



Official newsletter of St Jude's Players Inc  
July 2005 - Issue No. 129  
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# Spotlight Spotlight

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## Booking Agents - We have re-located again!

We wish to thank Brighton Hardware for the terrific service they gave us for our last play, *A Man For All Seasons*. Alas, we are sorry to say that retirement is suddenly on the agenda for Shane Bond, with new owners taking over in July at Brighton Hardware. We wish you a wonderful retirement. The Players have decided to do the bookings themselves and for our next production you can telephone or call at:

St Jude's Players  
Monday to Friday 10 am to 3 pm  
St Jude's Hall, 444 Brighton Road, Brighton  
Telephone 8296 2628



Don't forget preferential bookings close Monday 3rd July

You're invited to Christmas  
in July at

# Breezeblock Park

A Comedy by Willy Russell  
Directed by Dave Simms



*Breezeblock Park* is Willy Russell's brilliantly written comedy about the madness of life at Christmas. The family are all coming round for drinks on Christmas Eve, and Betty wants to show off her new sofa and boast about how much it cost. She'll be trying to outdo her sister Reeny and her brother Tommy, who's been in the pub since lunchtime (so who knows what state he'll be in)!

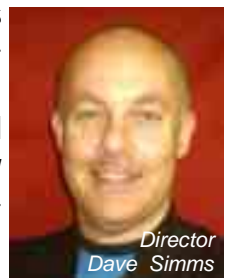
There'll be lots of cheap wrapping paper, tired tinsel and fairy lights. There are also concealed jealousies, petty squabbles and a big secret: Betty's daughter, Sandra, turns up to announce she has a boyfriend, she's pregnant - and she wants to leave home! As the drinks flow, feathers start to fly and the news threatens to tear the family apart; the big question is.... will they let Sandra go?

Willy Russell wrote *Breezeblock Park*, before he wrote *Educating Rita* and *Shirley Valentine*, and this play explores some of the same ideas. You'll really enjoy this comedy; it's not only painfully funny, but also sharply moving.

A top cast features some of Adelaide's most talented actors. They include: Julie Quick, Lindy LeCornu, Deborah Walsh, Tony Busch and Andrew Clark; as well as Ben Brooker as the new boyfriend, and Amy Hutchinson as Sandra the daughter.

Dave Simms is directing for the first time at St Jude's Players and he's promising to create a real Christmas in July theme - we're even having carol singing in the interval!

**Season:** Thursday 20th to Saturday 22nd and Wednesday 26th to Saturday 29th July 2006. Evening Performance 8 pm - Saturday Matinees 2 pm



Director  
Dave Simms

20th to 29th July 2006

Tickets Prices: Adults \$14 Concession \$10 Children \$7

Meal Voucher for Fasta Pasta and Show \$22

Ordinary Bookings: Open Wednesday 5th July 2006 at  
St Jude's Hall  
Monday to Friday 10 am to 3 pm  
444 Brighton Road Brighton  
Telephone 8296 2628

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

## LAST PRODUCTION

# A Man For All Seasons



The grandeur of the regal costumes placed against the stark black set created an impressive back drop to a remarkable story of a historical, harsh and sometimes brutal era. The success of a production is a cumulative result of design, casting, and an intriguing play all brought together by an equally imaginative director. In *A Man For All Seasons*, director Richard Lane created a memorable balance to achieve his vision. Andrew Horwood's demanding and sympathetic take on Sir Thomas More and Peter Smith's entertaining portrayal of the Common Man, and outstanding performances by all the cast, made this classic a production to remember.

### Extract from review by Petra Stakre for the Guardian Messenger. **A GOOD SEASON**

"The first thing that strikes you about this production is the set – there's really not much of it. One wonders how a table, a chair, a few props and a couple of insignia on the plain black walls will be enough to convey the grandeur of Tudor England. As it turns out, its minimalism is the perfect backdrop for some stellar performances, which a grander set might have diminished.... Set in England during the reign of King Henry VIII, centres on Lord Chancellor Sir Thomas More.... a strong-willed man of intense convictions, More cannot bring himself to side with the King and steps down from his role, plunging his family into poverty and himself into disrepute, at least with the King's toadies. The play ends with More being jailed and beheaded for treason, unwilling to sacrifice his ethical and religious beliefs to save himself.

"Andrew Horwood is suitably stoic in the challenging role of More, and gives a strong, measured portrayal of a strong, measured man. He injects a passionate emotional presence into his performance, but stops short of overplaying the part. The scenes with his family, particularly after his imprisonment, are touching and sensitively done.

"A real highlight (and it must be said, the actor with all the best lines) is Peter Smith as The Common Man. He acts like a comical chorus for the play, introducing characters as they come on and commenting on the action in between the main dialogue. He also crops up as incidental characters, including More's servant and prison guard. Smith's delightful cockney accent and impeccable comic timing make him a joy to watch, and his appearances provide a light hearted foil to the heavy drama of the play.

"Richard Greig as Henry VIII is also a highlight, playing the King as an arrogant yet charming "lad" type. Narrah Luks is luminous as More's gentle daughter, Margaret, and Elizabeth Slee is equally good as wife Alice....Director Richard Lane has done well to present a heavy historical play in such an entertaining and engrossing manner...."

## AT REHEARSALS.... *A Man For All Seasons*



Above:  
Cast have their final rehearsal and receive some last minute pointers from director Richard Lane

Right:  
The royal coat of arms of Henry VIII



## OPENING NIGHT .....

**did you say Sandwiches !!**



Left: With tables set we're ready for the party!  
The hard working behind the scenes team: Rosemary, David and Susie.



Above: Cast member Paul Kaesler enjoying the opening night atmosphere.

## RAFFLE WINNER - Congratulations

The winner of the raffle, conducted during the production of *A Man For All Seasons* and drawn on the final night of the season, was Jill Marriage. She's still enjoying the chocolates!

## CLOSING NIGHT



It's time to party again and on the last night of *A Man For All Seasons*, and it was time to reminisce.....



Above: Richard Lane receives congratulations



Right: Vicky Wray was thrilled that her mother, Pamela Hawker, was here from England to see the play, especially since the family are descendants of Sir Thomas More



Above: Susie Small no doubt discussing with Robert McCarthy his production of *Jerry's Girls!* Coming up in November



## WANT CHEAPER SEATS ? ....

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

A reminder to get your Subscriber Book and save money! Our book of four discount vouchers is available now for the 2006 Season. Prices are \$36 and \$27 (Concession). Buying your tickets this way gets you a ticket for **free**. Makes a great gift.

Telephone 8296 2628 or print a form from our website.

## FRONT OF HOUSE ROSTER

Many thanks to those members who so willingly assist with front-of-house duties. Our friendly welcoming staff are much appreciated. As the theme of our next production, **Breezblock Park**, is centred around Christmas, we are making a feature of Christmas in July and we would like our helpers to wear something in keeping with the Christmas Spirit. **Susie Small** will be organising the roster for **Breezblock Park**; Susie's telephone number is **8277 7625** should you wish to contact her for any information.

## SOCIAL FUNCTIONS ..... coming up!!

### Our Annual Quiz

night will be held again this year.

Note the date in your diary:



# 7th October

This is our only fund raising event each year and is always a fun night out. Please come along and support the Players.

For all information and table bookings telephone:

**8296 2628**

Lots of Prizes !!

## ATG ANNUAL "CURTAIN CALL" AWARDS

Last year we were thrilled that St Jude's Players had two productions nominated for awards. Although this year we did not receive a nomination, we would like to congratulate the theatre groups who been nominated. The "Curtain Call" awards are a wonderful opportunity for the promotion of local theatre in South Australia and for those involved to receive recognition for their efforts .

This year the Night Of Nights will be hosted by comedian and actor Glynn Nicholas, and held at The Grainger Studio, 91 Hindley Street, Adelaide on Saturday 22nd July 2006 at 7 pm (6.30 pm arrival). Contact the Adelaide Theatre Guide for bookings.

## 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 insurance cover all those who help out at productions must be members, even if you are an usher. We greatly appreciate the support of our members and all volunteers who come along and participate.

### St Jude's Players Stubbie Holder



Also available  
St Jude's Players

T-shirts, Polo shirts, Caps and Wine Glasses. They Make Great Gifts .

Check out the display in the foyer during Breezblock Park

## The Last Night of the Proms



A significant contingent of St. Jude's Players, including Susy Small, Pamela Hawker, John Sands, Vicky Wray, Richard Lane, Isabella Norton, Rick Mepsted, John Oliver, Andrew Horwood, Stuart and Anna Partis were fortunate to be able to attend the last night of the Promenade Concerts, held in the Royal Albert Grundy Hall on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>. May, 1951 ...err that's 2006!.



Compères Richard Dimbleby and Audrey Russell welcomed the Promenaders, who were treated to the usual profligacy of patriotism, under the batons of Sir Malcolm Sargent and Sir Thomas Beecham, with Moura Lympny at the pianoforte.

There appeared to be a hitch in the programme, as the great Diva Bianca Castelfiore had been dispatched to Coventry, and it was rumoured that Florence Foster-Jenkins would take her place, but – to the great relief of those who had heard Dame Florence audition, this did not eventuate, in spite of the manipulatory machinations of cellist, No-No More.

Your reviewer was mystified by the presence of many a symphonic sleuth, and while Sherlock Holmes demonstrated amazing dexterity in performing pizzicato on the clarinet, and Debbie McAlister (harp), Tin-Tin (saxophone) and Hercule Poirot (tuba) acquitted themselves creditably, the same could not be said for Inspectors Clouseau, Wexford, Morse or Rex, and we recommend that Miss Marple concentrates on her knitting and Dr. Watson on his phenomenal success as a physician;

However, Bianca thoroughly merited her encore. We wish Snowy well as the new mascot of His Master's Voice. "The Week's Good Cause" was to send a young lassie overseas, and in this, as well as in every other respect, the evening was a great success.

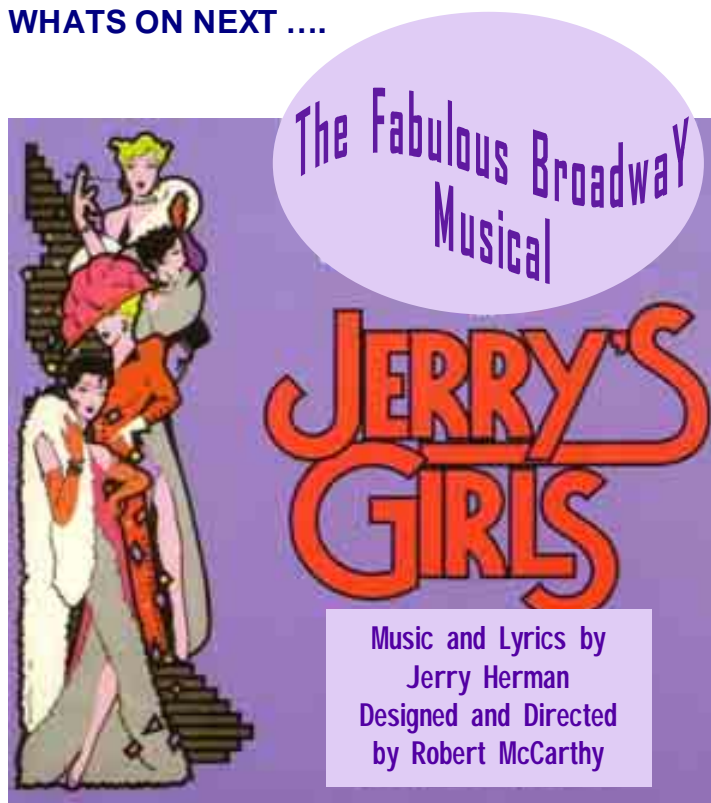
Anna would like to express her gratitude to the St. Jude's Players, as well as to the Choirs of St. Jude's Anglican Church and of Holdfast Bay.

**Stuart Partis**

*St Jude's Players wish Anna the best of luck in her venture overseas.*



## WHATS ON NEXT ....



**15th to 25th November, 2006**

### Volunteers for Set Construction

Construction for *Breezblock Park* has commenced, but we always welcome fresh faces (and bodies!) Ring 8296 2628 with enquiries

### PROMOTE THE PLAYERS

It is often "word of mouth" that encourages people to attend our productions, but it is amazing how many people who live locally have not heard of St Jude's Players and the productions staged each year. We believe that live theatre is in a class of its own, and we pride ourselves on staging quality, variety and value for money productions. We hope that if you enjoy our productions you may pass on this *BIG SECRET* in Brighton to your friends and neighbours and ask them to come along and .....

" Satisfy your thirst for T heatre "



The Home of The Players