

# ARC Newsletter

Issue: 25, November 2009



## From the President

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the latest edition of the ARC Newsletter, choc full with all the latest news regarding all things ARC.

Much has happened since our last instalment including the completion of yet another successful ARC production (*West Side Story*), the beginning stages of ARC's next production (*Hello, Dolly!*), the launching of the ARC Christmas Choir, the return of Rec Camp and plenty more as you will soon discover.

As is the case every year, we now have brand new and talented Committee at the helm, but before I introduce the new group I'd like to take a moment to thank the outgoing Committee members and acknowledge the contributions they've made to the company over the last year or two.

Firstly to our outgoing General Committee Reps, Ashleigh Kreveld, Diana Perini, and in particular Portia Chiminello and Dee Bellen, thank you all for your hard work and commitment over the past year. Thank you also to our outgoing Secretary Jessica Broadbent who stepped in mid term and did a marvellous job as company Secretary.

To Zoe Hallwright, ARC's Treasurer for the past two years, thank you for your incredible contribution. And lastly to our outgoing President Mark Kearney whose leadership, guidance, hard work and enthusiasm over the past two years are chiefly responsible for the envied position that the company now sees itself in. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Now to the new bunch of young ARCians that have stepped up and joined the Committee for 09/10. This outstanding group consists of Evan Mulholland (Vice-President), Anthony Economou (Treasurer), Ashleigh Psaila (Secretary), Nicholas Barca, Ellen Lane, Louise Parsons and Natalie Torcaso (General Representatives). Judging by the enthusiasm and skills of these new committee members, 2010 definitely looks like it's going to be another bright year for ARC.

Also, after serving as company Vice-President for the past two years it is an absolute honour and privilege to assume the position of President and lead this dynamic group of people into 2010.

As always we are eager to hear from you about all things ARC. Whether they are queries, concerns, news or offers of assistance, any correspondence is more than welcome. We are always eager to draw on the wealth of experience and knowledge of the membership and welcome your contribution. Please don't hesitate to contact us at [committee@arc-theatre.com](mailto:committee@arc-theatre.com) if you ever feel the need.

Please enjoy the newsletter!

*Julian Campobasso, President*

## Hello, Dolly! Artistic Team

The Committee are proud to announce the first lot of appointments to the team for our July 2010 production of *Hello, Dolly!* Congratulations to the following people for making the Artistic Team:

**Director:** Stephen Valeri

**Musical Director:** Christine Munro

**Choreographer:** Marijke Franken

**Assistant Musical Director:** Simon D'Aquino

We wish them all the best in the months ahead as they work hard to make *Dolly* a success.

Stay tuned over the coming month as we make further appointments to the Artistic and Production Teams.

## Sponsoring ARC in 2010

After the tremendous success of *West Side Story*, an almost entirely new Committee at the helm and with the increasing momentum towards *Hello, Dolly!*, these are exciting times for all involved at ARC, but we need your help. No community based volunteer organisation can remain successful without financial assistance through sponsorship. That's why we are calling on everyone to lend a hand in ensuring that the future of ARC is as strong as ever.

Sponsorship helps to secure ARC's future and assists us in continuing to provide young locals with theatrical opportunities.

Sponsoring ARC also provides many benefits to businesses during this tough financial climate, including exposure to a host of new clientele and prospective customers through countless advertising opportunities reaching out right across Melbourne. Sponsoring ARC can help boost a company's profile as a community leader by demonstrating its commitment to supporting youth-focused community groups.

If you, or anyone you know, are aware of any businesses or organisations that would like to sponsor ARC in 2010, please don't hesitate to contact [vice-president@arc-theatre.com](mailto:vice-president@arc-theatre.com) or feel free to pass on that email address to anyone who might be interested. Sponsorship comes in various forms, large or small, financial or in-kind, and any help would be greatly appreciated.

*Evan Mulholland, Vice-President*

## The Return of Rec Camp

Need some more ARC in your life? How does a whole weekend away in the country with a crowd of ARCians sound to you?

Just the ticket, you say?

As some of you may already be aware, the ARC Committee has decided to re-launch Rec Camp after a three year hiatus. Rec Camp 2009 will run from Friday 13th of November to Sunday 15th of November at Ferngully Lodge, Healesville and will definitely be an event not to be missed.

If you would like to come along it's not too late. All you have to do is email [committee@arc-theatre.com](mailto:committee@arc-theatre.com) and we'll send you all the details. With Rec Camp less than two weeks away please let us know ASAP whether you will be attending. You must let us know before Sunday 8th of November or risk missing out.

We hope to see you up at the lodge!

*Anthony Economou, Treasurer*

## ARCing Up!

The Committee is very proud to announce that ARC has been lucky enough to receive a Community Development Grant from Banyule City Council for a project titled *ARCing Up*, which was the brainchild of former ARC President Mark Kearney. Mark applied for the Grant towards the end of his term as President and we have only recently received word from the Council informing us that his application was successful.

The *ARCing Up* project is aimed at creating and developing stronger links within the community and will involve ARC playing a greater role in local events, the first of which was our involvement at the *East Ivanhoe Festa* on the 17th of October.

Our objective for the project is to generate greater local interest in our activities with the hope that it will provide us with a greater means for achieving our goals of providing young locals with opportunities to participate in all aspects of theatre performance, production and organisational activities. Creating greater awareness of who we are and what we do can only be of benefit to ARC as an organisation as well as for our ever growing membership base, which is key to ARC's future successes in continuing to do what we do best.

*Julian Campobasso, President*

## West Side Story

As a newcomer to ARC this year I happily reflect on the wonderful opportunities I have received from being part of ARC's 2009 production of *West Side Story*. Working together with such a fantastic group of people, brings a sense of solidarity and significance and promotes personal development. It is the hard work, commitment, dedication and aspirations of success that separates ARC from other amateur theatre groups and made involvement in *West Side Story* such a fantastic experience.

*West Side Story* was ARC's 14th Musical Production and easily one of its finest to date. The enthusiasm, talent and camaraderie of the cast, crew, band, Committee, Production and Artistic teams all blended incredibly well to create a show that we can all be truly proud of. We were lucky enough to perform in front of sell out crowds and receive excellent reviews along the way which was justification for the hard work and effort from everyone involved.

There are so many people that must be thanked starting with the Directors Anthony Ventura and Matthew Spiteri, who did a remarkable job with the show. Matt and Anthony are true veterans here at ARC and their experience and expertise was reflected in the creative artistic direction of the production. It was truly a pleasure to work with them and I hope they come back and direct another show with ARC soon!

Next up are Carla Gianinotti and Stephanie Laiacona. As choreographer of the show, Carla challenged us with some incredible dance steps. She was always the first to arrive at rehearsals and was always ready to go over dances with anyone who needed it. Thank you Carla for your hard work and dedication.

The same must to be said for Stephanie, whose ability and professionalism during the rehearsal period as the Assistant Choreographer showed everyone involved what a bright future she has as either a dancer or Choreographer. Together, Carla and Steph made everything look so easy and were a great team.

Next are the Assistant Directors, Stephen Valeri and Rebecca Mignone. Stephen and Rebecca not only provided support in refining character development but were also willing to help and advise us with all aspects of theatre performance. Thanks so much Rebecca and Stephen.

The final thank you is for Christine Munro our Musical Director. During *West Side Story* Christine offered inspiration, precision and purpose to the cast and orchestra. The orchestra and cast sounded brilliant for all the performances and everything she did was done with ease and confidence.

Our entire Production Team must also be thanked for all their hard work. Without them none of what we did would have been possible. There are far too many of them to single anyone out but they were all fantastic with what they achieved.

It is through the dedication of the Artistic team, Committee, cast and crew that ARC was able to put on such a fantastic show. *West Side Story* was one of the best times of my life, mostly because it introduced me to so many fantastic people that all share the same passion for theatre!

*Nicholas Barca, General Representative*



## ARC at the East Ivanhoe Festa

Becoming more proactive in the community has been a goal of ours for some time now at ARC. Through community grant applications and communications with local council representatives we are beginning to make headway with these ambitions and starting to see the benefits that community involvement can bring.

Phase one of this project began at the 2009 East Ivanhoe Festa on 17th of October where we had our very own Marquee and ran the days children's face-painting as a fundraising and promotions initiative. The festival turned out to be a terrific success for

ARC, with one of the highlights of the event being the fantastic performance from ARCappella on the main stage. Thanks must be extended to Louise Parsons, Zoe Hallwright, Joseph Bootten and Ellen Lane who kindly volunteered their time and skills as face-painters. Without their help it would not have been possible.

In future we aim to be involved in many more community events like this one to help further the ARC cause, promote the company and establish strong community bonds that can benefit both ARC and the community alike.

*Evan Mulholland, Vice-President*

## ARCappella

ARCappella, - the choir of ARC, has undergone many changes over recent months and is currently planning a big end to the year with the ARC Christmas Choir gearing up for the festive season.

Sara Lacey (recently appointed an ARC life member) has handed over the reigns of ARCappella Manager after a number of years in the role, having just given birth to her second child, Ava Elizabeth. We thank Sara for all her hard work as ARCappella Manager and we look forward to her return to the choir in the near future.

Following a Special General Meeting earlier in the year ARCappella has also now established a Sub-Committee to assist in the operation of the choir. ARCappella welcomes new ARC general committee member – Nicholas Barca as the new committee representative for the choir for 2009-10, with the rest of the Sub-Committee being made up of Amelia van Lint, Anthony Ventura and Stephanie Corsetti. ARCappella has also now become a member of ANCA – the Australian National Choral Association.

After the choir's success this year in receiving the Darebin Australia Day Award 2009 for Community Group of the Year, ARCappella is proud to strengthen its ties in the Darebin community by recently launching a web page on the Darebin Community Portal. To check out the web page go to:

[www.darebin.org/Sites/ArcappellaChoir/](http://www.darebin.org/Sites/ArcappellaChoir/)

With David Perry continuing on as conductor, ARCappella performed at a number of Darebin community events this year, including Citizenship ceremonies and the Community and Kite Festival. In May, ARCappella also competed in the Booroondara Eisteddfod Open a cappella section.

### Christmas Choir

One of the highlights of the ARCappella calendar is definitely the Christmas period as there is no better excuse for singing the 12

Days of Christmas at world record speed or wearing a flashing Santa hat!

This year ARCappella, is hosting the ARC Christmas Choir 2009 for all interested singers, culminating in a range of performances including Darebin Carols by Candlelight (12th December), Ivanhoe Boulevard of Christmas Lights and the Federation Square Christmas Choirs performances.

The choir has been meeting weekly every Wednesday night since early October but if you'd still like to join it's not too late. Rehearsals are in Preston, from 7.30-9.30 and males and females of all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) are welcome.

We especially extend the invitation to all those who are new to ARC, joining the company for West Side Story and for those older members, who might not have performed with ARC for a while and would enjoy the chance to sing and catch up with some familiar faces.

For further details and registration call Amelia on 0434 356 688 or Anthony on 9480 5309 or email [christmaschoir@arc-theatre.com](mailto:christmaschoir@arc-theatre.com) or see all the details on the ARC website.

Details of all our Christmas performances will be updated on the ARC Website and we hope to see you at one of our many festive carolling appearances.

### Be a part of ARCappella in 2010

2010 is shaping up to be huge year for ARCappella. The choir will celebrate its 10th anniversary after officially forming as ARCappella in 2000 after ARC's annual musical for that year (Guys and Dolls). More news on our 2010 program will be announced soon.

It really is a fantastic time to join the choir, stay involved with ARC and keep on singing!

*Amelia van Lint, ARCappella Manager*



## CONGRATULATIONS!

There has been plenty to celebrate amongst ARCians in recent months, not least the arrival of two new additions to the ARC family and the marriage of another long time ARCian.

First off we'd like to congratulate long time ARCian Melissa Ventura and her husband Arthur Mitsinikos on becoming parents for the first time. Mel gave birth to a little girl, Grace, in late August and we'd like to wish them all the best as they make the transition into parenthood.

Congratulations are also due to ARC Life Members Sara Lacey and Matthew Spiteri on the birth of their second child Ava Elizabeth. Ava was born in early October and we'd like to pass on our best wishes to Matt, Sara and big sister Genevieve on the new addition to the family.

Finally we'd like to pass on our best wishes to another long time ARCian Leah D'Astoli (now Fry) and her new husband Reuben on their recent marriage. All the best Leah and Reuben!

## Production Team Applications

We are currently looking for talented people to fill positions on our Production Team for our July 2010 Production of *Hello, Dolly!*, to be performed at Banyule Theatre in Heidelberg.

Applications are now open with interviews set to take place in late November and early December.

We are currently accepting applications for the following positions:

### PRODUCTION TEAM

- Stage Manager
- Lighting Designer/Operator
- Costume Manager
- Costume Assistants
- Set Designer
- Set Construction Manager
- Set Construction Team
- Make-up Designer
- Properties Manager
- Front of House Co-ordinator
- Ticket Secretary

### APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER

Please submit all expressions of interest and inquiries to [applications@arc-theatre.com](mailto:applications@arc-theatre.com)

Please see [www.arc-theatre.com](http://www.arc-theatre.com) for more details

## ARC Christmas BBQ

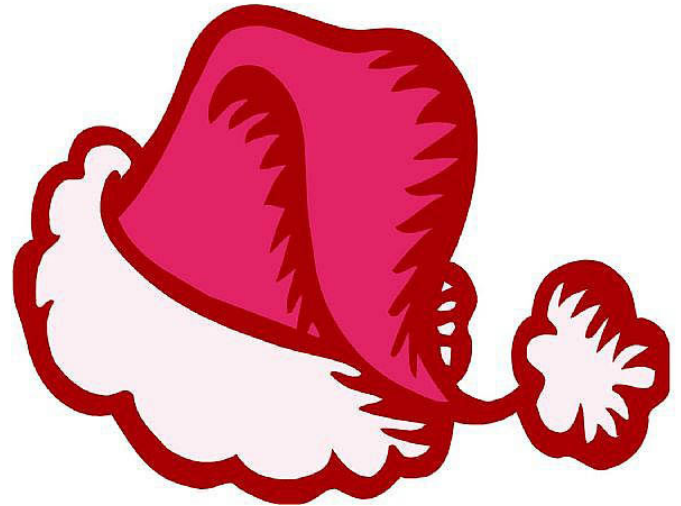
Christmas is about spending time with your family. But what about your ARC family?

Come and join us on Sunday 20th of December (TBC) from 12pm onwards in the parklands surrounding the Banyule Theatre (TBC) for a Christmas BBQ that is sure to go off with a bang! Actual family and friends are more than welcome to join us. Please bring your own meat, drinks and supplies.

And what's Christmas without presents? If you would like to receive a present, all you need to do is bring one to put in the lucky dip (\$20 maximum) and in turn you will receive one of your very own.

Please check the website at [www.arc-theatre.com](http://www.arc-theatre.com) a little closer to the actual event for more details.

Ashleigh Psaila, Secretary



## Dates for your Diary

**13th - 15th November, 2009** Rec Camp

**Friday 27th November, 2009** Applications close for *Hello, Dolly!* Production team

**Sunday 20th December, 2009** ARC Christmas BBQ (TBC)

**January 2010** Rec Dinner

**January/February, 2010** *Hello, Dolly!* Auditions

**March, 2010** *Hello, Dolly!* Rehearsals begin

**Sunday 18th April, 2010** Bunnings BBQ

**30th April - 2nd May, 2010** Rehearsal Camp

**Sunday 16th May, 2010** Trivia Night

**Sunday 6th June, 2010** Karaoke Night

**Friday 2nd July, 2010** *Hello, Dolly!* Gala Opening

**2nd - 10th July, 2010** *Hello, Dolly!* Performance Season