



StageWrite

www.latrobetheatrecompany.org.au

LATROBE THEATRE COMPANY INC.

August 2007

Editor's Note

You may have noticed that it has been four months since the last issue of StageWrite. Sadly, due to several computers dying at regular intervals over the last few months, we've been unable to get StageWrite out as regularly as it should. We can only apologise and try to not let this happen again in future.

Ceiri's Capers

What a fantastic season 2007 has been. Our production of *The Wizard of Oz* seems to have been a great hit if the ongoing positive comments from the community and those involved in the production are anything to go by.

Congratulations to the Production and Directing Team for their wonderful teamwork and artistic creativity that contributed to producing a show that covered the spectrum of what live theatre can be. It was a visual, audible & vocal feast that was enjoyed by cast & patrons alike. Well done all.

The committee are now focusing on our next productions *Our Best Bits* and *Fiddler on the Roof* so we will keep in touch with dates, venues etc. in our newsletter StageWrite and on our website www.latrobetheatrecompany.org.au.

Don't think I've forgotten anything (check the website just in case I have) so I will sign off before I develop RSI and see you hopefully at the Show Launch and all our other events.

Stay well and happy and remember laughter is definitely the best medicine.

Ceiri

(President)



Congratulations to the successful applicants for the Production Team of *Our Best Bits*.

Production manager - **Chris Ross**

Artistic Director - **Christine Skicko**

Musical Director – **Carolyn Esse**

Choreographer - **Penny-Lee Tomkins**

This show will certainly be an appropriate choice as we enter our 45th year in 2008. It's a show that will be a night of celebration in the form of favourite songs from the many shows performed by our company. Don't look half bad for 45 years old, do we!!

More information regarding venue, dates etc. will be available soon.



People may or may not be aware of the amount of work that is required behind the scenes to organise a major musical production, so I feel it is important to thank those who contributed in a major way. This of course does not discount those I don't mention and were also involved. You all know that your efforts are appreciated and never taken for granted but I need to think of the number of trees that would need to be cut down if I did mention everyone.

Sales went well overall as we had budgeted for 65% fill and achieved 66.9% fill. Wednesday and Thursday night of our second week brought down the percentage of sales due to the power outage at the beginning of the second act. Weekend sales were a sell out and matinees were very popular. The pre selling of tickets by cast members was also a highlight with **Kelsea Timmers** winning an iPod Shuffle for selling the most tickets.

Excellent publicity coverage of the show thanks to **Christine Skicko**. Posters were distributed throughout Latrobe Valley and Warragul. Press releases along with poster advertising appeared regularly in the E Section of the Express as well as the Warragul Gazette. Box Office newsletters included coverage of the show and posters were displayed at Warragul Arts Centre. **Simon Hemming** was also involved with arranging our roadside banners which were located at Traralgon, Hernes Oak and the freeway exit near the Warragul Hospital. Thank you Simon.

Congratulations to **Wayne Musgrove** on producing such an excellent program that was eye-catching, comprehensive & informative. The theme produced

for the poster was also followed through on all publicity displays as in flyers, newspapers, website & polo shirts. Fantastic job well done.

A big thank you to all the Mums who created the Yellow Brick Road effect and the children who provided posters for the Foyer. Thanks to **Anne Pawley** our Archives Coordinator who set up the photograph & poster displays and also **Larissa Morey** for providing us with the oversized posters. Much appreciated.

Mums also took responsibility for selling programs and glow sticks. Left over glow sticks were handed out to the children at the Sunday BBQ after Bump Out.

A big note of appreciation to the techs and theatre team at Warragul. We were made to feel welcome and nothing was too difficult. The crew under the guidance of Ann Maloney overcame any difficulties and everyone worked as a well oiled team. As with any show lessons were learnt and action plans put in place.

Bump In and Bump Out were well attended and everyone worked tirelessly so that we had the sets together by the end of the day and after Bump Out were out of the Theatre and back at *The Wings* by 3.00 pm for the BBQ on Sunday. Many thanks to **Nick Skicko** for generously allowing us to store our sets in his shed during construction. Also big thanks to our three truckies. We couldn't have done without you.



Set construction was a massive job with a result that was spectacular and innovative. The crew worked hard to master the sets so that the right effect was achieved - even down to the delightful Munchkin flowers. A big thanks to **John Hall** and his team, **Steve Soutar** who tirelessly worked on achieving the right lighting effects on Glinda's globe, the two-way mirror and those

amazing Jitterbug antennae and **John Tomkins** and the sign writers for their expert artistry that created the perfect visual effect. Also fantastic work was done by the helpers who painted not only the sets but themselves as well.

Christine Skicko produced amazing and challenging costume designs for this show and the end result was stunning. We did not attract a Costume Coordinator so **Kate Dougan** was required to take on that responsibility as well as that of Production Manager. Not an ideal scenario but you do what you can with what you've got. Special mention to **Larissa Morey**, who provided much support to Kate both practically and personally. We certainly have your name on our costume contact list Larissa. The assistance from a number of dedicated people got us through in the end so a big thanks to all the group of sewers that banded together to pull things through. **Michelle Cameron** and her team did a great job appliquéing the children's costumes and **Deb Soutar** and **Chris Ross** with their help embellishing with sequins and trims.



All cast: We apologise for how long it has taken to

present these to you but it has been an enormous task selecting from around 600 shots then downloading onto multiple discs. So be patient they are nearly done and you will be the first to know when they are.



Show Launch 2008

As you are aware LTC are performing *Fiddler on the Roof* as our major musical in 2008. We would like to invite you all to celebrate this forthcoming event and at the same time show our Sponsors your appreciation for the wonderful support they provide.

This event will be held on Friday August 31 at Lavalla Catholic College (St. Paul's Campus) Lecture Theatre in Grey Street, Traralgon from 7:30 pm. We will be viewing the DVD of *Fiddler on the Roof* with drinks and nibbles pre-show and during interval. BYO drinks and glasses, alcohol permitted. A flyer will be out with all these details. Look forward to catching up with everyone to enjoy the camaraderie and the popcorn of course.

GAT Night

This is just around the corner, Saturday the 8th December at the Moe Town Hall from 7.30pm. This will be a "Night Among the Stars" with black and silver as the theme. So get your glad rags out of the cupboard and surprise us all on the night. Ticket prices are \$20 per adult, \$10 children 16yrs and under and will be available after nominations have been announced. LTC are hosting the night so should be great fun. A flyer will be out shortly and a notice on the website.

Special General Meeting

On August 23, the Committee held a Special General Meeting at *The Wings* to discuss the current state of affairs regarding our current performing venue in Traralgon, and the future options of staying there. A full report of the meeting will be made available to everyone in the very near future.

Thanks to our
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**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF STAGEWRITE
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