



# play up!

castle hill players newsletter february 2013 #491  
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## dates for the diary

February 12 2013: AUDITION Servant of Two Masters 7.30pm for 8pm start  
March 2 and 3 2013: The 60 Hour Project with The Theatre on Chester  
March 12 2013: AUDITION Enemy of the People 7.30pm for 8pm start  
March 26 2013: AUDITION Moonlight & Magnolias 7.30pm for 8pm start  
April 5 2013: OPENING NIGHT Steaming  
April 16 2013: Annual General Meeting 8pm

## president's report

Hi Everyone.

For those who haven't noticed the 2013 season is well underway. Shakespeare in Hollywood has opened, Steaming is well into rehearsal, an audition this week for Servant of Two Masters and audition dates announced for Enemy of the People and Moonlight and Magnolias.

All these plays require actors. Lots in fact! So get along to these auditions and mention them to your friends. They also require crew. Again attend the auditions, or better yet give the directors a call and tell them you would like to assist. And at the risk of stating the bleedin' obvious, these plays require an audience, something which cannot be taken for granted. Please, please, please come to the shows, bring your friends and promote ticket sales to people you meet. Better yet try to get people to subscribe. Come and help promote ticket sales at a Farmer's Market (second Saturday morning of the month – check with our website [www.paviliontheatre.org.au](http://www.paviliontheatre.org.au) or email Bernard who co-ordinates these. [Bernard@teuben.com.au](mailto:Bernard@teuben.com.au)).

We are teaming up with The Theatre on Chester at Epping, for a very exciting project set down for Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March. Details are included later in this newsletter but we are looking for volunteer actors and directors, lighting tech and a writer who can write a short play overnight (Friday 1 March). So if there was ever an opportunity to get involved this is it. A number of members have already expressed interest but we need more people to make it work.

Note your diary carefully for our AGM, 16th April 2013. The positions of President, Secretary, Program Director and five Committee members are up for election. Please attend and have your say in the running of our theatre company.

We must bid farewell and adieu to Jessica Paterson, member, actor, committee member and friend to so many of us here at The Players. Jess has been accepted to WAAPA and left for Perth a week or so ago. Her last duty at CHP was to give the opening night speech at Shakespeare In Hollywood, stepping into the fray as she so often did when it was realised most of the committee was either involved in the play, or interstate. Jess, your time with us has been entertaining, wonderfully funny, and full of loving friendship. We all wish you the very best of luck with your WAAPA course and know that the footlights of the world stage are just warming up especially for you. Remember us when you're a big star! (Or is that moon?) If you've seen Shakespeare in Hollywood, you'll get the joke!

We recently reported to you of the passing of Ian Evans, a member, actor and director at the Castle Hill Players. Please take the time to read a tribute to Ian later in this newsletter. No news re the Rail Link. Things have gone a little quiet (for now) but rest assured our planning for 2014 season has already started with a call for potential directors going out right now!  
That's it for me. Read on MacDuff.

Stephen

OK, so I know in the last newsletter, I said that would be the last time you would be reading something from me. Spoke to soon!

I just wanted to thank all the members who turned up to opening night of Shakespeare in Hollywood. It was truly one of the best opening nights I've ever attended as a director and your overwhelming support was much appreciated by me and the cast and crew. Please tell your friends to come along!

And while I'm here: auditions, auditions, auditions! We've got *Servant of Two Masters* (Feb 12), *Enemy of the People* (March 12) and an earlier than usual audition for *Moonlight & Magnolias* (March 26). Details at the end of this newsletter.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year (I did!) and I'm looking forward to seeing you around the theatre over the next year.

Paul

## from the program director

A word from the 2013 program director ... Hope that you have seen or are about to see our first production of the year, *Shakespeare in Hollywood*, directed by Paul Sztelma. It is a wow, entertaining show! Fabulous! Audiences are loving it! Don't miss it!!

Steaming - the second play of the season is up and STEAMING! Super Cast and Crew who are having a fun time - a real ensemble piece ...

Talking of ensemble pieces, Peter Rhodes is auditioning his *Servant of Two Masters* on Tuesday 12th Feb at the theatre, 7.30 for 8.00pm start. Should be great entertainment just to be at the audition - come along!

And so we roll along, there's never a dull week at the Pavilion!

Cheers  
Judi

## 2014 already? sheesh!

I know it's early but it's time for any directors out there to start thinking about putting up their hands for a 2014 directing slot.

What we would like to do is give the incoming Management Committee a list of names so they can choose directors at their very first meeting - which will be in May - and get the ball rolling on creating the 2014 season.

So have a think about it and if you'd like to direct in 2014, email me at [paul.sztelma@uts.edu.au](mailto:paul.sztelma@uts.edu.au). I will pass your name on to the 2014 Program Director. Remember - we're not asking for your play choices at this time - just your interest (but hey, if you have the time, start thinking about plays as well!) One thing we would like to know is if you would consider doing a foyer show or not. This will have no bearing on whether or not you are considered, it just allows us to plan the 2014 season and see if these foyer shows can be an ongoing concern.

And whilst we're at it - if you would like to put your hand up for the Play Recommendation Committee, I'll be taking names for that as well.

If you have any questions about the process or what may or may not be required of you as a director or PRC member, give me a call (0403 592 025) or email.

Paul

# from the membership officer

A very warm welcome to our newest members for 2013: Shane Whitehouse and Sue Robards. We hope your time and the Pavilion is happy and fruitful!

Faith

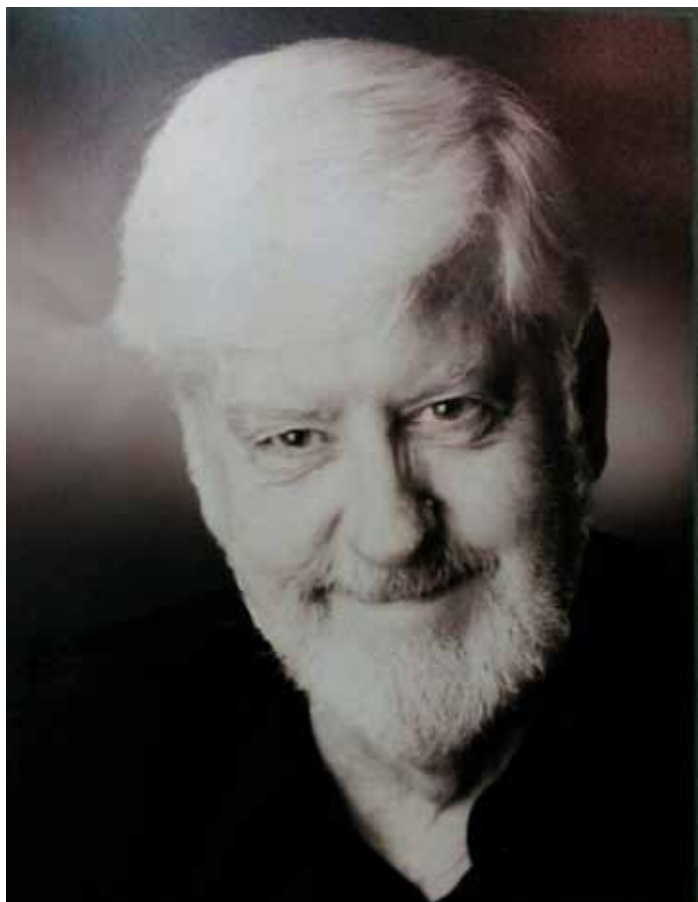
## vale ian evans

Ian Evans - former member/actor/composer and director of Castle Hill Players.

Opened by the Mayor of Lane Cove, a memorial service was held in the Lane Cove Civic Centre last Thursday to celebrate the life and talent of the late Maestro Ian Evans of Lane Cove Public School.

The hall was filled with teachers, friends and current and former students. Long time friend Scott Benson described Ian as a multi talented gentle man and how, as a teacher, he was highly regarded by his students who were inspired by his love of theatre and music. Trent Gardner (actor/director) friend and former student went on to describe with humour how he was so lucky to be in Ian's class because he was regarded as "cool" and how he inspired his students to attain their dreams. Another former student described Ian as the moral compass to them all, a mentor who stood out from all his peers. Throughout the evening Ian's favourite music was played by a string quartet and a school choir sang "The School Song", written and scored by Ian.

I was fortunate enough to learn so much from Ian when we worked together on several productions through the 80's and 90's. I found him to be a man with an eye for detail. Period plays were his speciality and he would research the background until it was just right. "The Importance of Being Earnest" was one such play and it was so successful that we had to add two more performances to cater for the growing audience. Ian was multi talented and wrote an adaptation of Henry Fielding's novel "Tom Jones" which he also directed. With John Hunt directing, Ian also wrote and scored the music for "Bazaar and Rummage", music that was complex and challenging. I was surprised to later hear that he had not had any formal training and played by ear. Additional music written for "Toad of Toad Hall" had a special place in his heart and he produced it with much acclaim at the Lane Cove Public School where they will once again be putting on a production of it in his memory.



To Ian, you will be sadly missed.

Maureen Cartledge

# **the 60 hour project - sat 2 and sun 3 march**

Sixty hours, uniting two theatre companies in a theatrical challenge from page to stage.

The Theatre on Chester and Castle Hill Players are getting together for a weekend of theatrical challenges. This weekend is open to all paid up members of both theatre companies.

It will challenge actors, directors, technical crews and anyone who has ever wanted to be a playwright. This is not a competition - we encourage anyone to come along who wants to be part of a creative and exciting weekend or anyone who just wants a "go"!

What we need from each Theatre Group: TWO people who have always wanted to write a short play, TWO people who would like to have a go at directing, TWO Techies, LOTS of Actors especially those who don't get roles very often!

How it works:

Four Playwrights are given a topic at 9am Friday 1st March morning. The topic will be decided by the Presidents of CCP & TTOC. The Playwrights have 24 hours to write a short 15-20 minute piece with four or more characters, which MUST incorporate the topic given. The topic has been chosen one hour prior by the Presidents of the theatre companies.

Actors and other interested members are invited to be at The Theatre on Chester (Epping) at 8.30am Saturday morning for coffee and muffins - for a 9am start. During this time, the 4 playwrights arrive with photocopied scripts which are given randomly to the four directors. The Directors will choose their casts by age and who is available - ie no auditions.

The Cast/directors will go to 4 different areas and rehearse – playwrights may or may not join the group. Any left over actors asked to act as stage managers/ assist directors. Props/costumes will be minimal, but the CCP or TTOC costume stores are available. Each group has one Technical crew member, who negotiates with each director re very simple lighting and other needs.

There will be one Technical Manager overseeing all the Tech crew. The Technical crew meet as a group, and under the direction of the Technical Manager, will make decisions how to facilitate all the plays and set the necessary lights etc. Day ends 4pm.

We meet again on Sunday at 9am .During the Sunday rehearsals, each group will have 1 hour with the crew to rehearse on the stage. The audience is invited through the groups' newsletters and may also be friends/ family of the creatives involved.

The production – which may be 'books in hand'- goes up at 5pm Sunday and there will be a short interval between play 2 and play 3. At 7pm all casts and crews will enjoy drinks & nibbles in the 'supper room' at the Theatre on Chester till 9pm when the 60 Hour Project will end! LUNCH will be provided on Saturday and Sunday.

What we need: TWO playwrights, TWO directors, TWO Techies, LOTS of Actors and any other volunteers to help out generally to indicate their interest NOW. This may be your first time in any of these categories - HAVE A GO and contact either Carla or Stephen.

Carla Moore - President The Theatre on Chester [secretary@theatreonchester.com.au](mailto:secretary@theatreonchester.com.au)

Stephen Snars - President The Castle Hill Players [playmail@bigpond.com](mailto:playmail@bigpond.com)

# is there an electrician in the house?

Many thanks to member Gavin Woodford who came galloping to the rescue on Shakespeare in Hollywood's second night.

Thanks to an electrical problem in the box (something technical - three phase box switch thingamy-jig dongle-wongle), the curtain had to be held until an emergency electrician could arrive. When an announcement was made to the waiting audience, Gavin put his hand up and was able to get the lights on and the show started! Gavin - I'm going to eventually have to buy you a beer. Many thanks!

## in other news

So you may be wondering what's happened to our usual newsletter editor Jess Paterson (if so, go back and read the President's report!) but I'll repeat it here: In happy and sad news at the same time, Jess has left Sydney to study at WAAPA for the next three years. Our congratulations to her on this exciting new phase of her life - she will be missed! And now you have to put up with me for a little while.

Meanwhile... Pavilion regular (when she's not gallivanting around the UK) Annette Rowlison is directing a show at the Parramatta Riverside Theatres (one night of which features another CHP member, Diane Howden) ...

Love Letters by A R Gurney

Directed by Annette Rowlison & Jonathan Llewellyn

Chalkdust Theatre Company

Feb 14, 15 & 16. Raffertys Theatre, Riverside Theatres Parramatta. Annette's shows are Feb 14 and 15 at 8.15pm (with Diane appearing on Feb 15).

All the details can be found on Riverside's website:

<http://riversideparramatta.com.au/show/love-letters-by-ar-gurney/>

Do you have any news you would like to share with our members? Email the stand-in newsletter editor Paul on [paul.sztelma@uts.edu.au](mailto:paul.sztelma@uts.edu.au) with the details.

## auditions, auditions, auditions! audition notice - the servant of two masters

Directed by Peter Rhodes

Tuesday February 12, 2013

7:30 for an 8:00 start in the foyer at the theatre

Carlo Goldoni's original text is one of the masterpieces of commedia dell'arte, and Nick Enright and Ron Blair's larrikin adaptation has become something of an Australia classic in its own right. This play is perfect for the foyer space as it gives ample opportunity for creative staging, multiple entrances, lots of fun with the audience and generally controlled mayhem. We will be rehearsing twice a week except maybe over Easter, and we won't be doing any weekend rehearsals. There may be a song or two written for the play but don't let that scare you away, they'll be easy and fun to sing, and may not even be there anyway! Auditions will be readings from the play and a couple of dexterity games.

Characters

**CLARICE** (pronounced 'CLAREE-CHAY') - (18+) Passionate and petulant - a spoilt version of Juliet - is in love with **SILVIO**, but was betrothed to **FEDERIGO RASPONI** who we have just heard was killed in a sword fight

**PANTALONE** - (40+) Wealthy and miserly merchant, single father to **CLARICE** and owner of the house - wants to arrange the best financial deal for his daughter's wedding

**SILVIO - (18+)** Cross a young Elvis with Johnny Depp's Cry Baby - is in love with CLARICE and will fight anyone for her - is involved in a short stage fight with sword

**DOTTORE - (40+)** Stuffy and show-off lawyer, loves to impress with Latin-speak - is single father to SILVIO

**SMERELDINA - (20+)** Smart, sassy and a little flirty - hand-maid to CLARICE and quite taken with TRUFFALDINO

**BRIGHELLA - (30+)** Inn-keeper and caterer, can be a man or a woman or a man playing a woman

**BEATRICE** (pronounced 'BEE-A-TRI-CHAY')- (20+) Strong, brave and in love with FLORINDO - is disguised as her dead brother FEDERIGO RASPONI to try to find FLORINDO who has run away from town. Remember CLARICE was betrothed to FEDERIGO?

**FLORINDO - (25+)** Strong, brave and in love with BEATRICE, has run away from town because he killed BEATRICE's brother FEDERIGO in a sword fight - is involved in a short stage fight with sword

**TRUFFALDINO - (20+)** Hungry, homeless and smart enough to be hired twice, by both FLORINDO and BEATRICE, and not to let one know the other exists - is quite smitten by SMERELDINA

**PULCINELLA** (pronounced 'PULL-CHIN-ELLA') - (25+) Porter, waiter and general runabout - could also be a crew member/stage manager type

For more information email Peter Rhodes at [peter@colebeecentre.com.au](mailto:peter@colebeecentre.com.au)

## **audition notice - enemy of the people**

**Enemy of The People.**

By Henrik Ibsen. Adaptation by Jeremy Johnson.

Directed by Jewel Johnson.

Audition Tuesday March 12, 2013, 7:30 for an 8:00 start in the foyer at the theatre.

Ladies and GENTLEMEN,

What happens when the town's water affects family, politics, power, money, freedom of speech and the press?

You have a play by Ibsen. Dusted off and in a fresh new adaptation for 2013.

The show runs June 14 to July 6.

Rehearsals begin in April. It will be an intense rehearsal period. 2 nights a week and yes- a few hours on the weekend

To receive a PDF copy of the script email the director Jewell Johnson at [songarts@mac.com](mailto:songarts@mac.com)

For the Audition:

**MEN:** Please wear a suit and bring a spare pair of shoes

**WOMEN:** Smart attire. Bring a spare pair of shoes. Modest heel.

Have a short monologue at the ready.

Characters

(Age guidelines are for the actors themselves- ie a character may be 70 but would look like a man in his 50's+ today)

Male 40-50+ Dr. Thomas Stockman

Male 40-50+ Peter Stockman, Mayor, Thomas' brother

Female 40-ish Catherine, wife to Dr. Stockman

Female 20's Petra, a teacher, Thomas and Catherine's daughter

Male 20's      Billing, newspaper staff worker The People's Messenger  
Male 30's ish   Hovstad, Editor of The People's Messenger  
Male 50ish      Aslak, printer and Homeowners Assoc. head  
Male 50ish      Captain Horster – a sea captain  
Male 50-60ish   Morten Kiil- Master Tanner, Catherine's father  
Male              Drunken Man

For more information contact director Jewell Johnson at [songearts@mac.com](mailto:songearts@mac.com)

## **audition notice - moonlight & magnolias**

Written by:              Ron Hutchinson  
Director:                 Karen Miller  
Audition date:         Tuesday, March 26th.  
                                 8 pm start, doors open from 7.30 pm.  
Audition location:     Pavilion Theatre  
                                 Doran Drive, Castle Hill Showground  
Audition process:     Readings from the script. American accents required.  
Rehearsal period:     April to August 2013  
Play run:                 August 2-24 2013

Moonlight and Magnolias is an almost true behind-the-scenes romp about Gone With the Wind. It combines witty dialogue, physical comedy and sharp social commentary to paint a picture of how the film's script was written by producer David O Selznick, writer Ben Hecht and director Victor Fleming – with the help of Selznick's personal assistant Miss Poppenghul. Desperate to make his film, facing disaster at every turn, Selznick lures Hecht and Fleming to his office – and locks the three of them in it until the script is finished. With faithful Miss Poppenghul fending off the outside world and providing bananas and peanuts to keep body and soul together, one of the most famous films in Hollywood history is brought to life ...

Because this play is based on real events, character ages will be kept roughly accurate – with a little wriggle room. So if you feel drawn to a particular character and you're not too far off the mark, feel free to throw your hat in the ring.

The cast is as follows:

**David O. Selznick:** 37 years. Highly strung, visionary dreamer who passionately believes in the story and the film and is determined to make the other men love it as much as he does.

**Victor Fleming:** 50 years. Larger than life, arrogantly confident director, master of all he surveys. Is mildly interested in the project, but falls under Selznick's spell.

**Ben Hecht:** 45 years. A contract writer for the studio. He's been there, done that, doesn't get emotionally invested in any project because he knows he's at the bottom of the ladder, even though he's got a great reputation. He's the sole voice of objectivity in the room, but even he starts getting sucked into the movie magic.

**Miss Poppenghul:** open age, 25 and up. She's Selznick's gatekeeper, nursemaid and mother hen. His life would fall apart without her and they both know it, even though it's never said. She keeps the wheels from falling off all the wagons.

For more information, or a copy of the script, please contact the director Karen Miller on 8824 8524, or by email to [oz.k@optusnet.com.au](mailto:oz.k@optusnet.com.au).

**and finally ....  
the photo one local newspaper refused to run!  
(because they are a “family” paper)**



**one final reminder - the AGM on April 16. an official notice will be sent out soon!**

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