

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**High Society** opened Saturday night to enthusiastic applause from the packed house for the 57 member cast and crew that put this production together. On behalf of the GCLT, I would like to add my personal thanks to all 57 of them for such a great job. As you can imagine putting this show together was no mean feat combining as it does a 9 piece band; a very complicated set consisting of 8 different stage settings; singing both individually and in harmony of some of the great Cole Porter songs, a male and female choir that sings and dances all night because they act as the chorus that links the show together and a lighting and sound plot of some difficulty

The result is that there are so many people to thank starting with Julianne Shearer who as director, producer and stage designer has the ultimate responsibility. Then there is the key role of musical director Mary Walters, whose good humour, patience and skill has been so important in putting the music together. Next is the choreographer the very busy Kim Reynolds. Not only is she putting the dance scenes for **High Society** together but she is also directing **Cats** at the same time for Javeenbah. After that where do you start? There have been so many people helping to put this show together. Perhaps with Shane Caddaye; leading man, photographer, technical whiz and trouble-shooter supreme. Then the stars led by the very talented Louise Harris. Important roles are also played by newcomers to the GCLT Alison Wilby and Jason Hayden. We also welcome back Anne and Dan Ryan. If opening night audiences are any guide, watch for Hugh Brophy as the drunken Uncle Willie and the very talented 14 year old Emily Monsma. A special thanks to the Whyte family. Of course we are very familiar with the work done by Billie and Erica. For **High Society** we are joined by Billie's son Ian who says in the

Whyte family "you were almost expected to sing before you could walk"

To capture this world of luxury and privilege, while at the same time maintaining the stylised world of the musical, the set has been designed as a large wedding cake which opens to reveal the various scenes. It took some building and we thank Barry Bladen; scenic artists, Hugh Brophy and Margaret Goldman; set dressing led by Leo and Nellie Mevissen, Denis Watkins, Anne Ryan and Leo and Nellie Mevissen with assistance from many of the cast and crew. Then it has to be made to work every night for the 19 performances. This important function is under the control of stage manager Frank Culell and the back-stage crew. Lighting and sound design were done by Eric James and Brent McDonald. A special thanks to Carmel Leonard and who has stepped into this role so beautifully.

Then there are the costumes to be made and designed. Thank you to Leonie Bell Robyn Vinodalac and Christine Harris and the women who come and dress the shows stars every performance.

I know this is a very long list but audiences very seldom are aware of the enormous work that goes into community theatre and I have not mentioned such important people as the box office crew led by Janis Sheen; Val Cooney, Nina Khan and the many volunteers who cater for the social needs of the audience, treasurer Yvonne Rossell etc., etc.

**Bruce Shearer** (President)

**2010 Golden Jubilee Program**

Reminder to invited directors. April 30 was the final cut-off date for your submission to direct for our 60 year programme. We will be making a final decision this month. Let us have your submission soon. The genres required will be chosen from: Comedy; Farce; Australian Play; Classic; Mystery; Musical; Drama.

## **Join Us For A Swell Party!**

Join us for the society wedding of the year: GCLT's production of **HIGH SOCIETY** is a giddy blend of corking songs & fizzing one-liners featuring Cole Porter's greatest songs including: *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire, Swell Party, Just One Of Those Things, I Love Paris, True Love.*



**Jarrad Rooke, Louise Harris (TRACY), Jessica Sapwell, Helena Penny, Alison Wilby (LIZ), Denis Watkins and Diana Bryant**

**Book On-Line:**

**[www.goldcoastlittletheatre.com.au](http://www.goldcoastlittletheatre.com.au)**

**Or Phone: 55322096**



**Alison Wilby (LIZ) and Shane Caddaye (DEXTER)**

## **Did You Know?**

**Javeenbah to the rescue:** One of our spotlight dimmers has gone missing and Javeenbah Theatre readily loaned us theirs for High Society.

### **Andrew Blain to the rescue!**

Bob Fallon, alias Sir Justin Holbrook in Dorothy Henderson's current production of *Shut Your Eyes and Think of England* seriously injured his back while painting his house and was unable to perform his role. GCLT's Award-winning actor, Andrew Blain stepped into the breach and read the role on the Saturday night and the Sunday matinee. His admirable performance received a tremendous response from the audience. The popular opinion was that his characterisation did not deter from the pace and performance of the rest of the cast. **The Show Goes On!**

## ***NEWS FROM THE PRODUCTION COMMITTEE***

It is thrilling and encouraging to see full houses for **HIGH SOCIETY**. The matinees are choc-o-block, with audiences coming out with smiles on their faces and feet tapping. Book now and don't miss this pleasing musical. Congratulations to Julianne and all the cast and crew.



*Well-known actress, Sheila Bradley with Joyce Grant at the opening night of HIGH SOCIETY*

### **One Act Play Auditions**

**Auditions:**

**Saturday, 30 May at 10am at GCLT.**

**Post-It's - Director Marc James requires 1 Female & 1 Male for this heartwarming play.**  
**The Proposal - Director Patricia Buckler requires 1 Female, 2 Males for this famous farce.**

**Phone: Joyce Grant: 55771776.**

## JURY ROOM

About the play:

Twelve jurors gather to decide the innocence or guilt of a young girl. Did she stab her uncle in cold blood? Eleven jurors say Yes. One, a student actress, says No. The jurors agree to her request to re-enact the crime right there. Props are brought in, including the actual murder weapon. The actress becomes the accused. The foreman takes the part of the murdered man, and as the re-enactment proceeds, some people begin to lose themselves in their parts. It is a tense situation, for, if the girl did not kill her uncle, who did? Could it even be one of the characters on stage? The verdict, the solution and the climax of the play arrive together in a single smashing conclusion!

*Jury Room* is now in rehearsal with a great cast of 7 women and 5 men as follows:

**Foreman:** Colin Turner

**Blonde:** Maria Buckler

**Man with Glasses:** Nathan Wright

**Old Lady 1:** Marie Dickson

**Actress:** Tara Page

**Old Lady 2:** June Horden

**Angry Man:** Noel Thompson

**Brunette:** Lee Wilson

**Shy Girl:** Marie Cowling

**Society Woman:** Dawn China

**Middle Aged Man:** John McWatters

**Young Man:** Max Philipson

**Director:** Marion Parry

**Asst to Director:** Dawn Warrington

**Stage Manager:** Bev Lloyd

Anyone interested in being a **Rehearsal Prompt for Jury Room?** Phone Marion Parry, Chair of Productions on 55775762.

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## GC THEATRE ALLIANCE NEWS

New regulations for the licensing and serving of alcohol came into effect this year. We have to make moves towards compliance. One of the new regulations requires that 'employees' serving alcohol shall have RSA [Responsible Service of Alcohol] training and be certified as such. The word 'employee' also covers unpaid volunteers. However, there is a condition that servers can be under the 'general supervision' of a RSA holder. The definition of 'Nominee' also ceases to exist after June 30 2009. This means that a trained 'Authorised Manager' be either on duty or within at least one hour's attendance ability. The Theatre Alliance is looking to join with TAFE to encourage all affected premises to address the

RSA matter. Present thinking is that a group attendance of volunteers at one pre-arranged convenient course could solve the problem for all those Alliance theatres who are concerned.

*Joel Beskin.*

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## WAITING IN THE WINGS By Noel Coward

**Director: Joan Stalker-Brown (Ph. 5543 6804)**

**Auditions** will be on **Sunday, 14 June at 10 am.** Joan Stalker-Brown, the director will be looking for quite a few mature ladies to take the parts of retired show business pros who are *Waiting in the Wings*. See the GCLT website for full character details & a plot synopsis.

### Cast:

BONITA BELGRAVE	]
LOTTA BAINBRIDGE	]
CORA CLARKE	]
MAUDE MELROSE	] Residents
MAY DEVENPORT	] all 60+
ALMINA CLARKE	]
ESTELLE CRAVEN	]
DIERDRE O'MALLEY	]
SARITA MYRTLE	]
TOPSY BASKERVILLE	]
PERRY LASCOE	– Secretary 30-40
SYLVIA ARCHIBALD	– Superintendent 50's
OSGOOD MEEKER	– 60+
DORA	– Lotta's dresser & maid 40's
DOREEN	– Maid 20-30
ZELDA FENWICK	– Journalist 30-40
DR JEVONS	– Doctor 40+
ALAN BENNET	– Lotta's son 45-55

### **About the play:**

During his early and middle years, the late 20's through the early 50's, Coward devoted a considerable amount of his personal time supporting and raising funds for theatrical charities similar to the retirement home for actresses, 'THE WINGS', of this play's title. It's impossible to know when Coward first had the idea of putting the people he encountered during his charitable activities in a play, but it is unquestionably this contact with theatrical charity organizations and the aging performers who lived the final years of their lives in relative comfort because of them, which gives **Waiting in the Wings** its strong sense of authenticity.

The play is Noel Coward's salute to women who were leading ladies of the stage at an earlier time in their careers, and who have ended up in a retirement home. It's a loving look at actresses in retirement.

## Management Committee 2008 –2009:

President: Bruce Shearer	5531 1514	queen248@bigpond.net.au
Immediate Past Pres: Leo Mevissen	5538 3901	leo.nel@bigpond.com
Vice-President: Yvonne Rossell	5537 4598	yrossell@bigpond.net.au
Secretary: Sandra Cillekens	5596 4532	possumck@onthenet.com.au
Asst Secretary: Joyce Grant	5577 1776	grantjt@bigpond.net.au
Acting Treasurer: Yvonne Rossell	5537 4598	yrossell@bigpond.net.au
Acting Asst Treasurer: Janis Sheen	5532 2096	
Building Director: Eric James Summers	5526 3474	madlondo@onthenet.com.au
Chair of Productions: Marion Parry	5577 5762	marionp@winshop.com.au
Publicity Director: Maria Buckler		mariabuckler@hotmail.com
Front of House: Nina Khan	5577 4092	nina.khan@bigpond.com
Social Convenor: Valerie Cooney	5575 7000	
Librarian: Lyn Smith	5532 0720	lsmit130@eq.edu.au
Wardrobe M'gr: Dawn Warrington	5573 6584	colinanddawn5@bigpond.com

## Production Committee 2008-2009:

Chair: Marion Parry	5577 5762	marionp@winshop.com.au
Member: Ruth Henderson	5533 2915	ruthinthebooth@hotmail.com
Member: John Arthars	0408 549 511	john_david_arthars@yahoo.com.au
Member: Shane Caddaye	5563 9016	shanegoldcoast@hotmail.com
Member: Maria Buckler		mariabuckler@hotmail.com
Member: Noella Johnson	5591 8493	kevinandnoella@hotmail.com

## Contacting GCLT

Email:	gclt@bigpond.net.au; website: www.goldcoastlittletheatre.com.au	
Street address:	21 Scarborough Street, Southport, mail: PO Box 167, Southport, QLD 4215	
Bookings: Box Office	5532 2096	
Newsletter Editor: Joyce Grant	5577 1776	grantjt@bigpond.net.au

## Coming Events and Date-Claimers

- **17/05/09** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May, *Jury Room* moves into the theatre
- **30/05/09** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May, auditions for *One Act Plays* from 10am
- **14/06/09** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June, auditions for *Waiting in the Wings* from 10am
- **16/06/09** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, Drinks With the Director of *Jury Room* from 6pm at the theatre
- **27/06/09** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, opening night of *Jury Room* (closes Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July)
- **19/07/09** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, *One Act Plays* move into the theatre
- **28/07/09** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July, Drinks With the Directors of *One Act Plays* from 6pm at the theatre
- **30/07/09** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July to Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 4 performances *One Act Plays*
- **02/08/09** Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, *Waiting in the Wings* moves into the theatre
- **23/08/09** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, auditions for *Stepping Out* from 10am
- **01/09/09** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, Drinks With the Director of *Waiting in the Wings* from 6pm at the theatre
- **12/09/09** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, opening night of *Waiting in the Wings* (closes Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October)
- **04/10/09** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October, *Stepping Out* moves into the theatre
- **27/10/09** Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Drinks With the Director of *Stepping Out* from 6pm at the theatre
- **14/11/09** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November, opening night of *Stepping Out* (closes Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December)