



Under the Spotlight

Arcadians Theatre Group Newsletter

February 2014

Wishing everyone a very happy New Year and we trust that excitement is building for this, our 50th year of bringing quality productions to the Illawarra! This year is a biggie as we have four major productions to bring together, two ACT productions and maybe a concert or two to boot!

Young Frankenstein is of course already well under way and is shaping up to be a wonderful production with some very talented performers working hard with an inspiring production team. Make sure you get in and make your booking soon.

Next to Normal will be the next cab off the rank and for your diary, there will be one information session on Sunday 16th February at 1pm with Auditions on Sunday 23rd Feb 10 am to 4pm. Cast will be announced on Thursday 6th of March and first rehearsal will be Tuesday 8th of April.

Then comes **Phantom of the Opera** which will be our biggest undertaking for the year and what a wonderful way to celebrate our 50th year by bringing the premiere production of this wonderful show to the Illawarra! Information sessions will be Monday 7th and Wednesday 9th April, Auditions are Monday 28th and Wednesday 30th April and rehearsals start Mon 5th May. Start filling your diary now!!

Our last major show of the year will be **Thoroughly Modern Millie** and info sessions and auditions will be during July but more on that later.

Arcadians Lamplighters and Arcadians Minstrels will of course be up and running very soon with their programmes for the year ahead. Our dedicated Lamplighters have already started work on the Male Choir Association of Australia concert, which is to be held in Canberra this year on 15th November.

The Arcadians Children's Theatre group will return shortly after a well-earned break. Their next production, which is **Gladiators**, was cast at the end of the year, so we expect the kids will be raring to go!!! Welcome back ACT.

The end of an era.....and a position vacant!

After a hundred years (slight exaggeration) of directing The Arcadians Children's Theatre the unstoppable and amazing Geoff Markham is stepping down. Geoff has set such a wonderful standard and touched the lives of so many of us here at Arcadians. He will be dearly missed and we thank him for his tireless devotion to 'his kids' and we thank his family for generously sharing him with us for so long. Geoff's own children went through ACT and once they left Geoff decided to stay on out of fun, commitment and a belief in what the ACT children were capable of achieving. Geoff now has his first grandchild and deserves the time and freedom to spoil him rotten. It's up to us as a group to fill that legacy.

Committee is calling for expressions of interest from people who feel they could carry on this important work for the group.

Its AGM time again, and time to think about standing for committee. On Monday 24th of February 7pm for a 7.30 start. All committee positions will become vacant. President, Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager, Box Office Manager, Publicity Officer, Marketing Officer, Liaison Officer, 4 general committee members, the ACT & Lamplighter's Reps as well. If you feel you've got something to bring to the group and you want to be a part of our next 50 years then please come along and get involved. If you have any questions you can email president@arcadians.org.au or secretary@arcadians.org.au

PLEASE NOTE

The date for the 50th Celebration Dinner has been changed!!
It is now to be held on Saturday 30th August 2014 at the
Illawarra Master Builders Club
Please adjust your diaries!!

Next To Normal: Information session Sunday 16th Feb, 1pm @ The Miner's Lamp Theatre.

Auditions 23rd Feb by appointment.

This is a small contemporary musical and will have only 6 performances over two weekends.

Director Kenney Ogilvie

Any questions you can email nexttonormal@arcadians.org.au

Synopsis:

Diana Goodman desperately wants to be a good wife to her husband and good mother to her son and daughter. But her struggles with bipolar disorder routinely wreak havoc on their storybook suburban lives. As her treatments, medications and misdiagnoses pile up, the family struggles to hold on as their perfect, normal life threatens to dissolve around them.

One of only 8 musical to win the Pulitzer Prize for drama and winner of three 2010 Tony Awards, this electrifying rock musical will shatter your ideas of a feel-good musical. This is a feel-everything musical with soaring music, sharp, smart lyrics and a storyline full of unexpected twist and turns. Heartbreaking in one breath and uplifting the next, this powerhouse of modern musical theatre takes you along for the ride as it soars and surges through the lives of an ordinary family desperate to keep their lives intact.

Characters of Next to Normal should appear to be approximately the ages below.

Applicants will need to be over 18 by March 1, 2014

Diana Thirties or forties / G3 - F#5 Sexy. Sharp. Delusional bipolar depressive.

Gabe Almost eighteen / B2 - C5 Dashing. Gentle. Bright. Playful. Everything a mother could want.

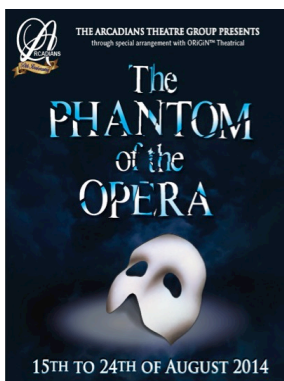
Dan Thirties or forties / Ab2 - B4 Her husband. Handsome. Genuine. Constant. Tired.

Natalie G3 - G5 / some piano knowledge Sixteen and trying to be perfect. It's not going well.

Henry Seventeen / G#2 - B4 Musician. Romantic. Stoner. Slacker. Philosopher king. Natalie's classmate.

Dr. Madden On the young side of ageless / A2 - A4 Psychiatrist. Assured. A rock star.

Working with Children: If you are in a production with children then you will need to apply for 'A Working With Children Check' this is free and lasts for 5 years. You do it online and collect it from the RMS (the old RTA) when you pay your fees you must give us the check number.



PHANTOM @ THE IPAC IN 2014

INFORMATION NIGHTS

7TH & 9TH of April

AUDITIONS

29TH & 30TH April
1st of May

phantom@arcadians.org.au

For your diary:

Next To Normal info session 16 Feb

Next To Normal auditions 23 Feb

AGM – 24 Feb

Young Frankenstein 21 Mar – 5 Apr

Phantom of the Opera info nights 7 & 9 Apr

Phantom auditions 29, 30 Apr 1 May

Gladiators – 2 – 4 May