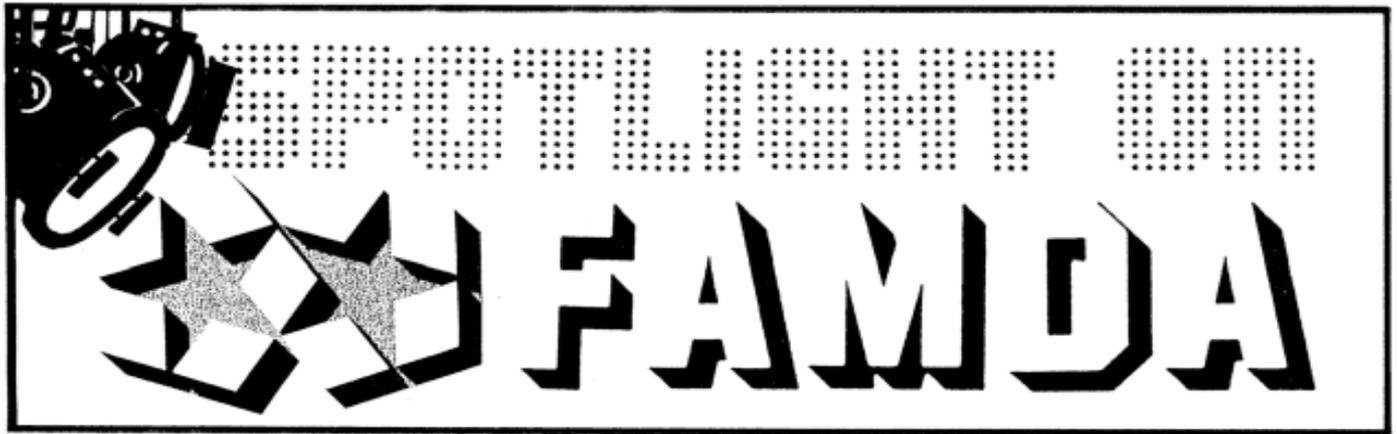


Foster Amateur Music & Drama Association Inc.



July 2009

Coming Events

- **FAMDA - 2 x 1 Act Plays @ Welshpool**
8:00 Sat 1 August
- **FAMDA - 2 x 1 Act Plays @ Meeniyán**
2:00 Sunday 2 August
- **9th South Gippsland One Act Play Festival-Weekend of Saturday 8 August**
- **MADS @ Meeniyán**
Lord Chatterley's Demise
28 August—6 Sept
- **Leongatha Lyric - A Little Hotel on the Side**
11—19 September
- **Latrobe Theatre - Beauty and the Beast @ Warragul**
4—12 September
- **FAMDA**
Into the Woods
Foster Arts Centre
2—17 October

PREVIEW FAMDA'S ONE ACT PLAYS

Viva Juarez

by Michael Dines

A revolutionary drama

Love Or Nearest Offer

by Hugh O'Brien

An Australian comedy

Welshpool Memorial Hall
8:00 Saturday 1 August

Meeniyán Town Hall
2:00 Sunday 2 August

Ninth Festival of One Act Plays

A one act play festival gives the chance for a friendly theatrical competition.

You can see new plays, support your friends, meet new people and be thoroughly entertained.

It's all on the menu as FAMDA hosts the ninth annual South Gippsland One Act Play Festival at the Foster Arts Centre on the weekend of Saturday, 8 August.

This year the adjudicator is respected Melbourne theatrical identity, Gaye Gay.

The festival is shaping up to be bigger and better than usual with more entries than ever before and the possibility of a Friday evening session as well as a Saturday full of plays.

Festival ticket prices: \$8.00 per session, \$15.00 for two sessions or a complete Festival pass for \$20.00



Despite the competitive element, the festival is always a very friendly and social occasion with audience members and companies being given the choice of concert style seating or sitting at tables with their own drinks and nibbles.

To allow time for more socialising, Catherine McGlead is offering an **in-house catering package. (BYO drinks).**

Dinner and dessert/supper will consist of curries and rice with a vegetarian option as a main plus cakes and slices for supper with self serve coffee and tea for \$20. Afternoon tea would be charged separately at \$5 but the whole package (afternoon tea, dinner and supper) would be \$22 per person.

Final numbers and a deposit of \$10 pp are needed by 1/8/09. Contact Catherine via 0407 543 371 or catmcglead@desi.net.au.

TRAVELLING INTO THE WOODS

FAMDA is busily preparing to stage 'Into the Woods', an award-winning musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by James Lapine.

The show premiered on Broadway in 1987 in a year dominated by 'The Phantom of the Opera', and won several Tony Awards, including Best Score, Best Book, and Best Actress in a Musical.

Inspired by Bruno Bettelheim's 1976 book, 'The Uses of Enchantment', the musical intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm fairy tales and follows them further to explore the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests.

The main characters are taken from the stories of Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel and Cinderella tied together by an original story involving a baker and his wife and their quest to begin a family, and including references to several other well-known tales.

'Into the Woods' has proved to be a magnet for actors with enthusiastic performers travelling from all over South Gippsland to be part of FAMDA's version of this fascinating musical.

There is an excited Barbara Colbran travelling from Yarram to make her stage debut. Talented musician, Fiona Watts from Welshpool has the role of the Baker's Wife. Katelyn Ardley from Agnes has just returned from Brazil and is relishing playing Little Red Riding Hood.

There even more actors travelling east to be

part of the cast. Meeniyán resident, Bindu Dunstan, and Leongatha-based Lee-Anne Mitchell are enjoying their involvement.

Tamika Ball and Josh Gardner, paired so successfully recently as the young leads in Lyric's 'The Witches of Eastwick', are playing Cinderella and Jack. Josh is doing a lot of travelling as he is also in rehearsal for the Victorian State Schools' 'Barnum'.

Tim Gesell and Charles Gruen are coming from Inverloch while Glen Alvie's Hilary and Ash Stuchbery, regularly associated with Wonthaggi theatre, are in the cast.

Naturally there are many local residents involved like Louise Dower, James McIntyre, Antony Norden, Andrew Oldroyd & Dianne Paragreen. Nicole Cooper, who has just finished playing Witch, Jane Smart, in Lyric's 'Witches of Eastwick' is a very different sort of witch in this show.

Director, John Laurie, commented that he is thrilled with the musicality of the cast. Production manager, Dianne Paragreen, said that congratulations are in order for the hard work that cast members are putting into their characters.

"It is exciting to be at rehearsals and notice the changes and developments each week. The show is certainly shaping up to be one not to be missed", she said



CALLING MUSICIANS

FAMDA now has an eye out or, better still, an ear for musicians who would like to take on the excitement, and the challenge, of playing Stephen Sondheim's music.

FAMDA needs an orchestra for 'Into the Woods' and invites musicians from throughout South Gippsland to do some car-pooling and join in the rehearsal process.

Any musician wishing to be involved in FAMDA's October production of 'Into the Woods' is invited to contact the production manager, Dianne Paragreen, on 5682 2421 or 0407 883 600 or via email at rphoto@dcsi.net.au

Tickets will be going on sale very soon for 'Into the Woods'.

There will be an opportunity for advance ticket sales prior to the official sales period which starts at the end of August. This will give FAMDA members and cast friends a chance to order tickets at a discount price before sales are open to the general public. Watch out for further details.

SUMMER HOLIDAY PRODUCTION—DIRECTOR WANTED

Planning now needs to get under way for a piece of summer holiday entertainment for locals and visitors in the Christmas holiday period.

In recent years this has taken the form of the locally written pantomimes, 'Twisted Tales from the Woods' and 'Bush Magic' and FAMDA now wants to stage an established play or musical.

The cast list should provide opportunities for young people, children and teenagers, as well as adults to be involved.

Casting will be done in September / October with rehearsals commencing mid-October.

As yet no particular show has been chosen as FAMDA is seeking a director for the project and would expect that person to have a say in the choice of production.

Anyone interested in directing FAMDA's summer show should contact a member of the FAMDA executive to discuss possibilities.

The ideal people to speak to are

FAMDA president, Max Adam = 5682 1600 or irismax@bigpond.com

vice president, Andrew Oldroyd = 5683 2313 or aoldroyd@dcsi.net.au

or secretary, Raymond Dunstan = 5682 1567 or chris.freeman3@bigpond.com

Spotlight on FAMDA sponsored by

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FOODWORKS

Supporting local community events

58 Main Street, Foster



FAMDA

**Ninth Annual
South Gippsland**

One Act Play Festival

Weekend—Saturday 8 August

Session times to be advised

Foster War Memorial Arts Centre



LOCAL PREVIEWS

FAMDA is entering two plays in this year's One-Act Play Festival.

'Viva Juarez' by Michael Dines is a revolutionary drama set in Mexico.

Directed for FAMDA by David Baggallay its cast consists of David plus Jordan Matthews, Louise Harfield and Josie Harfield-Park.

'Love Or Nearest Offer' is a very up-to-date comedy by the Australian writer, Hugh O'Brien.

Bruce Crowl is directing this play with Dianne Frey, Lloyd Morcom, Amanda Richter and Glyn Stuckey.

Both plays will be previewed locally the weekend before the festival.

The Welshpool Hall Committee will host a performance at 8:00 on Saturday 1 August at Welshpool.

At 2:00pm on Sunday 2 August the plays will be staged at Meeniyan Hall.

All profits from these preview performances stay with the local hall.

FAMDA Committee 2009—2010

President: Max Adam

Vice President: Andrew Oldroyd

Secretary: Raymond Dunstan

Treasurer: Norm Willoughby

Publicist: Jennifer Paragreen

General

Dianne Frey

Max Hastings

John Laurie

Lee-Anne Mitchell

Genevieve Moore

Trish O'Neill

Dianne Paragreen

Tania Pell

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Foster 3960

www.famda.org.au

0400 867 872

In-house dinner bookings
catmcglead@dcsi.net.au or 0407 543 371

FAMDA PREVIEW PERFORMANCES

Viva Juarez

Love Or Nearest Offer

Welshpool Memorial Hall

8:00 Saturday 1 August

Meeniyan Town Hall

2:00 Sunday 2 August