

THE OFFICIAL CASTLEMAINE THEATRE CO. NEWSLETTER, **AUTUMN 2013**



Thomas Moore in rehearsal as John

AFTERSHOCKS TICKETS ON SALE NOW..

We are very excited to announce that tickets for the new CTC production, *Aftershocks* are now on sale at **Maine Shoes and Accessories, 174 Barker Street, 5472 1136.**

Tickets are \$25 full, \$20 concession and for groups of 5 or more, \$18 per head

Tickets include a free tea or coffee

Current financial members of the CTC can purchase tickets at the concession price of \$20 (box office has a complete list)

The 9 Show dates are: **24, 25, 26, 31 May; 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 June at The Phee Broadway** Theatre, Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine. Evening shows start at 8pm and Sunday matinees start at 2pm.

Aftershocks explores the aftermath of the 1989 Newcastle earthquake. It's 'verbatim' theatre, in which the script is developed from real statements from those who survived the trauma. The quake hit hardest at the Newcastle Workers Club, a significant community venue. The famous band Crowded House were supposed to play at the Club on the evening of the day when the earthquake struck. If it had happened a few hours later, two thousand people would have been at the venue. As it was, nine people died at the Club as a result of its dramatic collapse.



Tiffany Naughton (as Jenny) and Louise Taylor (as Kerry)



Maree Pisani (Fay) and Ken MacLeod (Bob)

We've asked some of the actors to reflect on the experience of working on *Aftershocks* – here's Laura Hall-Levetan who plays the characters of Elaine and Melba:

"You're a character in some sense of the word, a story teller in every sense of the word; there is no 4th wall, you're a year out from the earthquake disaster that in 1989 shook the Newcastle Workers' Club to its foundations and beyond; you interact with others on stage but not really.....these are the challenges for the cast of 11 currently in rehearsal. As Elaine Gibson and Melba Middleby, I need to get the gist of 'verbatim theatre' into my head from women whose stories form part of the tapestry

the vantage point of the two different that is *Aftershocks*. We are one step removed from the characters, we are doing a re-enactment...and the lines are truly verbatim, sometimes making them fairly tongue twisting and requiring a reach into meaning that is most certainly there but not that obvious. We're getting it! I'm loving building up this gripping and moving theatre piece with the cast and director Tricia O'Hara, whose eye for detail and insight into where we should be at what stage of rehearsal is wonderful to work with. 'On the night' it will be all up to us as actors with help from some visuals and lighting. No schmancy set and props and 'done like a

dinner' costume to sort of hold us together – this is an actors' play and getting down to what the story means, how we are linked, how we survived and what we lost form the pivots of this play. Scripts down now... We'll get those verbatim words under our 1980s belts and take you to the core of the quake and its aftermath. Well yeah, Tricia will hang us if we don't, even though we survived!!



L-R Vyv Rodnight, Tiffany, Laura, Donna Steven and Ramon Angeloni



Tiffany, Vyv, Ken and Tom work out some radical blocking to create the urgency of the scene...



Kenneth MacLeod, CTC President, who plays Bob:
"This is theatre of the people, by the people and for the people. These stories are memories of an overwhelming event, recorded on tape through verbal interviews, edited

into a script, then retold by actors to an audience. The words of ordinary everyday people whose ordinary everyday world suddenly and violently collapsed around them. The actors have had to enter into these ordinary words to make maps to reconstruct, to re-imagine extraordinary journeys."

The CTC Committee would like to congratulate...

Aftershocks actor Thomas Moore and his partner Morgan, on the birth of their first child, a beautiful baby girl on April 29. Thomas's dad Ron is *Aftershocks* Stage Manager and actor Louise Taylor was the midwife. So she is a veritable *Aftershocks* baby. Can she be our mascot Tom?



CTC YOUTH GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

The CTC Youth Group is in full swing again this year, with our core group returning with enthusiasm, and some new and very welcome additions to the ensemble. After a term of revising and building on our theatre skills using games, soundscapes, and improvised small pieces, we have now begun work on

another group devised production, to be performed in the Phee in November. This year we will be workshopping *Cinderella* - modernised, inverted, subverted and totally given the CTC stamp. As a first step in the process, we have started work on the characters - sweet and pretty, pretty nasty, feisty, with attitude, boguns, belles and primadonnas. We are having a lot of fun, improvising little parts of the story to see what begins to shake out for inclusion in the final product. For enquires about CTC Youth contact Kath Waugh on 0419 445 510 peacheywaugh@bigpond.com



Facilitator Kirstie Babbage and the CTC Kids get their heads and hands around some tricky coordination games

YOUR THEATRE COMPANY NEEDS YOU! GET INVOLVED

If you would like to get involved in the activities of the CTC – act, work backstage, front of house, on costumes, set, directing, joining our committee, come along to our 'Speakeasy' nights (play reading/theatre sports) – contact our secretary at castlemainetheatreco@gmail.com or visit us on facebook.



***That's it for Autumn, support local culture.
See you at Aftershocks!
Don't forget to visit Castlemaine Theatre
Company on Facebook***

Castlemaine
Theatre Company
presents

By Paul Brown
and the Newcastle
Workers Committee
Directed by
Tricia O'Hara

Phee Broadway Theatre
Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine
MAY Fri 24th 8pm, Sat 25th 8pm, Sun 26th 2pm, Fri 31st 8pm
JUNE Sat 1st 8pm, Sun 2nd 2pm, Fri 7th 8pm, Sat 8th 8pm,
Sun 9th June 2pm
Tickets: \$25/\$20/\$18 (groups of 5 or more)
Bookings: Maine Shoes & Accessories
174 Barker St, Castlemaine, ph: 5472 1136

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Thanks again to our wonderful Graphic Designer Josh Durham for another stunning poster! Check them out around town. Meanwhile Meg Norris has been working hard on our website design...more of that in our Winter edition.