



Official newsletter of St Jude's Players Inc
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Spotlight Spotlight

How To Book For Jerry's Girls

1. Return the enclosed booking form. This will ensure that you have tickets posted to you and there will be no need to pick them up from the Box Office on the night.
2. After the 25th October ring Helen Allen on 8270 4205. If you book by telephone, you will need to pick up your tickets by 7.30 pm on the night of the performance.

Our musicals are always very heavily supported so we encourage you to book early. Using the preferential form will ensure the best possible seating.

It's time for an Extravaganza!
 Our final show for 2006 is



The Fabulous Broadway
 Musical

JERRY'S GIRLS

Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman
 Concept by
 Jerry Herman and Larry Alford

More than most songwriters, Jerry Herman has put the 'larger-than-life' women of his shows centre stage. There's Dolly Gallagher Levi of *Hello, Dolly!*, Auntie Mame Dennis of *Mame*, Countess Aurelia of *Dear World*, Mabel Normand of *Mack and Mabel* and female impersonator ZaZa of *La Cage Aux Folles*. So it is fitting that in *Jerry's Girls* there are women centre stage once again. Women affectionately celebrating Jerry's special gift for writing songs that capture the true spirit of the American musical theatre.

St Jude's Players are delighted to be bringing this fabulous Broadway entertainment to you as a fitting finale to our 2006 program. We have assembled a great cast, featuring **Susie Small, Brigitte Rennie, Elizabeth Slee, Fiona Bailey, April Stuart, Bry Townsend, Rhona Gaughin, and Jenny Scarce-Tolley**. Together with some talented musicians, and a dedicated support team, one of our greatest theatrical challenges promises to be a night of glitz and glamour that will send you home humming happily remembered (and some less familiar) tunes from that great master of musicals

Jerry Herman.

Directed and Designed by Robert
 McCarthy

Musical Director Emma Knights
 Choreography by Linda Lawson



Director
 Robert McCarthy

16th to 18th and 21st to 25th
 November, 2006

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

Group Bookings: for 15 or more people \$10

Meal Voucher for Fasta Pasta and Show \$22

Ordinary Bookings: Open Wednesday 25th October 2006
 by telephoning

Helen Allen

on

8270 4205

Season: Thursday 16th to Saturday
 18th and Tuesday 21st to Saturday
 25th November 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 "Jerry's Girls", show your ticket and receive 20% discount off your meal.

PREVIOUS PRODUCTION



OPENING NIGHT ...

Breezblock Park

We had a Jolly Jinglin' time with Christmas in July



Left:
The audience munched on Fruit Mince Pies while being entertained by carol singers during the intervals of Breezblock Park.



The Festive Feast on Opening Night



Right:
Greg and Robert pour the Festive Drinks!



ON STAGE with Breezblock Park



Above L to R: Deb Walsh, Julie Quick, Lindy Le Cornu and Amy Hutchinson
Below: The cast of Breezblock Park



RAFFLE WINNER - Congratulations

Drawn on the final night of *Breezblock Park*, we had two raffle winners this time, as there was a second prize draw for the steering wheel lock that was used during the show! The first prize winner (the basket of goodies) was Mrs Joan How of Frewville, and the second prize winner was Mrs L. Tossell of Marino. Thank you to all our ticket buys for your support of the Players.

Right from the moment the audience arrived in the foyer they knew it was going to be treat in more ways than one! "Deck the Halls with lots of Holly" "Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree", and it was *not* a Silent Night as everyone got in the Festive mood for Christmas in July with *Breezblock Park*! Thank you Dave Simms for a super show.

In the review by Laraine Ball of the Adelaide Theatre Guide, she said of the play: "Disguised as a comedy, this gutsy play by Willy Russell continues the theme of his former works such as *Educating Rita* and *Shirley Valentine* with a witty yet harrowing insight into the working class culture thriving on a council estate in Northern England". It certainly was thought provoking amid the comedy, harshness and family pressure to conform.

Sue Oldknow from the Messenger published her review:

"Christmas comes to St Jude's in July with this play by Willy Russell (*Educating Rita*, *Shirley Valentine*). *Breezblock Park* is another work about the emotional plight of the working class woman. Written in the 1970s, the show is set in the identical living rooms of sisters Betty (Julie Quick) and Reeny (Deb Walsh) on the same North England housing estate.

Christmas celebrations are underway – first in one house, then in the other. Sisterly love has been replaced by sibling rivalry and life revolves around which sister has the most expensive new lounge suite to who can be the first to become a grandmother.

This is a comedy, and a well written one at that, but it is all so sad. Director Dave Simms has captured that sadness and the underlying violence of these women's lives. The North English accents range from fabulous to faint but the performances are very good. Lindy Le Cornu is exceptionally good as Betty's sister-in-law, Vera. She is mainly there for comic relief but is beautifully vulnerable.

Paul Davies is a powerhouse as Betty's brother, Tommy, an unhappy man smothering his dreams in humour and alcohol. Andrew Clark is great as Betty's henpecked husband, Sid, Tony Busch is wonderfully insufferable as Reeny's painful husband, Ted, and Damien Carr does well as their abused son, John.

This family is stuck fast in their destructive life pattern, centred mainly on watching television, but Betty's daughter Sandra (perfectly played by Amy Hutchinson) is determined to escape her mother's fate. Sandra has found a new way to live, through her college boyfriend, Tim (Ben Brooker). Outside the claustrophobic repetition of life in *Breezblock Park*, people have dinner parties, read books, go to plays! Tim (Ben Brooker) is her ticket out, unless he too becomes trapped.

This is thinking person's comedy, competently realised, and well worth abandoning the TV and venturing out for on a cool winter night."



DIARY DATES

As we head towards the end of another year we wish to remind you it's party time in December! Its also a time to thank all the volunteers who have helped keep St Jude's Players on stage. Come along and enjoy an entertaining evening at the St Jude's Players Christmas Party on Saturday the 9th December 2006, commencing at 7.30 pm.

ST JUDE'S PARISH FETE

The Players are an intrinsic part of the St Jude's Parish. We encourage all of our patrons to support the parish fete on Saturday 21st October 2007 from 8 am. Come along and choose from the wonderful array of produce, plants, bric-a-brac and all things that make a fabulous fete!

BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT JERRY'S GIRLS



You can support the Players and do your Christmas shopping at the same time! Check out the foyer display - we have Wine Glasses, Polo Shirts, T-shirts, caps and our popular stubbie holders (available in a 2- pack, 4-pack and a 6-pack; which includes a bottle opener).

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. **Susie Small** will be organising the roster for **Jerry's Girls**; Susie's telephone number is **8277 7625** should you wish to contact her for any information.

FRONT OF HOUSE EMERGENCY EVACUATION TRAINING

All front of house volunteers are invited to come along to a short training session at Grundy Hall on **Saturday 20th January 2007 at 10 am**. A morning tea done in true St Jude's style is to follow the training. Please note that under current OHS & W legislation we are required to provide emergency training to our volunteers.



SHED NEWS

We are pleased to say that over the past year our handy volunteers have been busy organising our storage facilities. The development of the ABC Child Centre meant we lost our old beloved nook, but the new shed has now been fitted out to store the stage flats. There is still work to be done but we are delighted with the new location!

AUDIO Music to your ears!

The Players committee has decided up-grade the audio and the next production, our musical *Jerry's Girls* should come across loud and clear!



"Satisfy your thirst for Theatre"



WANT CHEAPER SEATS ?

The secret is to **Subscribe** and save \$'s in 2007

A reminder to get your Subscriber Book and save money! Our book of four discount vouchers can be ordered now for the 2007 Season. Cost \$40 and \$30 (Concession). Buying your tickets this way gets you a ticket for each play, plus one extra.



Another great Christmas gift idea !

Telephone 8296 2628 or print an application form from our website.



SEASON 2007

We are pleased to announce that after the wonderful success of our Season Launch in February 2006, *Love Letters*, we are again having a launch for our 2007 productions.

We invite you to St Jude's on the 9th and 10th February 2007, for a Special Presentation by The Players. This will be followed by the Directors giving a brief synopsis of their productions.



ON GOLDEN POND

An Endearing Play

by Ernest Thompson

Directed by Rosemary Nursey-Bray
25th April - 5th May 2007

ROLEPLAY

A Comedy

by Alan Ayckbourn

Directed by Les Zetlein
1st - 11th August 2007



REBECCA

A Classic Mystery

by Daphne Du Maurier

Directed by Vicky Wray
14th - 24th November 2007

2007 will be another exciting year of quality shows by St Jude's Players of Brighton, South Australia.



We wish you all a
Joyous Christmas
and a very
Happy New Year in 2007



Thank you for your continued patronage
and support over the past year,
we look forward to seeing you again in
2007



PROMOTE THE PLAYERS IF YOU CAN

It is often just "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 productions staged each year. We believe that live theatre is in a world 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 discover live theatre in their own neighbourhood.

IT WILL BE RIGHT ON THE NIGHT!

Rehearsals for *Jerry's Girls* are well under way, with the cast are getting to grips with the songs and tap dance routines.



Below: Some of "Jerry's Girls" in song with Director Robert McCarthy.



Director Robert McCarthy was most impressed by the set being ready at the commencement of rehearsals; it is in fact the first time a set has been available to use at the first rehearsal. Congratulations to the construction crew who have put in a fantastic effort on this spectacular set.

As in the Jerry Herman musicals, costumes will be a splendid feature of this season ending show. Sure to put you in the mood for the festive season! We look forward to seeing you in November.

