

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Congratulations to Julanne Shearer and the cast and crew of "High Society". It was very successful over the five week run averaging nearly 90% "bums on seats" ratio and making a good profit for the theatre. Innovations from the play that will enhance future productions include 7 microphones which Eric tells me have to be looked after very carefully.

"High Society" finished on Saturday (16th May). Bump out of this very complicated set was finished by 1p.m. and Marion was there at 1.30p.m. to start building the set for "The Jury Room" - that's how we like it with one up, one down and one pending.

A musical like "High Society" with such a large cast and crew creates a lot of interest. The trick is to maintain that interest once the play is finished. Suggestions include using these new members for front of house duties e.g. selling programs at the door, perhaps a two-tier roster with the second roster doing a late bar duty, membership forms in the foyer. Any ideas?

They would be welcome.

Bruce Shearer.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Our electronic ticketing and payments are proceeding well but please note the following:

MEMBERS' DISCOUNTS

Patrons eligible for our special members' discount are advised to book seats by telephone as our new electronic system does not, as yet, cater for discounting.

DRINKS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF JURY ROOM

Following on with our successful DWD nights, Marion Parry, director of our next production, *Jury Room*, invites members and friends to attend the promotional evening on Tuesday, June 16th.

From 6pm at the theatre, guests can enjoy a glass of bubbly, some nibbles and some fun insights into the work going on behind the scenes of this quirky murder mystery. For just \$5.00 per person, sit in the comfort of our auditorium and be introduced to the actors as they talk about their characters - without giving too much away of course! See you at the theatre, 6pm, June 16th.

*****Snippets*****

Well-known actress, Valerie Cooney, just back from the USA, enjoyed an evening of theatre at Las Vegas Little Theatre where she saw *Bermuda Avenue Triangle*, a play by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna. Valerie says that our GCLT compares very favourably with Las Vegas Little Theatre, both in production standards and general auditorium features.

*Congratulations to
Michelle & Jason Macwhirter
On the birth of their daughter
Emily Olwen on April 30th*

WAITING IN THE WINGS

by Noel Coward

AUDITIONS SUNDAY 14 JUNE 10AM

The majority of female roles (10) are mature actresses – retired ‘leading ladies’ from both musicals and straight plays – all have vastly different personalities – most share the vaguely humiliating experience of having to live in the charitable residence known as ‘THE WINGS’. Ages can be varied but they must be mature women:

BONITA BELGRAVE – well dressed – she is a gay, bright woman with a strongly developed theatrical sense of humour – had considerable success in revues & musical comedies during WW1 — never a great star, popular in supporting roles – worked for ENSA during WW2 – retired 1950 due to advancing years and lack of offers.

CORA CLARKE – highly made-up – brightly dressed – wears a turban, bead necklaces and a gold locket – has a bit of a sharp tongue.

MAUDE MELROSE – could play piano & sing – soubrette – wears large glasses – before WW1 appeared with success in musical comedies – vivacity was her strong suit – excellent musician – appeared sporadically in the period between wars.

MAY DEVENPORT – was an authentic star in her day – specialized in Shakespeare and the more ponderous Restoration Plays – her movements are slow and immensely dignified – her back in straight and she is dramatic in black.

LOTTA BAINBRIDGE – like May Davenport, was an authentic star in her day – she & May have not spoken in years & they shun one another.

ALMINA CLARKE – older – played leading lady parts from time to time but stardom has eluded her.

ESTELLE CRAVEN – similar to Almina, but in a permanently wistful state.

DIERDRE O’MALLEY – spry – great sense of humour – Irish accent.

SARITA MYRTLE – wispy lady who moves in and out of the real world.

TOPSY BASKERVILLE – one line only – possible BS crew or SM.

Male Roles:

PERRY LASCOE – 30-40 – some years ago had a certain success as a musical comedy juvenile – realized he could sing and dance adequately but would never become a star – took the job as secretary to ‘THE WINGS’ fund – kind, happy person.

OSGOOD MEEKER – elderly, nattily dressed, a bit dim – beau of an unseen resident, Miss Carrigan.

ALAN BENNET – 45-55 – Lotta’s son – nervous – quality of failure about him.

DR JEVONS – Male – any age – pleasant.

Other female roles:

SYLVIA ARCHIBALD – 50’s – known as Miss Archie – superintendent of ‘THE WINGS’ – gruff manner, kind heart – popular but can be overbearing – wears masculine clothes – worked for ENSA during WW2 and retired with the rank of Colonel (her greatest pride).

ZELDA FENWICK – 30-40 – Journalist – very inquisitive.

DORA – 40’s – Lotta’s dresser & maid, morose.

DOREEN – 20-40 – resident maid at ‘THE WINGS’ – untidy, youngish.

Noel Coward’s *WAITING IN THE WINGS* was written in 1960 and marks the beginning of the final phase in Noel’s development as a dramatist. Reflecting on a charity home for old actors (male only) he had been chief fund raiser for before handing it over to Richard Attenborough brought about the writing of *THE WINGS*. He changed it to feisty old leading ladies, rather than men, living out their enforced retirement in moods ranging from open hostility & anger to a type of resigned contentment on having to end their days on charity. This, Coward’s 50th play, opened in Dublin on August 8th, 1960, and was received with warm enthusiasm by public and critics alike. Noel Coward’s own comments on the play: ‘I consider the play as a whole contains, beneath the froth of some of its lighter moments, the basic truth that old age needn’t be nearly so dreary and sad, provided you greet it with humour and live it with courage.’

**Contact the director, Joan Stalker-Brown on
5543 6804 with any queries.**

GOLD COAST SOCIAL SINGERS

Welcomes new members: the Social Singers meet every Tuesday at 7.00pm at the Southport Golf Club, Slayter Avenue and sing for fun until about 9.30pm. They sing from musicals, classics and religious songs and even 4-part harmony pieces. You will meet friends from GCLT: Mary Walters, Erica Whyte, Hugh Brophy and others. There are no fees or auditions: just front up with \$8 to cover expenses. We are currently planning to test the acoustics in St John’s Cathedral, Brisbane! For details, phone Erik on **0419 660 609**.

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JURY ROOM



Can YOU guess who is:

THE ACTRESS?	THE YOUNG MAN?
THE FOREMAN?	THE BLONDE?
THE BRUNETTE?	OLD LADY ONE?
OLD LADY TWO?	THE SOCIETY WOMAN?
MAN WITH GLASSES?	THE MIDDLE AGED MAN?
THE SHY GIRL?	THE ANGRY MAN?



Director Marion Parry, the 13th member of the Jury, invites you to come and see this quirky thriller and see if YOU can work it out before the Jury does!

JURY ROOM plays from June 27th to July 18th Thu – Sat at 8pm, with 2pm matinees on Sat July 4th and Sunday July 12th – Bookings on 5532 2096, or on-line at www.goldcoastlittletheatre.com.au

Management Committee 2008 –2009:

President:	Bruce Shearer	5531 1514	queen248@bigpond.net.au
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Publicity Director:	Maria Buckler		mariabuckler@hotmail.com
Front of House:	VACANT		
Social Convenor:	Valerie Cooney	5575 7000	
Librarian:	Lyn Smith	5532 0720	lsmit130@eq.edu.au
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Production Committee 2008-2009:

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Coming Events and Date-Claimers

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