

HEADLINER

SPRING 2014

THE OFFICIAL CTC NEWSLETTER
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WHAT PRICE THE CTC?

I don't have to tell you that we are doing a fundraiser on Saturday 29th of November (this coming Saturday) do I? No, you know that! You might be asking yourself, why should I give the CTC my hard earned, when they haven't even put on a play??? Good question. Thought you might be interested to know how much it costs to keep the CTC in operation, and why we need your support now more than ever.

To keep the Castlemaine Theatre Company running, it costs us around \$3000 a year, that's just for administration, without any production budgets included. It might sound a lot, but in order to be an incorporated not-for-profit we need to pay an annual fee to the government, we need to be fully insured to make sure we don't put any of our volunteers and audiences at risk, we need to keep our website live, we need to cover basic stationary costs....all these sundries add up.

Our shows usually have a modest budget of around \$6000, so if we do 2 shows a year we need to generate \$15,000 in revenue, which mainly comes from ticket sales. That's quite a task for a small organisation in a town of 8-9000.

So why no end of year production? Mostly because of the unavailability of venues, which I talked about extensively in Winter Headliner, but also because we had no one available to direct or production manage. Everybody who works for the CTC does so on a voluntary basis, and the more people who get involved, the easier the workload. We need people who are prepared to take on the responsible positions within a production – production manager, front of house manager, stage manager, director, technicians and designers. These positions require commitment, the ability to plan effectively, delegate and give clear instructions to others. People who are prepared to do this on a voluntary basis are very special, and derive a huge sense of achievement from being part of our team. Often these roles go to the same people, show after show, and then we have the perennial Castlemainian problem...*BURN OUT*. We all work, study or have families or both, so we end up exhausted.

Back in the day, the CTC put on 3 shows a year. Imagine if we had the human resources to be able to do that!

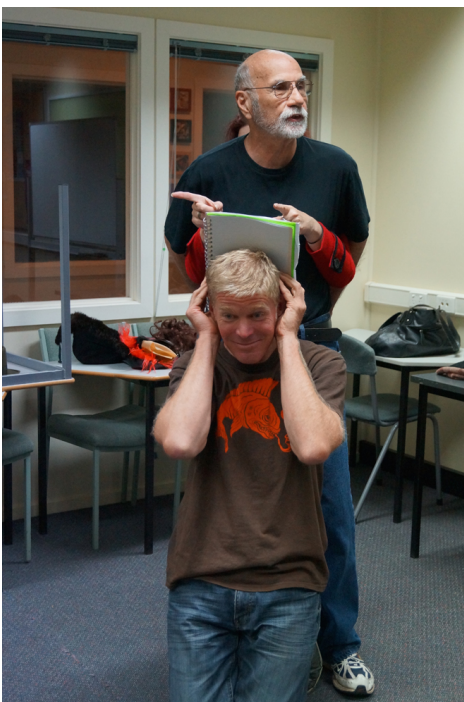
Does Castlemaine need a not-for-profit theatre company? We provide opportunities for community members to express their creativity as part of a collaborative project, to explore and extend their capabilities and to experience the 'magic of theatre'. This magic is the feeling you get of joy, connection and achievement when you have stretched yourself and have supported others to do the same, it's the magic that means that 'the show must go on' – so you feel part of something bigger than yourself, bigger than your immediate family, with a venerable history that makes it even bigger than your local community...yet magically it can encompass all those things. Anyone who has attended one of our production thank you celebrations will understand this magic. So you decide. If you think we are providing an important service then come along

this Saturday 29th November, to the Senior Citz at 7.30pm for the amazingly reasonable price of \$15, join Vinyl Vera and her friends, and help keep the CTC going for another year or two. Book a ticket to show your commitment, or even better a table with some friends, by calling Laura on 0412 887 835 or searching for Vinyl Vera on www.trybooking.com

And here's why it's going to be hilarious and awesome...

Meet The One and Only VINYL VERA!

The stage is set for Castlemaine Theatre Company's inaugural fundraising extravaganza, Vinyl Vera's Variety Show, coming to the Senior Citizens Room on November 29. Hosted by local performer, Tim Ratcliffe, the show promises a convivial night of comedy, theatre, music and poetry, and will showcase the talents of CTC and guest performers, including celebrated puppeteers, Mark Penzak and Eliza Gilchrist who will be presenting a 'spooky meets stand-up meets puppets' piece called 'Surprising Death'. Castlemaine's theatresports crew, The Improvables, led by Hollywood veteran, Ramon Angeloni will be taking us on a wild ride into the wonderful world of impro, and the lovely Bridget Haylock, (whose considerable talents were showcased in Playhouse Creatures earlier this year when she played Mrs. Marshall) will be singing two songs. Newcomer Peter Bevin will be singing some classic show tunes. Erstwhile bush poet Eddie



Holland will be recounting his Christmas Classic 'Turk'. The inimitable Phil McDonald will be pulling a rabbit out of a hat (or something along those lines). Making her first appearance in Castlemaine, hipster DJ, Vinyl Vera, will keep the entertainment rolling. The evening will also feature an auction and lively Stage and Screen team Trivia Quiz, with prizes and auction items generously donated by local businesses.

The fun starts at 7:30pm November 29 at the Senior Citizens Room in Mechanics Lane. A range of liquid refreshments will be available for sale, and guests are invited to bring their own picnic nibbles.

Tickets are \$15 or \$10 conc., and are available from Laura on 0412 887 835 or by searching "Vinyl Vera" on www.trybooking.com.

WHAT A LINE UP!!!



Mark Penzak and spooky friend, unless Eliza's lost weight recently....

The irresistible Improvables – How much fun can you stand?

From left: Michael McMahon, Facilitator Ramon Angeloni, Thomas Moore, Susie Burke, Deborah Cowen (cunningly concealed), Ian Flavel, and Pennie Hume



MC Tim Ratcliffe gives Paprika Sanchez' paw-paw a squeeze at Garden Chef, State Festival 2013

WHAT'S UP FOR 2015?

The first production for next year will be Australian – we've got 2 scripts under consideration at the moment, the first is an Australian black comedy written in the 90s and the other is an edgy Australian classic. Both of them interestingly deal with generational cultural change. We'll most likely be auditioning before Xmas, so look out for the email notifications.

Later in the year we'll be tackling the riotous saga of Monkey, the ancient Chinese legend made famous in the 1980s by the Japanese hit TV series Monkey Magic, which became a global phenomenon. We want to involve grown-ups and kids in this production, and local musician Charles Affleck will be writing some original music – which is very exciting! You'll be hearing more about Monkey as the year progresses....



PS...CHOCOLATE, STRAWBERRY, VANILLA available at CASTLEMAINE VIDEOLAND!

And guess what? The new Australian movie Chocolate, Strawberry, Vanilla is now available at Castlemaine Videoland. Some of you may know that it features our very own, the lovely Aston Elliott who starred in the CTC production of The Local Stigmatic in 2012, and Cat on a Hot Tin Roof in 2008. Love your work Aston!

KEEP SENDING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEADLINER!

Please send me articles for Headliner, if you have been involved in a recent show I'd love to hear your story - or you could review a local production, or let us know about other things going on in the world of local theatre. Photos to accompany your articles are much appreciated. The next Headliner will be going out in February, and I'd like it to reflect the many diverse voices of the Castlemaine Theatre Company. Send your articles to castlemainetheatreco@gmail.com

That's all for now...enjoy the last week of Spring...like us on facebook, check out the website, support local theatre...see you there!