



NEWS

June 2003

Macbeth

By William Shakespeare

Director: Steve Gagen

Auditions for *Macbeth* will take place at 8.00 pm on Monday 16 June in St Ambrose Hall, Dawson Street, Brunswick.

This is a large-cast play, and there are roles – large and small – for just about everyone who turns up! We will also need crew, so if you are interested in any technical role in the play, please come along to audition, or give Steve a ring.

Steve has directed a number of Shakespeares over the years, but this is his first *Macbeth* – he has been saving this one for us at Moreland!

It is his favourite Shakespeare, and one that can be reinterpreted for all ages. The richness of Shakespeare's imagination and imagery, the subtlety with which he reveals the implications of thought and action, the depth and range of his characters, and the sheer life of *Macbeth* endows it with a timelessness which makes this play endlessly appealing to audiences and actors alike.

Auditionees should wear loose comfortable clothing suitable for a drama workshop. Familiarity with this play, with drama workshops, or experience with Shakespeare is not a prerequisite, and, although people may be asked to read some printed material (it won't necessarily be Shakespeare), and may be asked to explore a few lines from the play in the course of acting exercises, they will not be required to read substantial speeches from the play during the audition. So please don't prepare any speeches for the auditions!

Auditions will be conducted as a group, so there is no need to make an appointment – just turn up at 8.00 pm on Monday 16 June!

Gaining familiarity with the play, with the characters in the play and with Shakespeare's language will be tackled in rehearsal. At the auditions, we shall be looking for actors with the potential and with the appropriate vocal

qualities and physicality to suit the characters. No decisions have yet been made about what these might be. As with any play, characters could be played in a number of ways.

At the auditions, the director will look at the raw material – **you** – from which a production might be shaped.

Rehearsals will be in St Ambrose Hall on Mondays and Thursdays, beginning on 19 June.

Macbeth will be performed in the Mechanics Institute Performing Arts Centre on August 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 30.

For further information contact Steve at home on 9309-3010, on his mobile phone on 0401-009097, or via email on steve@gagens.com.

Michelle's Miracles

Wow, it was exciting to see this show come together! The cast worked incredibly hard, both during rehearsals and in their own time, to create well-rounded characters who came alive on stage.

For me, as director, the most wonderful thing was seeing everyone develop a sense of trust in each other and an understanding that they would achieve the best results by working as a team. They learned to help each other during difficult moments, and to encourage and praise each other when things went well. The group-vibe was great, the energy levels were high, and the performances reflected this.

Thanks to all Moreland Theatre Company members who helped bring the production to the stage, and thanks to everyone who came to see the show. The cast and crew had a great time, and hope that you did too!



Publication details

Editorial independence

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of Moreland Theatre Company Inc.

Articles and advertising

All material for publication in the Moreland Theatre Company News should be marked for the attention of the Editor, and sent to the Moreland Theatre Company PO Box address shown below. Articles may also be emailed directly to secretary@moreland.org.au, or faxed to 9309-1828. Any photos or drawings will also be gratefully accepted.

Publishing dates

Moreland Theatre Company News is published quarterly, usually in February, May, August and November, but these dates may be varied somewhat to fit in with productions. The next newsletter will appear in August, and the deadline is 10 August 2003.

Moreland Theatre Company News

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Committee Members: Cheryl Wilson, Gino Tomisich, Peter Davey.

Next Committee Meeting

This will be held at Caffe Tigre, 462 Lygon Street, East Brunswick on Wednesday 25th June, 7.30pm. All members are welcome to attend. This is where ideas are thrashed out, plans are formed and decisions made! Input from members is welcomed!

Activities and Auditions

Local Shows

Here Under Heaven by **Mona Brand**, June 5-15, STAG Strathmore Theatrical Arts Group, Strathmore Community Centre, Cnr Loeman and Napir Streets, Strathmore. Bookings: 9379 3612

Quartet By **Ronald Harwood**, June 12-28, Brighton Theatre Company, Clocktower Theatre, Carpenter Street, Brighton. Bookings: 9589 0005

The Pirates of Penzance by **Gilbert and Sullivan**, June 13 to July 5, Altona Theatre. Bookings: 8310 5550

Words That Glitter and **The Small Strokes Count**, June 17 to 22, Camberwell Theatre Company, Richmond Library Theatre. Bookings: 9809 1138

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by **Dale Wasserman**, June 19 to 28, En Route Productions, Emulation Hall, 3 Rochester Road, Canterbury. Bookings: 8430 7459

Auditions

The Trip To Bountiful by **Horton Foote**, June 15 at 2pm and 16 June at 7.30pm, Strathmore Theatrical Arts Group (STAG). Need 3 females (aged between 20 and 60) and 5 males (various ages, esp. over 40). Queries: 9419 6316.

The Imaginary Invalid by **Moliere**, June 29 at 5pm and July 1 at 7.30pm. Heidelberg Theatre Company. Need 4 females (mid teens to 40) and 8 males (aged 20 to 60). Queries: 9459 3495

The Girl Who Saw Everything by **Alma De Groen**, July 1 at 7.30pm, Essendon Theatre Company. Need 3 females (1 x 20s, 1x 30s, 1x 40s) and 2 males (aged 40-60). Queries: 9363 5909.

The Rise and Fall of Little Voice by **Jim Cartwright**, July 13 @ 2pm and 14 @ 7.30pm. Need female actor/singer only, prepare 2 contrasting songs. Queries: 9898 9353.

Upcoming Moreland Events

There has been a change of plan to the 2003/2004 production schedule, due to venue availability.

Steve Gagen was to have directed *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* for September, but MIPAC is only available in late August. This would not allow enough rehearsal time for a play such as this, which has music, singing and choreography in it.

Instead, Steve has brought forward from next year his proposal to direct the classic Shakespearean play, *Macbeth*. He will look to do *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* next year.

The show scheduled for November 2003, *A Fairy's Gotta Do What a Fairy's Gotta Do*, is still in early planning stages but we're excited about it! The dates are set for November 20, 21, 22 and 27, 28 and 29 and the show will be performed at St Ambrose Hall.

Stay tuned for more details – including audition dates – as they come to hand!

Member News

Linda McAuliffe and her partner, **Will**, have moved to Tasmania. They plan to visit regularly, and hopefully they will not stay away forever!

Greg Rochlin recently appeared in the Essendon Theatre Company's production of *Cosi*. Greg did a great job and looked wonderful in his lederhosen and antlers ... congratulations, Greg!

Karim Shaker competes in "Impro Melbourne" shows at the Comedy Club, Lygon Street, each Monday night at 7.30pm. Check it out if you like high-energy, improvised sketch work.

Krystal Evans is heading off to study in Boston, USA, for a few months, and she then plans to travel around Europe for a little while. Best of luck and have fun, Krystal!

Leown Russell and her partner **David** are heading off to Ireland in July to attend the Willie Clancy summer-school, where they will learn more about Irish set-dancing – they went to the same summer-school last year.