



StageWrite

www.latrobetheatrecompany.org.au LATROBE THEATRE COMPANY INC. November/December 2007

Ceiri's Capers



What an exciting time of the year, or should I say manic! So many interesting things going on, what with the elections, Christmas and holidays around the corner, end of year exams, last minute shopping etc., etc.

I just say forget about all that, they usually take care of themselves somehow and focus on what we all enjoy - the theatre. 2007 has been a constructive year for **LTC** with many of our members involved in a variety of shows and doing a fabulous job.

As we wind up 2007 I would like to send a very big thank you to everyone who has contributed to making our Company one to be proud of. Your passion for the Arts and your support is always appreciated. On behalf of the **LTC** Committee we wish you all a very special Christmas and a very safe, happy New Year.



Ceiri
(President)

Awards Round-up!



"Our Best Bits" - performing at GAT Night

It's that time of year again! When all the local and state theatre people get together to celebrate what makes this hobby of ours so great. On December 8, **LTC** hosted a "Night Among The Stars" in the Moe Town Hall, where the year's Gippsland Associated Theatre Awards were announced. *The Wizard Of Oz* did very well indeed – and the winners are (well, were)...

- Most Outstanding Youth Performer - **Laura Hartnell** ("Dorothy")
- Most Outstanding Ensemble – **Aron Toman, Daniel Hansen and Ben Heels** ("The Three Crows")
- Most Outstanding Program
- Most Outstanding Make-Up/Hair Design – **Sue Thompson**
- Most Outstanding Costume Design – **Christine Skicko**





Congratulations to the winners, but everyone should be proud, as *The Wizard Of Oz* was highly represented with nominations across most categories. We were also nominated for:

- Lead Actor Male - **Anthony Di Donato** ("The Scarecrow"), **Simon Hemming** ("The Tin Man") and **Wayne Musgrove** ("The Lion")
- Support Actor Female - **Annette O'Shea** ("The Wicked Witch of the West")
- Ensemble Performance - **Jess Diamente**, **Jessica Teague** and **Jessie Waugh** ("The Three Trees") and **the Munchkins**
- Set Design - **John Hall**
- Lighting Design - **Russell Stewart**
- Musical Director - **Glenn Ross**
- Choreographer - **Brooke Soutar**
- Director - **Christine Skicko**
- Technical Achievement
- Most Outstanding Production

And if that wasn't all, *The Wizard Of Oz* also got noticed by the Music Theatre Guild (who judge shows right across Victoria) and were nominated for:

- Best Performer Open Category - **Laura Hartnell**
- Best Costume Design - **Christine Skicko**
- Best Cameo Performance - **Jess Diamente**, **Jessica Teague** and **Jessie Waugh**
- Commendation - **Annette O'Shea**

Congratulations to all nominees and everyone who has contributed to producing such high quality entertainment.

Our Best Bits

Information Day went well with over 50 people attending. Auditions were held in November and ran smoothly with successful auditionees attending their first rehearsal on Sunday November 11. The cast includes:

Steve Burns	Katie Parkin
Ceiri Byers	Julia Richardson
Kellie Collinson	Amy Ryan
Judy Degnan	Baillie Saunders
Anthony Di Donato	Christine Skicko
James Evans	Kara Smith
Dale Gemmell	Brooke Soutar
Aria Gianinni-Johns	Bridie Tomkins
Daniel Hansen	Penny-Lee Tomkins
Natalie Heels	Denise Twite
Simon Hemming	Ashlee Whitehead
Jayden Hicks	Craig Whitehead
Wayne Musgrove	Mark Woods
Emma O'Brien	
Keiley Anders	Georgia Moore
Ariana Bakker	Mollie Petesic
Lauren Burns	Ryley Reid
Samantha Grumley	Rebekah Symons
Taylah Jackson	Kelsea Timmers
Brittany Mannik	Zali Vacca

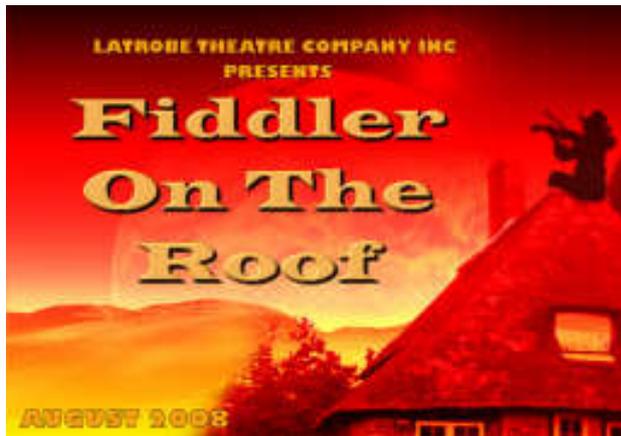


Our Best Bits's first production will be a special one-day only matinee and performance at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon on **Saturday April 5, 2008**. After that, the show will be held at various function centres still to be confirmed. Tickets for *Our Best Bits* are \$20 for adults and \$18 concession, and will be on sale very shortly – watch this space!

Fiddler on the Roof

We have a production team! Ok, make that half a production team. Congratulations to **Rebekah King**, our new Musical Director and **Kate Dougan**, returning again as Production Manager for *Fiddler On The Roof*. Rebekah is a newcomer to our theatre company, but has had many years experience as a musical director and is currently Music Co-Ordinator at Trafalgar High School and is sure to be an excellent contributor to our main 2008 show. Kate, as you will all remember, was Production Manager for *The Wizard Of Oz*, *Into The Woods* and been involved with more shows with us than even she cares to remember. Between the two of them, this show is going to be one fantastic ride everyone will treasure.

Now the search is on to fill the rest of the team, with a Director and Choreographer. Anybody interested in either position (or who know of somebody who will be) are encouraged to contact Kate Dougan ASAP via the company's address.



It is great to hear the number of people in the community saying how much they are looking forward to seeing this show next year. We have already sold almost 200 tickets for the upcoming season – not bad for a show that hasn't even been cast yet!

Fiddler On The Roof will be performed in Warragul 22-30 August 2008. Tickets are already on sale through the West Gippsland Arts Centre Box Office on (03) 5624 2456. Adults are \$30, Concession \$28, Groups of 10 or more \$27 each and Friends of WGAC \$25

Performing Arts Centre Update

Thank you to everybody for their support and help with our efforts to get a new Performing Arts Centre for the Latrobe Valley – progress is slow, but the rewards will be worth it. Our first batch of petitions have been



submitted to Latrobe City and we now await their response. If anybody still has any petitions still to be handed in, please get them to Secretary **Kate Dougan** at PO Box 832, Traralgon 3844 ASAP.

Future Shows

A big thank-you to everyone who has submitted their ideas for our future shows to us thus far – they have been much appreciated. **LTC** is your company, and we want to know what you want to do in future years. If you haven't contacted us, well we're still very interested in hearing from you. Fire us an e-mail at stagewrite@latrobetheatrecompany.org.au with your suggestions and we'll be sure you get heard.

Memberships

Membership fees for the 2008 are now due, and many of you will have received invoices in the last few weeks. Your membership will expire as of January 1, 2008, so remember to get them in. Remember, it is a requirement that every performer with **LTC** is a financial member of the company, and only those who are up to date with their fees are permitted to audition for any future productions.

Annual subscription rates are:

Joining Fee: \$ 5.50

Full Membership: \$22.00

Student/Concession Membership: \$11.00

Family Membership \$44.00

Social Membership \$11.00

To renew your membership, get in touch with Membership Secretary **Judy Degnan** at membership@latrobetheatrecompany.org.au.

Annual General Meeting

The **LTC** AGM for 2008 will be held on Monday February 4, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Wings in Morwell. This is the chance to get an overview of how our year as gone, an idea of what we've got coming for the future, and the opportunity to make any suggestions or recommendations on where your company is going. Five committee members will be up for re-election this year, so if anybody out there wants to nominate themselves to the Committee, this is your chance. Any recommendations or resolutions to be raised at the AGM must be forwarded to the Secretary, **Kate Dougan** no later than **January 4, 2008**.

Upcoming Social Events

A big thank you to everyone who came along to the *Sound Of Music* Sing-A-Long last month – reports from attendees say the event was quite an enjoyable night – if you couldn't make it, you missed out on a lot of fun! There will be more Sing-A-Long evenings, naturally, the next one to happen sometime in February. The movie choice? You'll just have to wait and see...

Meanwhile, the international hit musical *Spamalot* is currently taking Melbourne by storm, and we're keen to get in on the action. We plan to do a trip down to see a show sometime in late January. Ticket prices will be around \$100 for a group of more than sixteen people (slightly more if we find we have enough to run a bus). Interested? Give **Craig Whitehead** a call on 0412259772.

Obituaries

We are very saddened to announce the passing of **Vincent Rea**, who was tragically killed last month. Vincent had previously worked with **LTC** in the crews of *Into The Woods*, *Cabaret*, *West Side Story* and other shows, as well as many productions for other companies. He will be missed, and our thoughts are with his friends and family.

“The Wings”

Those who have been to our rehearsal space in Morwell recently would see that we've finally started

to add a few 'homey' touches to the place, with posters of our past shows in a few strategic places around the building. We've also installed a small bar-fridge so we will soon be able to open a bar at rehearsals and social functions. We've still got a long way to go, however, so if anyone has any old posters or photos they would like to donate, please get in touch with us via the details opposite.

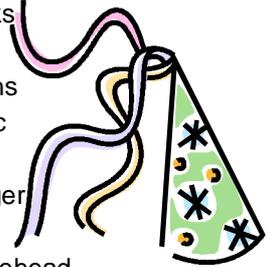
We're also on the lookout for some display cabinets for things like the awards our company has won, significant props and other such items. Get in touch if you can donate anything!

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to those who are getting older because they want to be and those who are young at heart. Hope you all had a fantastic day!

Ray Beebee
Chris Billings
Jacqui Billings
John Black
Dan Clancey
Donna Cross
Lizzi Davis
Kate Dougan
Tammy Edgar
Amy Forwood
Nikita Hall
Daniel Hansen
Ben Heels

Joanne Hemming
Laurissa Hicks
David Hill
Kirsten Larkins
Mollie Petesic
Riley Reid
Angela Stringer
Tim Waugh
Ashelee Whitehead
Barry Whitehead
Mark Kelly
Tracey Watkinson
Sandy Webb



**Thanks to our
Corporate
Patron**



**LOY YANG
POWER**

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**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF STAGEWRITE
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