



# The Backdrop

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## DIRECTOR FOR 2018 MUSICAL

The company is looking for a director for our 2018 musical. If you would like to apply, please contact our Secretary giving us a run down on your involvement with theatre and any directing experience you may have had and anything else you think the committee needs to know. Contact us by email or by post – addresses are in the header of the newsletter.

## THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the ten people who attended our working bee a couple of weeks ago. **John Ellis, Debbie Patterson, Emily Watt, Jannice Smith, Kelvin Watt, Stephen Winkler, Elaine Heywood, Dianne Feldtmann, Mal Berry and Molly Craig.** What an amazing job they did down at the compound. Getting rid of broken sets and flats and props and tidying the whole area up, making it much easier in the future to go straight in and find what we're looking for. The costume room was also tidied up with all costumes hung up and things folded and put away.



There still is work to do – so there is likely to be one working bee before the year is over!

## NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT

Rehearsals are well under way. The choir is working hard on four medleys: from The Beatles, ABBA, George Gershwin and West Side Story. This year will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> Night of Entertainment that the company has put on for our community. Featuring a night of singing, skits and poetry, this is a great chance for us to show off our talent and for people to enjoy that and a wonderful meal. To be held at Raffety's Reception Centre on **Friday 24 November**, arrival at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. There is word that a certain cleric could be making an appearance as well our very talented group.



## PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

On **Sunday 5 November**, at 2pm at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Arundel Street, we will be performing in conjunction with the Anglican Parish of Benalla at a concert at the Anglican Church. The two times that we have performed there, it's been very well received. This is being included as part of the Benalla Festival so put the date in your diary to come along.

We are fortunate to have some other performers with us on that day, and they are definitely worth coming to hear.

Cost is \$10 and includes and very tasty afternoon tea afterwards.

## LEGACY AND LODGE PERFORMANCES

As part of our singing for community groups, we will be performing for the Christmas break ups of Legacy Widows and the Marangan Lodge. **Legacy is Sunday 3 December** and **Lodge is Tuesday 12 December**. We will be using music from Night of Entertainment and adding in some Christmas music as well.

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

One of our community events, is to be the choir at Benalla's Carols by Candlelight. This year it is on **Sunday 17 December**. A great way to end the year together with singing carols. This is a good way for people who are interested in joining the company to come along and be involved.



The major thing is that we are having ONE rehearsal with the Benalla Rose City Band and everyone involved must attend. It is vitally important that everyone attends. We will be running the whole program with the band and sorting out issues, so if you're going to be involved please put this very important date into your diary now **Tuesday 5 December at 7.45pm at the Benalla P-12 PAC**.

## WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

At a recent committee meeting, a discussion happened around the possibility of changing the time of year that our big production happens. There was the thought that it could be better to have our musical in November rather than the middle of the year. We would then do a Night of Entertainment in the first half of the year. This would mean the weather would be warmer and could mean more people coming to see the show. Another suggestion was that audition happen in November and then begin rehearsals in January, meaning the show could go on earlier in the year. Once again taking us away from those cold performance months in July and August. What do you think? Any other suggestions? The committee would love to hear from our members about this topic. Please talk to Emily or Molly or email to [benallatheatreco@yahoo.com.au](mailto:benallatheatreco@yahoo.com.au).



The company wishes a very happy birthday and year ahead to our following members:

**Lyndal Cherry**  
**Michael Ham**  
**Sam Hargreaves**  
**Elaine Heywood**  
**Sam Heywood**  
**Hannah McIntosh**  
**Linda Simpson**  
**Ben van den Akker**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Sunday 5 November** Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Concert, 2pm at Holy Trinity Anglican Church

**Friday 24 November** Night of Entertainment at Raffetys

**Sunday 3 December** Legacy Widows Christmas Break-up

**Tuesday 5 December at 7.45pm** Carols rehearsal with the band at Benalla P-12 College PAC Faithful St

**Tuesday 12 December** Marangan Lodge Christmas Break-up

**Sunday 17 December** Carols by Candlelight

## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

Thought it would be fun to add some photos from our 32 year history.

Beginning with...the beginning...the amalgamation between Benalla Light Opera Company and Benalla Drama Club to become Benalla Theatre Company in February 1985.

Pictured are Michael Brennan who was our company's first president and Cr Brian Greed who formally announced the new company on the night. That sign looks familiar doesn't it?! And it took place in our present home...we've been lots of places, but we have circled back to the beginning – fantastic! An interesting quote from an article on the amalgamation in the paper is one that we still live by. Michael said, "We hope this will show the people we are not just mucking around in theatre but that we are a group of amateurs that can put on a profession production." And we still are!

