



ARC Newsletter

Issue 15

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Notes from the President

Hello everyone, we are half way through the 2004-05 ARC year and there is much to share with you all.

The auditions for the "The Witches of Eastwick", held in mid February, drew the highest number of auditionees (around 70) ever seen for an ARC production. Together with our Artistic Team, the casting outcome this year means an unprecedented amount of young blood is flowing into ARC.

Rehearsals have begun and there is a palpable buzz and nervous excitement for what lies ahead. Over the next 6 months there will be scenes blocked, dances choreographed, songs learned, sets constructed, costumes made, advertising material published and so much more. Through all of this we will also see friendships forged, lessons learned, personal fears won-over and people rising to challenges.

Through the work of Sandra Schipano and the musical's Publicity Team, this year audiences will get a taste of our show through three sessions of preview performances at Northland. We predict this will be an extremely effective form of attracting audiences, particularly those who wouldn't usually come to an ARC show.

This year, in a move that will help maximise our ticket sales, we will be able to offer credit card purchasing of tickets both through our website and over the phone.

In other ARC news, the new Visual Identity, developed by Stuart Ford, has now been approved by the Committee and published on the website. You should already be seeing the new, con-



The Committee (L to R): Laura, Frank, Vickie, Michael, Melissa, Nick, Leah and Tanya

sistent look and feel of all official ARC documents.

Cathy Patullo and the Promotional DVD Team have storyboarded the film and are now scheduling the required filming and editing.

We now have ARC business cards that have been printed and distributed. In addition, ARC has purchased a mobile phone and has a fixed phone number.

For more detailed information about the issues facing the Committee, read our meeting minutes in the Members Area of the website. We encourage people to get to know what's going on and to become involved. The number of ways to get involved in ARC is ever increasing: join ARCApella, lend a hand backstage, organize fundraising events, help the Promotional DVD Team, make costumes, build sets, or even just come to the social events. This is your company, so make the most of what it has to offer!

Nicolaas Burgers
President

Trivia Night and Shopping Tour



In support of ARC's 2005 production of
The Witches of Eastwick

ARC presents its 2005...

trivia night

**Plenty of fun, games and prizes throughout the night.
BYO food and drinks, some available for purchase**

Date & Time: Sunday, April 10th 2005, 7:00pm

Venue: Santa Maria College
50 Separation St. Northcote

Booking Details: Arrange a table of 8 – 10
at \$10 per head and contact
0402 291 567, or
president@arc-theatre.com

www.arc-theatre.com

Amateur Repertory Company Inc.
Reg No. A0032824K



As you can see from the flyer (left), ARC's first fundraiser for 2005 is the Trivia Night, which judging by the success of last year, will be guaranteed fun! Make sure you book your table soon so you don't miss out!

For the shopaholics out there, get excited about the upcoming Shopping Tour on April 30! For those unfamiliar with shopping tours, shoppers meet at a collection point where a bus takes you to a variety of outlets to suit all tastes, and when you need an energy boost, shoppers enjoy lunch at a hotel, included in the cost of the tour. As with last year, Catherine Sharples will be hosting the tour. Keep an eye out on the website for upcoming details.

ARCappella

The first Sunday in February marked the resumption of ARCappella rehearsals and the introduction of two new songs to our repertoire; "Rubber Duckie" and an African spiritual called "Dubula". Already we have also performed for the Northcote Easter shoppers (the Saturday before Easter). We have plans underway to sing in a New Citizen ceremony and are applying to participate in this year's Eisteddfod A Cappella Choir competition. Keep a look out on the ARC message boards for details of these and other upcoming performances – fans are always welcome!

We are always looking for new members; if you would like to join, email me on arcappellamanager@arc-theatre.com

Douglas English
ARCappella Manager



ARCappella performing at the Darebin Festival

Musical 2005 — The Witches of Eastwick

After more than 30 hours of auditions, and over 75 auditionees later, the ARCTistic Team has managed to assemble a knockout cast for “The Witches of Eastwick”. The cast of 38 will bring to life the conservative town of Eastwick, full of housewives, librarians, grocery clerks, builders and school kids – a town full of larger-than-life characters who love a bit of ‘dirty laundry’!

The story of “Witches” revolves around Alex, Jane and Sukie; three outspoken women who wish for the perfect man. Their harmless dreaming results in the arrival of one Darryl Van Horne, whose ‘devilish’ charms bewitch the three women and turn Eastwick on its end!

This wicked musical comedy combines the flair of old Broadway with the style and excitement of the new era, boasting a fantastic musical score, amazing dance numbers, spectacular special effects, unforgettable characters and a sharp, side-splitting script.

Our first rehearsal was a momentous occasion, following the months of preparation that has already happened, and the BBQ that followed provided an opportunity for everyone to meet each other.

Already there is a great sense of unity within the cast, as we all work together to bring this exciting production to the stage. I and the Artistic Team are full of enthusiasm for what the next few months will hold. Casting was obviously an incredibly difficult process, but we are confident that the group we have assembled is one of enormous talent and potential, and we cannot wait to present the Victorian non-professional premiere of “The Witches of Eastwick” to you in July.

James Cutler
Director



A few of Artistic Team at the first production meeting (L to R). Michael, James, Melissa and Leigh

Spreading the word... “Witches” in the media

With ARC’s tenth musical production only months away excitement amongst fellow ARCians is growing at a rapid rate with none more excited than “The Witches of Eastwick” Publicity Team, spreading the word all over Melbourne.

This year’s Publicity Team is made up of seven members: Tanya Jenkinson, Amelia van Lint (Ticketing Operator), James Mason, John McTiernan, Stuart Ford (Graphic Designer), Melissa Ventura and Sandra Schipano (Media Officer/Publicist).

All members have been working on projects such as printing, promotional T-shirts, ticketing promotions, signage as well as new initiatives for 2005 including

direct schools marketing and the Northland Shopping Centre promotion.

All projects are well underway and I’m sure you will all soon see the results of the time and effort publicity members have dedicated to “The Witches of Eastwick”. If anyone has any publicity ideas, suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me a publicist@arc-theatre.com

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a brilliant team I am working with. Thanks for making my job so much easier.

Sandra Schipano

Production team positions — apply now!

There are positions in the Production Team still available!

- Costume Designer
- Front-of-House Coordinator

Don’t miss the opportunity to join the “Witches” team!

To enquire or to apply, contact Nick on 0408 658 918 or president@arc-theatre.com

Upcoming events

Mark these dates for your diaries!

Apr 10	Trivia Night
Apr 30	Shopping Tour
May 6-8	Rehearsal Camp
May 28	Scavenger Hunt/Car Rally
Jun 9, 10, 11	Performances at Northland
Jun 17	Karaoke Night
Jun 26	Bump In
Jun 27-30	Production Week
Jul 1-9	Performances (format TBA)
Aug 14	Annual General Meeting

Please note these dates are subject to change, please check the website for the latest developments.

New Visual Identity

ARC is proud to announce its new Visual Identity, an initiative of Stuart Ford raised at last year's Annual General Meeting. In consultation with the Committee, Stuart has created a Style Guide, available on the website, that governs how all ARC documents (and even the website) should appear. New templates developed according to the Style Guide include ARC letterhead, forms (including membership and emergency contact details) and others such as the Rehearsal Camp form.

We are also proud to announce Stuart has accepted the role of Graphic Designer after Jacqueline Flynn resigned due to family trauma. Our best wishes are with Jacqueline. See page 2 to see Stuart's work.

Leah D'Astoli
Secretary

Promotional DVD

An exciting storyboard is now in place for the ARC Promotional DVD. Filming is already underway and the team will stage a scene of an audition in the next few weeks. Expect to see someone behind a camera at all the ARC upcoming events, including rehearsals for "The Witches of Eastwick", set construction and Rehearsal Camp.

Since the last update, the team has collected consent forms from everyone involved in "Witches" to allow filming and organised a timeline for the project.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed footage and photos. At this stage, we have collected enough material on past events, but keep a look out on the website as we may seek assistance in the future.

The Promotional DVD is expected to be finished by September 20, 2005.

Cathy Patullo
Promotional DVD Manager



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