yet another wonderful backdrop for us; this time the Oklahoma clouds almost matching the magnificence of his State Fair. We indeed needed a lovely setting for the *piece de resistance* of sets in Jamie's farm and smoke-house creation. As a farm house exterior doubling for the seedy interior of Jud's smoke-house this is one amazing effort by Jamie; and a huge thanks and congrats to him on this masterpiece

In front of the beautifully adorned stage is the orchestra pit full of our amazingly talented musos and super-dedicated MD Elaine (who has thankfully survived a recent health scare to wield the stick of power for what is sounding like a beautiful score. Blessed is BTC for all this musical talent.

Last but not least, the hard working and talented cast under the direction of Super Molly (President, Director, Designer, Aunt Eller ...you name it) are ready to light up the aforementioned stage with great performances of visual, aural and dramatic excellence. (Can't help but be glowing after seeing some of the rehearsals :) Our hero & heroine (Curly & Laurey = Jamie & Di pictured above) tread the rocky road to love; as do others like Ado Annie (Mary-Ann), Will Parker (Paul) and Ali Hakim (Steve) – watched over by the down to earth Aunt Ella (Molly) and a great assortment of farm folks and cowpokes played by Neil, Del, Ben, Laurie, Ben, Nick, Don, Emily, Jay, Gemma, Charmaine, Lisa, Alyce, Monique, Rachael, Charlotte, Kathy and Jade. Some great cameos in amongst all of them; but I'm especially looking forward to David as the sinister Jud Fry. The costumes suit the staging and characters to a treat; great job girls – and what wonderful props Rhonda has sourced for us yet again.

Congratulations to all and sundry on putting together what will be a wonderful show; now it's up to the general membership, family, friends and assorted hangers-on to **BE THERE OR BE SQUARE !!** Still plenty of tickets available for the eight shows over 3 weekends so **get along little dogies :)**

Membership

At our AGM a couple of months ago we kept our annual fees the same as they've been for many years (Adult \$30; Student/Concession \$25; Associate \$15). For insurance purposes – everyone who appears on stage needs to take out membership – which they have :) However we would also like to see many more of those not actually 'under lights' be a formal part of BTC. An Associate membership is not a great impost financially one would hope; so why not join and/or renew some time soon?

Movie Night(s)

Add Seven Brides for Seven Brothers to the list of screenings that have been held. A show that probably would be fun to do if we had a few more axe handles; axe handle leapers and men an axe handle or two across the shoulders :) Anyway – watch this space or emails or rehearsal/show notices for our next one

Next Year – Holy Mackerel :)

Given the quite resonant religious bent of your average Benalla population, there should be a great deal of interest in the show we have decided to do next year – the fabulous **Nunsense – the Mega Musical**. Get out your dancing shoes, laughing gear and rosary beads for what I'm sure will be a riotous and fun-filled musical. There will probably be plenty of current cast members and others waiting in the wings who may have secretly said – 'I always wanted to be a nun.' Now – at least on stage – they can try :) And don't despair boys (unless you have the voice and legs :) for the year after we have **Guys and Dolls**

Raffetys

Similar to many a year gone by we plan to stage one of our ever popular 'Nights of Entertainment' in conjunction with Con & Jan at Raffetys. Rehearsals for that and the other end of year gigs (dates TBA later) commence on Sunday Sept 4th at the Hut

Humour?

A man was sitting next to me in one of the two "husband chairs" in a ladies' clothing store. After 30 minutes and five outfits, the fellow's wife came out of the changing room again. He looked at her and immediately said: "That looks good on you. Get that one." "Honey," she replied, "this is what I was wearing when we came in." When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.

Police were called to a day care center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

If you take a laptop computer for a run you could jog your memory.

In a democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, it's your Count that votes.

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

When she saw her first strands of gray hair, she thought she'd dye.

Acupuncture: a jab well done.

Important Dates

Thursday July 21st
Friday July 22nd
Other Oklahoma Shows
Sunday Sept 4th
Friday November 18th

Final Dress Rehearsal for Oklahoma
Oklahoma Opening Night
July 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 and Aug 5 & 6
First singing rehearsal for End of Year stuff
Night of Entertainment at Raffetys