



NEWS

September 2004

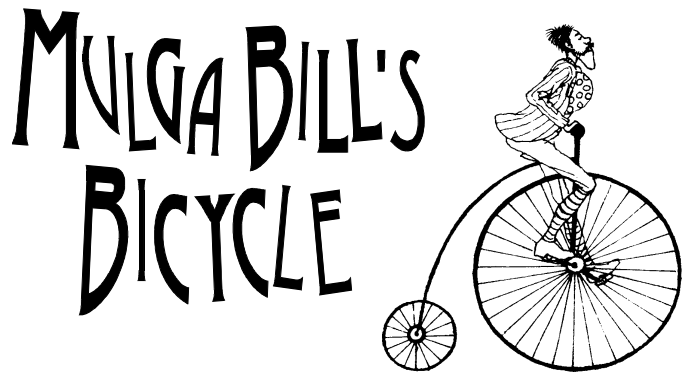
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Help wanted!



Positions vacant (1)

Steve Gagen is looking for someone to help with lighting and sound effects for *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* - see story opposite. Nothing too complicated or demanding, so here's your chance to try something new and pick up a useful theatrical skill at the same time. Contact Steve on mobile 0401 009 097, or email gagen@imagisol.com

Positions vacant (2)

Karim Shaker is looking for an assistant director to help him with the presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - our major production for 2005. Always dreamed of directing Shakespeare? This is a great way to pick up some tips from an experienced director - and have a lot of fun. Contact Karim on 0412 767 527.

Positions vacant (3)

Moreland Theatre Company would like to find a voice coach willing to present an occasional workshop session on correct and effective use of the voice on stage. If you know of someone who may be able to help, for a modest fee, please contact Steve Gagen with details: 0401 009 097; gagen@imagisol.com

Positions vacant (4)

Moreland Theatre Company invites expressions of interest from people willing to join the Board of Management and help keep the Company running successfully. It's a great way to give something back in exchange for the fun you have onstage. Contact Steve Gagen: 0401 009 097, gagen@imagisol.com; or Glenys Lewis 9386 0048

We've been singing our hearts out for weeks, and diligently learning our lines, as well as putting together the wide range of costumes - from flashy to fuddy-duddy - needed to suit the various characters, and even learning to waltz! Choreography with bicycles? Nothing to it! Feigning drunkenness? Not a problem! Barbershop brawling or lovestruck spooning? No worries at all!

Now all we need are the crowds to cheer us on. So come along to the Mechanics Institute and enjoy the latest production from Moreland Theatre Company - *Mulga Bill's Bicycle*. It's on from late September to early October (school holidays), Thursday to Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons.

The whole family will enjoy this one: it's a lighthearted (and very free) adaptation of the famous poem by Banjo Paterson, with a dash of burlesque, a touch of melodrama and a lot of relevance to the local area.

Prefer bike paths to freeways? Concerned about inappropriate development threatening a cherished way of life? Tired of 'get rich quick' schemes and shonky sales pitches? Then this play is for you. Cheer on the good guys and rejoice as the baddies get their comeuppance in a feel-good fable for our times.

When: 23-25 & 30 September, 1-2 October, at 8pm; 26 September & 3 October at 2pm.

Where: Mechanics Institute Performing Arts Centre, cnr Sydney & Glenlyon Rds, Brunswick.

Tickets: \$15/\$10; \$40 family; group rates too.

Bookings: 9388 1942



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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 9383 3684. 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 is scheduled for November-December; copy deadline: 5 November 2004.

Moreland Theatre Company News

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Moreland Theatre Company Board of Management

President: Steve Gagen

Vice President: Tony Faithfull

Treasurer: Glenys Lewis

Secretary: Kath Harper

Public Officer: Glenys Lewis

Committee Members: Cheryl Wilson, Andrea Walsh (others TBA).

Next Committee Meeting

Wednesday 15 September, 8pm at: Taverna Pizza Restaurant, 222 Lygon St, East Brunswick. Come early for pizza. Members welcome: this is where decisions are made about productions and other activities of the Company.

Workshops

It's been some time but the workshops are back at last. Karim Shaker will be running an 8-week course of acting workshops covering text, voice, improvisation, movement, etc.

The presenter

Since graduating from Actors Showcase in 1999 Karim Shaker has performed regularly in theatresports with top theatresports company Impro Melbourne. In 2000 he co wrote, directed, produced and performed in *Bruce McSwaggart*. He then moved to Moreland Theatre Company where he performed in *Lysistrata*, *Miracles*, *Macbeth*, *Antigone*, *Away*. He was a stage manager on *Medea* 2001 and *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* 2004. He co wrote and performed in the children's environment plays *Gumboot* and *Wombat*. He has directed *Short and Sharp* in 2001, *Twelfth Night* 2002 and *A Doll's House* 2004.

Workshop details

Cost: \$40 Moreland Theatre Company members; \$65/52 non-members (bring your friends) – fee includes MTC membership for 2005.

Dates: Mondays, 18 Oct to 13 Dec (Note: not 15 Nov – see **Auditions**).

Where: St Ambrose Hall, Dawson Street, Brunswick (near the library)

Time: 8pm – 10pm

Requirements: loose-fitting clothing and runners advisable.

Info: call Karim Shaker 0412 767 527.

Auditions

Karim Shaker is going to shake up Shakespeare once more, this time with the classic *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to be performed by Moreland Theatre Company in May 2005. We will need a cast of 21, made up of both males and females of all ages.

When: Monday 15 Nov and Thursday 18 Nov

Time: 8pm Where: St Ambrose Hall

No preparations needed for the auditions – just bring your sense of fun.

Play readings

They're back too! Come along to St Ambrose Hall (where else?) at 7.30pm on Thursday 21 October for a very informal night of reading and laughter. Tea and coffee provided. Bring your friends to join in the fun. Of course, there's a serious side too – the aim is to develop some short plays for eventual performance by the company and/or entry in a one-act play festival later in 2005. If you've written a play, have a favourite to suggest, or just want more information, contact Glenys Lewis on 9386 0048.

Other scheduled readings: 25 November 2004; 20 January 2005

Xmas turkey, anyone?

Plans are afoot to hold an end-of-year entertainment, along the lines of the very enjoyable "Xmas Ham" night held a couple of years ago. What we need is lots of people to volunteer their talents as entertainers, and a few people to sort out the organisational details to make the night run smoothly. If you're good at getting other people to do all the work – this one's for you! Contact Glenys on 9386 0048.

Attention directors!

We've already received some expressions of interest from directors interested in working with Moreland Theatre Company next year. If you'd like to be considered, send us details of your acting/directing experience if you haven't worked with Moreland before, and include any specific plays or types of work you'd like to develop with us. But don't wait too long – you might miss your chance.

(Contact details at left.)



Karim (centre) shows his acting style with cast members of *Mulga Bill's Bicycle*.