

The Q Sheet

AUGUST 2026



Proud supporter of
The Victorian Drama League.

Newsletter of
Mordialloc Theatre Company Inc
mordialloctheatre@gmail.com
PO Box 80, Mentone, 3194
Bookings 9566 4440

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION



COCK



John has been in a stable relationship with his boyfriend for a number of years. But when he takes a break, he accidentally falls in love with a woman. Torn between the two, filled with guilt and conflicting emotions, he doesn't know which way to turn.

His boyfriend is willing to wait for him to make a decision, but so is his girlfriend. And both are prepared to fight to keep him. As the pressure mounts, a dinner with both parties is arranged, and everyone wants to know. Who is John? What does he want? And what will his decision be? It is a comic discussion of identity and sexuality, where love and labels prove to be anything but simple.

"Olivier Award-winning playwright Mike Bartlett's dialogue still zings... and richly explores passion, relationship choices, cowardice and commitment."

– The Guardian

Audience Advice – Restrictions apply to persons under the age of 15 years

Season Dates: 22-31 October

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR TICKETS YET?

Bookings now open: <https://mordialloctheatre.com.au/> or call 9566 4440.

Milestone

Our recent play, "The Other Place" marked the Mordialloc Theatre Company's 400th production—a milestone that invites us to pause and reflect with a sense of genuine wonder.

Could the small group of passionate volunteers who founded the company in 1945 ever have imagined that, 81 years later, their community theatre would still be putting on plays? That it would have touched the lives of thousands of performers, creatives, volunteers and audience members, becoming an enduring part of Kingston's cultural fabric?

As remarkable as celebrating 400 productions is, perhaps the most extraordinary thought is what still lies ahead. What stories will be told, what friendships will be forged, and whose lives will be changed by this theatre in the decades to come?

We can't help but wonder what awaits the Mordialloc Theatre Company in 2107. If its first 81 years are any indication, the future promises to be every bit as inspiring as its past.



Congratulations!



As a successful run of The Truth comes to an end, we want to congratulate the cast and crew on a wonderful season.



Joanne K

Went last night at our local theatre. 🎭 Great performances by the cast & very funny! 👍 👍 🤝 🤝 🤝 🤝

Miroslav M

Chookas to the cast! Loved the preview, and Greg Barison is a standout. If you love watching people lie, go see The Truth!



Tony H

Congratulations on a wonderful, wonderful play The Truth - so clever with a French orientation - funny, and fantastic acting. Huge Congratulations. Absolutely Brilliant 🤗 😊 😊

Sheila B

It's very funny! A real hoot!

Karen K

Loved the show, highly recommended ❤️

Sonia B

Brilliant 🤝 🤝 🤝

Helen S

Wonderful performance, so much fun

Carol A

I saw this on Saturday Afternoon, it made me giggle, and the lead was so good in the part, as were the other actors. The play was well written, thank you for an enjoyable, funny romp.

Anne H

French lesson of the day: love is complicated, affairs are messier, and the truth eventually catches up. A wonderful Sunday afternoon cheering on Greg Barison and all the cast from the audience with Kate. Congratulations to all on a magnifique show 🎭 FR 🤝

David T

What an absolutely brilliant production. Chookas for the rest of the season, and truly looking forward to seeing you all perform later this week. 😊 😊 😊

Carol O

Great play. Acting is wonderful.

Lee C

Loved it!

Linda F

A fun filled show. Have just seen it. The acting is fantastic!!

Shona S

Great performances all round another success for the Mordialloc Theatre Company

Rob C

One comedy that gets laughs all the way through. Well done MTC, cast and crew.

[To read the VDL review, click here](#)



Samantha S

Can't wait to see it !

Lynda A

So great!



Petition for Council

The VDL commissioned an excellent report about community theatre in Victoria. Below are some facts that highlight the level of support some community theatre groups receive from their council. It's a real eye-opener and it's important that we tell our Council how other groups are being assisted by theirs.

That's why we have created a petition, so if you have a spare moment, it would be great if you could sign our petition on this link– [PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION](#)

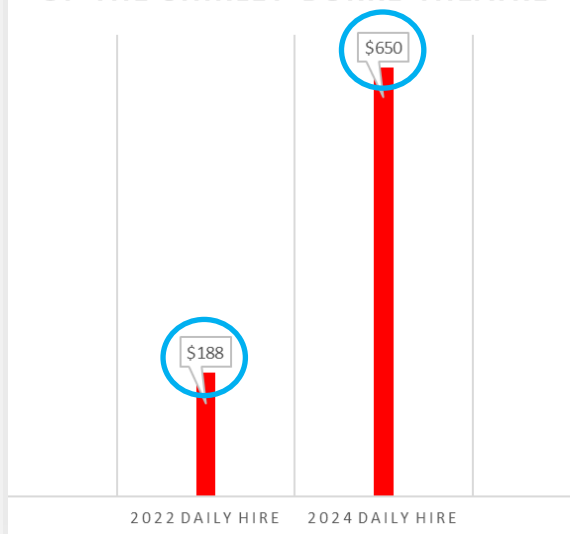
If you have already signed a hard-copy, there's no need to sign this e-copy.

Change has always depended on people believing they could make a difference. As Margaret Mead famously observed:

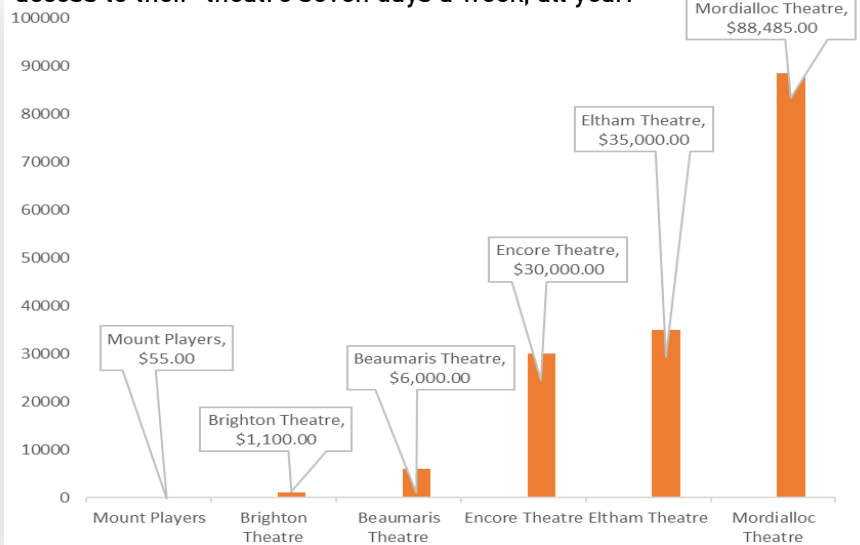
"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to sign our petition. Every signature is a statement that our theatre is worth fighting for. Change doesn't begin with certainty; it begins with hope, courage, and the willingness to take the first step.

245% INCREASE IN DAILY HIRE FEES OF THE SHIRLEY BURKE THEATRE



The Victorian Drama League undertook a theatre hire and ticketing costs comparison for 2025. As the chart below shows, we were not only charged far more than any other community theatre group, but it was for only 16 weeks of hire, most of the companies below have access to their theatre seven days a week, all year.



It's hard to believe that our daily rate of hire for the Shirley Burke Theatre went up from \$188 in 2022 to \$650 in 2024 and we've been trying to play catch-up since then.

That's an astonishing jump of 245%, which is extremely difficult for a community group to absorb when it is totally run by volunteers.

There has been some pressure from some outside of the MTC to raise our ticket prices, but we are extremely reluctant to do that. Our philosophy is that community theatre should be accessible to everyone and cost should not be a major impediment for those who want to experience it.

The Shirley Burke Theatre has always been a community asset; it was named after Kingston Councillor, Shirley Burke, to honour her fierce advocacy of community theatre. She understood its importance and her efforts helped establish what became a busy hub of activity– a far cry from what it has become.

The current management model lends itself more to a commercial venture than a community hub and we are keen to revert to something closer to the model that was successfully in place from 1962 to 2010.

Please take a minute now to sign the petition above to show your support.

Vale Alan Douglas

It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of an old member of the Mordialloc Theatre Company. Alan Douglas, who lived in Parkdale at the time, was a mainstay behind the scenes during the 1970s and 80s. He volunteered as a Lighting operator, Stage Manager plus an enthusiastic set builder.

MTC member Martin Gibbs has offered the following words-

"It is with sadness that we learn of the passing of Alan Douglas. Together with wife Pam, Alan was a stalwart of Mordialloc Theatre Company in the mid to late 1970's. Pam was the company's secretary for several years and both were heavily involved both backstage and at set construction (affectionately known as working bees back in the day) and he was prominent in the social side of the company which was very active in those days. Alan and Pam drifted away from the company as many people do, with family or work commitments occupying more of their time. Unfortunately there are few people around now to remember Alan and MTC from those days."

Membership Details

We have recently updated our Constitution and part of our governance responsibility involves having full contact details of all our members. We have phone numbers of some but not an address. Addresses of others but no phone numbers. Phone numbers and addresses of some but no email contact.

If we don't have member email addresses, they can't receive these newsletters or any other important communications. So if you know someone who doesn't get these emails, please forward this email to them.

Please update your contact details so you can remain members, as we may need to scrub all contacts that haven't provided the necessary details.

You can do this by clicking on the following link- [UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS](#)

Props, Furniture and Costumes

We will soon be moving out of our long-term storage facility and downsizing, and because we can't keep everything, we need to cull many pieces of furniture, props and costumes in the next month. Members will have an opportunity to see what's on offer and will have a chance to pick out some gems. Some items may have a small price, while many will be free.

We will email members with details closer to the date. Another good reason to update all your details!

Volunteers

The Mordialloc Theatre Company would not be able to operate without the invaluable contributions from our volunteers and there are some opportunities for those who may be interested.

Set Build

Thanks to the set building team that was responsible for build the set for *The Truth* and who assisted with disassembling it! A big thank you to the lads from the Beaumaris Men's Shed, their assistance is deeply appreciated.

Thanks to-

Martin Gibbs, Hugh Bramwells, Jean Johnson, Jack Katzfey, Geoff Arnold, Michael Kakogiannis, Michelle Barry, Mike Love, John Brooks, Mary Werther, George Werther, Chris Forbes, Brodie Hansen, Michael Tobin and Nicholas Bufalo.

If anyone is interested in helping with future set build, please contact us at - mordialloctheatre@gmail.com or Martin Gibbs on 0411 645 003.

All volunteers will receive a complimentary ticket to the production and lunch on bump-in days.

Front-Of-House

Thanks to Shona Smith for organising the Front-Of-House roster for *The Truth* and all our volunteers; your efforts are very much appreciated.

Lynette Williams, Sheila Balis, Bianca Nanquil, Rob Coulson, Jane Crouch, Helen Beaumont, Julie Arnold, Caspar Cumming, Irene Reimer, Evonne March, Lucinder Bertram, Petra Darcey, Glenda McDonald, Corinne Gibbs, Jo Wade, Deborah Fabbro, Juliet Hayday, Jane Thomas, Barbara Crawford, Suzette Cameron, Sandra Godeassi, Rachel Bannan, Annette Le Breton, Denise Bailey, Anne O'Merra, Marijana Gec, Catherine Munday, Judith Dillon, Kristen Jansen-McMaster.

If you're interested in organising future rosters for upcoming productions or being part of the FOH team, please contact us at- mordialloctheatre@gmail.com

Onwards

Around ten years ago, the Mordialloc Theatre Company started using the Girl Guides Hall in Cheltenham as its dedicated rehearsal space. Now we mark the end of an era.



At the beginning of this year, the Bayside Council advised us that our lease would not be renewed beyond June 30, as it had other plans for the venue.

Thankfully, the lease was extended by a few weeks to accommodate rehearsals for *"The Truth"*, so the cast could complete rehearsals there and wouldn't be inconvenienced by moving to an unfamiliar place. Around 50 of our last productions were rehearsed there since making it home.

A big thank you to the members who volunteered to help clean, move furniture and pack tubs of belongings as we wait for another rehearsal space to become available, one we hope to be able to call home for a long time to come.

AUDITIONS FOR “Breaking Down All The Walls”

WRITTEN & DIRECTED
BY NICHOLAS BUFALO

SYNOPSIS

Breaking Down All The Walls is a play about the actual creation of a play, breaking the mould of traditional theatre. It is a mixture of live performance on stage and pre-recorded video scenes.

Two of the characters, Frieda and Eric, are playwrights, collaborating via video conference, drawing upon their own experiences to shape their work.

The audience observes them as they workshop the development of their script.



Meanwhile, two of the play's actors, Georgia and Hugh, begin to navigate the same rocky terrain of a new relationship as are the characters they are portraying, Charlie and Davina.

This means that the same actor playing Hugh is also playing Charlie, just as the actor playing Georgia is also playing Davina.

Two other characters, Barry and Allison, sit and watch the play unfold. They exchange viewpoints on the actual performance, much like a Greek chorus would.

Life imitating art? Or Art imitating life?

This play is a true premiere, an original work which offers a unique hybrid theatrical experience, blurring the boundaries between fiction and reality, comedy and drama, and it offers a layered exploration of love, jealousy and the human connections that bind.

This is the Mordialloc Theatre Company's first original work and the writer is also the director.

No specific accents are required.

ROLES

Hugh 20-30 Male

Hugh, an enthusiastic actor, has just been cast as Charlie, and is thrilled to have landed one of his first stage roles. A lifelong theatre lover, he has spent years admiring productions from the audience and is excited to finally be on stage himself.

Although he has received some acting training, Hugh knows that live performance is very different from the classes he took. Eager to learn, he throws himself wholeheartedly into rehearsals, absorbing every piece of advice and embracing each new experience. Beneath his enthusiasm lies a quiet nervousness—he wants to do justice to the role, contribute to the production, and avoid making a fool of himself. His passion, humility and determination make him an earnest and likeable member of the cast.

AUDITIONS Breaking Down All The Walls

Georgia 20-30 Female

Georgia is a beguiling and effusive actress cast in the play as Davina. Confident, outspoken and refreshingly direct, she is an experienced performer who has appeared in numerous stage productions. She thrives on collaboration and naturally mentors less experienced cast members, generously sharing her knowledge and encouragement.

Her warmth and openness can sometimes be mistaken for flirtation, but Georgia is simply someone who connects easily with people. She has an infectious enthusiasm for life and firmly believes that strangers are just friends she hasn't met yet. At times, she can immerse herself into a role too much.

Barry 40s Male

Barry is one of our audience members and not a regular theatre-goer. An office worker with a cheeky, blokey sense of humour, he's far more comfortable watching stand-up comedy than sitting through a stage play. Confident and outspoken, he has a habit of saying exactly what's on his mind—sometimes without thinking about the consequences.

He's attending the performance because his girlfriend of ten months, Allison, is an avid theatre lover and has been particularly eager to see this production. Happy to make her happy, he agrees to come along, despite feeling out of his element. As the play unfolds, Barry struggles to make sense of what he's seeing, and his candid observations often reveal both his confusion and his unfiltered honesty.

Allison 40s Female

Allison is a confident, intelligent businesswoman who has little patience for foolishness, yet she seems to take a quiet delight in teasing Barry. She regards him with a curious blend of amusement and embarrassment, as though she knows something he does not. Beneath her composed exterior, there is clearly more at play than she is willing to reveal. To those around her, however, she appears to be a patient and supportive partner, gently guiding a bewildered Barry through the unfolding events.

Eric 65+ Male

A playwright and true creative, Eric has embraced the unconventional challenge of co-writing a play via video meetings with his long-time friend, Frieda. Initially uncertain about how the collaboration would work, he has come to relish the process and the unique creative exchange it has fostered. Intellectual and naturally drawn to academia, he is thoughtful and analytical without ever being pretentious. Usually measured and considered, he also has a playful spontaneity, happily throwing out ideas and exploring possibilities without needing them to be perfect. He is generous in collaboration, unafraid to suggest, question and experiment in the moment. Even when frustrated or challenged, he remains courteous, respectful and committed to the creative journey.

Frieda 65+ Female

A playwright who is genuinely excited to have Eric as her creative sounding board, she sees this project as a unique and rewarding opportunity. Welcoming the involvement of her long-time friend, she values the history and trust they share, which allows their collaboration to be both playful and instinctive.

Highly collaborative and open-minded, she is always willing to explore new ideas, but she is not afraid to challenge or discard those that don't serve the work. For her, every creative choice must earn its place. A true perfectionist, she believes a script is never truly finished—there is always another layer to uncover, another refinement to make, and another opportunity to strengthen the story. For her, the creative process is an ongoing journey of discovery.

Please note, as indicated in the play breakdown, all the scenes between Frieda and Eric will be filmed as video conference calls and will then be screened to the audience throughout the play.

AUDITIONS Breaking Down All The Walls

Performance Dates-

Thursday 3 December – Opening Night
Friday 4 December – Evening Performance
Saturday 5 December – Matinee & Evening Performances
Sunday 6 December – Matinee Performance
Wednesday 9 December – Evening Performance
Thursday 10 December – Evening Performance
Friday 11 December – Evening Performance
Saturday 12 December – Matinee & Final Evening Performance

Please ensure you would be available for all performances before auditioning. If you have a conflict with any of the rehearsal dates, please advise the director at audition and if it becomes relevant, every effort will be made to work with it.

Weekly rehearsals will be-

- 7:30-10:00pm Tuesday evenings
- 7:30-10:00pm Thursday evenings
- 2:00-5:00pm Saturday afternoons or 7-10pm Saturday evenings - according to cast preference.

Rehearsals will commence in late September but, given that this is a new work, prior to rehearsals, there will be at least one readthrough on a day and time that is convenient to all.

The only change to rehearsal days will be the dress rehearsal in the Shirley Burke Theatre on Monday November 30 and a final dress rehearsal with an audience on Wednesday December 2.

Actors need to commit unconditionally not only for the entire performance season but also for all scheduled rehearsals at which their attendance is required.

Please check that you are available for all performance dates before auditioning and advise the director, prior to your audition, of any potential conflicts which may occur during the rehearsal period.

DATES:

Saturday 5 September (afternoon)
Tuesday 8 September (evening)

LOCATION: TBA

To book an audition:

Please email a contact phone number, a photo (it doesn't have to be a professional headshot; a photo taken with a phone camera is perfectly acceptable) and an outline of any acting/theatre experience, a preferred date to audition and the role you'd like to audition for.

This can be sent to Breakingdownallthewalls@gmail.com

Audition scenes will then be sent out to you.

An audition reader will be available on the day, but if you prefer to provide your own, just let us know. Depending on the number of people auditioning, you may be partnered with another auditionee.

We hope that this new work, directed by the writer, is of interest to you.

If you have any queries, send them to the above email address.

Please note: Anyone who is offered a role will be asked to pay a \$20 show fee for membership, insurance and refreshments.

Readers for Auditions

The Mordialloc Theatre Company is building up a database of actors who can help directors with their auditions by being readers.

A reader in an audition acts as a temporary scene partner, providing the other half of the dialogue. Their primary function is to actively listen, respond, and match the pacing and energy of the person auditioning, helping them deliver the best possible showcase for the role.

If you're interested in this, please contact us by clicking on the link below and tell us a little bit about yourself and any acting experience you may have-

[READERS FOR AUDITIONS](#)

FREE ACTING WORKSHOPS



Have you ever thought about giving acting a try but weren't sure where to start?

Or perhaps you've acted before and would love the opportunity to brush up on your skills in a fun, supportive environment?

We're looking at offering a series of free acting workshops for people over 18 of all experience levels—from complete beginners who've never stepped onto a stage to those with years of performance experience.

There are no auditions and there's no pressure— we want to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable, included and inspired.

The workshops will focus on building confidence, creativity, communication and having fun while meeting new people in a welcoming and encouraging atmosphere.

If you've ever been curious about acting but have been too shy to put yourself forward, let us know that you're interested by completing the Expression of Interest form so that we can tailor a workshop for the people who are interested in taking part.

Complete the survey before **THIS DATE**

[CLICK HERE FOR AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM](#)

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME



Have you ever wondered about working with a theatre company?

The Mordialloc Theatre Company is celebrating it's 80th year. That's 80 years of mounting plays for the community. Over that time we've had so many volunteers help with -

- *Building sets: skilled or unskilled.
- *Working Front-of-House: greeting patrons, preparing and offering refreshments.
- *Wardrobe: sourcing, adjusting or transporting.
- *Creating, modifying or transporting props- large or small.
- *Stage managing or assisting crew.
- *Sound and Lighting operation.
- *Marketing skills.
- *Distributing flyers.

If you think you might be able to assist as a volunteer in any of these roles, or if you have other skills that you could contribute, or if you would just like more information, contact us at mordialloctheatre@gmail.com

PROUDLY
SUPPORTED BY



WHAT'S ON

Lilydale Athenaeum Theatre Co. Inc.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

10– 26 September 2026

www.lilydalesathenaeum.com.au

Heidelberg Theatre Company

Crimes Of The Heart

4-19 September 2026

www.heidelbergtc.org.au

Eltham Little Theatre Inc.

Dancing At Lughnasa

4-19 September 2026

www.elthamlittletheatre.org.au

The Basin Theatre Group Inc.

You're Only Young Twice

1-11 October 2026

www.basinthatre.au

The 1812 Theatre Ltd.

Switzerland

1– 24 October 2026

www.1812theatre.com.au

Beaumaris Theatre Inc

The Secret Garden

2-22 August 2026

www.beaumaristheatre.com.au

Brighton Theatre Company

A Simple Act Of Kindness

6– 21 November 2026

www.brightontheatre.com.au

Malvern Theatre Company

When The Rain Stops Falling

21 August– September 5 2026

www.malverntheatre.com.au