



# The BACKDROP

**Publisher:** Benalla Theatre Company

**Editor:**

Molly Craig

P.O. Box 2, Benalla 3672

**Date:** Decemberr 2015

**BTC Web Site & Email:** <http://www.benallatheatrecompany.org.au>

[Benallatheatreco@yahoo.com.au](mailto:Benallatheatreco@yahoo.com.au)

## CHRISTMAS PARTY!



Thanks to **Mary-Ann and Stuart Jolly** who are happy for us to come to their home for our Christmas Party!

When: Saturday 12 December

Time: 5.30pm

Where: 7 Benson Street

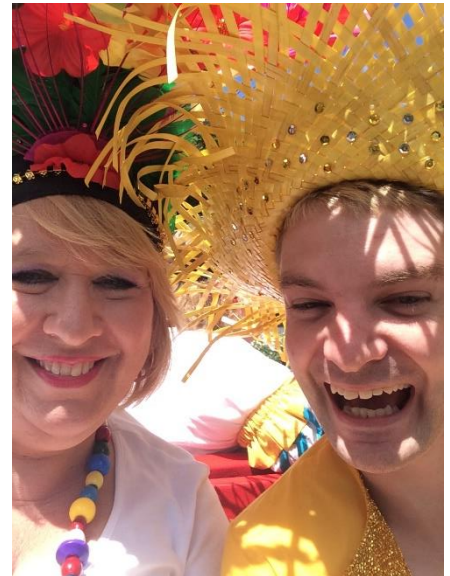
BYO: Drinks, meat and a salad or sweet to share.

This is a great opportunity to have a final get together to finish off the year for our company.

BTC wishes all its members and families a very joyous Christmas and New Year and we look forward to your involvement in 2016!

## BENALLA FESTIVAL STREET PARADE

What a fun day it was!! A huge thank you to **Deb Patterson** for all the organising and decorating and everything else!! We were very fortunate to have good publicity on WIN TV's local news and also a great photo in the Benalla Ensign. Thanks to all those involved, from being on the float, to organising music and speakers, to driving the truck – it all made for a fantastic float that people loved!



## A NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT

The night is this Friday!!!! We had a final rehearsal at Raffetys on Wednesday, so we're all set to go! Thank you to all those involved and the effort you are putting in. The music is lots of fun to sing which includes medleys from Motown, Ray Charles, the 60s and The Boy from Oz. **Geoff McLure** and **Linda Simpson** will be offering up some fantastic songs, The Vicar of Devenish will surely make people laugh, as will poet **Col Milligan**, so it promises to be a great evening. **Jamie Boatwood** will be the MC for the evening and I hear that a certain amazing shirt will be making a reappearance!!

Break a leg to all involved!!

## VARIETY CONCERT AT SWANPOOL

After our night at Raffetys, the company is heading out to perform at Swanpool, on **Saturday 5 December, at 1.30pm**. The company really enjoyed their time last year and is looking forward to this year's afternoon. So add the date to your diary and come along for a lovely afternoon, supporting both BTC and the Swanpool Community.

## OTHER END OF YEAR COMMITMENTS

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will also be performing at the Legacy Christmas Party and the Marangan Lodge Christmas Party and then Benalla Carols by Candlelight.

Legacy is **Sunday 6 December in the early afternoon**, so it will be a busy weekend with Swanpool and Carols practise, but that's what this time of the year is about, so it'll be lots of hard work, but fun in the process.

Lodge is **Tuesday 8 December** and is another of our long term commitments in our community.

Carols by Candlelight rehearsals will begin **THIS Sunday 29 November, 7.30pm** at the Hut. This is a great way for people to come and start their involvement with BTC. The date for Carols is **Sunday 20 December**. We will be having 2 practises with the Benalla Rose City Band on **Tuesdays 1 and 15 December** at 7.30pm. So if you have anyone that is interested in becoming a part of the company, or if you want to come along and be a part of it – the more the merrier!!



### **BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO**

The production team is beginning to take shape. If you are happy to help out, to work as part of a great team, then contact **Emily on 0400 639 536** and you will be added on. A big thank you to those people who have already offered their time and talents. After a good uptake at the beginning, we have stalled a little, so we'd love to have a great involvement from across the company being a part of this show.

The script is now available for people to read. Please talk to Emily about that as well. It's a very funny show set in 1960 in the Catskills at a resort, where best friends, Lois and Marge come to find love. Included is a suave singing star and an old time comedian, who both perform at Esther's Paradise. The casting is 3 male and 3 female with a chorus as big or as small as chosen. The band is already in place, **Stephen Winkler, Mick Ferris, Bruce Burton and Richard Barrow**. We look forward to having them at rehearsals from the very beginning, which will benefit both those on stage and the band themselves.

Production Manager

Production Secretary

**Emily Watt**

Production Treasurer

Director

**Molly Craig**

Assistant to the Director

Musical Director

**Elaine Heywood**

Stage Manager

**Wendy Hyland**

Set Design

Set Construction

Backstage

Publicity Team

Props

Costumes

Sound Designer / Operator      **Travas Hope Sound Alive**

Lighting Designer and Operation      **Jacqui Berry**

Follow Spot Operators

Front of House Coordinator/s

Programme      **Emily Watt**

Show Photography      **Kelvin Watt**

Sponsorship

Prompt

## GEORGY AWARDS

Congratulations to all companies involved in the awards, it was a great evening to celebrate local community theatre.

Huge congratulations go to two cast members of The Boy from Oz. **Bree Hewitt** won the Certificate of Excellence for our production and also to **Hamish Nelson**, who won a Judges' Award for Excellence. How exciting for our production to have these people involved and being recognised for their hard work!

Below are a couple of pictures of Hamish on the night...what a great accomplishment!



## DIGITAL PIANO FOR SALE

We are still looking to sell the keyboard that is in the supper room. It would be a great Christmas present for children or grandchildren, or for yourself! It's still a decent working keyboard, with a good number of options and sounds. We would be looking at around \$200, but make us an offer. If you are interested in looking and trying out the keyboard, please contact **Emily on 0400 639 536**.



The Boy from Oz group had a get together a while ago and had a lovely night reminiscing about the great show....and a few giggles too!



## DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

We sad acknowledge the passing of **Gwenda McCarten**. Gwenda was involved for many years in local theatre particularly in Wangaratta. Gwenda was the director for our production of A Touch of Silk and was involved with Dinkum Assorted, including getting to do voice work from the pit for one show! We send our condolences to her family and friends.



The company wishes a wonderful day and year ahead to:

**Tracy Afflick**

and

**Haley Grimshaw**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 29 November

Carols by Candlelight rehearsals begin. 7.30pm at the Hut

Tuesday 1 December

Carols rehearsal with BRCB 7.30pm

Saturday 5 December

Variety Concert at Swanpool at 1.30pm

Sunday 6 December

Legacy Performance

Tuesday 8 December

Lodge Performance

Tuesday 15 December

Carols rehearsal with BRCB 7.30pm

Sunday 20 December

Benalla Carols by Candlelight