

**FEBRUARY 2014** 

FAMDA Committee 2013 – 14
President: Edwin Coad
Vice President: Dianne Paragreen
Secretary: Jane Park
Treasurer: Andrew Oldroyd
Publicist: Jennifer Paragreen
Anda Ranikas Peter Clyne

Anda Banikos Peter Clyne
Marieke Ormsby Marg Rudge
Norm Willoughby



P. O. Box 186 Foster 3960 0400 867 872

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

## FAMDA'S 61st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8:00pm Thursday 13 March 2014 Foster War Memorial Arts Centre

Please bring a plate or a bottle for a shared supper



# MDA INVITATION

This is your chance to show your interest in joining the FAMDA committee or to nominate someone who, you think, would make a good committee member.



FAMDA urges you to think

about joining the committee that runs your theatre company. New members and longstanding members all have something to contribute to the continuing successful operation of this wonderful company and are welcome to join the Committee.

All positions are available and FAMDA is looking to expand the committee so check out the details on www.famda.org.au, where you can download a nomination form, or speak to any member of the current committee to organise a nomination to join this vibrant group and welcome aboard.

# ATTENTION ACTORS AGED 10—14

Bugsy Malone is a show like nothing else! It was designed specially to be performed by a cast of young, fresh-faced 12 and 13 year olds who play the roles of gangsters, boxers, deadbeats, singers, dancers and speakeasy customers in a story about gang warfare in New York during the 1920s.

Here is your chance to be involved in FAMDA's next production, **Bugsy Malone**, which is closely based on the 1976 film by Alan Parker which famously starred a thirteen year old Jodie Foster. Check it out on YouTube!

There are no adults in this play. We do need boys and girls aged about ten to fourteen (roughly Years 5 to 8) so long as they present as children and not as young adults. The show has an on-stage band and we would like that to be made up entirely of students, presenting as night-club musos, although we will have an adult pianist.

There are seven songs, of which four are solos and there are two big dance numbers.

FAMDA will be staging **Bugsy Malone** at the end of the second term holidays between 11 and 19 July.

Kids, teenage musicians and their parents are invited to the information night to find out all about getting involved in Bugsy Malone. You can get into practice for your audition at the workshop day and then audition by appointment on Sunday 16 February.

#### PLAY READING INVITATION

Play readings are a great means to a theatrical social time without the stress of rehearsing three times a week. People can get together with others in a relaxed environment to read through an old favourite or enjoy the excitement of a new play.

A play reading is also ideal for someone wanting to give theatre a go but too shy to audition or for an old hand who would like to try reading new roles without the pressure of auditions on their shoulders.

FAMDA's next play reading and social night will be held at 7:30pm on Friday 21st February at Linda and Larry Giddy's home, 245 O'Grady's Ridge Rd, Foster North.

Come along to enjoy a night of do-it-yourself theatre with no rehearsals, no lines to learn and no need to read unless you choose to volunteer!

Along with the spectacular views, we may be looking at short plays suitable for the forthcoming Bendigo Bank Foster One Act Play Festival to be hosted by FAMDA on the weekend of 9 & 10 August.

You don't have to be a FAMDA member to come to the play reading so everyone is warmly invited to this most enjoyable social and theatrical event. **There is no charge but you are asked to bring drinks and a plate for a shared supper.** 



Congratulations to FAMDA's new life members, Peter Clyne, Norm Willoughby, Kate Crowl and Arie Bos who were presented with their awards at FAMDA's recent 60th birthday celebrations.

Kate's FAMDA histories, *FAMDA Frolics* (1953—2003) and *FAMDA's Further Frolics* (2003—2013) are now on sale at Main Street Revelations and Foster's Little Bookshop for the princely sum of just \$5 each.

#### FOREIGNERS FROM HOME

Writer and director, Chris Dickins, earned two VDL nominations in competition with 27 plays from across the state, for both the sound and the lighting design of FAMDA's 'Foreigners from Home'.

Bruce Grainger was nominated by the VDL as the best supporting actor in a drama and he won a Gippsland Theatre award for his performance as Walter.

FAMDA has since sponsored the two youngest stars in the production, Leuca Maclean and Harley McDonald Eckersall, who spent a week in Melbourne during January at the Victorian Drama League Youth Summer School.

60 YEARS OF FOSTER THEATRE 1953—2013 Exhibition of FAMDA memorabilia costumes, photos, posters, programs, props Foster Historical Museum 11am—4pm weekends

# Join the Prom Coast Film Society The Society runs screenings at 8:00pm on the first Friday of each month at Fish Creek Hall.

The first film for 2014 is **Samsara**, a 2011 documentary film, directed by Ron Fricke.

It was filmed over five years in 25 countries around the world. It was shot in 70 mm format and output to digital format.

Premiering at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival, it had a limited release in August 2012.

Samsara explores the wonders of our world from the mundane to the miraculous, looking into the unfathomable reaches of man's spirituality and the human

SAMSARA

experience. Neither a traditional documentary nor a travelogue, *Samsara* takes the form of a nonverbal, guided meditation.



7 February - Samsara

7 March - Seven Psychopaths

4 April - The Intouchabes

2 May - Beautiful Kate

6 June - Searching for Sugarman

- Paul Kelly: Stories of Me

4 July - Mad Bastards

1 August - Monsieur Lazhar

5 September

-The Reluctant Fundamentalist

3 October - Django Unchained

7 November - The Angels' Share

5 December - Bernie

Subscription only, no single tickets enquiries: 0407 548 871

**Maffra Dramatic Society – CALENDAR GIRLS** ~ an uplifting and very inspiring true story that is quirky, poignant and hilarious.

Based on the true story of eleven WI members who posed nude for a calendar to raise money for the Leukaemia Research Fund, Calendar Girls opened at the Chichester Festival Theatre and has since become the fastest selling play in British theatre history.

ALL the profits for this show (and it's accompanying 'nude' calendar) are going to the Central Gippsland Health Service Oncology Unit redevelopment project at the Sale Hospital

Performances: 14 – 22 February 8pm Fridays & Saturdays Matinée 2pm Sunday 16 February Esso BHP Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre, 100 Foster St, Sale

www.maffradramatics.com .. Bookings: 5143 3200 (www.ebbwec.com.au)

#### RARELY PERFORMED – LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS TO STAR!

**Cardinia Performing Arts Company (CPAC) – WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND** ~ advertised as 'Andrew Lloyd Webber's best show since Phantom!'

22 February – 7 March

**8pm** Saturdays 22 Feb & 1 March, Friday 8 March, **2pm** Sundays 23 Feb & 2 March, **7pm** Thursday 6 March Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham

www.cardiniaperformingarts.com .... 9587 1750 or 0407 090 354

### FORTHCOMING GIPPSLAND SHOWS

Bairnsdale Production Line Theatre – ANNIE ~ comic strip comes to life with an uplifting 'Depression' musical

2 - 18 May

**Leongatha Lyric Theatre – LIFE AFTER GEORGE** ~ Written with passion and dangerous wit, a compelling drama from Hannie Rayson, the author of 'Hotel Sorrento'. Peter George, charismatic academic, idealist, lover of life, is dead. His wife, two ex-wives and daughter gather for his funeral . . . 9 – 17 May

**Latrobe Theatre Company – FOOTLOOSE** ~ New in town, schoolboy Ren is shocked by the local laws – including a ban on dancing.

May

**Wonthaggi Theatrical Group – JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** ~ the rock opera – a dramatised version of the last seven days in the life of Jesus of Nazareth

May – June

**Warragul Theatre Company – PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** ~ A tale of mystery, love and despair, set at the "Opera Populaire" in Paris during the 1870's. 27 June – 12 July

**FAMDA - BUGSY MALONE** ~ set in 1920s USA during the age of prohibition and gangsters. A musical play with a cast aged 10 – 14 11 – 19 July

**Leongatha Lyric Theatre – YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN** ~ The amazing Mel Brooks musical that followed 'The Producers'

August 29 - September 14

#### SOME INTERESTING PLAYS ON THE HORIZON

## Some remarkable double ups

**ALMOST MAINE** ~ As the Northern Lights hover in the night sky over the fictional town of Almost, residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways

## **Geelong Repertory Theatre**

#### Williamstown Little Theatre

13 February - 1 March 8:15 Tuesdays – Saturdays, 5pm Sundays 2-4 Albert Street, Williamstown www.wlt.org.au 9885 9678

**QUARTET** ~ A play that could be on many theatre companies' bucket list - a bittersweet, witty, funny & heartfelt play which explores love, regret, unfulfilled ambition and advancing years

#### **Mordialloc Theatre Company**

14 February – 1 March Thursdays – Saturdays @ 8pm, Sunday matinées @ 2:30 Shirley Burke Theatre, 64 Parkers Road, Parkdale www.mordialloctheatre.com 9587 5141 \* VDL Awards Entry \*

### The Basin Theatre Group

14 – 8 March 8pm Thursdays to Saturdays Sunday matinées @ 2pm Theatre: Cnr Simpson & Doongalla Roads, The Basin <a href="https://www.thebasintheatre.org.au">www.thebasintheatre.org.au</a> 1300 784 668

# THE GLASS MENAGERIE ~ Tennessee Williams' classic about delusions of Southern grandeur.

## Heidelberg Theatre Company

20 February – 8 March 8pm Wednesdays— Saturdays, 2pm Sundays 36 Turnham Avenue, Rosanna www.htc.org.au 9457 4117

#### **Essendon Theatre Company**

27 March – 5 April Thursday, Fridays & Saturdays @ 8pm, Sunday matinée @ 2pm Bradshaw Street Community Hall, 9 Bradshaw St ((Enter off Buckley St), Essendon www.essendontheatrecompany.com 0422 029 483 \* VDL Awards Entry \*

**FAMDA nostalgia** — (A drama staged by FAMDA in 1969)

Malvern Theatre Company – TRAP FOR A LONELY MAN ~ a gripping psychological thriller set in a chalet in the French Alps.

28 Feb. – 15 March 8:15 Tuesdays – Saturdays also 2pm Saturday 1 & Sunday 9 March 29a Burke Road, East Malvern

www.malverntheatre.com.au 1300 131 552