



# Bendigo Theatre Company Newsletter

BTC email: [bendigotheatrecompany@gmail.com](mailto:bendigotheatrecompany@gmail.com)

## Important Dates

- B# Choir **every Monday night 6:30-7:30**
- Costume Dept. Helpers & Sewers **every Tuesday 10 – 1pm**
- Wednesday Crew Volunteers **every Wed 9am-12 noon**
- Saturday Crew Volunteers **most Saturdays 9am – 12 noon**
- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle **8am – 5pm Sun 28<sup>th</sup> May**
- BTC Shed Working Bee **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> June 9am - noon**
- 2 & 2 Make Sex Info Night **Fri 16<sup>th</sup> June 7pm**
- Theatre In a Week Info Night **Tue 20<sup>th</sup> June 6pm**
- Showcase #2 2023 **Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> June**
- TENx10 Season 23 plays submitted by **30<sup>th</sup> June**
- 2 & 2 Make Sex Auditions **Fri 30<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**
- 2 & 2 Make Sex Rehearsals Begin **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**
- TENX10 Casting Night **Tue 12<sup>th</sup> Sept.**
- TENX10 mandatory rehearsals **Tue 10<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Oct**
- TENX10 production week **Sat 4<sup>th</sup> – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Nov**

## SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE on April the 14<sup>th</sup> 2023

Congratulations to the amazing cast for this first showcase for 2023. The audience was entertained by a varied program that demonstrated an amazing range of talent which BTC members have. The company was able to raise in the vicinity of \$1200 which will be used for our Business plan for shed development. A special thankyou to all who assisted with the evening and the feedback from the audience was most positive.

With that in mind the committee has decided to arrange another evening and has set the date of Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of June at 7.30pm for the second showcase.

If you wish to be involved with this and have an item in mind, please email the company with your name/s and a brief description of your item. Please note that we will give preference to people who were not able to perform at the last evening and we would also like to see a variety of acts on display. Maybe you would like to get a small group together and perform an instrumental item, a skit or a dance routine. These items with additional singing performances will provide a unique evening of entertainment. The cost will be set at \$15 again and drinks and nibbles will be available on the night.



## B# SHARP COMMUNITY CHOIR

Looking to have a sing with an easy going community choir? Lloyd and Emma are the co-directors of the B# sharp chorus which meet every Monday night from 6.30 to 7.30. Members are encouraged to help choose the variety of songs which are sung from a wide selection. We would love to see additional members join us for this fun and enjoyable activity. In addition to singing on a Monday, the choir also has the opportunity to perform at community events as well. The choir meets in the Black Box Theatre at the BTC Arts Shed.



tribe  
YOUTH THEATRE

THEATRE  
IN A  
WEEK

ONE SCRIPT. ONE WEEK AND  
ONE WEEKEND OF SPECTACULAR SHOWS!

## THEATRE IN A WEEK

Theatre Week is a week-long performing-arts workshop for young people aged 12-19, giving them the opportunity to rehearse and perform a musical in just seven days. Take a group of excited and passionate young people, an enthusiastic, caring and well-trained production team, a script, vocal score, and ONE WEEK of pure fun, engagement, work, rehearsing, team building activities, friendships, growth, developing skills, singing, dancing, acting, character development and performing and you have TRIBE Theatre In A Week.

This project is perfect for young people interested in the challenge of putting together a show in a week and presenting it to an audience. Whether you are a singer, dancer, actor, techie or backstage person, this project is for you! Wanna know more? Come along to our information night on TUES 20 JUNE 6pm at the BTC Shed, Allingham Street to find out how you can be involved!

## Two & Two Make Sex – Calling for Actors & Production Team

Come to the Production Information Night on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm at the BTC Shed for more information on roles, and production team availabilities. Interested people are asked to apply for the following vacant positions:

- Assistant Director
- Stage Manager
- Sets and Props co-ordinator
- Lighting/Sound operators
- Make Up & Hair
- Costume assistant



**More about Two & Two Make Sex ...** "Two & Two Make Sex" by Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon, set in Highgate and trendy Holland Park, London in the 1970s. 3M, 3F.

***The '70s may have been many things, but boring wasn't one of them!***

Absurdity, taken with seriousness and decorated with the ridiculous, and logic foundering in bizarre situations these are the farcical formulas well exploited in this play.

George is getting into his fifties, his sexual virility nagging at him, one way or another. He is having an affair with twenty year old Jane. His wife, Clare, sensing that something of the kind is going on, fixes up a way of dealing with the situation. Jane has a boyfriend, Nick.

The quartet play out their charades in a double setting, the living room of George and Clare's home, and Jane's flatlet. The cross antics, seen separately and simultaneously, are very amusing. Later on, other characters materialize, and there is a mass confrontation, most ingeniously contrived.

Bendigo Theatre Company's next production, scheduled for October 2023 in our Blackbox Theatre.

Information night - Friday June 16 at 7pm, BTC Theatre.

Auditions - Friday June 30, 7 pm, Saturday July 1, 1.30 pm, Sunday July 2, 1.30 pm (if needed).



## Jerry Steen is off to L.A. !

Valued BTC Committee Member, Production Manager, Actor, Marketing, Backstage Tech, Online Wizard, Lighting and Sound – Jerry Steen is off to L.A. Jerry is only 20, and is already a very well rounded, determined and extremely competent young person within the theatre, visual and tech world.

Jerry has always wanted to visit America – to live in another country and immerse himself in a different culture and environment. In October of 2022, Jerry was ready to increase his knowledge of the world and further his work knowledge. He applied to 'Global Work and Travel' for work overseas, and one internship became available to him in a video production company in Los Angeles.

Jerry has always worked hard and volunteered countless hours providing his work and expertise to BTC, so it was not hard for him in showing his capabilities in the real world, with all the experience he has gained through working with us, in providing a folio of work to get such a position. The internship is totally funded by Jerry himself, who has been working 6 days a week with two jobs, for nearly 2 months straight to save enough money to make this dream and opportunity come true.

Jerry will be working not far from Universal Studios, about 30 mins away – so he is looking forward to visiting there, immersing himself in the culture and cuisine, and seeing many other famous places like Disneyland, The Golden Gate Bridge, and not living far from an AMC Theatre, he is sure to catch some new release movies within that time.

Where would we be without Jerry's knowledge and expertise, where he has provided our Committee with valuable guidance and help in our online presence, for our website and other I.T. needs. His production and handling of the Christmas Concert in 2022, when it nearly did not go ahead was a phenomenal effort. And the handling and execution of 829 sound files for the Puffs production was out of this world. The digital presence of Mike Teevee in the 'Vidiots' scene of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was a very clever, funny, and memorable part of the show. Jerry has never said anything was too hard, or not achievable – he was always one to give anything a go – and that, we are sure, will take him very far.

Bendigo Theatre Company wish Jerry the very best in his adventure and work experience opportunity of a lifetime. We hope it leads to even more scope and opportunity in his future in this industry and beyond. The Committee would like to thank Jerry for his commitment and dedication to whatever he put his mind too over the last few years, as his knowledge and determination will be missed. Jerry does hope to return to BTC at some point in the future in some capacity, and says that he will miss everyone he is leaving behind in Bendigo, and the coffee, and he looks forward to getting back here one day.

Jerry's contributions include: 2019 Christmas Concert (BTC) (acting); Cats (BTC Tribe 2022) (Follow Spot); Beyond Reasonable Doubt (BTC 2022)(acting); 2022 Season of 10 x 10 (BTC) (sound motion graphics); Charlie & the Chocolate Factory (BTC 2022)(Designer of animation graphics & Follow Spot); Shrek (Nexus)(acting); Puffs (BTC Tribe 2022)(Marketing, Physical & Digital Collateral & Sound Effects) and 2022 Christmas Concert (production Manager).



CALLING ALL PLAYWRIGHTS

# TENX10

RETURNS IN 2023!

**We are calling for play submissions for this year's season of TENX10.**

TENX10 is a presentation of ten plays, each up to ten minutes in length. The plays are to be written by local amateur playwrights and can be directed and performed by novice or experienced people.

Plays are due to be submitted to the secretary of BTC by June 30.

Once plays have been selected expression of interests will be advertised for Directors.

A Casting night will be held at BTC Shed on Tuesday 29 August where plays are discussed and all attendees are encouraged to read for a part, it is important this not to be considered an audition, but rather a fun experience. All attendees are asked to complete the online form nominating plays/characters they are interested in. Casting will be done that night and Directors will advise all cast members and confirm with the Production Manager within two days

Directors are responsible for managing rehearsal times and for ensuring the cast is given adequate time to rehearse as a full cast. A minimum of two mandatory rehearsals will be held: Tuesday October 10th and Tuesday October 31

Production week will start Saturday November 4th till Tuesday November 7th and will include full lighting, audio and visual requirements together with a fully completed tech script and a dress rehearsal.

Plays will be performed on November 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 at 7:30pm and 12 and 19 at 2pm.

Please contact Stania for more information or submit your play to: [stania54@gmail.com](mailto:stania54@gmail.com)

TENX10 Writers permission form:

Title of Play:

Writer:

1. If my play is selected, I agree for it to be included in TENX10 2023.
2. I give permission for the Bendigo Theatre Company to forward my contact details to the Director of my play.
3. I give permission for the Bendigo Theatre Company to film/video/digitally record my play as part of the TENX10 2023 season.
4. I give permission for the Bendigo Theatre Company to reference my play in promotional material.
5. I understand that the version of my play to be performed as part of TENX10 2023 is that which I submitted to the Bendigo Theatre Company. If I wish to make any significant changes to the play before performance, I must confirm these with both the Bendigo Theatre Company and the Director of my play.
6. I understand that my play will not be changed without my permission.

Signed:

Print name:

**tribe**  
YOUTH THEATRE

# INFORMATION NIGHT

**TUES 20 JUNE 6PM  
BTC SHED**



## Dedicated Volunteer - Lauren Mitchell from our Costume Department

Lauren Mitchell, "Loz" dedicates her time to BTC's costume department, with her creative sewing skills to make wonderful costumes for our shows.

Lauren relocated to Bendigo in 2015, after her son Jordan French (actor/director) moved to Bendigo. She first became involved in some set dressing for Jordan's production of Beauty and The Beast – The Pantomime in 2017/2018. When Stania Tresize (Costume Department) heard she could sew, she was quickly snapped up and asked to sew for future shows. Lauren has put her hand up to sew for many BTC shows, being part of a costume team for Wicked, We Will Rock You, Grease, Weird Sisters, Sleeping Beauty – The Pantomime. During our lockdown years, when our production of Cats was postponed and rescheduled several times over 2 years, she was Costume Coordinator for this show, a long and arduous journey for all involved. She has also sewed for a few other Bendigo theatre groups as well, like The Drowsy Chaperone and The Vicar of Dibley.

Loz is one part of a very busy team of members, who are the main organisers and up-keepers of the Costume Department – Stania Tresize, Maureen Fleiner and Denise Montgomery. At least once a week, they are at the BTC Arts Shed, tirelessly sorting, organising, grouping and tidying the multitude of costumes which BTC own.

A sorting of the 'Sewing Room' at BTC, into a more community space, where sewers for shows can come and sew, and fit actors/actresses into their costumes, was a great undertaking. When rehearsals are on, this room is a hive of activity and anticipation, and full of busy people who love theatre and costumes.

Lauren is a Health Care Worker, and sewing costumes, and being a vital part of re-organising the Costume Department, is done in her spare time. She has given an innumerable amount of hours through each show she has been involved with, and the tidy-up of the Costume Department. Although it has been hard at times, the journey is also a rewarding one. The BTC Committee, its community, all the actors and actresses, our audiences and people off the street who hire BTC's costumes are truly thankful to her and the Costume Team's energy, skill, creativity and passion for sewing and provision of costumes.

She hopes that it will continue to develop and streamline into the future. Where our innumerable costumes for young and old, pixies and wizards, gentlemen and ladies, creatures and jesters will be hired out more to the general public for shows and fancy dress parties, as for most Bendigo residents, they do not know that our Costume Department exists!

**The BTC Costume Department Team meet every Tuesday morning from 10 - 1 at the Shed, and sort and tidy through things, and also enjoy a chat, tea/coffee and some cake. If you would like to join this little group, they would love some newcomers to volunteer some of their time. Come and see what this fun little group are about. Please contact the Bendigo Theatre Company for more information or email Loz: [lozi.m@bigpond.com](mailto:lozi.m@bigpond.com)**



## Whilst The Shed is Paused for Bendigo City Council Works

Most of our members are aware that the BTC Arts Shed, is on pause until mid-year whilst it undergoes upgrades and renovations by the City Council. Even though we are not running shows for a few months, our dedicated volunteers and members have been very busy freshening up the building and it's amenities, repairing frequently used props (which are used by our shows, and hired out to other productions), and re-designing work areas for more efficient workspaces in the future. This down-time is being well facilitated, so we are ready for many more shows. big and small. workshops and plays in the near future.

**The Wednesday and Saturday Crew have been busy and are looking for more volunteers! If you are interested in helping on a Wednesday or Saturday, and catching up for a coffee afterwards, please make contact with Keva Lloyd on 0418 579 998**



**Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser**  
**Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> 8am – 5pm, at Epsom store.**  
**If you can help for an hour or two please**  
**contact Keva 0418 579 998 or**  
**email: keva7@bigpond.com**



**BTC Working Bee for Costumes and Sets**  
**- June 3<sup>rd</sup> & June 10<sup>th</sup>. 9am – noon with**  
**a BBQ lunch provided!**

## ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENT

Bendigo Theatre Company's committee recognises that a select group of our previous performers have gone on to have professional careers in the Arts industry and in recognition of this the committee is proud to announce that these Alumni will be recognised through a nomination process. Very soon the nomination form will be available on the website and if you know of people who you believe meet these criteria you are encouraged to complete the form and send to the committee. If the committee approves the nomination they will be formally recognised as an Alumna/Alumnus of the company. We will also arrange for an honour board to be produced and it will be displayed in a prominent position at the Arts Shed. We are also in the process of completing an honour board for life members and both these boards will be displayed together at the shed.

## The History of Theatre in Bendigo is Inspiring!

Many actors experience difficulty in learning lines or immersing themselves in a character. As part of my research into what will become "The History of Amateur Theatre in Bendigo", I came across the following which may inspire some readers with acting aspirations.

In 1879, it became a topic of conversation around Bendigo, that there was some doubt whether there would be an Easter Fair that year.

In their wisdom (and despite some criticism from a small section of the community), the Sandhurst City Dramatic Club booked the Royal Princess Theatre in View Street for the whole of the Easter week, six nights straight! Remember that the Royal Princess at the time would hold 2000 patrons!

The Easter Fair did occur in that year, but the City Dramatic Club were undaunted and pressed on with their season of six nights. They didn't perform the one production for six nights however! In fact they performed FIVE full-length plays and ONE one-act farce to bumper crowds. Many of the cast members appeared in most if not all plays. Bear in mind that the members of the Company were amateurs and likely held down day jobs as well!

Mr. Coleman, the secretary of the Company played a leading role in all six plays and in the final play for the season, took a dual role .... so SEVEN different characters in one week and a performance EVERY night!

Here is an outline of the plays and the casts involved .....

### Sandhurst City Dramatic Club – 6-night Season, April 14-19, 1879

**April 14 – "The Ticket of Leave Man"** – Messrs. G. A. Coleman, M. T. Wade, W. A. Windas, J. E. Weller, G. H. Hobson, P. H. Hanrahan, J. Windas, Misses C. Herbert, E. J. Josephine, E. M. Ward.

**April 15 – Mr. W. A. Windas's drama, "Claredale; or the Lost Will"** – Messrs. Walton, G. A. Coleman, Windas, J. E. Weller, G. H. Hobson, G. Warner, Wade, Hanrahan, C. Taylor, Misses C. Herbert, Josephine, Ward, Rignold, and a little girl.

Also the screaming farce, "**Sarah's Young Man**" – Messrs. Weller, Coleman and Walton and the Misses Ward, Rignold, and Josephine.

**April 16 – "Never Too Late to Mend"** – Messrs. Coleman, J. Windas, P. H. Hanrahan, Wade, Cooper, Walton, A. Windas, J. E. Weller, G. H. Hobson, Dalton, Coates, Warner, Westphalen, Fredericks, Grant, Wilson, Taylor, and Lester, Misses C. Herbert, J. A. Ward.

**April 17 – "The Ticket of Leave Man"** – for charity!

**April 18 – Bulwer Lytton's grand play, "The Lady of Lyons" (5-acts!)** – Messrs. G. A. Coleman, Walton, Hobson, J. E. Weller, Hanrahan, Dalton, Warren, Cooper, Wilson, Taylor, and the Misses C. Herbert, Josephine, Ward and Verner.

**April 19 – "Fraud and its Victims"** – Messrs. G. A. Coleman (dual roles), J. E. Weller, W. A. Windas, M. T. Wade and S. Dalton.

*Written and researched by: Keva Lloyd – BTC Shed Manager and Committee Member*



## BTC IS A CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION


Bendigo Theatre Company is committed to being a child safe organisation and with the release of new Government guidelines for community groups, the BTC committee are in the process of upgrading our current practises and policies so that all children who attend BTC events feel and are safe. A summary of the child safe standards is attached to this newsletter and all members and parents are urged to read this.

The upgraded and new policies will be available to be accessed on the BTC website.

Queries comments or questions should be emailed to the committee.


## Victoria's Child Safe Standards


Plain language summary


- 


**1** Your organisation welcomes Aboriginal children. You support them to express their culture and to enjoy their rights. You don't allow racism.
- 


**2** Child safety is important to everyone at all levels in your organisation. You document how you find, avoid, and stop risks of child abuse or harm.
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**3** Your organisation supports children to know their rights to be safe from abuse, informed, and involved. You help them to talk openly and take part in decisions that affect them.
- 


**4** Your organisation tells families and the community about what you do, and how you keep children safe from harm and abuse. You help families to have a say and to take part in decisions that affect their child.
- 


**5** Your organisation understands that every child is different and has different needs. You make sure that they can get the information and help that they need.
- 

**6** Staff know what they must do to keep children safe from abuse and harm. They record, report, and share information about child safety when they should. Staff who work with children have had the background checks they need.
- 

**7** Children and their families know how to make a complaint and what happens when a complaint is made. Your staff know how to respond properly to complaints.
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**8** Your organisation trains and supports staff to keep children safe from abuse and harm. Your staff know the signs of child abuse and harm and what to do if there are issues of abuse and harm.
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**9** Your organisation makes sure children are safe when they use your services, settings, and activities. This includes when children are online.
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**10** Your organisation checks and improves the ways you keep children safe from abuse and harm.
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**11** Your organisation has written policies about how you keep children safe from abuse and harm. They are easy to understand, and all staff follow them.

For more information, contact the Commission for Children and Young People  
[www.cyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.cyp.vic.gov.au)

