

Gems

The logo for 'peridot' is enclosed in a green, faceted octagonal shape that resembles a gemstone. The word 'peridot' is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font inside the octagon.

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Issue 340 November 2016

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Dear Friend

President's Prattle



Our final production for the year, *Becky's New Car* by Steven Dietz, opens on November 18th. I looked in on one of the rehearsals and the cast are doing a fine job under the expert direction of Helen Ellis. Both funny and touching, this play is sure to resonate with audience members of all ages. We are also very excited about our 2017 season.

Here's a few more details to whet your appetite:

The 39 Steps adapted by Patrick Barlow, directed by Bob Bramble, February 3rd to 18th.

Mix a Hitchcock masterpiece with a juicy spy novel, add a dash of *Monty Python* and you have *The 39 Steps*, a fast-paced whodunit for anyone who loves the magic of theatre! This award-winning treat is packed with non-stop laughs, madcap chases involving trains, planes and bridges, handcuffs, missing fingers and some good old-fashioned romance!

The Female of the Species by Joanna Murray-Smith, directed by Natasha Boyd June 9th to 24th.

Margot Mason, a thinly veiled version of Germaine Greer, has writer's block following publication of her ground-breaking polemic, *The Cerebral Vagina*, thirty years ago, when in through the windows of her country retreat steps one of her committed fans - with a gun. What follows is Joanna Murray-Smith's deliciously wicked comedy that deftly walks the tightrope between satire and farce.

Life After George by Hannie Rayson, directed by David Lawson-Smith, August 11th to 26th.

Peter George, charismatic academic, idealist, lover of life, is dead. His wife, two ex-wives and daughter gather for his funeral. As the true nature of the man and his life

unfolds, so these women discover much about themselves and the lives they have lived both within and outside his shadow.

Bloody Murder by Ed Sala, directed by Dexter Bourke, November 17th to

December 1st.

A group of the usual British murder-mystery types gather at Lady Somerset's country estate. Suddenly, one of them dies of poison! Well, of course. Oh, what fun! But why won't her Ladyship summon the police? And why were they all invited there in the first place? Is this actually just another formulaic, all-too-predictable mystery story? Or is it something diabolically ... different?

Becky's New Car by Steven Dietz, directed by Helen Ellis

Synopsis

Have you ever been tempted to flee your life? Becky Foster is caught in middle age, middle management and in a middling marriage - with no prospects of change on the horizon. Then one night, a socially inept and grief-struck millionaire stumbles into the car dealership where Becky works. Becky is offered nothing short of a new life ... and the audience is offered a chance to ride shotgun in a way that most plays wouldn't dare. A thoroughly original comedy with serious overtones. A devious and delightful romp down the road not taken.

Dates:

November 18th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th and 30th starting at 8pm.

December 1st 2nd and 3rd starting at 8pm.

Matinees on Sunday November 20th and Saturday 26th starting at 2.15pm.

Twilight Performance on Sunday 27th starting at 4pm.

Tickets:

Individual entry to show, (including sherries and supper), for 2016:

Full Price: \$27.00

Concession: \$24.00

Bookings:

To book tickets please call, (03) 9808 0770, email,

Temporary Carpark Closure

Until the end of this year, our normal carpark under the trees will be undergoing reconstruction. The onsite roadway and visitors parking spots near the staff carpark will be available, as well as the Gordon Street carpark. Lighting along the paths from that carpark to the roadway outside the theatre will be checked and enhanced if necessary.

We apologise for any inconvenience; the revamp to the carpark will be wonderful once completed, but a hassle in the meantime. We recommend arriving early enough to drop off any audience members with mobility issues right at the front door, before finding a park in one of the side streets. Please refer to the map below

and you have *The 39 Steps*, a fast-paced whodunit for anyone who loves the magic of theatre!

In *The 39 Steps*, a man with a boring life meets a woman with a thick accent who says she's a spy. When he takes her home, she is murdered. Soon, a mysterious organisation called 'The 39 Steps' is hot on the man's trail in a nationwide manhunt that climaxes in a death-defying finale!

The 39 Steps will be Peridot Theatre's offering for Season One of 2017.

- What's On:**
- Peridot Theatre Company:**
Becky's New Car
18th November to 3rd December

 - Malvern Theatre Company Inc:**
Tomfoolery
28th October to 12th November

 - Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre Co.Inc:**
Yes, Prime Minister?
2nd November to 19th November

 - Mordialloc Theatre Co. Inc:**
Inspector Drake's Last Case
4th November to 19th November

 - Strathmore Theatre Arts Group:**
Daylight Saving
10th November to 20th November

 - Brighton Theatre Co:**
Other People's Money
10th November to 26th November

 - Beaumaris Theatre Inc:**
One for the Pot
11th November to 26th November

 - The Basin Theatre Group:**
Moon Over Buffalo
11th November to 3rd December

 - Sherbrooke Theatre Co. Inc:**
Last Cab To Darwin
12th November to 26th November

 - Williamstown Little Theatre Inc:**
London Suite
17th November to 3rd December

 - The 1812 Theatre:**
The Vicar Of Dibley
17th November to 10th December

Heidelberg Theatre Co:

One Man, Two Guvvors

18th November to 3rd December

Frankston Theatre Group Inc:

Allo, Allo

18th November to 4th December

The Mount Players:

Whose Wives Are They Anyway

18th November to 10th December

Theatre Tails

From the Editor:

Recently, a friend sent me a photo of a little dog, lying patiently on its blanket while attending rehearsals for a community theatre show.

I've been lucky enough to bring my own Theatre Dog in to rehearsals quite often, and recently she's even visited many of my university lectures and tutorials, studying creative writing.

(My tutor said she's the most attentive student he's ever had). There's something really fantastic about a room with a dog in it.

Personally, I think it's because animals won't tend to judge us if we're not wearing the right clothes, if our eyebrows are uneven, or if our performances are a bit below par.

I would like to encourage this habit of bringing a dog into the theatre for rehearsals or, at the very least, to bring some of their chilled, non-judgmental attitude.

Quote of the Month

Every dog has his day, unless he loses his tail, then he has a weak-end.

- June Carter Cash

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