



Official newsletter of St Jude's Players Inc
 July 2007 - Issue No. 132
 Print Post Publication

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Spotlight Spotlight

MID YEAR ANTICS

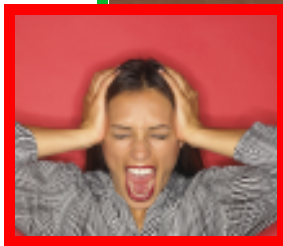
a new brilliant comedy

Alan Ayckbourn's

"RolePlay"

The dinner party
 started badly, then
 got steadily worse ...

set in Canary
 Wharf in
 London's
 Docklands



2nd to 11th
 August 2007

Director Les Zetlein

Alan Ayckbourn, often referred to as the best-known and most successful living English playwright, has again come up trumps with this very funny, up-to-the-minute comedy. St Jude's Players are delighted to be the first company in Australia to present this play, which is guaranteed to keep you laughing during an unforgettable night's entertainment.

Justin Lazenby and Julie-Ann Jobson have invited their respective parents to an introductory dinner party at Justin's up-market Canary Wharf flat in London's Docklands.

It's an important occasion and everything has to be just right, because at some time during the dinner, Justin is to announce to the parents that he and Julie-Ann are engaged.

However, their carefully-laid plans begin to go awry when unexpected visitors arrive, and things go rapidly downhill from there

Featuring Andrew Clark, Carla Hardie, Kate McKenzie, Brian Sexton, Lindy LeCornu, Debbie Kellaway and Alan Freedman.

Bookings open 11th July 2007 and can only be made by telephoning Helen or Fred Allen between 9 am and 6 pm on

8270 4205

Tickets: Adults \$14 Concession \$10 Children \$7
 Evening Performance 8 pm Saturday Matinees 2 pm





On Golden Pond

Extract from review by Stephen Davenport from *Encore*

“On entering St Jude’s Hall two things stand out. One is the quiet efficiency of the staff, resplendent in blue waistcoats, as they usher a full house to its seats. The other is the setting, an immaculately recreated and detailed summer house interior complete with an authentic looking fireplace and dustsheets covering the furniture, filling the entire stage. This sterling set construction is important to the play because time and space are essential to the characters’ lives and crucial to realising *On Golden Pond*.”



Left:
The fabulous artwork on the fireplace was created by our regular set construction member David Lawruk.



★ A wonderful team effort to build this truly authentic set.



Left:
John Grant and David Lawruk - hardworking members of our set construction team



Cast of *On Golden Pond*
Back Left to Right: Geoff Hastwell, Will Traeger, Andrew Horwood
Front Left to Right: Graham Nerlich, Isabella Norton and Sue Wylie

OUR ‘GOLDEN’ STARS



The production of *On Golden Pond* brought together talented actors and our very own Isabella in the role of Ethel. Since the inception of St. Jude’s Players Issy has been an integral part of the Players’ success, both on and off stage. Issy has performed with a variety of theatre groups and has played many major roles. Some of her favourites are *The Lion In Winter*, *Hay Fever* and more recently *Lost In Yonkers*. When she is not performing you find Issy engrossed in her passion for costumes. She and the costume team work hard to ensure that every performer is authentically costumed in any play.

In *On Golden Pond* Issy played opposite accomplished performer Graham Nerlich who is certainly well known in Adelaide theatre circles. The cast also comprised the very experienced actors Geoff Hastwell, Sue Wylie and Andrew



Horwood who combined to give the play the emotional credibility that the audience related to so strongly. The youngest performer, Will Traeger, has been acting since he was five years old and we know we will be seeing a lot more of this talented young man.

This talented cast brought almost 3 centuries of acting experience to our wonderful stage in a production of critical acclaim. In addition to the performance, the set was fantastic. Our set construction team outdid themselves by building a set that even they all knew was special. The artwork on the fire place was stunning, thanks to our artist extraordinaire, Dave Lawruk. Thanks to all involved for a great start to our 2007 season!

OPENING NIGHT

Left:
Director Rosemary Nursey-Bray with her daughter at Opening Night



Right:
Jaye Walton, Diana Mepsted and John Walton were among the guests on Opening Night



Left and Below:
At the after show party on the final night Director Rosemary Nursey-Bray was presented with mementos of *On Golden Pond*. Included was a Loon!



YOUR COMMENTS PLEASE



Audience response to any production is reflected in many ways. The applause at the end of each performance and the comments made as our patrons leave the hall are all indications of how people feel about the play!

We also have a book for comments in the foyer; this provides an opportunity for our audience to tell us just what they think of the particular play, or in fact, of their experience at St Jude's in general terms. As you are all aware, the Players work hard to provide high quality theatre and your feedback is very important to us. Our purpose is to entertain each and every audience and to ensure that they are happy with what we produce so, please feel free to make a comment in the book and tell us what you think – we welcome constructive criticism as well as accolades!!!

The comments book is also of great interest to all involved in the production – they have less direct contact with the audience so they are often unaware of individual comments. The book is valued by directors who love to know how an audience reacts to their interpretation of the play. Comments about the set, the music, the lighting etc, in addition to the actors, are always of particular interest.

Even though the book is in a slightly awkward spot, please take a little time as you leave the theatre to tell us what you think – we really do appreciate your input.

VALE - STEPHANIE DALLE NOGARE

It is with sadness that we record the death of Stephanie in February this year after a short illness. As Stephanie Gregory she appeared in a number of plays in the early sixties and will be remembered particularly for her very charming performance of Cecily in *The Importance of Being Ernest*. Stephanie also served as the Players' Secretary during that period. She continued to be an active member after her marriage, helping at Front-of-house and assisting Tarlee in the Box Office at every Saturday matinee. She will be greatly missed by the Players. We extend our sympathy to her family.



THE RUBY AWARDS

These awards for theatrical excellence are presented by the Department of the Arts and this year a new category was admitted – 'Sustained Contribution'. This award is to celebrate a significant contribution to the arts and cultural life of South Australia for a period of 5 years or more. We, at St Jude's Players believe that the contribution made by our three sisters, Tarlee Dack, Isabella Norton and Sybil Woollard over the last 50 years fits the criteria of this award to a tee!!

We are pleased to announce that we have nominated Tarlee, Issy & Syb for this award and whether they win it or not is irrelevant – they've already won it to our way of thinking! Watch this space.



Left:
Isabella,
Sybil and
Tarlee

PARKING Please!

It would be greatly appreciated if you could be considerate when parking to attend **any** function at St Jude's Hall. Unfortunately, the dance school, restaurant and video store have had some problems, especially when the weather is inclement, because our patrons are parking in their car parks.

We realise that it is inconvenient to park further away but, if our park is full, then we urge you to utilise the Coles supermarket car park and use the pedestrian lights or Jetty Road intersection lights. If the weather is inclement, it may be advisable to allow a little more time in order to park.



THANK YOU

During the matinee performance of *On Golden Pond* we had drama on stage **and** drama in the hall. Thank you to the people who assisted when a patron took ill during the first half of the play. Thank you to the Front of House staff who did a very good job of managing the situation with a special thank you to Meredith Harvey. We are happy to report that our patron has made a full recovery and should be able to enjoy *RolePlay*!

You may like to know that Helen and Fred Allen are the only Box Office Managers who have been called upon to stop a performance of St Jude's Players! Tarlee, in all of her fifty odd years, never had a situation that required that step be taken.

Remember, that if you or someone sitting near you is not well, do not hesitate to let the ushers know. We are there to assist in what ever way we are able. Occupational Health Safety & Welfare issues have been addressed over the last year and emergency procedures are in place to help us deal with a crisis.

RAFFLE WINNER - Congratulations

The winner of the wonderful *Golden Pond* raffle basket, drawn on the final night of the show, was Ron Johnson. Ron and wife Jo are regular patrons of the Players. Thank you to all our ticket buyers for your support. We also want to acknowledge the ongoing support of John Sands. John donates a basket for every production and the funds raised are used to offset expenses associated with special projects. Over the last couple of years, the funds from the raffle have been used to provide shelving etc in the new shed. This year all funds will go towards the cost of our wonderful



NEW PADDED CHAIRS

The new padded chairs in gorgeous Players' blue should be ready for our next production *RolePlay*. We are grateful to St. Jude's Parish Council for sharing the cost of this very large capital expense. We are all very excited and can't wait to sit comfortably all night.

Because the chairs are slightly bigger we are reducing the number of seats in a row from 16 to 15. This will have no impact on our patrons but it means that the end seat in the row will now have the number **15**.

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. **Tarlee Dack** will be organising the roster for *RolePlay*. Tarlee's telephone number is **8294 1306** should you wish to contact her for any information, but rest assured she will be calling in late July to book you into a night.

Dates for *RolePlay* are Thursday Aug 2nd to Sat Aug 11th

WE'RE LOOKING FLASH !

.....Thanks to the Community Sewing Group and Janome Sewing Solutions

Comments were coming thick and fast about the glamorous ushers for *On Golden Pond*. We would like to thank Jude Menz and Alison Smith who designed the vests, sourced the fabric and did all of the cutting. They then linked up with a team from the Community Sewing Group and Janome Sewing Solutions who completed the sewing process of the Front of House St Jude's Players Vests.



Thank you to our volunteers who matched their black skirts, slacks and trousers with white shirts to wear with the blue vests. They all looked very smart and stylish.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2007

Become a Subscriber and save money! Our book of four discount vouchers is available now for the 2007 Season. The cost is \$40 (normal cost would be \$56) and \$30 for Concession (normally \$40). Remember the booklets make a great gift and, even though the first production is finished, you will have four tickets for the next two productions.

Telephone 8296 2628 or print a Subscription Form from our website.

MEMBERSHIP

If you are a member you're very special. You can join St Jude's Players for just \$5 a year and take a "hands on" role in our activities. We always need members to assist with set construction, front-of-house, costumes, backstage, properties, lighting, painting ... the list is endless!

Telephone 8296 2628 or print a Membership Form from our website.

DIARY DATE

Quiz Night will be upon us very soon and you know how much fun we have! Funds raised will be used to help pay for our new seating. Please put a table of ten people together and join us for a night of fun and laughter.

★ SATURDAY OCTOBER 13TH 2007 ★

You can book a table with Helen during the interval of *RolePlay* or by calling Rosie after August 15th on 8376 5265



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Season 2007 continues with

The Clifford Williams



adaptation of



Daphne

du

Maurier's



Rebecca



Directed by
Vicky Wray



15th to 24th
November 2007



This classic novel, first published in 1938, is considered to be Daphne du Maurier's finest work and remains her most famous nearly seventy years later. It still continues to haunt, fascinate and perplex each new generation of readers.

The story is a riveting tale of love, obsession and mystery with a sense of the supernatural. It encompasses many genres from gothic romance to suspenseful mystery and suffice to say, there is something for everyone in this classic play.

First time director Vicky Wray has some ideas that will breathe new life into this wonderful saga as she steers us through an intriguing adaptation by Clifford Williams.

In this issue of
Spotlight

photographs were taken by Alex Makeyev,
Roland Partis, Charles Norton and Sandra Preston.