



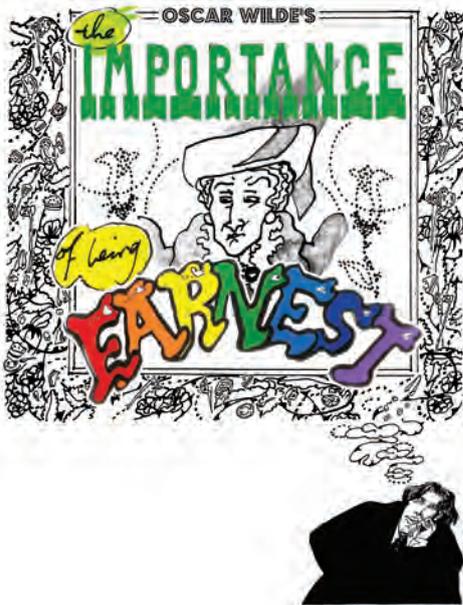
Official Newsletter of  
 St. Jude's Players inc.  
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# Spotlight



**The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People by Oscar Wilde.** was first performed on 14 February 1895 in London.

Set in a world where class, society and fashion are everything, best friends Algernon and Jack both maintain fictitious personæ to escape burdensome social obligations. Jack proposes to Algernon's cousin Gwendolen while Algernon falls for Jack's ward Cecily, and each woman falls for her supposed 'Ernest'. In truth, no one is particularly earnest, except the imperious Lady Bracknell who seems dedicated to resolve the comedy of errors through her social mores with acerbic wit.

Described by many as a perfectly written comedy, the play offers a flow of insights into marriage, money, morals and most especially, a society that maintains a facade of hypocritical respectability. These very aspects of Victorian society which, in part brought about Wilde's downfall, are still the cause of major debate and religious unrest over a century later!

Season – 16 – 18 and 22 – 25 November  
 St Jude's Hall  
 444 Brighton Road Brighton  
 Evenings @ 8pm Saturday matinees @ 2pm

## Director, Rosie Aust

Rosie has been actively involved in community theatre since 1970 and she is passionate about the importance of the performing arts in our lives. She has worked with the Players for almost 40 years, is the current Chairman and a life member. Her greatest love is directing – *Lady Windemere's Fan*, *The Hollow*, *Inherit The Wind* and especially, *Wrong Turn At Lungfish* (winning the ATG award for Best Comedy of 2014) are just a few of her special memories.



Rosie has asked good friend Don Oakley to assist her with this production.

They have selected a wonderful cast - Matt Chapman, Robert Bell, Vanessa Redmond, Brittany Daw, Lesley Reed, David Lockwood and Andy Winwood – and are especially excited about casting Andrew Clark in the role of Lady Bracknell. This role has been played by males frequently in the last 20 years (David Suchet and Geoffrey Rush most recently) because Lady Bracknell is a 'sexless' role. The character is a composite of all that represents Victorian earnestness and the unhappiness it brings as a result. She is powerful, arrogant, ruthless to the extreme, conservative and proper – all 'genderless' characteristics.

## Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde was an Anglo-Irish playwright, novelist, poet, and critic. He is regarded as one of the greatest playwrights of the Victorian Era. In his lifetime he wrote nine plays, one novel, and numerous poems, short stories and essays. Unconventional in his writing and life, Wilde's affair with a young man led to his arrest on charges of "gross indecency" in 1895. He was imprisoned for two years and died in poverty three years after his release at the age of 46.



**PREFERENTIAL POSTAL BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR SUBSCRIBERS (form enclosed).**  
**GENERAL BOOKINGS OPEN 26th OCTOBER**  
 Telephone: 0436 262 628 or Landline: 8296 2628  
 On-line: [bookings@stjudesplayers.asn.au](mailto:bookings@stjudesplayers.asn.au)

## IMPORTANT NEWS FOR 2018



## CHANGES TO SUBSCRIPTION AND TICKET PRICES

We are confident you understand that the costs associated with every aspect of producing a play have increased over the last 5 years.

In fact, the only costs that have not increased are the payments to our volunteers. They still get the full amount we have always paid, a complimentary ticket to the play and our undying gratitude – payment enough!.

Now is time to increase our ticket prices in order to better balance our books. The good news is – we have only increased our prices by an average of 10%.

Costs for the 2018 season are:

|                             |      |             |
|-----------------------------|------|-------------|
| Adult subscription          | \$50 | (3 tickets) |
| Concession Subscription     | \$38 | (3 tickets) |
| Adult ticket                | \$22 |             |
| Concession Ticket           | \$18 |             |
| Party bookings (10 or more) | \$18 |             |
| Child ticket                | \$10 |             |
| Preview night charity group | \$10 |             |
| Preview night door ticket   | \$15 |             |

### It is still a terrific cost benefit to become a subscriber –

Adult

|                 |       |                                      |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 subscription  | \$50  | equals 3 tickets \$66 – saving \$16  |
| 2 subscriptions | \$100 | equals 6 tickets \$132 – saving \$32 |
| Concession      |       |                                      |
| 1 subscription  | \$38  | equals 3 tickets \$54 - saving \$16  |

### plus you have a 2 week preferential booking period.

Now – we have an amazing program planned for next year. 2018 will be a great year to become a subscriber.

And remember – a subscription to the Players makes an excellent Christmas gift

Complete the subscription form attached to the leaflet and return it to us – we will do the rest.

**Another change to our season in 2018 –** we will no longer be performing on Wednesday in the second week. Our performing nights will now be:

Week 1 - Wednesday preview, Thursday opening night, Friday night, Saturday matinee and night

Week 2 - Thursday night, Friday night, Saturday matinee and night

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW IN YOUR LIFE??

How about using your 'handyman' skills, tap into your creative side and make new friends by joining us at set building on Saturday mornings



**Or** - are your technical skills going to waste? Why not join our lighting and sound team. Here you can see lighting tech Leigh working with set designer Mary-Jane and set coordinator Don, to design a lighting plot for Rose's Dilemma.



**Or** you could work as a crew member backstage. Stage manager Eric (left) consults with director Brian.



**Or** if you are artistic or even just useful with a big paint brush, join Keith and Jean as a scenic artist.



**Or** you can join the (as you can see) hardworking committee and help make decisions which make this group one of the most respected, vibrant, active community theatre groups in this state.

We all work hard but we make sure we have fun along the way.

**THE POINT IS – you don't have to be experienced or know anything about theatre.**

You only need to be keen and interested (friendly is useful) and we will help you learn what you need to know.

Contact us via [bookings@stjudesplayers.asn.au](mailto:bookings@stjudesplayers.asn.au) or on 8296 2628 (leave a message) for more information.

**We would love to hear from you.**

## Diary Dates 2018–

**Feb 22 at 7.30pm–**

**June 16 –**

**April 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28.**

**August 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11.**

**November 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24.**

AGM and awards night Bring a basket supper to share. All welcome  
One Act play/special event evening. Watch for all details early next year  
*Taking Steps* Director Kym Clayton  
*The Memory Of Water* Director Geoff Brittain  
*Man of La Mancha* Director Max Rayner

## NEWS FROM THE ST JUDE'S FAMILY

### Vale Peter Waddell

Peter, a Life Member of St Jude's Players, spent many years working with us as both an actor and director. He directed *My Friend Miss Flint* in 2000 - the first production of the new century. He also acted and directed for other Adelaide based theatre groups and was admired and respected as a real theatre stalwart. Our condolences to Myra and the family.



### New 'St Judeans'

In June we published a picture of Issy Norton's son Richard and pregnant partner Imogen at a garden party at Buckingham Palace. Well - the baby has arrived! Introducing Issy's newest grandson, Nathaniel.



The Minear family continues to grow exponentially. Harold and Diedre meet their newest great granddaughter, Lucy Adele Hutchinson.



**Third Generation** 'new Players' Simon & Lacey Blunt, grandchildren of Rosie and Rob Aust, are assisting Granma to choose hats for the upcoming *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Their Mum, Jessica worked on several productions and was particularly involved with lighting.



### TRAVELLERS

Committee member, Jan Rice was in France in June. She is pictured here, with her Mum, outside of the building that was used as the shop in the fabulous film *Chocolat*. The great disappointment - not a chocolate in sight!



Janet Ralph, long standing member and former scenic artist, visited her son and his family in July.

They spent some time in New York & here she is in a carriage in Central Park and on the banks of the Hudson (with son Michael) with the gorgeous New York skyline in the background.

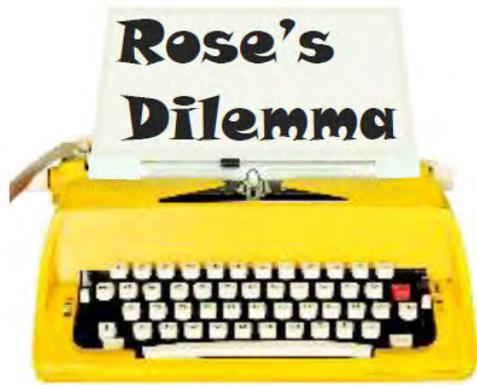


### WONDER WOMEN



Three venerable members of the Players get together regularly to make the (world) famous "Tarlle Dack Tomato Sauce". Tarlie (right) has been making a huge array of delicious jams, chutneys and sauces for most of her life but at 96, she now requires a little more assistance. Her sister Sybil (middle) and her good friend Janet spend an entire day preparing, chopping and stirring - so much stirring - then bottling the sauce. Of course, there is always a glass or two of 'bubbles' to increase the enjoyment of the day and, strangely enough, they never run out of conversation!! When they are together we have 266 years of wonderful life experience - well worth bottlin'.

**'Its worth going out on a cold, wet night to see this one.'**



...according to Barry Lenny who reviewed the very successful production for Broadway World



*Rose's Dilemma* is not one of Neil Simon's best known plays but Brian Godfrey's direction of an excellent cast in our August production was met with both audience and critical acclaim

The positive comments surrounding the technical support and particularly the set design, construction and decorating were gratifying. It takes a whole team of people working behind the scenes for months to bring a production to fruition but its not often this is mentioned in reviews.



Barry also wrote - Before anything else, we see Mary-Jane Minear's very impressive set design, which makes the St. Jude's stage look surprisingly large.....With the help of the lighting design, by Leigh Wheatley and Phil Moyle, Walsh's ghost's entrances and exits work very smoothly.

Luke Wagner wrote in Adelaide Theatre Guide - Director Brian Godfrey brings his polished and experienced style to this charming production. They cast work effectively together to deliver a beautifully seamless story all whilst ignoring the ghosts in the room.

*Photographs in this issue of Spotlight taken by Les Zetlein and Rosie Aust.*

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St Jude's have delivered a beautiful production of a fascinating script which is equally touching and funny. The cast and production team are to be commended for creating a brilliant piece of theatre.... Backed by a wonderful creative team, this local theatre group has served up another fabulous and thoughtful night at the theatre.

And Kerry Cooper writing in Stage Whispers told us - This is an enormously enjoyable and pleasant evening in the theatre, with the always warm and welcoming St Jude's Players. You'd have to be made of asbestos not to love it.

You have to be happy with reviews like that - - congratulations to all involved.

## **No Christmas part this year.**

We will not be holding a Player's Christmas Party this year. We have found that people are so busy these days and it has become impossible to find a date that most people can attend. We feel that our numbers have been dropping off in December but equally have been increasing for the AGM in February.

Never fear - we will be presenting all of our awards at the AGM in 2018. The AGM has become a really great night of information, awards, guest speakers and fun.

Please join us on February 22 at 7.30pm. You are invited to bring a basket supper to share and we will provide a glass of 'something' to set 2018 off to a rollicking start.

**Thank you and "we wish you a Merry Christmas"...**



St Jude's Players extend huge thanks to Hugh Hamilton Wines for their support throughout the year. Thanks to them you are able to enjoy a glass of their delectable wines to add extra joy to your St Jude's Players



experience. When you are thinking about your Christmas celebrations - think Hugh Hamilton wines.

We also thank each and every one of our volunteers. Without them there would be no Players.

And finally we thank you - our subscribers and our audience members.

We wish you and yours all the joy and happiness of Christmas and we look forward to your patronage in 2018.