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Spotlight

SOULMATES

They say revenge is a dish best served cold. Best-selling author Katie Best (played by Joanne St. Clair) certainly wants revenge - on arts critic Danny O'Loughlin (Brian Knott), who has written a scathing review in The Melbourne Age of her "middle-brow, airport trash" novels. Although now living a very successful life in New York, Katie plots and schemes Danny's downfall — and doesn't mind involving her friends in her machinations. However, the human heart is unpredictable, and when Danny's wife Heather (Deb Walsh) falls heavily in love with a South African writer (Andrew Horwood) whom Danny idolises, things start to get tricky.....

Playwright David Williamson is known for engaging in 'dialogue' with his critics, and in **SOULMATES** he takes a hefty swipe at those who value the esoteric over more accessible works (like his). But he tells his tale with his trademark barbs and biting one-liners so well that you'll be laughing one minute and enthralled the next, right up until the very end of the play.

Director **Mary-Jane Minear** has assembled the experienced cast of

**Joanne St Clair, Brian Knott, Deb Walsh,
Barnaby Grant, Brian Godfrey,
Georgia Stockham and Andrew Horwood.**

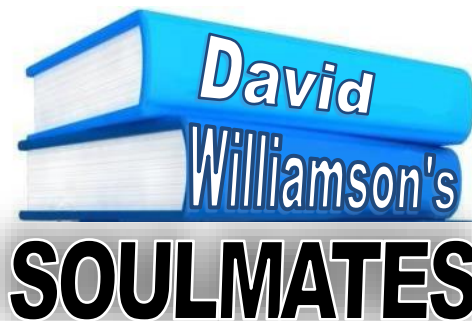
Director of SOULMATES, Mary

-Jane Minear has been involved with St Jude's Players for 42 years, working mainly back-stage but also 'treading the boards' in a number of musicals, including one famous performance in which, whilst flinging flowers to the people in the front row, she unintentionally managed to fling herself off the front of the stage. Naturally this went down a treat with the audience.

Her directorial debut was *Summer of the 17th Doll* for The Players in 1993, followed by *Natural Causes*, *Murder by Appointment* and *Rattle of a Simple Man*. During this time she also served on The Players' committee, and was made a Life Member.

She is currently Secretary of the Players, and has taken over from Helen Allen as (temporary) Ticket Officer.

What with those duties and now directing a play as well, she is one very busy lady, but we're confident she will handle it all in her usual competent manner.



SEASON: November 12 - 14 and 18 - 21
St Jude's Hall, 444 Brighton Road, Brighton.
Evenings 8pm Saturday Matinees 2pm
Prices: Adults \$20 Concession \$16 Children \$7

Bookings open Wednesday 28th October on-line at www.Trybooking.com/159034
or by telephoning 8296 2628 Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm.
Preferential (Subscriber) booking form enclosed, send to PO BOX 52 BRIGHTON SA 5048
by Monday the 26th October.

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE AND THANK YOU HELEN AND FRED



Familiar faces Fred and Helen Allen have 'retired' from St Jude's Players to experience South Coast living. For many years they organised the bookings for our theatre from their Newsagency. Helen then became our Box Office Manager and Ticketing Officer after taking over from the indomitable Tarlie Dack, whilst on the construction side Fred has led the 'screw crew' plus acted as Front of House Manager, run the bar and served on The Players Committee. Both will be sorely missed and we wish them a long and happy retirement watching the whales and the waves from their new home. At the recent Members' Night Helen and Fred were presented with a thank you gift for their tireless work for The Players.

MEMBERS' NIGHT

Behind every production there are many hard-working people, committed to ensure the best possible quality theatre.

The committee decided it would be a great idea to provide an opportunity for the members to meet those people responsible for each aspect of production and to hear about their role "behind the scenes".

On the 7th July approximately 40 members braved the cold to attend our inaugural Members' Night. Andrew Horwood explained the role of the play reading committee which reads and recommends plays, Rosemary Taylor described selections of the right costumes for a play, Eric Offler described production coordination, Don Oakley told us about set construction while Peter Edson and Sandra Preston explained the importance of publicity. Members then watched part of a rehearsal of *Einstein & The Polar Bear*, with special thanks to director, Dave Simms and his talented cast.

The Players are always looking for people to get involved - it's a great way to be part of a friendly, creative team, so, if you're interested in any aspect of production, send us an email. We'd love to hear from you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It has been a year of major change for the Players in 2015 and we are very sad to see a number of our members resign from their roles and we would like to acknowledge the work of the following:

Helen and Fred Allen who have worked tirelessly and Harold Minear for his many years of dedication as a director, writer and publicity officer.

After 13 years of publicity and graphic design we say farewell to Sandra Preston. Sandra advised The Players at the beginning of the year that this would be her last year designing our posters, handbills and signage, as well as the production of **Spotlight**. We will miss your wonderful talent.

Thank you all for your enormous contributions.

HAROLD MINEAR SAYS "THANK YOU"

"I have had the privilege of participating in the life of St Jude's Players for almost fifty years. It has given me the opportunity of not only directing and writing for the group but of making many friends.

Among my twenty seven major productions over the years I have written and directed seven Australian musical plays/revues. I will always be grateful to the Players for "taking the risk" and allowing me to premiere these in Grundy Hall.

I have enjoyed the opportunity of being a member of the management committee and, for the past ten years, have held the position of publicity officer.

Now, at 87, it is time for me to "exit right" (or "left" depending where the stairs are placed) and say a most sincere "thank you" to all members of The Players, the many actors who brought my productions to life, the magnificent technical and construction crews, and the loyal and supportive audiences who allowed me to entertain them.

As CJ Dennis, the Australian "larrikin poet", once wrote:

*"Goin' to the theatre is the current rage
Y' git a chance to cheer or boo.
But mates of mine – just a few –
Tell me that all the fun begins
Behind the stage!"*

Harold Minear





MEMBERS' NIGHT



Above: Director of **Einstein and the Polar Bear** Dave Simms gave The Players members an insight to the necessary realism needed to bring a play alive on stage. At the very front seated at the table are Alison Rodgers (Assistant Stage Manager and on the night Prompt) and Tony Vawser (Stage Manager).

Left: Dave Simms shown here directing cast members from left Allison Scharber, Adam Tuominen and Norm Caddick.



PREVIOUS PRODUCTION

EINSTEIN AND THE POLAR BEAR



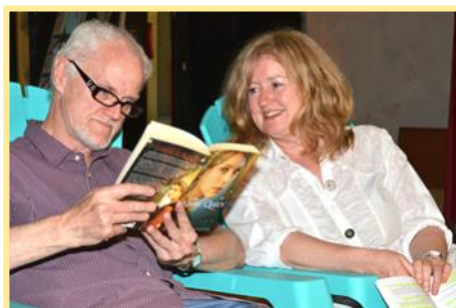
Left: Scene from the production of **Einstein and the Polar Bear** with Allison Scharber, Adam Tuominen and Peter Davies.



Above: Norm Caddick in that amazing blue suit with Adam Tuominen.



Rehearsals in progress for David Williamson's **SOULMATES**



Above: Andrew Horwood and Deb Walsh together with Brian Knott and Barnaby Grant at recent rehearsals for **SOULMATES**



We Thank You, our wonderful patrons of St. Jude's Players for your attendance this year.

In our small way we entertain you with Laughter, Tears and Music.

We Wish You All A Safe, Healthy and Happy Christmas.

May Your Year Ahead Be Filled with Joy and Laughter.



VALE CHARLES NORTON

We regret to announce the recent passing of Charles Norton, a long-time Member and Life Member of the Players, after a long illness. He was 89. Charles was born in Brighton on 1st April 1926, and in 1948 he married Isabella, one of the three 'Woollard sisters' who are so well-known in our St Jude's community.

Charles became interested in photography at an early age. The accompanying photo is a 'selfie' taken when he was about 19. Apparently, he used a string tied around his foot to operate the shutter! In 1952 he joined the RAAF as a photographer, where he used all sorts of photographic equipment including huge large-format cameras for aerial reconnaissance. His work took him to Woomera to record Blue Streak rocket launches, and later to the Weapons Research Establishment at Salisbury. Naturally, when The Players needed some photos to be taken they turned to Charles, who produced many front of house and on-stage photos over the years.



Charles was loved by all for his easy-going manner, ready smile and quiet sense of humour. He is survived by wife Issy, children Cassandra, Jan, Rupert and Richard (another son, Brian, died at age 18 in a car accident), plus ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Vale to one of life's gentlemen.



Charles Norton with Isabella

OUR LAST PRODUCTION

Extracts from what the critics said about our most recent production, **EINSTEIN AND THE POLAR BEAR**:

"You don't have to be Einstein to realise Adelaide audiences are enjoying St Jude's Players current production. Actor-turned-playwright Tom Griffin's Einstein And The Polar Bear is another success for this enduring seaside theatre company."

"As usual, St Jude's has created a great set, making Bill Allenson's home and bookstore seem almost real."

Lesley Reed (Stage Whispers)

"Dave Simms always seems to find really interesting scripts to direct and this one by Tom Griffin is no exception."

"The set was impressive and meticulously dressed. Dave Simms has provided the ideal set and the lighting, with Leigh Wheatley's aid and operation, complements the whole atmosphere. This is a strong production, which has it all, laughs, tears, and some brilliant acting. Don't miss this one."

Fran Edwards (Glamadelaide)



2016
PROGRAM
AVAILABLE
IN
NOVEMBER

THE PLAYERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY SATURDAY DECEMBER 12th

You are invited to join us as we celebrate the end of another year of productions. Come along and enjoy an entertaining review of the year's shows written by Vicky Horwood.

The fun will start at 7.30 pm and you are asked to bring a platter to share and a bottle (or two) !



WE SAY "Thank You So Much"

As we approach the end of a busy and most productive 2015, the Chairman and Committee members of the St Jude's Players wish to especially thank the following for their continuing and enthusiastic support:

Our Patron

Stephen Patterson (Mayor, City of Holdfast Bay) and Mayoress Tammy Patterson.

The Parish Council of St Jude's Anglican Church.

The Media Services in South Australia:

Theatre Association of South Australia Inc (TASA)

The Advertiser and Sunday Mail

Messenger Newspapers

Adelaide Theatre Guide and Glam Adelaide

ABC Radio 891, 5EBI FM, Radio Adelaide,

Coast FM, 5MBS, and Life FM

Supporting The Players in 2015:

DULUX PAINTS and **Hugh Hamilton Wines**

St. Jude's Players Newsletter printed by
Deegan Printing, Edwardstown. Telephone 8374 1424

POSTAL BOOKING FORM

Soulmates

Preferential booking period closes Monday, 26 October 2015

Name: _____

Phone No. _____

Please book seats for the following performance

(tick **one box only** on each preference line):



Evening	Thu Nov	Fri 12	Sat 13	Wed 18	Thu 19	Fri 20	Sat 21	Sat Matinee Nov 14	21
1st pref	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2nd pref	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tickets required:

..... prepaid vouchers enclosed \$ 0

.....additional full tickets @ \$20 \$.....

.....additional concession tickets @ \$16 \$.....

..... children's tickets (12 & under) @ \$7 \$.....

_____ **Total number of tickets required::Total** \$_____

PAYMENT DETAILS (if required)

Payment by cheque / money order / credit card (Please circle one)

(Please tick one box) Visa ☐ Master Card ☐

Card Number/...../...../.....

Expiry Date/.....

Name on Card

Signature

Special seating requirements (wheelchair/walking frame/sight/hearing etc)

***** A stamped self-addressed envelope for the return of tickets
must be enclosed—thank you*****

Please post this form and enclosures to:

SJP Booking Officer, PO Box 52, BRIGHTON 5048

Privacy Policy: See Website www.stjudesplayers.asn.au