



Season 1 - July 2015

Australiana Season 1

Our next exciting production is opening on **FRIDAY 3rd July**. It celebrates the rich history that all Australians hold dear. This year **ARK Theatre** is presenting plays that are written by talented Australian playwrights, and also have a very distinct Australian flavor to them. Folk-lore of yesteryear comes to life in the form of "**Down Came a Jumbuck**" a very amusing story on how Waltzing Matilda was possibly penned all those years ago by a young Banjo Patterson. "**Farmer Will Swap Combine Harvester for Wife**" is a story of one mans search for a loving relationship using modern technology. As the name suggests this play is set in rural Australia. 'Interesting' situations continue to arise throughout, in this ever changing saga, in Cyril's efforts to end years of being alone.

Farmer Cast:

- Ross Pearson
- Emma Gardner
- Rosey Cullinan
- Sam Corr
- Peter Fowler

Jumbuck Cast:

- Ryan O'Keefe
- Jennifer Silalahi
- Robert Trott.

ARK Theatre extends a warm welcome to new comers to ARK's Stage Jenny, Ross and Ryan, and warmly welcomes back other cast members from previous shows.

DATES

- Friday July 3rd at 8pm.
 - Saturday July 4th at 2pm and 8pm.
 - Friday July 10th at 8pm
 - Saturday July 11th at 2pm and 8pm.
- Please join our cast, crew, directors etc. post show for tea/coffee, champagne, nibbles and a chat. The show has a 20 minute interval.

LOCATION

LILYDALE HEIGHTS COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (LHCPAC)
17 Nelson Rd, Gate 2, LILYDALE 3140.

TICKETS

www.arktheatremelb.com

'click' on to the "Trybooking" link

Ticket info: Jimmy 0491 151 340

Tickets \$20 or Groups 10+ \$18



WELCOME ABOARD

ARK Theatre extends a warm welcome to our new member, who has joined recently. We now have 31 members. **Ross Pearson** has recently moved up from Geelong along with compatriate **Robert Trott**. We hope you enjoy being part of this unique theatre enterprise, and also for whatever reason you have joined, you feel welcome and have a long association with **ARK Theatre**.

MOVERS and GROOVERS

Chris Shaw: "Wait until after midnight" at the **Basin Theatre...**

Ann-Maree Eastman: "The Peach Season" at the 1812 Theatre.

Rachel Negus: "Medea" .at Gemco.

Phillip Stephenson: "Vicar of Dibley" at Lilydale Atheneum.

OOPS - What the?

Our thoughts go out to Gary Rens who was directing 'Farmer'. Gary recently literally fell off the ladder, and is wheelchair bound with broken bones, a bruised ego, and a sore head of frustration. Thanks to **Lucy Morris** for filling in as scare-taker director.

CONGRATULATIONS

Sarah King/Shawn McIlfatric.
Love and Marriage and current-ly honey-mooning in Europe.

ACTING/CREW/TECHIES

ARK Theatre production teams are embracing both learners and experienced thespians, to continue to develop talent in all roles. Mentoring will be provided when and where necessary.

Front of House/Hosting:

Due to increasing patronage to our shows, we need a minimum of 4 front of house persons rostered on for each performance. Please commit to being assigned at least once per season. It is a minimum commitment we ask for where no isn't an option!! Thank you all in advance.

youthARK

Chris and Peter have formed a junior version of ARK Theatre. youthARK's 1st production is called 'FIRST TIME OUT'

It is a two day event on the 6th/7th July aimed for local 14-25 yr olds.

Check out their website:
www.youtharktheatre.com

SPONSORSHIP/GIFTING

We continue to seek support for **ARK Theatre** in any shape or form including donations, from time to time.

We love you!

BSB 633-000

Acc. No. 149904559

ARK THEATRE

MISSION STATEMENT

- Dedicated to engaging with performers and audiences, of all ages, interests and capabilities
- Dedicated to providing mentoring in both the performance and technical content of theatre
- Respect and enjoy the contribution of performing art to the social fabric of our community.

ARK THEATRE VALUES:

- Inclusiveness
- Rewarding
- Encouragement
- Creativity
- Respect
- Equality
- Social engagements
- Fun and enjoyment
- Mentoring
- Achievement

WOMINJEKA ...Welcome

Ark Theatre acknowledges the traditional owners of this region.



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ARK THEATRE INC.

P.O Box 277, Mooroolbark 3138

E-mail: ark_theatre@yahoo.com.au

Website

www.arktheatremelb.com

IMPORTANT DATES:

Mon. 29th JUNE: **Play-reading for HOTEL SORRENTO**

Sun. 5th JULY: **AUDITIONS for HOTEL SORRENTO**

Fri./Sat. 3/4th JULY: **SEASON ONE Week 1**

Fri./Sat. 10/11th JULY: **SEASON ONE Week 2**

Mon/Tue 6th/7th - **youthARK 'First Time Out'**

Tue 7th - **youthARK FIRST TIME OUT Performance**

Monday evenings: 7.30pm REHEARSALS and WORKSHOPS

ARK COMMITTEE 2015/'16

President: Tom Blackburn

Vice President: Robert Trott

Secretary: Jimmy Dunne

Treasurer: Angela McCulloch

Ordinary: Lucy Morris

Ordinary: Rosa Scabellone

Ordinary: Evelyn Devitt

Ordinary: Rosey Cullinan

Ordinary: Chris Keuken (youthARK)



FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS in 2015

ARK Theatres first season in early July is made of up of two quintessential one act Australian plays. Firstly, "Farmer will swap for combine harvester for Wife" by Hugh O'Brien, explores a comical look at a lonely rural farmer who seeks to find love using modern technology. It all goes a bit pear-shaped for Cyril, when he finds himself in it up to his ear-balls, and in over his head. And when a blast from the past enters the fray it really starts to get complicated! All is not what it seems and a serious issue is dealt with, in only a way the Cyril could handle. Directed by **Gary Rens**.

The second play is "Down came a Jumbuck" by Ian Austin, and is a humorous look at how Banjo Patterson may have well come to pen Waltzing Matilda. Directed by **Phillip Stephenson**. ARK extends a warm welcome.

In October 2015, we have selected a wonderful Australian play, "Hotel Sorrento" by Hannie Rayson, a story revolving around a family re-union and the ensuing re-actions to a publication of a semi-biographical novel. Our Direc

tor for this play is **Michelle Swann**. Again a very warm welcome.

ARK Theatre will again be performing at the DROAPF One Act Play Festival. Sunday 19th July in Emerald.

[youthARK](#)

Please support our new youth venture.

Tuesday 7th July at 7.30pm LHCPAC.

Writing, rehearsing, and performing all in the space of 48 hours?!

Crazeeee!!

ARKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We have been largely assisted with funding and financial support from various individuals, groups or businesses. Our Committee would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to these people.

- Angela McCulloch
- Shire of Yarra Ranges
- First Impressions Management Systems
- Australian Millennium Lifestyles/Jimmy Dunne
- Ann O'Connor
- Tom Blackburn

GOING GOING GREEN

ARK Theatre Company is attempting to reduce our environmental impact when and where possible. Our sets are produced off-site where solar power is installed. We are electronically advertising our shows, and electronically corresponding with members/patrons as much as is practical. E-ticketing is available. We re-cycle and re-use as many products as we can. We will continue to find and fund as many low or no carbon footprint features that we can. We are using carbon neutral copy paper.

PUBLICITY: Please publicise our shows free willy style to all your friends, family, work associates, pamphlets are available from Tom Blackburn or Jimmy Dunne, or forward on this newsletter. We are now sending cover photos to send to all members to temporarily use to promote our shows on **Facebook**.

EMAILING LIST: ARK Theatre is gathering a patron e-mail/mobile phone list two by two, for future notification of productions and general communication.

ARKtivities - SOCIAL CALENDAR *

Our new social calendar for 2015/16 is currently being constructed. TBA.

* NOTE: First preference is given to events for members and one guest, when tickets are limited.

I am handing over the Newsletter to new incoming Editors Rosey Cullinan and Evie Devitt. It has been fun and challenging to start this publication and hope that you have all been kept entertained and informed. Thank-you.

Editor: Jimmy Dunne.

