



The Backdrop

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

So we're now heading into the silly season – we are fortunate to have Steve Winkler offer his home (20 South St) for our Christmas party. Friday 16 December is the date, starting from 6pm. Its BYO everything, a BBQ will be available, maybe bring a salad or dessert to share. It's a great way to finish off our company's year!



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT – BENALLA

As part of our end of year performances, we have yearly performance as the choir for Benalla's Carols by Candlelight. **To be held on Sunday 18 December. Rehearsals began on Sunday, but it's not too late to join us! We are rehearsing on Sundays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm.** This is a great way for new people to come and be involved. So if you know of anyone, please let them know. We will have one more rehearsal with the Rose City Band prior to the evening. This will be on Tuesday 6 December at 7.30pm.

SWANPOOL CAROLS

The company will also be performing as the choir for the **Swanpool Carols to be held on Sunday 11 December.** It's a fantastic night and great way for us to be apart and support the wider community. Rehearsals for this performance will be incorporated into our Benalla Carol's rehearsals. If you're not involved with the choir, please consider taking the trip out to Swanpool to be a part of the festivities.

SINGING WORKSHOP

We now have a date for our workshop. It will be **Saturday 18 February at 1pm at the Hut.** We are fortunate to have talented music teacher and singer **Alison Comensoli** coming to work with us. The cost is free to the whole community, so please starting letting your friends and family know. Ali will be working on warm-up exercises, getting better vocal production from our voices and we'll also be doing some harmony work. This is a great opportunity for each of us to get better at doing something that we love!



ANYTHING GOES...OUR 2017 PRODUCTION

This very funny story is set in the 1930s aboard the ocean liner S. S. American, where nightclub singer/ evangelist Reno Sweeney is en route from New York to England. Her pal Billy Crocker has stowed away to be near his love, Hope Harcourt, but the problem is Hope is engaged to the wealthy Lord Evelyn Oakleigh. Joining this love triangle on board the luxury liner are Pubic Enemy #13 Moonface Martin and his sidekick-in-crime Erma. With the help of some elaborate disguises, dancing sailors and good old-fashioned blackmail, Reno and Martin join forces to help Billy in his quest to win Hope's heart.

There are lots of roles for both males and females with lots for the chorus to be involved with. The show features songs like Blow Gabriel Blow, It's De-Lovely, I Get a Kick out of You, You're the Top and of course the title song.

See below for a list of characters. Everyone is encouraged to read the script. If you would like to please contact Emily on 0400639536.

Information Night will be **Wednesday 1 March at 7.00pm**. Auditions will take place **on Sunday 5 March and Monday 6 March**, with rehearsals beginning on **Wednesday 15 March**. There will 7 performances over 2 weekends at the end of July and beginning of August 2017. Dates are 28, 29, 30 July and 4, 5 August. So put them in your diary now!

What a wonderful opportunity to be in one of the most beloved musicals of all time. Now is the time to start thinking about who else you can ask to come and be in the show with you! Do you have other family members that would like to be involved? Friends? Neighbours? Workmates? Start talking it up and let's get a great group of people involved. Emily is taking bookings for auditions so please contact her now to secure your place in this wonderful show.



Name	Gender	Part Size	Vocal Part
Reno Sweeney	Female	Lead	Mezzo-Soprano
Hope Harcourt	Female	Lead	Soprano
Lord Evelyn Oakleigh	Male	Lead	Baritone
Billy Crocker	Male	Lead	Tenor
Moonface Martin	Male	Lead	Tenor
Evangeline Harcourt	Female	Supporting	
Elisha Whitney	Male	Supporting	Baritone
Erma Latour	Female	Supporting	Mezzo-Soprano
Ship's Captain	Male	Supporting	Baritone
Luke	Male	Featured	
John	Male	Featured	
Ship's Purser	Male	Featured	

Purity (Angel #1)	Female	Featured
Chastity (Angel #2)	Female	Featured
Charity (Angel #3)	Female	Featured
Virtue (Angel #4)	Female	Featured
Bishop Henry T. Dobson	Male	Featured
Chorus	Male and Female	

Below is the Production Team list – we have many jobs where you can help or someone you know can help. Do you have some skills we don't know about? Or have a hankering to do some designing or construction? As the years go by the numbers getting involved gets smaller and those with roles in the show end up taking on one or more jobs on the production. It would be wonderful for those on stage to be able to spend their time working on lines, songs and choreography rather than building or writing articles. So please, please think of ways that you can help our show to be a success. Contact Emily if you or someone you know can help, or if you want some more information about what any of the jobs entails.

Production Manager

Production Secretary **Emily Watt**

Production Treasurer

Director **Molly Craig**

Musical Director **Elaine Heywood**

Stage Manager

Assistant to the Director

Set Design

Set Construction

Publicity Team

Props

Costumes

Sound Designer / Operator

Lighting Designer and Operation

Follow Spot Operators

Front of House Coordinator/s

Programme

Show Photography

Sponsorship

Prompt

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Our committee has now completed and passed our policy, code of conduct and procedures for our company. A big thanks to **Molly Craig** and **Emily Watt** for this work in getting it all together.

So from 1 January 2017 we will put these into place. We know you will all be supportive and adhere to these so we can keep children who are involved in our company safe. Please find our policy attached. If you wish to read all of our documents, please contact Emily who will email them out to you.

One of the parts of our policy is that anyone who volunteers to transport children (people under the age of 18) to or from rehearsal, must have a current Working With Children Check. If you already have a current WWCC and are prepared to help get young people to and from rehearsals or other company activities, we will need to sight and keep a record of the number.

The really great thing is that from 5 December 2016, the cost of getting a volunteer WWCC done will be free. The cost was in the taking of the photographs, but now that fee has been waived, which is wonderful news. All of our committee, directors, musical directors, stage managers and some other selected jobs will have to have a current WWCC.

If you would like to get on please go to <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> and if you need assistance please don't hesitate to contact us and we can help you.



WORKSHOP WITH DEBORAH CHEETHAM

What a wonderful night we had with Deborah Cheetham, who came and spent an hour with and imparted so much knowledge, fun and joy to the community. It was great to work together as a group, everyone so energized and being sponges, soaking it all up. One magical moment was when we did a small section from her opera Pecan Summer in 4-part harmony...such a thrill!!

BUSY TIME OF THE YEAR

It's certainly busy! In the past two weeks we've had two big performances, our Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Concert, which was thoroughly liked by the audience and the sing-a-long section was definitely a highlight. There have been requests for more of these...so we'll wait to see what 2017 brings! Our other big show was our Night of Entertainment last Friday night. A lot of effort by many effort to bring together a great night's entertainment for an appreciative audience. Next year would mark our 20th anniversary of this show...so we'll have to wait to see if Con and Jan and Raffety's Reception Centre is still going!

We also have our singing commitments with Legacy Widows this coming Sunday and for the Marangan Lodge on 13 December. Thank you to everyone that has been and continues to be involved with our giving to our community.

Below is a picture at Holy Trinity Anglican Church for the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Concert, with us amongst the gorgeous flower arrangements.



The company wishes a very happy day and year ahead to:
Tracy Afflick
Haley Grimshaw
Janine Simmons

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November/December: Rehearsals for Carols by Candlelight, 7.30pm at the Hut

Sunday 4 December: Legacy Widows

Tuesday 6 December: Rehearsal with BRCB at 7.30pm at Benalla B-12 College PAC

Sunday 11 December: Swanpool Carols

Tuesday 13 December: Lodge

Friday 16 December: Christmas Party at 20 South St from 6pm. BYO everything

Sunday 18 December: Benalla's Carols by Candlelight

Saturday 18 February 2017: Singing Workshop with Ali Comensoli 1pm at the Hut.

Wednesday 1 March 2017: Information Night for Anything Goes, 7.00pm at the Hut

Sunday 5 March 2017: Auditions for Anything Goes

Monday 6 March 2017: Auditions for Anything Goes

Wednesday 15 March 2017: Rehearsals begin for Anything Goes

28 July – 5 August: Performances of Anything Goes