

The Spotlight

Home is Where Your Clothes Are – Play 2 for this year was, judging by audience reactions a roaring success. Directed by Trevor Bond, this was a laugh-a-minute farce where the action never stopped and congratulations must go to Trevor Sammon whose antics kept everyone amused. Trevor was ably backed up by a cast who added to the fun.



Charity News – Ros Dempsey and her indefatigable band of helpers, present at the front of house during each play, have so far this year raised enough money to donate \$500 to *The Hope Foundation* (Play 1) and \$1,000 to *Orange Sky Laundry* (Play 2). Thank you all.

Still to Come in 2017

August 25, 26, 28, 30, September 1, 2 – 8.00pm
August 26, September 2 – 2.00pm

The Sunshine Boys

[by arrangement with OriginTm Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd]



*A Comedy by Neil Simon –
Directed by Gary O'Neill*

The laughter continues for the next play, which has commenced rehearsing. Trevor Bond, Brian Cannon, Trevor Sammon, Madelyn Bickerdike and Karen Neale have joined forces with Gary O'Neill to present this wonderful production. Don't miss it!

November 24, 25, 27, 29, December 1, 2 – 8.00pm

November 25, December 2 – 2.00pm

The Sound of Murder

[by arrangement with OriginTm Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd]



*A Drama by William Fairchild
– Directed by Sharon White*

From the President

 – Barry Kratzke

It was very pleasing to have Trevor Bond back at St Luke's directing a play for us. The play was well attended with some very large audience numbers. On one matinee occasion, four people, who hadn't booked, waited to see if seats would become available. Fortunately, we managed accommodate them.

Audiences thoroughly enjoyed the play and left the theatre with smiles, which we like to see. A good laugh is certainly good for the soul.

Trevor Bond is one of the leads in the next play, *The Sunshine Boys*, a most entertaining comedy. This play is being directed by Gary O'Neill, who directed *The Chalk Garden*, and *Travelling North*. Please remember to book.

The Association of Community Theatres has given St Luke's a grant of \$1000 towards a new computer adapted for our sound room. Our original computer was 'on the way out' and needed replacing.

Thank you for your continued support.

The History of St Luke's

 – by Jan Moody OAM

Quite apart from the problem of constructing a suitable stage for our many and varied presentations there was considerable concern in seating our audience with hopefully some comfort! This has undergone many changes. Of course, the only



The Spotlight

available seating as used by the Parishioners were the conventional pews and these accommodated our earlier small audiences so far as numbers went, but left us feeling we should aim for separate seating. We invested in discarded Army chairs and then with some *Stakabys* which could at least be easily stacked but were very cold and hard. They saw their lives out usefully under the hall or out on the church grounds. We helped the Women's Guild to buy some blue and yellow metal chairs that we could also use, so one can imagine the mishmash of seating that evolved. We had no such grandiose plans those days of a Box Plan. First in best dressed was the ruling those days.

Finally, the day came when we were able to sell the Army chairs to the local Scout Group and exchange the hard metal chairs with some kinder plastic stacking chairs. They were classed by Sebel as "comfy" but there was little accommodation for a large person., which brought in extra costs to supply some of the "more comfy" ones. After some years of holding out against this problem for the Front of House Booking Persons ("Could you excuse me asking do you need a larger chair?") we offered a discounted price once again to the Scouts (who were delighted with the bargain) and were able to buy 150 heritage red plastic stacking chairs which are now still in use.

I saw that the City Hall 2nd floor entertainment room had a very effective setup of their chairs and against some opposition pushed for a change in our seating plan which proved much to our advantage and is still in use. Another improvement was my suggestion of seated rows at the back half where viewing was difficult when our houses increased often to "full house"! The construction of removable risers was a costly exercise and storage proved to be a problem, as well as labour intensive for each play.

The provision of cushions was raised by audience members and a working bee was organised to address that worthwhile (?) appeal. Now the Front of House staff and the Box Planner have everything well organised.

Members / Subscribers

Community Theatre Groups such as ours cannot be run successfully without the contributions made by our many Members and Subscribers, whether it be attending every production, helping out behind the scenes or front of house or, of course, producing, directing and acting and we thank them all.

From time to time, they also become involved with other Community Theatres; for example, **Cameron Gaffney** is currently directing *Honour* for Villanova Players (26 August to 10 September at Yeronga SHS) which also has **Olivia Pinwill** in the cast.

Bill Thomas, who has been an audience member for over 20 years, has written about his experiences as follows:

There's a very professionally well managed amateur theatre group in Ekibin named St Luke's,

Which for over 50 years has been producing excellent, exceptional, entertaining, enjoyable plays which aren't just lucky flukes.

*I've enjoyed many plays and musical shows there for over 20 years since *Out of the Question* in 1996.*

It's been performed twice at St Luke's and has attracted and held my attention such as in a fix.

*My favourite play ever was *Stepping Out* in 2016,*

I think it's one of the best plays that has ever been.

If you can contribute in any way to help us present and improve our productions, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our website has more details of ways in which you can help.

Theatre Contact Details

President: Barry Kratzke
(3398 9032)

Vice President: Chris Sibley
(0423 500 055)

Secretary: Pat Kratzke
(3398 9032)

Treasurer: Pat Kratzke
(3398 9032)

Publicity: Jan Moody
(3848 4107)

Membership: David Lang
(3844 7257)

Bookings: Ruth Paterson
(3255 6675) or
ruthpaterson1@bigpond.com

Web Site: Peter Parkinson
(3255 0221) or
peter@stlukestheatre.asn.au

Charity Coordinator: Ros Dempsey (3848 8237)

Work Health & Safety: John Fanning (3345 3183)

Newsletter: Desley Nichols (0417 754 607)

Website: www.stlukestheatre.asn.au

