

The Spotlight

Newsletter of St Luke's Theatre Society

November: 'Cat's Cradle' by Leslie Sands. Nov: 20, 21, 23,25,27,28

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The Next Major Attraction

"Cat's Cradle" by Lesley Sands will be the final play for 2015. Directed by Cecile Campbell the cast includes Craig Smith making a first appearance on the St Luke's stage and St Luke's players Crystal Gilbert, Desley Nichols, Chris Sibley and Dee Ann Heath. The popular and talented Matthew Hobbs returns to tread the boards after a two year absence. The action is set in a small English village and it appears the whole village is united in a conspiracy. Enter a Scotland yard detective on the verge of retirement trying to solve a cold case. Does he succeed? What has puzzled him all these years? What is the secrecy about? What is the outcome? Come and see!



Sandra Harman, Paul Careless and Helen Barrett

The Murder

Room by Jack Sharkey, directed by Sharon White, was greatly enjoyed by our audiences. Sterling performances were given by the cast in the fast moving production. To add to the fun it took some patrons considerable time to work out the dual role played by Paul Careless. The play was reviewed most favourably in *The Victorian Drama League magazine*

September Greenroom:

Those who attended the Greenroom enjoyed the replacement productions of the murder farce, "That's Murder" and the comedy "Last Tango in Little Grimley". Thanks go to Rosie Murray, John Quirk, Nick Neild and Desley Nichols for filling in at such short notice. Thanks, too, to the "old" troupers Jan Moody and Barry Kratzke who also rose to the

Photo opposite: L to R: Back: David Lang, Barry Kratzke, Nick Neild, Jan Moody and Peter Parkinson. Seated Front: Don Hobbs.

Thank You: Many Thanks to all Subscribing members who have supported us this year and, for many, over the decades. Accompanying this newsletter is a subscription form and details for 2016. It is unfortunate that the Theatre Society has the need to increase the admission price but the subscription scheme does offer significant savings as well as advance reminders of the productions via the newsletter and dodgers. It offers posted newsletters and dodgers unless otherwise requested, although the theatre website www.stluketheatre.asn.au is kept updated and the newsletter can be accessed there or emailed if requested. Subscriptions may be paid in the foyer during the final play for the year or by cheque or other means as detailed on the enclosed subscription form.



Old Stalwarts: Members were pleased to catch up with long time member-come actor, director, set constructor, and sometime lighting and or sound man, Don Hobbs – a great supporter of St Luke's for

The History of St Luke's

By Jan Moody (OAM)

GUEST DIRECTORS (Cont'd)

A dauntingly difficult farce was chosen for 1991 named 'You, Too Can Have a Body' and Anne Gaffney suggested we ask JERRY LOWLEY to be our guest director hoping he would bring along two leading men to tackle it for us. He did just that and it proved a great favourite with our audiences who really do respond to "a good laugh." Jerry was a skilful director but unfortunately was not available when next we sought him out. He has however remained an active member and many will have seen him at Front of House and occasionally on stage.



Seven Nuns of Las Vegas 1991

BRENDA WHITE from the Arts Theatre accepted to reprise "Seven Nuns of Las Vegas" (we had presented it earlier as a reading and knew it would hold well as a major play). It was quite a rare entertainment with a competent cast and not much actual directing was needed from Brenda as it happened. Nevertheless she brought it all together very competently and we were grateful for her leadership.

GARRY O'NEIL followed Brenda as the next guest director but needs a chapter to himself.



Lammonne

We have heard

from the children we help support. **Lammonne** is now in Year 4 and likes feeding animals. She can read and count numbers.

Eamon is now 13 and has received a scholarship to secondary college. He gained the highest maths marks for his year and thanks us for our help as does his mother. At this stage he aspires to be a

Charity Stall

Thanks to the work of Ros Dempsey and her team (and also those of our patrons who donate goods and/or who bake the delicious cakes) the charity stall was able to donate \$600 to Sheltered by Grace. This charity is situated at Waterford in Logan and is in need of funds for maintenance and expansion. The supported housing assists those homeless – some with a mild cognitive disability, other disability or simply in need of a helping hand to get back into the mainstream.

Vale: ROY DOWLING: (16/4/1920-5/8/2015) Roy was a founding member of the St Luke's Theatre and was an active participant up until the time of his death. He acted in one of the very first skits and various pantomime roles thereafter. He was a mainstay of the society for some fifty-five years – twenty of which were spent in the role of patron, only tendering his resignation from that role at the 2014 AGM. Always a willing worker Roy was great flossicker of hard to find props, especially furniture, and a dab hand at repairing the same. Roy was still helping with stage construction and furnishings into his nineties. Most will remember him as the genial Front of House Manager, welcoming patrons at the door. Roy was very community minded and his community links were most valuable to the operation of the theatre. The Theatre Society owes Roy a great deal. On behalf of the society I extend sympathy to Roy's family.
Barry Kratzke



2016 is fast approaching and work is under way to bring interesting and enjoyable plays to the stage. If you know of any aspiring actors please encourage them to watch the web site for auditions or alternatively contact one of the executive. The Society is still on the lookout for backup sound and lighting personnel or understudies. Any person interested should contact one of the executive and training is also offered. In these days of staggered work hours and job transience it becomes more difficult to rely on the few willing workers.