

# ARC Newsletter

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## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Please allow me to welcome you all to the first newsletter from the 2003/2004 committee.

We have many new and exciting projects in store for ARC over the coming months, starting with the first-ever "ARC Youth Variety Night", on Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. This will be a night for ARC members to showcase their amazing talents, be it singing, dancing, acting, comedy, or in fact anything you can think of. I look forward to seeing you there as a performer or an audience member.

December 13 will see ARC attending the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria awards in Frankston. As you know, last year Anthony Ventura won an award for his performance as Motel in *Fiddler On The Roof* so here's hoping ARC will be recognised again.

On January 9-11, the company's annual Recreational Camp occurs. It's a bit like the rehearsal camp, but without the rehearsals, and a lot more time for fun. Further details will be available on the website <http://www.arc-theatre.com/> in the coming weeks. All members are welcome to attend.

We are also in the process of organising a winery tour, probably to be held in the Yarra Valley region. If you're interested

check the website for the details once they are finalised.

As members of ARC, we all have a role to play in developing the company. The enthusiasm and ownership shown by those who attended the last AGM demonstrated just how much people care about the theatre group. To give everyone a more direct say in how the company can develop and the chance to put forward our ideas, we are holding the ARC Strategic Summit next year.

Another way we can contribute to the company is volunteering. There are opportunities for members to help out in the Variety Night beyond performing. Please check out the article for the details of what's required and contact Jayne Lovelock if you're interested.



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The committee this year consists of myself as President, Catherine Sharples as Vice-President, John McTiernan as Secretary, Renai Bortolin as Treasurer, and

Melissa Ventura, Nicolaas Burgers, Melinda Savino and Jeremy Tobschall as general members. Please allow me to offer a heartfelt thank-you to all members of the new committee, who have offered their time willingly, and have worked tirelessly to bring these events to fruition. Nothing could be possible without your help. Thanks guys!

If you have any queries or feedback for me, please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Variety Night.

Seb Dworkin



**FURTHER UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

***Rec Camp***

The 2003-04 rec camp will be held January 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.

This annual event gives us all a chance to relax and catch up in a social atmosphere. There will be activities and plenty of time for fun.

As always, all members are welcome to participate. Check the website for the details on venue and price once these are finalised.



***Wine tour:***

The company is considering our first ever wine tour. There has been considerable interest from members. If we can structure a viable budget and transport, we will be proceeding with the idea. Keep your eyes peeled for more.

All members over the age of 18 will be welcome.

***ARC Strategic Summit:***

Next year the company will encourage the feedback and ideas on the short and long term development of ARC at the ARC Strategic Summit.

Watch the website for the announcement on the date and venue of this event.

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## Committee Reports

The 2003-04 committee has thrown itself into running and developing ARC. Significant decisions so far include the Variety Night and the 2004 musical selection. We have also been working to develop ARCCappella and to give members a greater say in the company.

The inaugural Variety Night gives members the chance to entertain and perform in a lighter atmosphere than the annual musical. It will be enjoyed and valued by performers and audience alike. This will be the first major performance produced by the new committee, and we are looking forward to it too.

### *2004 Musical Selection*

The 2004 musical selection is almost complete. There were a number of discussion points which we used to evaluate the shows under consideration. They were:

- The size of the cast
- The prominence and size of the chorus/emsemble
- The number of female leads
- Costumes
- Sets
- Number of recent performances
- Recognition with the general public
- Differences and similarities to recent ARC productions
- Ticket sales
- Attraction to auditioners

The committee considered a number of shows in light of these issues. We also announced that the decision was underway on the website, listing the discussion points, and invited members to offer suggestions, feedback, and ideas.

We have chosen *Sweet Charity*. This show was also the recommendation of the previous committee. We think it has a lot to offer the company and the membership. We are currently negotiating the rights to this production with Tams-Whitmark. We know everyone is looking forward to an outstanding 2004 musical production and *Sweet Charity* will help effect that.

### *Communication & Participation*

The committee is keen to involve everyone in the company as much as possible. Sometimes members do not see a lot of what the committee is doing, do not get the chance to participate, and feel that they do not have a say in the decisions.

To give everyone the chance to have a say, we are hosting the ARC Strategic Summit next year. Members will get the opportunity to discuss the long term development of the company and to put forward their ideas on what they would like to happen. Please check out the website for details on the venue and date of this event.

To give everyone the information on what we are up to, we have made the decision to publish regular committee reports on the website. Interested members will be directly able to see what their committee is up to and what the major issues facing the company are. These will be appearing soon. We hope you will use this opportunity.

To give everyone a chance to participate, we are hoping to involve more members directly in the workings of the company. The ARC Variety Night will require a number of volunteers. If you would like to participate more directly, please check out the details in the Variety Night article in this newsletter, the website, and directly with Jayne Lovelock. The same will occur in the 2004 musical, and we hope you will take up these opportunities.