



play up!

castle hill players newsletter march 2013 #492
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bookings 9634 2929 theatre 9634 3846 admin 0458 080 028

dates for the diary

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

Hope you all managed to catch "Shakespeare in Hollywood" before it closed because it was a sensational start to our season. There is more excellence closely following, with "Steaming" nicely on the boil and "Servant of Two Masters" well into rehearsal.

Sadly this month we mark the passing of another member, our dear friend, actor, director and past Management committee member Keith Harwood. Keith supported our theatre with great passion and even when ill has been there on many an opening night with a big smile. Keith we will miss you. To Lesley and their family we offer our heartfelt condolences.

Despite an excellent response from our members, The 60 Hour Project with Theatre on Chester was unfortunately cancelled due to a shortage of participants. I would like to thank all our members who were prepared to give it a go and hope we can still make it happen further down the track. The concept was a great idea and I believe worthy of our support next time around.

If you know of anyone interested in subscribing to the 2013 Season, please encourage them to do so as there is still plenty of great theatrical entertainment coming up this year.

I think that'll do it for this month. Get along to one or both of the auditions to be held during March – plenty of great roles on offer. See later in the Newsletter for details.

See you round the theatre!

Stephen

from the 2013 program director

Our next play, STEAMING, directed by Meredith Jacobs is going 'swimmingly' (sorry) - everyone's smiling and hearts are full!

We have a wonderful ensemble who are guided by Meredith's empathetic 'hand' who have found both the empathy and 'laughs' from the playwrights pen, with fellowship and artistic craft. Can't wait to see it!!

READ ALL ABOUT IT !!!

ANOTHER GREAT SHOW IS CAST AT CHP!

Director, Peter Rhodes has cast this visual and vocal feast, "The Servant of Two Masters" and rehearsals are underway.

In a cast of ten we have four familiar faces at the Pavilion and six new members. Welcome to you all! Two people have never been on stage before, and one has never even seen a live production! I think this may be a first for CHP!

The director tells me it is a great group who are very-excited about the show and our theatre. I hear there is lots of fun at rehearsals... so here is the cast list in order of appearance -

PANTALONE	Paul Seitz
DOTTORE	Dennis Channels
CLARICE	Lara Spaggiari
SILVIO	Julian Lawrence
SMERELDINA	Isabelle Kavanagh
BRIGHELLA	Annette Dix
TRUFFALDINO	Robert Snars
BEATRICE	Tiffany Hoy
FLORINDO	Adam Garden
PORTER	Stijn Vermeulen

Just a reminder that we need intending directors for the 2014 season AND - members to offer their experience to become part of the small Play Recommendation Committee who read, discuss, read, discuss (you get my meaning..) plays and present their combined decision for consideration, to the Management Committee. See below for further details.

Cheers
Judi

2014 already? sheesh! looking for directors and play rec. committee

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.szelma@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

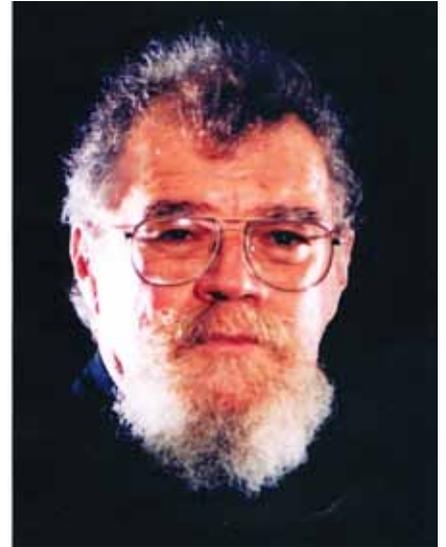
vale keith harwood

Dr Keith Harwood. 1943-2013

Actor/Director/ Technician/ Crew member/ Committee Member and friend.

A funeral was held at Macquarie Park Crematorium on Thursday 7th March to celebrate the life of Dr Keith Harwood. The celebrant spoke of Keith as a man with a brilliant mind, an astrophysicist in the Aviation and Aerospace industries and a software engineer developing pioneering firmware for heart pacemakers, a man with a love of family and a true romantic.

The chapel was filled with his family and many friends from the theatre. His brother Robin spoke of Keith's love of adventure, and his best friend Alistair of a true friendship that lasted over 58 years. Son-in-law Julian, speaking on behalf of daughters Alexandra and Victoria, described Keith as a warm and loving father and grandfather and said that he had left him with a hard act to follow.



A fine actor, Keith joined the Castle Hill Players in 2000 when he played the part of Henry in the Louis Nowra play "Cosi". He went on to act in several other plays, "The Herbal Bed", "A Chorus of Disapproval" 2001, "Amadeus" 2004, "The Importance of Being Earnest", "Shadowlands" 2006, "Milo's Wake" 2007 and "Pygmalion" in 2009. Always willing to help out, Keith appeared in many of the short plays on subscriber nights to give our new directors experience. When illness robbed him of his lovely voice he never complained and instead turned his hand to lighting operation and worked tirelessly on many more productions. He was also one of my greatest supporters on Front of House jumping in when needed. Always looking for a new challenge Keith directed the classic play "Gaslight" in 2012.

He is survived by wife Lesley and daughters Victoria and Alexandra. He will be sadly missed.

Maureen Cartledge

from the membership officer

A big hello and warm welcome to our new member Adam Garden. We hope you have a great time at our theatre!

REMINDER

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2013 this is your last newsletter - which is tragic! Please drop me an email - faithjessel@gmail.com - if you have any concerns or want to check that I received your renewal form.

Thanks!
Faith

The incomparable Phil Lye will be appearing at The Theatre On Chester in Stephen Sewell's "It Just Stopped". Opening April 12. Info at www.theatreonchester.com.au.

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 with the details.

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 songeararts@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 songeararts@mac.com

but wait, there's more

audition notice - moonlight & magnolias

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.

and finally

it's a sausage fest!



A nice way to say "thanks" to the members who conducted a letterbox drop promoting our theatre in the local area.

Paul Szelma turns his culinary skills to the BBQ. Great sausages, Paul!

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