

The Spotlight

Newsletter of St Luke's Theatre Society

February 2014

March: 14,15,17,19,21,22,
First Major Production
Bookings Open 1 Feb

April:
25,26 First Greenroom

June:
20, 21,23,25,27,28
Second Major Production

August: 22,23,25,27,29,30
Third Major Production

Sept:
26,27 Second Greenroom

November:
21,22,24,26,28,29
Fourth Major Production

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Ready, Set, Go!

For a highly entertaining year theatre-wise!

A selection of plays, varied in genre has been chosen for presentation and is detailed over page.

First Up! Is an early Alan Ayckbourn play, 'Relatively Speaking' which has recently enjoyed a very well received revival in London's West End. Directed by Sharon White, an experienced St Luke's actor, the cast consists of the familiar and the new to St Luke's stage. Paul Careless is no stranger to St Luke's, having appeared mostly in the Agatha Christie's over the years. He is joined by Andrew Whitmore, last seen at St Luke's in 'Season's Greetings'. Sandra Harman, an experienced actor well known to Brisbane theatre goers, appears for the first time in a St Luke's production and Phillipa Dwyer, returning to St Luke's after a break of some years completes the cast. The play is a comedy fuelled by misunderstandings and mistaken identities with the characters thoroughly puzzled by who's who throughout. Michael Billington reviewing the London production for 'The Guardian' writes that the play is more than a comedy with the plot showing that '...prolonged misunderstanding can become a source of painful truth..' while a review by Peter Brown in the London Theatre Guide says of the 2013 production that the play is '...more than a simple comedy. Underlying the humour are issues about truth, honesty and commitment..'

'Relatively Speaking' is a very funny and enjoyable play set in the 'swinging sixties'. I am sure that audiences will get a good laugh. I leave the deeper meanings for you to unravel.

Goodbye 2013



Holiday For Lovers

The final play for 2013 was a colourful (set and costume wise) production. Five quick set changes were necessary as the holiday makers jaunted from the USA to Paris, to Seville, to Rome, and back to Paris. Congratulations to the stage crew, set constructors and décor personnel on a huge effort. Director Cameron Gaffney and the cast also earn congratulations for a job well done. The play drew an audience of 507. giving an average of 63 per performance.

Young Lovers:

Above Left: Anthony Stevens (Paul Gatlin) in Seville.

Left: Moira Kennedy (Betsy Ross) in Paris.

Where did the Money go?

Thank you to all those who support us during the year, especially with Lesley's stall. After clearing costs the Theatre Society was able to continue to support Bunkit through World Vision at a cost of \$583 and Eamon through the Smith Family at \$516. Money from the stall was distributed as follows: Rosie's Youth Mission, \$600; Mission Aviation, \$150; Muscular Dystrophy, \$800; Salvation Army Appeal, \$200; Fred Hollows Foundation \$600; Act For Kids, \$800. The stall and raffle total comes to \$3150 and the grand total for the year comes to \$4249.

A great effort! Thanks to all concerned.

From the President (Barry Kratzke)

A happy New Year to you all, and welcome to another year of great theatre at St Luke's. The plays for this year have been chosen with a variety of genre so that there is something for everyone - and the prices remain the same: *what good value!*

Our patrons enjoyed the offerings for 2013 and those for 2014 are a great mixture, too, so you should enjoy the 2014 seasons. The directors have been chosen with care, so each play should attain a high standard. 2013 was a very successful year for the theatre and saw an increase in attendance numbers. New members were welcomed and many 'old hands' returned. A pleasing aspect of late has been an increase in community members expressing interest in participating in the theatre in a variety of roles – acting, front of house and stage management to name a few. However there is always room for more.

One problem we still have is the set construction for each play. St Luke's is known for its high standard of sets but we have a shortage of helpers. Please ring me (ph 33989032) if you are interested in helping with set construction on a Monday morning for a few weeks before each play. Please mention our need to anyone you think would be interested. Helpers experience camaraderie, morning tea and meet new people. Should you be interested in joining front of house personnel, managing sound and light or in becoming an actor or in any other aspect of community theatre please contact me.

I look forward to seeing you at the first play of the year.

History of St Luke's

by Jan Moody OAM

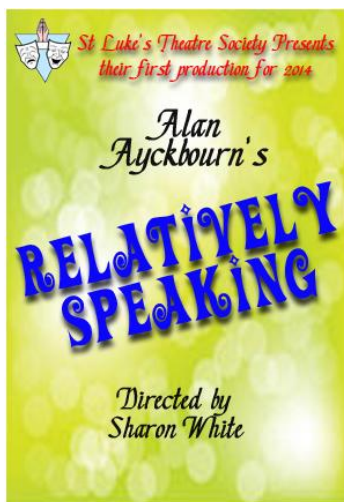
Guest Directors (cont'd)

In 1976 we invited *PAT WEBSTER* to direct 'Me and My Girl' as our first attempt at a full-length musical. Pat had made a great success of this in New Guinea when Marg Doumany was teaching there and she felt sure our audiences would love it ...as indeed they did. We felt rather uncertain in the casting, needing to discover just what singing talents we had among us. It proved to be a delightful introduction to future musicals, with its well known songs and comedy storyline. Its run in London had been cut short by the 1939 World War so it was some time before it reached its full potential there. We attracted full houses and were able to take it 'on tour' many times. Pat's experienced directing had certainly convinced us that St Luke's was indeed capable of introducing such a new venture into our entertainment field. (More about all this in a future segment on musicals.) Pat moved away to the Gold Coast and was not able to work with us again unfortunately.

Help us to keep on keeping on!

Lesley and helpers will be manning a stall during the season of 'Relatively Speaking'. The proceeds will be donated to The Motor Neurone Association.

What's on in 2014 (Graphics by Peter Parkinson)



Director: Sharon White

March:

8pm:14,15,17,19,21,22

2pm:15, 22

Bookings from 1 Feb



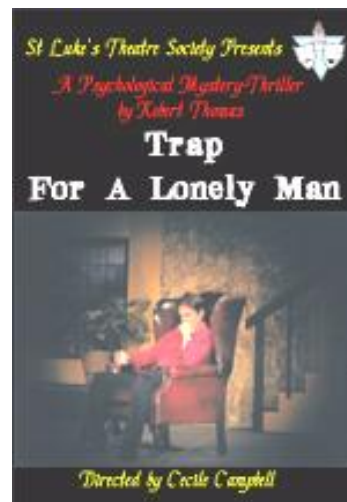
Director: Sandra Harman

June:

8pm:20,21,23,25,27,28

2pm:21.28

Bookings from May 16



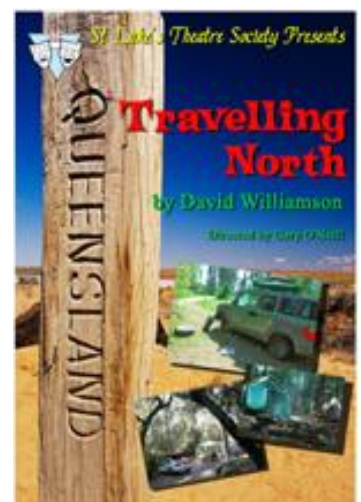
Director: Cecile Campbell

August:

8pm:22,23,25,27,29,30

2pm:23,30

Bookings from July 18



Director: Gary O'Neill

November:

8pm:21,22,24,26,28,29

2pm:22,29

Bookings from Oct 17