



StageWrite

www.latrobetheatrecompany.org.au LATROBE THEATRE COMPANY INC.

September 2008

Simon Says...

Hi everyone and welcome to our September edition of *StageWrite*.

Well it's been nearly a month since the curtain came down on *Fiddler On The Roof* and I am thrilled to report that our show has been a huge success at the box office. Our patrons threw their support behind the show and filled the Warragul Arts Centre to near capacity proportions and were delighted with our interpretation of this much endeared classic.

The Production Team, Cast, Crew, Orchestra and the many volunteers who have all worked tirelessly behind the scenes are to be congratulated for a job well done. We could not have achieved this success without you.

The show's success will mean that financially the Latrobe Theatre Company can confidently move forward in its quest to bring quality live entertainment to the people of Latrobe City and the greater Gippsland area.

And now to the future...

As we move into 2009, our push for a new Performing Arts and Convention Centre is well underway with funding for the feasibility study being approved and representatives from both Latrobe City and independent organisations beginning the task of gathering information to formulate the study. It is also important to note we will have local government elections in November, please ensure you lobby your local Councillor on this important issue. **Latrobe Theatre Company** will be keeping a close watch on further developments and we will report them to you when information becomes available.

Future Shows for 2009 and beyond are now entering the planning phase. The first meeting of our sub-committee took place on 29th September where we discussed our "Past, Present and Future". Twelve

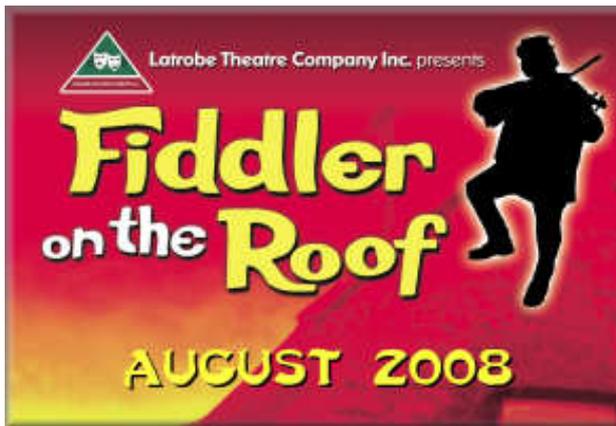
members of our company together with four representatives from your committee will initially meet to discuss Future Shows and look at other innovative ways we can keep the performing arts alive in the Valley whilst we lobby for an adequate performing arts facility. I appeal to each and every one of you to provide feed back to your Committee representatives.

Please remember that this is YOUR theatre company and as such we appeal to you to take ownership so that it can continue to thrive!

Simon says.....Time for some spring cleaning!



Simon
(President)



It comes around every year, but it never seems to get any easier, saying goodbye to another show. Yes, Anetevka is drifting back into the distance, the fiddler has abandoned his roof as *Fiddler On The Roof* is put most definitely behind us. Both cast and crew are naturally devastated, now having to learn to get used to a life where the words of "Matchmaker, Matchmaker" aren't stuck on an endless loop in their heads.

While the dust is still settling in the aftermath of the show, early reports say that *Fiddler* has been a great success, filling on average 80% of the West Gippsland Arts Centre, with the final night selling out completely. It has taken in a nice little profit for the company, which means we'll be able to do some even more wonderful things with our shows in the future. Congratulations to everyone involved in the production, you've all done a terrific job!

There'll be more information on *Fiddler On The Roof* and its aftermath in next month's issue. Meanwhile, here's a few photos from the production (and many more can be found on the LTC website at <http://www.latrobetheatrecompany.org.au>.)



45th Anniversary Celebrations

On Friday 19th September we celebrated our 45th Birthday at the Traralgon Golf Club, entertainment being supplied by Andy Johns and Catering through Turfside Function Centre Moe. This was a wonderful evening, a time to sit and relax, reminisce over the collection of photo's and memorabilia and dance the night away.



President **Simon Hemming** had the pleasure of presenting Life Membership to two of our longest serving Members, **Jim and Faye Evans**. Jim and Faye are both well know within local Theatre Circles, Faye joining the Latrobe Light Opera Society in its founding year 1963 and Jim following closely behind in 1964 when they both first met.

Faye Evans (nee Smyth) was there from the very beginning appearing in *Die Fleidermaus* our very first show in 1963 which was performed at the Morwell Town Hall under the Direction of Theatre Stalwart and founding member Isabelle McClaren. Faye also held the position of Secretary of our Company during that time and has continued on to this day taking on various roles as the Society and Company grew. Faye is well known to many of us in the Performing Arts Circle and we whole heartedly congratulate Faye on achieving this wonderful milestone.

Jim Evans has been known around local Theatre circles also for many years, having appeared in Shows with the Yallourn Thespians, Morwell Players and of course LLOS and LTC. Jim joined our Company in 1964 first appearing in *Naughty Marietta* and then continued appearing in our productions consistently through the 60's and early 70's until Jim and Faye started their family. Since then Jim has

gone on to appear in many other productions throughout the Valley including LLOS/LTC productions of *My Fair Lady*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Annie* and *Follies*. Jim has remained associated with the LTC since then and has always been there to provide a word of encouragement and support when needed most.

Please join with us in congratulating both Jim and Faye you truly deserve this award and we trust you will both remain associated with us for many years to come!



Social

Got some feedback from the 45th Anniversary night? Or is there a social event you'd like to see LTC do in the near future? Let the Social Sub-committee know at social@latrobetheatrecompany.org.au. We're always open to suggestions!

The Wings

Next time you're at "The Wings", be sure to take note of the lovely new blinds installed across all the windows. Now rehearsals in the middle of winter won't be nearly so cold, and we won't melt quite as much during the heat of summer (not to mention it makes everything look much nicer). Big thank you to **Ceiri Byers** for organising them.

Stay tuned for some more improvements to our own little rehearsal space in the near future. We plan to run a few evening and weekend working bees as the weather gets warmer, to make the place much more homely and make it a place LTC members can call home. More details as they happen.

GAT AGM

The Annual General Meeting for the Gippsland Associated Theatre Inc (otherwise known to mere mortals as “them what do the show judging” will be on October 26th at the Moe RSL. All the positions on their committee are up for re-election, so if you have ever wondered what the GAT crew get up to, or perhaps want to stand on the committee yourself, why not go along and see what’s what?

And speaking of GAT, don’t forget about the annual Gippsland Associated Theatre Awards night that’s coming up fast. This year it’s to be held at the Wonthaggi Working Man’s Club and will be on **Saturday December 13**. It’s the biggest event of the year for community theatre – Gippsland’s own “Night of Nights” where all the theatre companies in the Gippsland area gather together to drink each other under the table. And apparently some awards are handed out as well. Keep that date free in your diaries – you’ll want to be there when *Fiddler On The Roof* walks away with “Most Outstanding Musical”!

Birthdays

Happy birthday to everyone who’ll be having a birthday next month!

David Cafiso

Louise Cherry

Judy Degnan

Annette O’Shea

Special General Meeting

Just a reminder that we’ve called a Special General Meeting, open to all current members to discuss a proposal to increase our membership fees. A formal invitation will be sent out shortly, but we encourage everyone to attend, especially if you want your voices heard in the debate. We’ll also be discussing where we see the Company going in the next few years, a topic you’ll all agree is very important and depends on the input from our members. Remember, it’s not just our theatre company, it’s yours as well, and we need to know how you feel about it.

The Special General Meeting will be held on **Monday October 20th at 7:00 PM** at “The Wings” in Vary Street Morwell. It is will also be followed by a Committee Meeting, which all members of the company are welcome to attend. So why not stick around and see the sorts of issues your committee have to deal with each month?

Committee Meetings

Committee meetings are open to all members at any time. However, the Committee reserves the right to ask you to leave the room when decisions requiring confidentiality are made or discussed. We ask only that you contact our Secretary and inform her of your intention to attend, in order for us to cater effectively for the meeting.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at ‘The Wings’ **on Monday, 20th October at 7:30 pm.**

Upcoming Productions

Goldilocks And The 3 Bears (**Maffra Dramatic Society**) – October 3 – 12, Maffra Memorial Hall. Call (03) 5141 1672 for tickets.

Dimboola (**MOaRTZ**) – October 29 – November 8, various locations around Gippsland. Call Jeanette Teague on (03) 5127 6514 for booking details.

The Jacaranda Tree (**Break A Leg Theatre Group**) – October 31 – November 1, Latrobe Performing Arts Centre. Call the Latrobe City Box Office, (03) 5176 3559 for tickets.

Thanks to our
Corporate
Patron



StageWrite is published by Latrobe Theatre
Company

PO Box 832 Traralgon 3844

President: Simon Hemming – 5174 6619

Secretary: Kate Dougan - 5127 7036

Editor: Aron Toman - 5192 4386

E-mail:

stagewrite@latrobetheatrecompany.org.au