



Official newsletter of St Jude's Players Inc  
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## New Booking Agents

After seventeen years as Booking Agents for the Players, Helen and Fred Allen have retired. We wish to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for all their wonderful efforts in promoting our productions to the public over so many years. Helen will be giving our new agents a helping hand during bookings for our first production, *A Man For All Seasons*. We are pleased to advise that we have obtained the services of:

**Brighton Hardware - situated just 7 doors up at**  
**Shop 15 Brighton Shopping Centre, 525 Brighton Road, Brighton**  
**Telephone 8296 2926**



## WELCOME TO A SPECTACULAR YEAR OF ENTERTAINMENT

With our first major production for 2006

# A Man For All Seasons

Written  
 By  
 Robert  
 Bolt



Directed  
 By  
 Richard  
 Lane

27th April to 6th May 2006

**Tickets Prices:** Adults \$17 Concession \$10 Children \$7

**Meal Voucher for Fasta Pasta and Show \$22**

**Ordinary Bookings:** Open Wednesday 12th April 2006 at  
 Brighton Hardware  
 Shop 15 Brighton Shopping Centre  
 525 Brighton Road Brighton  
**Telephone 8296 2926**

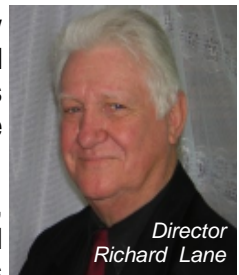
King Henry VIII was a right royal bully! He wanted to divorce Catherine and marry his mistress in order to sire a male child to carry on the good work in the Tudor kingdom. However the Pope in Rome would not let him, so Henry bludgeoned Parliament into submission with his Act of Supremacy, making himself Supreme Head of the Church in England.

As evidence of the legality, Henry required every English citizen to sign the Act, which in fear of their lives they did. Except one.

Thomas More was loved and adored by the populace at large, was respected by his peers as a man of true Christianity, and was Henry's close friend and confidant. He occupied the post of Chancellor, the highest in the land. More refused to sign the Act on the grounds that God's law was higher than man's law. Henry was so miffed by More's refusal that he set about working a conspiracy with the widely-hated Thomas Cromwell, who eventually had More brought before the courts on a charge of treason.

Written by Robert Bolt in early 1960's, this is a very modern play, considering the rogue regimes in the world today which use such bullyboy tactics.

The production has a stellar cast led by Andrew Horwood as Thomas More, Richard Greig as Henry VIII, David Lockwood as Thomas Cromwell and Peter Smith as The Common Man.



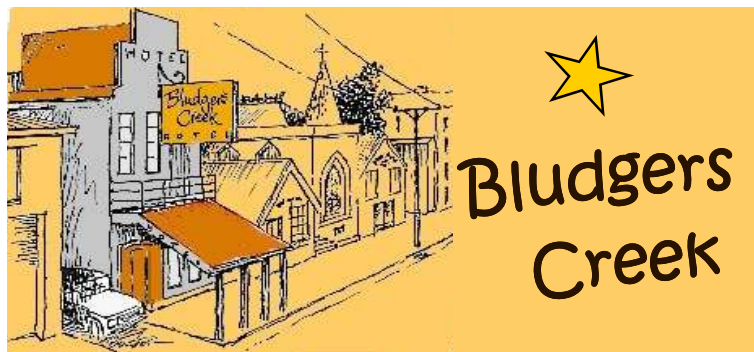
Director  
 Richard Lane

Please join us for this intriguing political thriller, witnessing the machinations of the Royal Court, and Thomas More's struggle with his own conscience. Come and see if what Henry wants, Henry gets!

**Season:** Thursday 27th to Saturday 29th April and  
 Wednesday 3rd to Saturday 6th May 2006  
 Evening Performance 8 pm Saturday Matinees 2 pm

**Charminar Indian Restaurant** - When ordering your meal, if it is the same night you are seeing "A Man For All Seasons", show your ticket and receive 20% discount off your meal.

## LAST PRODUCTION FOR 2005



# Bludgers Creek

The musical play *Bludgers Creek* sent the audience into party mood for the festive season last November. David D'Angelo's beautiful musical compositions set to Harold Minear's lyrics were indeed a entertaining end to a successful year. The stage setting in the Bludgers Creek Hotel was a hot topic at performances as patrons eyed and discussed relics from the past that decked the walls.

It is also a delight to have Susie Small back in Adelaide, and her musical numbers and portrayal of Maggie MacLeod were gems. There was much swooning with the emergence of a new matinée idol as Andrew Crate took the stage! Director Rosie Aust assembled some wonderful talent including Myra Waddell, Kay Saunders, Paul Bock, Sue Mauger, John Oliver, Stuart Partis, Julie Quick, Haydn Madigan, Keith Manson, Craig Wingrave and Mary Thoday as the lovable character of Aunty.

There seemed to be one unanimous comment that *"there just has to be a sequel to unite Aunty and her grandson Jimmy"*.

### From Adelaide Theatre Guide review by Simon Slade

*"Bludgers Creek* is an original musical by Harold Minear. Set in a typical outback town called Bludgers Creek, it is only natural that the action should focus on that mainstay of Australian life – the local pub ..... and what a pub! St Jude's have reproduced the bar of a country pub in a brilliant set, designed by Robert Aust. A film company arrives to shoot a movie about an old murder supposed to have taken place in the town. Working for the film company is young Jimmy O'Connor, played by relative newcomer Andrew Crate, who strikes up a friendship with Aunty, played by Mary Thoday. Some of the scenes between them are very touching, and director Rosie Aust should be proud of the work she has done ..... Susie Small, as publican Maggie MacLeod, plays the retired vaudevillian perfectly. The exaggerated gesture and language of the fading star was both funny and touching. Haydn Madigan was in fine form as her old partner, Digger Dawson, now working for the film company. Sue Mauger, as Jenny MacGee, and Craig Wingrave, as Tom Buckland, make a perfect country couple – she is waiting for her engagement ring, and he is busy picking the football team for next Saturday's game! But could their relationship falter when reporter Grace Maddison (Kay Saunders), sets her sights on Tom? ..... Whilst this show might not be destined for Broadway, it is still an enjoyable night out, with some fine performances."



If you wish to be notified when Spotlight is available on our website (in colour!), please send an email to [info@stjudesplayers.asn.au](mailto:info@stjudesplayers.asn.au). Could those who have previously asked to be put on the distribution list please do so again, as the list has been 'misplaced' during a computer upgrade. Sorry about that!

## OPENING NIGHT.....*Bludgers Creek*



Left: Harold Minear and David D'Angelo discuss the show while Deirdre Minear checks out the supper



Right: Mrs Madigan congratulates husband Haydn and Julie Quick on their performances



Left: Another sumptuous St Jude's Players Supper!



**Oh hic!! ..... what a set that was!!**



## TAKE A BOW

At the conclusion of each year the Messenger Press give their Annual Light Year Awards and for 2005 we are pleased to congratulate the following special mentions: ★

### BEST DRAMATIC ACTRESS:

Special mention: Julie Quick (right) as Joyce in *Groping for Words* (St Jude's Players).



BEST COMEDY: Special mention: *Birds on the Wing* (St Jude's Players).

## 2006 SEASON LAUNCH with *Love Letters*

In February we had, for the very first time, a season launch (including a performance of *Love Letters*) to promote all three of our productions for the year. We are pleased to say it was an outstanding success, attracting over 400 patrons over three nights and what was so amazing was that a lot of people came for the first time to St Jude's Players! Vicky Wray and Andrew Horwood proposed the launch early in 2005, and both have worked tirelessly to ensure its success behind the scenes and on the stage too.

Our thanks to them, Julie Quick and Brian Knott for their performances in *Love Letters*, and of course to Director Mike Croome. The chicken and champagne supper each evening was a bubbly time! Special thanks to all the volunteers who prepared the supper. We were fortunate to have a review of the event which was as follows:

### Review by Theresa Dolman from Adelaide Theatre Guide

"St Jude's Players found an interesting way to announce their 2006 season---they accompanied the launch of their season with a production of *Love Letters*, by A R Gurney. *Love Letters* is a simple play, but effective. It follows the lives of Andy (Brian Knott) and Melissa (Julie Quick) through their correspondence. In a homely setting comprising two comfy chairs, two lamps and an escritoire, Andy and Melissa read out the letters they wrote to each other over their lifetimes, since they first met in the second grade.

A R Gurney's works often delve deeply into the heart and soul of American life. *Love Letters* is no exception.

Quick captured the audience's sympathy as she read her letters to Andy, letting the emotions show through from the start as a spoilt child of a well-to-do family, her pain during the break-up of her parents, her frustrations through the rebellious teenager years, and finally as the alcoholic mother whose life is spinning slowly but surely out of her control.

Knott also gave a good performance as Andy, a down-to-earth middle class youth who loved to express himself on paper, but was not quite so confident in person. Over the years this changes, and his eloquence on paper gives him the confidence to succeed in business and public office. He also shares with Melissa his highs and lows, staying in touch during his rise to the Senate, when his friendship with Melissa is nearly his downfall.

At the conclusion of the readings the chairman of St Jude's Players came forward and announced their new season, inviting the directors of the three productions (*A Man For All Seasons*, *Breezblock Park* and *Jerry's Girls*), to give a short presentation on their chosen shows. If the quality of their upcoming productions is as good as *Love Letters*, they will be well worth seeing."

## WANT CHEAPER SEATS ? ....

### The secret is to **Subscribe** and save \$'s in 2006

A reminder to get your Subscriber Book and save money! Our book of four discount vouchers is available now for the 2006 Season. Cost is \$36 or \$27 (concession). Buying your tickets this way you get a ticket for **free**. Makes a great gift. Telephone 8296 2628 or print a form from our website. ★

## SOCIAL FUNCTIONS since our last Spotlight ..... we have been partying!!

First was our Christmas Party in December, there were some lucky door prizes, awards and a great time had by all



Above left: Lucky prize winner!  
Above: Awards for 2005  
Left: Christmas Party celebrations

## Next was our ... ANNUAL DINNER !

On the 18th February we had our Annual St Jude's Players Dinner at the Marion Hotel. We enjoyed a great night and there were two lucky door prizes presented.



Above:  
The simple but impressive set of *Love Letters*



Right:  
Back left -  
Brian Knott, Mike Croome,  
Julie Quick, Vicky Wray  
and Andrew Horwood



## VALE- Bruce Hillier:

Bruce was an active member in the 1950s and 60s. He was a committee member and also appeared in a number of plays including *Travellers' Joy*, *The Vigil*, *A Pig In A Poke* and *Small Hotel*. Bruce and his wife Betty have always remained strong supporters of the Players and have been regular members of our audience over the years. Bruce died in February after a short illness and we extend to Betty and his family our sincere sympathy. Those of us who knew him will remember Bruce fondly as an unassuming gentle man, and a true friend.

*Isabella Norton*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the 16th February and our Chairman Rosie Aust reported to members that 2005 had been a successful year, with patron numbers being up on the previous year. Financially, there are still ongoing outlays for our new storage facility, which should be completed in the first half of this year.

Outgoing committee members not standing for re-election were David Evans and Sandra Preston (Publicity). A number of nominations were received for the vacant positions, and so a vote was held. New committee members elected were Susie Small and Richard Lane. Thanks were extended to the retiring committee for their contributions.

There were two nominations for Life Membership—Andrew Horwood and Richard Lane. Both have had remarkable and lengthy associations with the Players and very much deserve this well-earned recognition. Congratulations to you both.



*Above: Andrew Horwood  
and Richard Lane*

## FINANCIAL MEMBERSHIP

You can help St Jude's Players in a big way by becoming a Member for just \$5 a year. There are benefits to you too - you get your money back if you come to our Annual Dinner! Because of the requirements of our insurance cover, all those who help out at productions must be Members, even if you are an usher.

## PROMOTE THE PLAYERS IF YOU CAN

Although it is often "word of mouth" that encourages people to attend our productions, it is amazing how many people who live locally have not heard of St Jude's Players and the entertaining shows we stage each year. We hope that if you enjoy our productions you may pass on this *BIG SECRET* in Brighton and environs to your friends and neighbours and ask them to come along and .....

"Satisfy your thirst for Theatre"



## WHATS ON NEXT ....

You're invited to Christmas  
in July at

# Breezeblock Park



A Comedy by Willy Russell  
Directed by Dave Simms



## THEN IT'S ....



## Volunteers for Set Construction

Ring 8296 2628 with enquiries regarding helping out with set construction. It commences approximately 10 weeks prior to opening night.

We wish you a safe  
and Happy Easter

