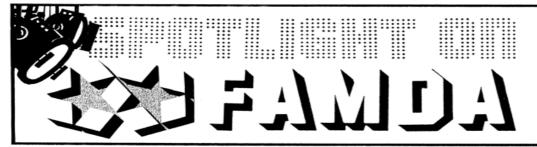
#### Foster Amateur Music & Drama Association Inc.



#### October—November 2011

#### FAMDA Committee 2011—12

President: Tania Pell

Vice President: Dianne Paragreen

Secretary: Andrew Oldroyd Treasurer: Norm Willoughby

Publicist: Jennifer Paragreen

General: Peter Rushen



Max Hastings 23.11.1940—29.10.2011

The FAMDA Family mourns the passing on Saturday 29 October of our esteemed life member, director, actor, singer, set-builder and past treasurer and president, Max Hastings. We will sadly miss Max's sheer talent, enthusiasm for theatre and his commitment to having FAMDA strive for excellence.

Max joined FAMDA in 1984 as Gremio in Kiss Me Kate. Since then he has performed in plays like High Infidelity, Top Silk, A Month of Sundays, Shadowlands, Blue Remembered Hills and, most recently, Heroes. He had major roles in musicals, playing Jud in Oklahoma!, Angel Chicago in Follow the Star, Pseudolus in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum and Harold Hill in The Music Man.

Directing credits include The Golden Legion of Cleaning Women, The Bespoke Overcoat, Educating Rita, Shadowlands, Blue Remembered Hills &the joint FAMDA / Leongatha Lyric production of Guys and Dolls. He was chairman of GAT for several years and worked with other Gippsland companies, performing with Leongatha Lyric in Wind in the Willows and as Georg Von Trapp in The Sound of Music and playing Thénadier in Warragul's 2000 version of Les Misérables.

An extremely talented actor, Max won Gippsland Associated Theatre awards for performances as C. S. Lewis in Shadowlands, Cooper in A Month of Sundays and The Actor in The Woman in Black, and best supporting actor awards in a musical as Motel in Fiddler on the Roof' and in a play as Donald in Blue Remembered Hills. Max also earned GAT awards for his direction of The Bespoke Overcoat, Educating Rita, Guys and Dolls and Blue Remembered Hills. He was nominated by the Victorian Drama League as best actor in a leading role for his performance in *The Woman in Black* and by the Music Theatre Guild as best supporting actor for his role as Mr. Sowerberry in Oliver!.

Max has left an indelible mark on FAMDA and Gippsland theatre. He will be sadly missed as a friend and theatrical mentor.



over the weekend of 17 and 18 September when the Prom Coast Singers hosted Sing South Gippsland!, a choral festival which included workshops by the fabulous Australian choral composer, conductor and educator, Stephen Leek



The Prom Coast Singers at the Saturday night concert



Stephen Leek conducts the Sunday morning choristers' workshop



An energetic and enthusiastic Stephen Leek proved to be also an encouraging and entertaining inspiration to over 120 singers involved through two choral workshops. On Saturday evening each of the six choirs involved in the festival entertained each other and their audience with songs they had been rehearsing specially for the event. A second singing workshop was held on Sunday morning after which the singers enjoyed a light lunch. The general public was then invited in to see Stephen Leek conduct a master class working with individual choirs using some of the music which had been presented on the previous evening and reiterating many of the principles discussed during the workshops.

Stephen worked with the Prom Coast Singers on two of his own songs, Monkey and Turtle and Trade Winds. The difference in the performance of all the choirs was amazing and the festival was thoroughly enjoyed by both singers and audience.

# Have you a project you would like to see FAMDA stage? Do you have a desire to direct a show?

FAMDA is now seeking expressions of interest from an enthusiastic and committed person with a project (play or musical) he or she would like to be involved with for FAMDA in 2012 or even 2013.

Contact any member of the FAMDA Committee now with your CV and proposal.

Tania Pell 0427 832 303 pell.tania.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

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Peter Rushen 0409 940 562 prushen@bigpond.com

# Theatre awards time is fast approaching! DATES FOR YOUR DIARY





#### GIPPSLAND ASSOCIATED THEATRE Inc.

Saturday 3 December - Trafalgar Public Hall

#### The Victorian Drama League

Sunday 4 December - Merrimu Receptions, Murrumbeena





### iusic theatre guild of Victoria, inc.

Saturday 10 December—Frankston Arts Centre

# FAMDA

P. O. Box 186 Foster 3960 0400 867 872

famda@dcsi.net.au www.famda.org.au

**Latrobe Theatre Company** 



Saturday shows 2pm & 8pm

12 November Yallourn North Hall Reserve Street

Tickets: 0488 582 849

19 November
Toongabbie Mechanics Institute
Cnr Cowen St and King St
Tickets: 0488 582 849

November 26
Latrobe Performing Arts Centre

Grey Street, Traralgon **Tickets:** 5176 3559

## Spotlight on FAMDA

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## **FOODWORKS**

Community Supermarket

Supporting local community events 58 Main St., 5682 2495

#### PROM COAST FILM SOCIETY

The next film is in French with English subtitles, *Le Père de Mes Enfants* or *FATHER OF MY CHILDREN*, screening at 8pm on Friday 4 November.

A charming and popular man, Grégoire (played by Louis-Do de Lencquesaing) appears to lead an enviable life. Happily married with three kids, he runs a respected company that produces indie films. However, the enormous debts that Grégoire owes to various banks, creditors and film labs leads the producer to a drastic course of action.

Directed by Mia Hansen-Love, the film is both a convincing portrait of the punishing realities of funding arthouse cinema and an affecting study of a family attempting to keep going after a personal tragedy. It's also a thoughtfully structured work graced by moments of quiet beauty and exceptional performances.

The Prom Coast Film Society shows films at 8pm on the first Friday of each month. Subscriptions are \$75 for the year or \$28 for 3 consecutive months. Members can bring a friend using a guest pass. New members are welcome.

Final 2011 screening—Friday 2nd December The King's Speech (2010) UK - Drama/History - M

