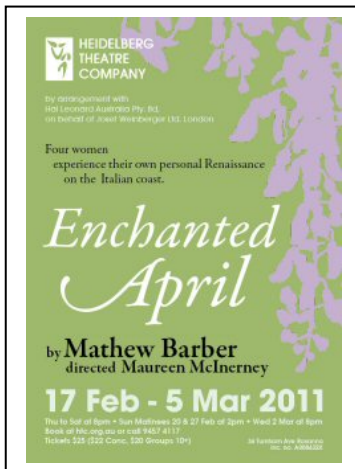


# PROMPTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY



## Enchanted April

*a charming heartwarming night of theatre* by Mathew Barber  
directed by Maureen McInerney

**17<sup>th</sup> Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2011**

**Evenings at 8.00pm**

**Matinees: Sundays 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Feb at 2pm**

Subscribers requiring to alter their chosen night or reserve their booking are asked to call BEFORE Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.

Our first offering for 2011 is **Enchanted April** by Mathew Barber, a bewitching tale of love and redemption set against the backdrop of loss and tragedy following World War I. The play is based on the novel by Elizabeth Von Arnim which was written in 1922 and has remained in print ever since, also being made into an academy award nominated film in 1992.

When two frustrated housewives decide to rent a villa in Italy for a holiday away from their bleak marriages, they recruit two very different English women to share the cost and the experience. There, in the sunshine and wisteria blossoms, all four bloom again – rediscovering themselves in ways that they – and we – could never have expected!

Maureen McInerney and Margaret Hassall are directing this lovely play, and enjoying working with a great cast. We welcome ‘newbies’ Rachael Negus, Sarina Cassino, Gabby Llewelyn Salter, Donal Taylor

and Bevan Uren to Heidelberg. We are delighted to have Margaret Rawlinson, Michelle Tanner and Andrew McNess returning to our stage.

Owen Evans has designed the set and will be working with Dennis, Des, Neville, Jim, Paddy, Doug and the rest of our terrific set building team.

George Bissett is designing the sound with input from Sarina Cassino who is providing some beautiful Ligurian folk music.

Bronwyn Parker is hard at work on the furniture, décor and props and Wendy Drowley and Lois Connor are going to dress the cast with their usual brilliance and attention to period detail, to provide us with a visual feast!

Don't miss this lovely romantic journey with us, back to the 1920s, while enjoying the comfort of our fabulous new seating!

Thanks to all our Subscribers who have renewed their Subscriptions in 2011 and welcome to our new Subscribers.

There is still time to get your subscription in for our 5 Play Season. Just complete the Order Form in the 2011 Playbill and send it to our P.O. Box address. If you don't have a Playbill handy, you can download a copy from our website, [htc.org.au](http://htc.org.au). or call the Box Office on 9457 4117, leave your name and address and we will post one out to you.

Our Online ticketing system for general ticket purchase, Gift Certificates and Group Bookings will be in place early in 2011, until it is available, please continue to call our Box Office to book or exchange tickets.

We hope you enjoy this great year of Theatre at HTC. Made even more pleasant by the installation of our new seating in the auditorium. So please, do help spread the word, tell your friends and neighbours about us.

P.O Box 141, Rosanna VIC 3084  
Enquiries 9455 3039  
Web [www.htc.org.au](http://www.htc.org.au)  
Email [htc@htc.org.au](mailto:htc@htc.org.au)  
Inc. No. A008432X

**EMAIL PROMPTS CAMPAIGN:** Like to join HTC's email list and receive *Prompts* in digital format? It also saves us money on printing and postage. If so please send an email to [prompts@htc.org.au](mailto:prompts@htc.org.au) and include your name, address & phone number

**BOOKINGS & SUBSCRIPTIONS 9457 4117**



# Review

## The Painkiller by Frances Veber

Directed by Joan Moriarty

Reviewed by John Gunn, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2010 for  
3CR's CURTAIN UP Sundays at One (855 AM)

As an end of the year romp Heidelberg Theatre Company offer us the continuing adventures of that little sad sack *Francois Pignon*, which all started in the play **The Dinner Game**. This time *Francois* is contemplating suicide as his wife has left him for her psychiatrist *Dr. Wolf*. After a futile phone call to estranged wife *Louise* to effect reconciliation, *Francois* is planning to hang himself in the bathroom of the hotel where he is staying. Unfortunately, next door is a hit man *Ralph* who, with a telescopic rifle, is preparing to 'take someone out' via his hotel window - he becomes *Francois's* unwilling saviour. Now there's not a lot to the plot but lots of frenetic coming and going, falling out of windows and yes, mistaken identity. The other characters are the *Bellhop*, *Francois's* wife *Louise*, her new lover the doctor and a cop. Now this type of play could be mind numbing if it weren't for the great ensemble cast: Laurie Jezard - at his comic best as *Francois*; Bruce Carboon - excellent as the sinister *Ralph*; John Cheshire - a delight as the *Bellhop*; Catherine Christensen as *Louise*, David Creedon as *Dr. Wolf* and Steve Anastasi in the small role of *The Cop*.

Joan Moriarty has injected the production with pace, energy and splendid comic timing along with excellent diction in the French accents. The set of two adjoining hotel rooms works well, as do the good costumes, props etcetera, lighting and the sound effects of the police sirens.

This farcical play makes great demands physically on the two main characters - *Francois* and *Ralph*; they struggle on the bed, roll around the floor, almost fall out of the fifth storey windows, get caught in the shutter blind - almost being decapitated - and when *Francois* tries to commit suicide in the bathroom and emerges, soaking wet, he never misses a beat with his ensuing dialogue and action. *Ralph* is no slouch either, whether beating up a cop or staggering after he is mistakenly given an injection to calm him down by *Dr. Wolf* - which should have been given to the hapless *Francois*... and so it goes.

These plays by Francis Veber are very popular in France and have been successfully filmed. Heidelberg Theatre Company's production is excellently directed by Joan Moriarty and played by a very experienced and able cast and with very good stagecraft. The production has much to offer, and it takes Heidelberg out on a light note to end the year.

So if you want a night of light-hearted entertainment that doesn't stress the little grey cells then **The Pain Killer** is for you.

### Vale – Michael Walker

The Company is sad to advise that after a short illness Michael Walker has died. He wished to be remembered to his many friends in the theatre world, especially at Heidelberg.

Michael joined Heidelberg Repertory Group in the 50s and became an award winning Director and Actor with the Company over three decades.

Michael moved to Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and lately was commenting on plays for the blind at MTC.



above: Cast & Crew of *The Painkiller*  
right: Cast & Crew of *The Wizard of Oz*.



## THE CURTAIN COMES DOWN ON 3CR's CURTAIN UP

After some 30 years of broadcasting, Curtain Up has hung up the headphones and turned off the mic. The curtain came down on Curtain Up's last programme on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2010.

Carolyn and John Gunn wrote ; "Our thanks to all who have supported our theatre programme, so generously provided by Radio 3CR, also to all the publicists, actors, directors, designers, musicians, choreographers who have contributed to the show over the years; it has been very rewarding and mostly a lot of enjoyment.....well, there's always a story or two to tell!!

Also our special thanks to our reviewing team: Diana Burleigh, Frances Devlin Glass, Nicky McFarlane, Jill Watson, Graeme Cope and Joan Chapman who have travelled so extensively for Curtain Up reviewing the many and varied shows over the years.

But personally (being theatregoers for over 50 years), it is time for us to move on - we have other commitments and also want to do some travelling and broadcasting 52 weeks of the year is time consuming; Yes, we will miss reviewing the shows and talking to so many interesting guests but I'm sure we'll still see many of you in a theatre foyer somewhere."

**A HUGE THANKYOU TO CURTAIN UP from all at HTC.**

## Review – HTC Youth's **Wizard of Oz**

By Alfred Bradley form the story by L. Frank Baum

Directed by Elise Dorian

Reviewed by Joan Moriarty

Well done Elise and her cast and crew – overall a very high standard, featuring bright, colourful sets and lighting , the twinkling fairy lights, all appealing to the young children watching. The sound track too was very enjoyable and well chosen.

The Direction was very good – using multiple sets - all very ambitious but moved around with a minium of fuss.

The cast of twenty made up a great ensemble. *Dorothy*, Gabby Mazzarino, wide eyed and over awed, the excellent comic capers of the *Scarecrow*, Sean Entwistle, and the gravitas of the *Tinman*, Christian Dell'Orio, all worked very well. The *Wicked Witch*, Debbie Govorcin, was very scary, especially as she came through the auditorium, some of the little ones wanted out and her high pitched squawk often meant I did not decipher what she was saying but it was easy to guess! The *Wizard*, Timothy Camillerri, had a timbre to his voice, unfortunately we couldn't see his disguises as his face was mostly in shadow. *Cat*, Mitchell Hope, with his post modernism was a little out of reach of the average three year old, but I liked it. All the supernumeraries were delightful.

Congratulations to Elise, Tim and the Team.





left: HTC Executive – Brett, Bruce & John at the AGM  
right: June Cherrey and Bill Cherrey Award winner Chris McLean.  
far right: In House Adjudicators, Dorothy Pound and Rose Capuano with Bruce Akers.



## Highlights from the President's Report at the 2010 Heidelberg Theatre Company AGM held 12<sup>th</sup> December 2010

- \* Lower occupancy rates for the Season.
- \* One HTC Youth production.
- \* 477 Subscribers, 77 Members, and 17 Life Members.
- \* Turnover \$120,000 per annum.
- \* Decreased expenditure on productions and higher R&M obligations. This has been a difficult financial year for the Heidelberg Theatre Company. Whilst we have continued to maintain a positive cash balance, we have seen a decline in our cash reserves from approximately \$44,000 last year to around \$22,000 this year.
- \* Important People thanked: – Committee, Administration Team, Set Building Team, Technical and Backstage Crews, In-House Awards Adjudicators, Banyule Council and many individuals named and thanked for their contribution to the Company during the year.
- \* Continued leasing of 1<sup>st</sup> Rosanna Scout Hall for rehearsal space.
- \* As a result of the successful co-production venture with Williamstown, the staging of **Glorious!**, we are now planning another co-production with Williamstown for the 2011 season with **The History Boys**.
- \* We are waiting for a draft lease from the Banyule Council which will extend our term for a further 10 years with a 10 year option.
- \* New auditorium seating will be installed ready for the first production in 2011.
- \* Alice Bugge Memorial Garden opening.
- \* One critical OH&S issues.
- \* Local and national charities and non-profit organisations were supported.
- \* Vale. It was noted with regret the passing during the year of Joan Small.

The 2010 year has been financially challenging. This is the first year for quite some time that we have failed to generate a surplus and as a result we will need to restrict expenditure in the coming year to essential items.

For nearly 60 years HTC has been an active and thriving community resource and continues to provide opportunities for involvement at all levels.

## BILL CHERREY AWARD 2010

This Award is given each year to an individual member of The Heidelberg Theatre Company as recognition of their outstanding contribution and service to the Company. This year's recipient has a history with Heidelberg Theatre Company that dates back to 1980 when he performed in a pantomime as *Walter the Witch's Son* in **The Kingdom of Far Away**.

He has been involved with HTC in many roles, as an actor, an assistant director, a production coordinator and a director. Behind the scenes he has been a regular set builder and has also been responsible for set realisation. He has been our web site manager and co-ordinator of incoming electronic mail. In addition to all of this, he has managed our programmes and initiated the transition from basic back and white print to full colour.

This year's recipient is a great example of a member who has contributed his talents into many different facets of the Company with enthusiasm and commitment, embracing the spirit that drives Heidelberg Theatre Company.

I would now like to call on June Cherrey to come to the stage to present this year's Bill Cherry Award to Chris McLean.

(J. Gilbert/J. Cherrey)

## Highlights of the President's Report ctd.

We are always looking for talent and skills both on stage and behind the scenes. There will always be a need for people with administration, hospitality, accounting, marketing and handy man skills. Regardless of what level of experience you hold we will be able to make use of your offer. If you have ever considered or are thinking of becoming more involved, make your interest known to the Company so that we can organise a suitable introduction for you.

John Gilbert, President, 2010  
(a full transcript of the President's Report is available on the HTC website)

## HTC 2010

### In House Awards

Adjudicators, Dorothy Pound and Rose Capuano presented the Annual HTC In House Awards for the 2010 Season under the following headings:

#### WINNERS:

For excellence in:

- PERFORMANCE** - Natasha Boyd – **Disclosure**, Liam McIntyre, Adrian Carr – **Glengarry Glen Ross**, Chris Baldock, Angelo DeCata - **The Judas Kiss**, Bruce Carboon - **The Pain Killer**.
- LIGHTING** - Deryk Hartwick, Callum Robertson - **The Judas Kiss**.
- SET DESIGN** - Paul King - **Glengarry Glen Ross**, Leanne Cole - **The Pain Killer**.

**DIRECTING** - Bruce Akers - **The Judas Kiss**.

**COSTUME** - Wendy Drowley, Lois Connor - **The Judas Kiss**.

**OUTSTANDING PRODUCTION for 2010** - **The Judas Kiss**.

### Victorian Drama League Awards

Our VDL-nominated play for 2010 was **Glengarry Glen Ross**.

**BEST ACTOR** in a MINOR ROLE in a COMEDY or a DRAMA: **John Jenkins** won the GOLD AWARD for his role as *Detective Baylen*.

We congratulate our VDL Award winners and the Cast and Crew of **Glengarry Glen Ross**.

**CURTAIN UP's 'GONGS FOR 2010' for productions, performances, etc that really made an impact !**

**The Judas Kiss** – very good and engrossing production. Directed by Bruce Akers with Chris Baldock characterising splendidly in the varying moods as *Oscar Wilde*.

**Glorious** – for the set enlargement (David Dare) and faithful re-staging of WLT's production.

**The Pain Killer** – Director Joan Moriarty

## FEBRUARY

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Working Bee</b> with Lunch
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Working Bee</b> with Lunch
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	<b>FIRST NIGHT – Enchanted April</b>
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Audition</b> – The Business of Murder
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Audition</b> – The Business of Murder
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Heidelberg Film Society

## MARCH

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	<b>FINAL NIGHT – Enchanted April</b>
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Heidelberg Film Society

# AUDITION NOTICE

Heidelberg Theatre Company's production of

## THE BUSINESS OF MURDER

by Richard Harris

Directed by John Jenkins

Auditions will be held at the Theatre  
36 Turnham Avenue Rosanna (Melways ref: 31 A1)

from 7:30pm on  
Sunday Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>  
& Monday Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Play Season: 21<sup>st</sup> April – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011  
Weeknights and Saturdays at 8:00pm  
Sundays at 2:00pm

*Detective John Hallett* has been asked to the residence of *Mr Stone* to aid him in helping his wayward son who has fallen into the wrong crowd and the wrong occupation. When *Hallett* arrives the son is nowhere to be found, the deceptions begin.

This classic thriller is built on false pretenses, twisted games and shock surprises. Three people are brought together for what appears to be legitimate reasons, but there is nothing legitimate about *Mr Stone*. Or is there?

### Characters

**Mr Stone:** Early 40's - He is rather nondescript and wears glasses. A humourless, rather prissy man. Very shy and non positive.

**Detective Hallett:** Early 40's - He has goodish looks going a little puffy round the eyes through too many long sessions with too many short drinks. He has a deceptively casual manner most of the time but has a short fuse and doesn't suffer those he considers fools gladly.

**Dee Redmond:** Late 20's - Very attractive. She is capable and bright there's an underlying nervous edge about her.

**Auditions are by appointment only.**

Please ring the Director on 0417 954 697  
after 5pm to make an appointment or  
email John on [johnthegonz@gmail.com](mailto:johnthegonz@gmail.com)

If you were at the AGM and heard John, our President, give his Report then you will already know that the disappearance from the foyer of the pre-show sherries and the sale of wine through FOH was brought about by a change to the Liquor Licensing Laws in Victoria and the requirement for all front of house volunteers to be trained in the responsible service of alcohol. Meeting these requirements would result in a substantially increase in costs which make it uneconomical to continue to offer alcohol before and during the show.

But all is not lost, you can still drink up the wonder of live theatre right in your own backyard!

## LOOKING TO RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR CLUB OR CHARITY IN 2011?

Why not organise a  
**Group Booking to HTC**

The price for Groups of 10  
or more is

**\$20 per ticket**

(\$5 off an adult single ticket  
price)

Group bookings can be made  
for any night during the  
Season.

Supper can be arranged for  
groups of 20 or more for an  
additional charge.

For more details contact June our  
Ticket Secretary on  
**9457 4117**

### WHO, WHAT, WHERE???

Winner of the 2010 Bill Cherrey Award, Chris McLean, is playing the lead in **The 39 Steps** at the Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre in March. The show is directed by another well known face at HTC, Justin Stephens.

### HTC'S XMAS HAMPER

The 2009 Winner of this coveted prize is HTC Subscriber, Wendy Gower of Montmorency. Congratulations from all at HTC.

**FM System Phonic Ear Headphones (no hearing aid needed)** will be available again this Season at the Sunday Matinee performances only. Please reserve them when you book. The System is being trialled with assistance from the Banyule City Council.

## HELP!!!

needed at the

## WORKING BEES

for Enchanted April

**Saturdays**

**5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**from 10.30am**

**lunch is provided**

So do come along, it's a great  
experience and a fun time too!

**Working Bees not your style?** How  
about assisting backstage or foh

**Like to know more – call the Theatre on  
9455 3039**