



ARC Newsletter

Issue 17

October 2005

President's notes

What an exciting year ahead for ARC! Firstly I'd like to thank the outgoing committee members: Nicolaas Burgers, Leah D'Astoli, Frank Saladino, Michael Paul and Laura Meese – who helped propel ARC to new heights with the Victorian amateur premiere of *The Witches of Eastwick*. Such was the success of tWoE that I'm delighted to announce our first invitation to perform at the Guild Awards (to be held on 10th December in Geelong) with Laura Burzacott, Virginia Crouch & Alana Kiely performing "Make Him Mine". I'd also like to extend my thanks to Cecelia Harkin (conductor) and Doug English (manager) of ARCappella for their continued dedication.

I'm proud to be leading such a fantastic team into 2006, with Sebastian Dworkin as vice-president, Meaghan Kominiarski as secretary, Vickie Zarifopoulos as treasurer and John McTiernan, Melissa Ventura, Stuart Ford & Catherine Sharples as general committee members. I'm excited to see a mix of youth and experience on the committee and I'm confident that we can achieve a great deal in the next 10 months.

We've already enjoyed a successful Recreation Camp – held in Anglesea, have started perusing scripts for the 2006 musical and well underway organising an ARC 10-year reunion for past members. Andrew Jameson has taken up his new role as webmaster of the ARC website (www.arc-theatre.com) with gusto and should be praised for his innovative changes – take a gander when you get the chance.

On a final exciting note, Matthew & Sara Spiteri are now the proud parents of Genevieve Olivia. Who knows, perhaps she'll be gracing the stage in the years to come.

Adrian Ventura
President

ARCappella

ARCappella, ARC's very own four part a cappella choir, has been flexing its performance muscles recently. Our most recent performance was part of the City of Darebin's "Music Feast" festival. We participated in a group workshop with numerous local choirs, followed by performances from each of the choirs involved.

The Christmas season will see us performing in some exciting yuletide events. Dates and times will be available shortly on the website www.arc-theatre.com under Activities – ARCappella. Come along and enjoy some Christmas favourites.

If you want to hone your singing skills or just want to be a part of a friendly and talented choir, you are welcome to come down to rehearsals to check it out. If you are interested in joining ARCappella, or know someone who might be, send me an e-mail on arcappellamanager@arc-theatre.com, or call me on 0409 971 230.

ARCappella is renowned for its diverse repertoire that includes everything from the Beatles, to African spirituals, to pop songs and musical numbers (and we're always open for new repertoire suggestions!). The only rule is it must be a cappella. We rehearse weekly on Sunday afternoons (currently 4pm - 6pm) and generally perform about once every month or two. Our performances range from community events such as music festivals, to wineries, retirement villages, weddings and birthdays.

Douglas English,
ARCappella Manager.

The Witches Of Eastwick

In July, 2005, ARC staged one of its most ambitious musicals so far: *The Witches of Eastwick*. This Victorian amateur premiere was one of the most successful ARC productions. Audience numbers were outstanding and almost every seat was filled.

We would like to thank and congratulate the Director, James Cutler and the rest of his artistic team, Michael Butler, Andrew Perry, Leigh Barker, and Melissa Rapinett on a sensational job well done. Their hard work, commitment and expertise manifested in a quality production.

Audience feedback from the production was very positive and the review by Peter Phillips on www.theatrepeople.com.au is well worth checking out.



Auditions were the most competitive ever for an ARC production. The final cast was highly talented and this showed in the final result. Laura Burzacott, Virginia Crouch and Alana Kiely have been asked to perform "Make Him Mine" at the upcoming Music Theatre Guild of Victoria awards.

Congratulations to the entire cast and crew on a rewarding and successful production.

Rec camp:

As you may be aware, unlike previous recreational camps, this year we decided to hold the weekend away on the first weekend of September. Located at the Lutheran Camp site in Anglesea it was great to be sharing such a beautiful weekend away with an ever-enthusiastic ARC crowd. While working on our tans, activities we took part in included shopping, sight-seeing and a "Fun-in the-sun" party held on the Saturday night. It was also a great opportunity to farewell

Leah D'Astoli who departed for London the following Tuesday (but by all reports she has settled into the European lifestyle without a hassle).

The future of ARC – in your hands

Discussion at this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 14 August of this year had to be cut short due time constraints.

To ensure a full and frank discussion of the future goals of ARC, we are holding a Special General Meeting (SGM) on 6th November at 12pm at the Preston Creative Living Centre. All current members of the company are encouraged to attend to contribute to the decision making-process on the future of ARC.

Mark the date in your diary now!

ARC 10 year reunion

Come celebrate ARC's 10th birthday and socialise with ARCians old and new while enjoying selected highlights from past ARC musicals performed by some familiar faces.

Date: Saturday 26th November 2005

Time: 7.30pm

Place: Santa Maria College Hall, 50 Separation Street, Northcote

Cost: \$5

BYO: Food and drinks (snacks for sale at kiosk)

See you there!

New-look ARC website

Over the last week you will have noticed some major changes to the ARC website. If you haven't, it's time you visited www.arc-theatre.com and had a look for yourself! These changes are the result of the commitment and dedication of our new Webmaster Andrew Jameson (webmaster@arc-theatre.com), they currently/will include:

- A new "tabbed" navigation system,
- Individual user accounts,
- A new messageboard (old entries still exist)
- A Photo Gallery from past shows and events
- The ARC Hire department

The member's section of the ARC website has undergone quite a change, it's here that you'll find the usual Calendar (with dates and times of official ARC events etc.) and the ARC-hive (home to minutes, newsletters and forms) but it's also where the new Message Board and even newer Photo Gallery are kept; a plethora of images are already there waiting to be viewed and commented on, or submit your own!

To access the new members section, you will need your own individual log-in. It's your online ARC identity and your key to access and keep up to date with all of the latest news and ongoings within ARC, how could one live without it?

e-mail: webmaster@arc-theatre.com today to activate your account!

Help wanted

Think you have what it takes to build and design sets? Fancy yourself as a costume designer? Or perhaps you have a passion for hair and make-up design. We are always looking for new recruits to help out in areas other than performance. If you would like to get involved in ARC in set construction, costumes, make-up, front of house or any other non performance capacity, please contact us for more information on secretary@arc-theatre.com

Guild awards

This year marks a very exciting first for ARC. Laura Burzacott, Virginia Crouch and Alana Kiely have been invited to perform their rendition of "Make Him Mine" from *The Witches of Eastwick* at The Music Theatre Guild of Victoria awards night - the night of nights for Victorian Amateur Theatre

This year the event will be held at the Costa Hall, Deakin University, Geelong on Saturday 10th December commencing at 8pm. It would be fantastic to have you come and support our girls and enjoy what always proves to be a tremendous night out. Tickets are on sale now and selling

fast. ARC is holding a number of tickets which are mostly already allocated. If you want to come along we may be able to get more tickets, however places will fill up quickly. Contact Adrian on president@arc-theatre.com or 0403 398 244 for more information or to make a booking. Group accommodation with the ARC contingent is available.

New committee Member

We are delighted to welcome Catherine Sharples to the committee of ARC. Catherine volunteered to fill the remaining vacancy unfilled at the last AGM.

Baby news

Congratulations to Matt and Sara on the occasion of the birth of their baby girl Genevieve Olivia. We've seen the pics, and she's gorgeous.

Asset Inventory

We have been hard at work cataloguing the ARC assets. The final results will be available on the website shortly.

We are excited about this project which sets the company up for future growth. Easy identification of current assets for ARC technical crew and potential external hirers will now be just few clicks away. Photos and descriptions of each item have been collected and are being organised into a systematic catalogue for online access. This catalogue will allow updates to be made as new assets are acquired.

Contact list updates:

We want to keep you informed about ARC and its activities. We use our newsletters and emails to keep you up to date. If you haven't been receiving your email updates or you have changed your address please send an email to secretary@arc-theatre.com or write to us at PO Box 1593 Preston South VIC 3072.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter in email only, please let us know.

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