

From Our President



Hello Everyone,

It's May already! Seems only it as a short time ago I was writing April's report! Hope everyone is enjoying this "extended" summer.

Congratulations to **Bruce Stanley** who is now Vice President/Publicity and we also welcome **Robert Garnham** to the Management committee. Bruce is a long-term member and brings a wealth of experience as having performed the role a number of times in the past. Most of you know Robert from his stage performances in *Summer Wonderland* and *Diary of a Scoundrel*, most recently as Rick in *Let the Sunshine*. Congratulations Robert!

Some of you may have seen on our website, that we have had to change the dates for *Seven Little Australians*. This is due to building works occurring throughout June, a new roof to be precise. *Seven Little Australians* will now open **Friday 15th July at 7.30pm** and plays across 4 weekends, with a final performance on **Sunday 7th August. Please note the new earlier start time for evening performances.** Rehearsals will commence on **Sunday 15th May at 2.00pm**. This has not impacted Play 3, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, which will still open **Friday 26th August at 7.30pm**. Having the two shows so close together, we will be needing extra assistance in Box Office and Front of House, so please let me know what night you can help out.

Cheers,
Liz

LAST MONTH'S (APRIL) FEATURE

A small number of the DayPlay Group performed two short plays from the longer collection, *Hat Tricks* by Dorrie Appell. These off-beat pieces presented some challenges, as the delivery style was unusual, and as the title suggested, the theme in each case involved hats. The three actors, **Desley Nichols, Pat Wockner** and **Sandra Hogan**, gave us much enjoyment in a short time. Leo Wockner directed.

MAY FEATURES

"Catherine Parr – or Alexander's Horse" by Maurice Baring is an unusual and not-quite-serious look behind the castle doors into the domestic arrangements of the King of England, Henry VIII, the one renowned for disposing of his wives. Catherine Parr, however, is the number 6 wife, the one who kept her head and outlived him. Actors are **Paul Liddy** and **Glynne Liddy** and **Rod Thompson**, with directorial comment from **Maria Plumb**.

Also for your entertainment, **Rod Thompson** has prepared a "yarn" entitled *Now I'm not Superstitious, but.....: the Maiden Voyage of the Clipper Blackadder*.

What's in A Name?

Still no firm date for our return to Seven Hills, but here are some suggestions for a name for the **Theatre at Seven Hills - Clearview Urban Village**. Food for thought, and your ideas and comments.

- Palatine Theatre Seven Hills
- Aurora Theatre Morningside
- F Block Morningside
- Villanova Players Theatre
- Nova Theatre
- NovaSette (NewSeven)
- Clearview Theatre

What's on in Community Theatre

ARTS THEATRE - presents **ARE YOU BEING SERVED?** By Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft- **30 Apr - 4 Jun** - Bookings - 3369 2344

CENTENARY THEATRE GROUP - presents **AGATHA CRISPIE** by Cenarth Fox - 7 - 28 May - Bookings - 3379 3937 or 0435 591 720

SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP - presents **ONE-ACT REVIVAL** - 27 May to 11 June - Bookings - 3345 3964

NASH THEATRE - presents **SHAKESPEARE'S THE TEMPEST** directed by Brenda White - 14th May to 4th June - Bookings - 3379 4775

MT COTTON DRAMA GROUP - presents **LEND ME A TENOR** - 29th April to 14 May - Bookings - 0402 682 198

TOOWOOMBA REPERTORY THEATRE - presents **THE LAST ROMANCE** - 27th April to 14th May - Bookings - 4632 8058

ST LUKE'S THEATRE SOCIETY - presents **THE CHALK GARDEN** by Enid Bagnold - 25th Jun - 2 Jul.

THEATRE ANYWHERE FESTIVAL

Shane Fell who played the boy in *Rabbit Hole* is appearing in a very special production of *Of a Lifetime*, a fantasy musical, by Jamie Jefferies, as part of **Anywhere Theatre Festival**. A few years ago, VPs work-shopped the show with Jamie. *Congratulations Jamie and Shane!*
For more information:

<http://scenestr.com.au/music/jamie-jefferies-show-of-a-lifetime>

Vice-President: Bruce Stanley 0415 504 033
Treasurer: Jacqueline Kerr 0433 110 766
Secretary: Maria Plumb 3391 7180
Casting Liaison: Leo Bradley 3891 5769
Members:
Mickey O'Donnell 3899 9962
Desley Nichols 3891 2282
Robert Garnham 0406 971 216
Lucy Moxon 0403 854 586 2016

CASTING COMMITTEE

Leo Bradley 3891 5769
Fiona Kennedy 3352 7717
Gregg Goriss 0415 912 000
Jane Sizer 3349 1328
Michelle Malawkin 0410 323 854 *

*A big welcome to Michelle, who was elected at the April meeting.

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VPs is going green!!
i.e. Paperless Please.

With increased cost of postage and printing, we ask everyone who has yet to provide us with an email address to do so ASAP so we can email your next Proscenium.

Don't miss out on all the exciting news. Send your details to:

villanovaplayers@gmail.com

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VALE ERROL O'NEILL

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of **Errol O'Neill**, local actor and playwright. The Players had a very successful season of his play "Faces in the Street" (about the 1912 Brisbane tram strike) in 2000. We offer our condolences to his wife Mary and sons Joe and Kieran,

VILLANOVA PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY established 1948
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The Hut: Phone: - 3395 5168

Meetings held every third Wednesday 8pm at: The Hut, Jean Howie Drive, Balmoral Park [just off Bennetts Road], MORNINGSIDE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President: Liz Morris 0439 670 283

SEVEN LITTLE AUSTRALIANS

Performances:

***(Please note the 7:30pm start for night performances) ***

Fridays 15th: 22rd: 29th: July: 5th August at 7:30pm

Saturdays 16th: 23rd: 30th July: 6th August at 2.00pm & 7:30pm

Sundays 17th: 24th: 31st July: 7th August at 2:00pm.

Rehearsals have just started for our production of the Australian classic "*Seven Little Australians*". This much-loved children's classic by Ethel Turner has never been out of print since its first publishing in 1894.

The adventures of the seven mischievous Woolcott children have been cleverly brought to the stage by Ann Scott-Pendlebury. The characters are still so true to life, and so distinctively Australian. The constant battle of wills between the children and their parents is at times hilarious and very real.

With two casts of children, rehearsals are full of energy and fun and there are lots of shenanigans on stage.

As with all large cast shows, there's mix of youth and experience, with some familiar faces and some new talent. Lisa Gorse and Adunni Ekundayo are sharing the role of Judy, the chief organiser of the mischief. They have been members for a while now with roles in "*Anne of Green Gables*", "*Little Women*" and "*James Joyce's the Dead*".

We welcome Anthony Hitzke to the role of Captain Woolcott and Crystal Gilbert is playing the dual role of the eldest daughter Meg and the narrator. Anthony comes with a wealth of experience in *The Iona Passion Play* and is himself the father of eight children, while Crystal also has seven siblings. So they both bring a touch of realism to their performances. While Desley Nichols is playing the much put-upon Bridget, the family's chief cook and bottle washer (also layer of many tables!)

Mary Greathead is assisting with the musical elements of the production. Yes, there will be some

singing, and a fair bit of food. Big thank you to our stage mums and production assistants, Valerie Gorse and Helen Ekundayo.

We are having great fun working on the show and this will be a beautiful show with a lot of laughter and a few tears.

Unfortunately, due to the change of season, some cast changes were inevitable, but we'd like you to see these early rehearsal pictures.

