



BACKSTAGE

The Newsletter of Sunnybank Theatre Group Inc

www.stg.org.au

February, 2007

Backstage by Email

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From the President's Pen



Welcome to the start of what I am sure is going to be another great year at STG.

Last year will be very hard to improve upon. With the five productions (two of them musicals) we broke a few existing records.

At the annual general meeting I was pleased to see a good roll-up of members and I extend my thanks to last year's committee, directors, actors and workers for a supreme effort in keeping up the standard that is expected at STG.

I also extend a welcome to the incoming committee and look forward to the pleasure of working with you and building upon the success of 2006.

Sincere thanks go to Sue Willingham for all the time and work put in as our secretary for the last two years.

An STG welcome to all new members who have joined us this year.

As you all realise, to put on a series of successful productions takes a lot more than the efforts of a director and actors. Work behind the scenes – both before and during the show – is essential to the overall success. The bulk of that work has been performed by a small group of willing workers. It is unrealistic to expect this kind of dedication to go on forever.

What does this mean? It means WE NEED YOU! There is a multitude of jobs ranging from backstage, technical, front of house and much more. It doesn't matter what job you can do – or even if you can only help now and then – to survive and spread the workload, we need our members to be involved.

Colin Robinson and his cast have been putting in a lot of hard work into our first production, *Hotel Sorrento*. Also, Anne Ross, June Gemmell and cast are rehearsing for *Calamity Jane*.

This is without a doubt a great theatre group, and with the help of our members we can keep it that way.

President
Jim Cliff

Jim's Thought for the Month

"Don't speak unless you can improve on the silence." ~ Spanish Proverb

2007 Committee Members

Jim Cliff	<i>President</i>
John Mordacz	<i>Vice President</i>
Bob Gow	<i>Treasurer</i>
Paul Marshall	<i>Secretary</i>
Pam Cooper	
Dierdre Robinson	
Loraine Muller	
David Gemmell	
Brad Wyeth	
Caroline de Hennin	

Piano Anyone?

It is time to say goodbye to the very ancient piano at the theatre. If anyone has an objection to its removal – or would like to make the theatre an offer for it – please contact Jim Cliff on 3345 3582.

Now Showing: *Hotel Sorrento*

Lots of blood, sweat and ... This play is a passion of mine. I hope you'll all enjoy our performance.

Set in Sorrento, Victoria and the UK, this play is about three sisters – Pippa in New York, Meg in Britain and Hilary in Sorrento – who reunite after a span of 10 years apart.

There is one scene not to be missed between Meg and Edwin. Watch out for the energy and don't be surprised when you become involved.

Colin Robinson (Director)

Some great seats are still available for this modern Australian drama. Contact Mary on 3345 2383 to reserve your seats.



Front: Sharon Huntly (Pip), Francis Kilgannon (Edwin), Sarsha Pyzik (Meg), Jeanette Campbell (Marge) and Peter Roberts (Dick)

Back: Deirdre Robinson (Hilary), Andrew Roberts (Troy) and Ken Verrall (Wal)

News from the Box Office

As most of you will be aware, Mary Hamilton has been our 'Officer in Chief' of bookings for many years now and has decided to make a clean break and take a well deserved rest.

We need some keen and enthusiastic members to fill her shoes and take up the challenge of learning the new booking system. This is new for all of us and we will have to be taught how to use it.

What we need initially is some expression of interest from you, the members, detailing how you feel you can assist. If you would like to offer your support, please contact Pam Cooper on 3892 5187.

Members and patrons will be given more information about this new booking system as it operates for the ticketing of *Calamity Jane*. Bookmark www.stg.org.au to keep up to date with the latest STG news.

Calamity Jane Update

Auditions have come and gone. Now costumes are being sewn, props collected and sets, lights, scenery and backdrops designed.

Amid all this activity our large, talented cast of actors, singers, dancers and musicians is working very hard to bring Sammy Fain and Paul Francis Webster's popular musical to life.

Set in Deadwood in the 1880s, this musical tells the story of Calamity Jane – our larger than life heroine – as she gets herself in and out of one hysterical scrape after another, until she finds true love with our hero, Wild Bill Hickok.

This happy show is rich in wonderful music, full of clever dialogue and loads of laughs along the way.

This is a show the whole family will enjoy. I know everyone connected with this production is proud to present one of the great, evergreen musical comedies for your entertainment.

Anne Ross (Director)



Left to right: Jordan Ross (Lt. Danny Gilmartin) Libby Lewis (Katie Brown), Shari Hindmarsh (Calamity Jane), Gary McEwen (Wild Bill Hickok) and June Gemmell (Musical Director)

Bookings for *Calamity Jane* open March 12. Visit www.stg.org.au for details.

Comedy Corner: Theatre Talk

Eternity: Time that passes between a dropped cue and the next line.

Prop: A hand-held carried object small enough to be lost by an actor 30 seconds before it is needed on stage.

Comments and Contributions

Caroline welcomes your comments and contributions for the next issue of *BACKSTAGE* at cjdehennin@hotmail.com before March 31.

Remember to opt out of our physical mailing list and into our new email list by sending an email request to david.gemmell AT optusnet.com.au