

GCLT wishes to acknowledge the generous assistance provided by the Gold Coast City Council in providing reduced council rates to non-profit organisations

Patron: Cr. Dawn Crichlow

Licensed Manager: Robert Grant

21a Scarborough Street Southport Ph. 5532 2096  
*A founding member of the Gold Coast Theatre Alliance*

### Presidents Report



I am pursuing the idea of fun-raising to minimise "Dark Nights". The Murder Mystery was the latest effort and was a fellowship success.

Other ideas suggested include:

- a) "concert by Romaine et al (Robert Grant to follow up)
- b) a wine tasting
- c) a movie night (i.e. DVD of "Thoroughly Modern Milie)
- d) another Marc James production – or similar

Many thanks to Dawn and her volunteers who made the Murder Mystery a success despite a few blunders from the cast: a great night's fun for all - anyone wondering who supplied my undergarments: it remains my secret! And the night elicited a few membership enquiries too.

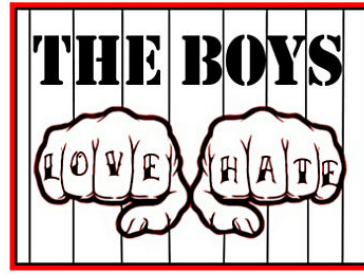
Of course congrats are due to Marc James whose "Three Viewings" attracted many new patrons as well as being a theatrical success

The Dolphin Awards were a big success in many ways – except that a minority of members participated – any ideas on stimulating participation?

We had a problem with pests recently (the insect kind) and the whole building – Molly's and all – has been treated. There may be a "sweet" smell for a while. On other building matters, plans are in hand for an upgrade to outside lighting.

After a brief hiatus, we will soon be active again on stage. "The Boys" will be rivetting – book early !!

Hugh Brophy - *President, GCLT*



Directed by Noella Johnson

This powerful Australian drama is our second production in the 2011 season, and opens in just 3 weeks: seats are selling fast so don't leave it until the last minute to book - everyone is talking about this challenging piece, and, having

attended a few rehearsals already, I can honestly say that this will be a play that you shouldn't miss. Strong, truthful performances from a very talented cast bring this dramatic piece alive on the stage. A striking set & lighting, designed and constructed by Michael Sutton and his TAFE team, add the finishing touch to a truly Australia night of theatre. Del Halpin, Stuart Lumsden, Nathan Wright, Jordan Schiele, Amber Allum, Kate McNair and Carmen Trevino form the tight-knit cast under Noella Johnson's direction - come along and support them: book online at [www.gclt.com.au](http://www.gclt.com.au), or by phone 5532 2096. Some rehearsal shots are included in this newsletter to whet your appetite!

**DRINKS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE BOYS**  
Just a reminder that DWTD for THE BOYS is coming up in just over a week - **Tuesday April 19th from 6pm**. Professor Paul Wilson, Chair of Criminology at Bond University, will attend to discuss the themes inherent in THE BOYS. As usual, the night is free to members with a \$5 fee for non-members to attend.



Amber Allum and Stuart Lumsden in rehearsal for THE BOYS



Jim Dixon had a very successful casting for DIXIE Sunday March 27th, casting all roles on the day - not always possible, but a definite bonus when it can be achieved! He needed 5 women 'of a certain age', and his cast comprises:

- Virginia Leaver as Vernadette**
- Dawn China as Lexie**
- Cecile Campbell as Sheree**
- Marie Dickson as Dinah**
- Lilias Davie as Jeri**

Jim and his ladies are already well into the rehearsal process, with some of the script already learnt - Jim is very well organised, and this promises to be a great show with such a talented and experienced cast. As usual, bookings are already open - as they are for ALL the shows for the 2011 season - and the earlier you book, the better your seats: book online at [www.gclt.com.au](http://www.gclt.com.au), or by phone 5532 2096.

### SYNOPSIS

Five Southern women, whose friendships began many years ago on their college swim team, set aside a long weekend every August to recharge those relationships. Free from husbands, kids and jobs, they meet at the same beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks to catch up, laugh and meddle in each other's lives. "The Dixie Swim Club" focuses on four of those weekends and spans a period of thirty-three years. As their lives unfold and the years pass, these women increasingly rely on one another to get through the challenges that life flings at them. "The Dixie Swim Club" is the story of these five unforgettable women - a hilarious and touching comedy about friendships that last forever. . .



Not something I'd normally include in the GCLT newsletter, but I attended the final matinee performance of WICKED up in Brisbane last weekend - Maria Buckler's son James recently married a lovely NZ girl, **Laura Bunting**, after meeting her when they were both in the Australian touring cast of BUDDY. Laura is playing the alternate for the role of Elpheba in WICKED (the green witch) - a pivotal and demanding role that requires a huge vocal range and outstanding acting skills. She was performing in the final matinee in Brisbane, and I went with Maria, Colin and James to see the show. It was a masterpiece in every sense - lighting, sound, set, costumes, orchestra: and the cast were outstanding to a person, but Laura was a true star. Her first major lead role after BUDDY, and she was a star in every sense of the word - it was a privilege to see a fine performer on her way up. I met her briefly afterwards, and she is a nice, normal, self-effacing young lady with talent to burn - she has a husband who dotes on her, and parents-in-law that feel the same way: congratulations Laura - have a great run in Adelaide, and then on the proposed Asian tour!

*Shame Caddaye*



Nathan Wright & Kate McNair (above)  
Jordan Schiele & Carmen Trevino (below)



# FINAL CUT

## A Murder Mystery Night

Another successful 'fun-raising' night was held recently in the Green Room at the theatre - following on from the popular Trivia Nights, we tried a new approach: a Murder Mystery night! Dawn China collected and directed a cast of 8 as they presented a 'murder' and challenged the collected 'guests' to solve it and deduce whodunnit! Bodies abounded - some dead, some not, and the notion of 'acceptable dress' was challenged by Hugh Brophy when he revealed what was under his robe: NOT for the faint-hearted! When all was said and done, it was left to those that had REALLY been paying attention throughout the evening to lodge their vote for the culprit: Colin Turner managed to wade through the maze of clues and red herrings to come up with the murderer - well done Colin! Members of the audience ('guests') were invited at one point to audition for roles in a fictitious 'movie' - the general consensus was 'don't call us - and we'll return the favour' as they did their best to murder their dialogue: very funny to watch and it really got the room hopping! Once again, Hugh, Dawn and Jody, assisted by Rodney on sound, and an enthusiastic and hard-working cast, as well as the bar-persons, presented a fun night that was well-attended, although perhaps more by subscribers than members - our thanks to everyone involved for an enjoyable & successful evening. Watch this space for the next night of 'fun-raising'!



Rodney Baker seems to know 'whodunnit'!



Valerie Cooney has a bloody good time!

Dawn China hosts the Murder Mystery night



Joyce Grant and Billie Whyte guard the Evidence Table



The Murder Night in full swing!



- Tuesday April 19th, 2011 from 6pm: Drinks with the director of THE BOYS - Noella Johnson
- Saturday April 30th, 2011: Opening night THE BOYS
- Sunday June 5th, 2011 from 10am: Auditions for BOMBSHELLS
- Sunday June 5th, 2011 from 2pm: Auditions for KALEIDOSCOPE One Act Play Season





The boys



The girls



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## WOTZON

### *Spotlight Downstairs:*

**THE 39 STEPS** – directed by Tony Alcock, playing from Apr 1– Apr 16, 2011. Ph. 5539 4255

### *Javeenbah:*

**THE NARCISSIST** – directed by Trevor Love, playing from Jul 15 – Jul 30 , 2011. Ph. 5596 0300

### *Tugun Theatre:*

**SURPRISE PACKAGE** – directed by Brenda Warren, playing from May 12 to May 28, 2011. Ph. 5593 9174

### *GCAC (Ensemble Theatre Group):*

**BATTERING THE BARD** – directed by Ron Finney, playing from Apr 12 to Apr 16, 2011. Ph. 5588 4000



Ruth Henderson accepts her Dolphin for Best One Act Play