

# The Spotlight

Newsletter of St Luke's Theatre Society

## September 2011

### Date Claimers:

**September:** 23, 24  
Greenroom Production

**Nov:** 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 26  
Fourth Major Production.

### Theatre Contact details:

**President:** Barry Kratzke  
Ph 33989032

**Vice President:** Jan  
Moody Ph 38484107

**Secretary:** Ros Dempsey  
Ph: 33434255

**Bookings:** Ruth Paterson  
Ph 32556675

**Web Site & Mail Lists:**  
Peter Parkinson  
Ph 32550221 or  
[peter@stlukestheatre.asn](mailto:peter@stlukestheatre.asn)

**Spotlight:** Pat Kratzke  
Ph 33989032 or  
[ekratzke@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ekratzke@bigpond.net.au)

**Publicity:** Jan Moody  
Ph 38484107

**Membership:** David &  
Shirley Lang  
Ph: 38447257

**Christmas Break-up:**  
Sunday, 4 December at  
5:30 pm in the Upper Hall.  
Suggestions for items to  
Marg Doumany.  
Ph 38925576

**Web Site:**  
[www.stlukestheatre.asn.au](http://www.stlukestheatre.asn.au)

## What's Next!

Our next offering is the Greenroom production, 'Your Obedient Servant,' by Diana Morgan, on September 23, 24. It will be directed by Francine Smith. Francine is a St Luke's theatre society member, last seen as an actor in 'Darling I'm Home'. Another actor from that play, Andrew Heron, (who played a main role as the house husband) is also in the play reading cast, together with St Luke's veterans Esme O'Hanlon and Barry Kratzke, both of whom featured in last year's Greenroom production of 'A Small Hotel', and Desley Nichols. The cast, at present, introduces Sarah Reinking to our stage. Sarah is often to be found helping in our light and sound room. Remember bookings are not necessary for Greenroom productions. Also remember pre-play drinks are served 30 minutes before the performance followed by afternoon tea or supper with the cast after each performance – all for an entry fee of \$8.

## On Golden Pond

This excellent production was well patronised despite running at the same time as the Ekka, winter chills and rainy weather. Our attendances were down on the previous play as there were not as many large group bookings. Those readers who attended and read the program will know that the production was beset with problems. The first unfortunate set back was the unavailability, through illness, of guest director, Graeme Mc Kenzie, whose expertise is greatly valued by the Theatre Society. Fortunately, Graeme is making good recovery progress. That difficulty was overcome by another well respected director, Rodney Wolff, stepping into the breach and the Theatre Society appreciates his acceptance of the position. Further setbacks occurred during rehearsals with some of the cast stricken with flu and one with asthma. The final setback came when Cameron Gaffney was admitted to hospital and was not able to perform on the third night. Thankfully, Matthew Hobbs was able to fill in. Fortunately, Cameron recovered enough to continue on and we wish him a speedy full recovery. Despite all, our audiences enjoyed and praised the quality of the production. This was a very strong cast led by well-known Brisbane actors. The final average attendance was sixty-three.



'On Golden Pond' cast from L to R: Chris Bradley, Lachlan Kadell, Brian Cannon, Margaret Doumany, Selina Kadell, Cameron Gaffney.

**Final Call:** Final call to all performers to express their interest in being in the cast for the Agatha Christie play in November. Please phone Peter on 3255 0221 or email on [peter@stlukestheatre.asn.au](mailto:peter@stlukestheatre.asn.au) to express your interest.

**Is there a Play** you would like us to perform? The programming committee is meeting soon to plan the 2012 programme. Contact Jan, Barry or Peter if you have suggestions. See contact details at far left.



## Where did the money go!

During the recent play Lesley Hobbs raised \$ 700 which has been donated to Operation Smile. No doubt readers have seen, via the media, some of the wonderful results of operations, performed in Australia, by doctors who give time to improve the lot of children with serious facial deformities – all free of charge. Such children from developing countries are brought to Australia where necessary (because of the extent of the deformity) through sponsorships and donations. Operation Smile volunteer, accredited medical specialists also go out into developing countries on missions to treat children in the children's home countries and to support medical professionals in those countries.

## The History of the Theatre Society (cont'd)

By Jan Moody OAM

Rev Clem Lane and his wife, Ruth, were invited to take over when Ralph de Voile retired in 1968. They came from Kingaroy Parish where a wonderful new rectory had been built, to Ruth's delight, but when Clem felt the need to respond to the Archbishop's call for the Ekibin parish vacancy he didn't hesitate. The rectory of St Luke's at that time was certainly very basic, with a laundry under the building, a dirt floor and an interior in urgent need of "freshening up". Ruth, who was the complete homemaker and lover of all things artistic, was saved from her despair by "discovering" the Theatre Society. She became involved in every aspect of our activities, whether on décor, or as Minute Secretary, wardrobe mistress, prompt and sometime actress. Clem also displayed considerable acting skills and delighted in

being included in pantomimes and revues etc as relief from the more sober role as Rector. He was a truly humble pastor, often found undertaking mundane tasks that others neglected and was much loved. Ruth was able to create the most amazing and unlikely stage sets and costumes during many hours spent at the hall as well as filling the role that Clergy wives were expected to do in those days, Mothers' Union and organist etc. The lack of finance was a major consideration that they took on board and the Society was raised to heights of achievement such as we have not known since, financially, artistically and socially. When their 14 years came to an end and they retired to Dapto where one daughter was living they had established a confident and flourishing Church organisation, though we knew that no one else could take their place. And so it proved.



Top: Rev & Mrs Lane  
Left: Clem plays a part  
Right: Ruth steps out  
in a pantomime.



St Luke's Theatre Society Presents

### *Your Obedient Servant*

A comedy

by

Diana Morgan

Directed by Francine Smith

The action centres around the mystique of the live in help provided by 'Services for Ladies'.

September:

8 pm: Friday 23 & Sat 24

2pm; Sat 24

Pre play drinks: 30 minutes before each performance .  
Light refreshments after each performance.

Price: Adults \$8 Children under 13yrs \$2

BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED

### *Who is Jane?*

Jane (not her real name) is a secondary school student in her final year sponsored by St Luke's Theatre under the auspices of The Smith Family's *Learning for Life Program*. Writing in a recent communication Jane says she is top of her class in two subjects and is hoping for a good OP score. She has aspirations of becoming an author. Like most teenagers Jane likes TV, the internet and friends. Disadvantaged children have many hurdles to conquer to succeed at school. The *Learning for Life Program* supports disadvantaged children all the way through their education. Founded in 1922, The Smith Family has helped those in need in many ways. In 1987 the *Learning for Life Program* was formalised. The Smith Family is a national independent charity.

### *Are You Able to Help?*

Peter Parkinson would like you to make enquiries with friends and relatives to find someone with knowledge of HTM coding to process a form. This is required for the theatre's web-site. Contact Peter if you are able to help.

### *Do You Know a Sign Writer?*

Do you know a commercial sign-writer who could produce the sign for our productions? The street sign is at the front of the church. It would be great if it could be done for a reasonable price (or perhaps a sponsorship arrangement). Let us know.

### *Two Dollar Market*

Lesley Hobbs mini – market stall for charity will function during the play reading