

August 2011

PROSCENIUM

The Villanova Players
NEWSLETTER



Volume 50 Issue 8



LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

Rehearsals have begun for VPs play No.3, *Lady Windermere's Fan* by Oscar Wilde, and the cast is enjoying the proceedings so far.

Director Jill Cross and the Casting Committee have assembled a stellar cast for this production which promises to be a highlight of our the 2011 season. It is a change of pace from our first two plays this year and as with all classic plays, audiences look forward to seeing them again and again.

The action of the play takes place within 24 hours beginning on a Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock and ending the next day at 1.30pm.

The story looks at marriage and relationships in Britain in the 1890s and society's attitudes and prejudices. It is a well written play that has many shades and depth of character. The comedy is brittle and biting, but there are certainly intended themes and messages for audiences to absorb.

Although this play is a classic, this is the first time that VPs have presented it, so in a way it is fresh. Jill Cross is enjoying the experience of staging the play and getting atmospheres and settings just right.

Don't miss this play whatever you do. It opens on **Friday 26th August** at the Morningside TAFE and promises to be very popular. Bookings have been taken already, so ensure you book early so that you won't miss seeing this great production.



LADY WINDERMERE MEETS Mrs ERYLYNNE



JILL DIRECTS LORD DARLINGTON, Mr DUMBY AND Mr CECIL GRAHAM

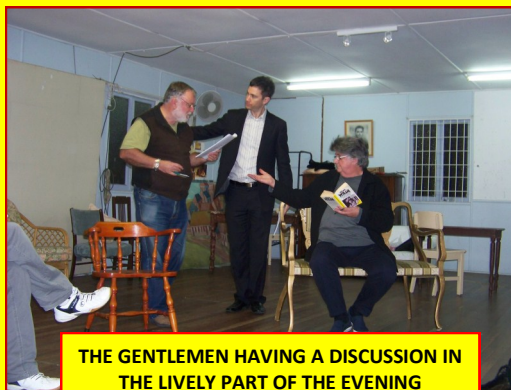
MORE LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

THE CAST

Lady Windermere Jane Hamer
 Lord Windermere Brett Heath
 Lord Darlington Michael McNish
 Mrs Eryllyne Meagan Lawson
 Lord Lorton David Jones
 Mr Dumby Trevor Bond
 The Duchess Maria Plumb
 Mr Cecil Graham Rod Thompson
 Lady Agatha Samantha Yeates
 Lady Plymdale Noelle Dreves
 Mr Hopper Andrew Heron
 Parker, the Butler Anthony Bradley
 Lady Stutfield Audrey McKibbin
 Lady Jedburgh Helen Ekundayo
 Rosalie, the Maid Audrey McKibbin

THE CREW

Jill Cross DIRECTOR - Mickey O'Donnell SM



THE GENTLEMEN HAVING A DISCUSSION IN THE LIVELY PART OF THE EVENING

Inside this issue:



Lady Windermere's Fan Cast and Crew 1

From our President Leo Bradley 2

2011 Productions Monthly General Meeting 2

July Entertainment Election/In our Thoughts 3

Wanted for Play 4 Speaking in Tongues 3

What's on in Theatres Lady Windermere's Fan 4

Office Bearers 2011 4



Diary Dates for you to note:

- Monthly General Meeting - Wednesday 17 August, 2011, at the TAFE theatre
- Management Committee Meetings and Casting Committee Meetings are monthly.
- Opening Night of *Lady Windermere's Fan* - Friday 26 August 2011-8pm



FROM OUR PRESIDENT - LEO BRADLEY

Brisbane continues to put on its best winter weather which promises to be a fantastic day at the Morningside festival on Sunday 31st July. Hope to see you all there.

Rehearsals are well underway for **Lady Windermere's Fan** by Oscar Wilde. In our extensive theatrical history, VPs have produced many of Wilde's comedies but not this one. It is a great piece of writing and every bit a stinging relevant as when it was first performed. Oscar's much declared genius shines through in this play. It is both amusing and biting, exposing the goodness and the foibles of human nature. Our amazing cast are having a great time bringing the play to life and I'm sure we'll all enjoy seeing it on stage. Make sure you don't miss it, as bookings have already started to stream in.

In July, VPs were able to assist the YPAC Youth performing arts group and the Brisbane Eisteddfod to host their events at the Theatre at Morningside. Both have proved very successful for us and for them and proves the great need to keep venues like this Theatre available to the community. Once again, our thanks go to Mary Woodall, and Mickey O'Donnell and Dan Knudson for making this possible.

Sharing the space with similar community groups helps greatly to defray to costs of running the Theatre. We are also in discussion with a group of local artists about hosting a possible exhibition of their works sometime in the future.

Our thoughts are with Mary Woodall on the death of her father, Ken Bielenberg. Ken was a subscriber for many years and passed away on 15th

July aged 88 years. I'm sure most members and subscribers would know Mary, as she is often on Front of House and took the bookings for many years. Our thoughts are with Mary and Bob, Jenny, Adam and Anna and the Woodall and Bielenberg families at this sad time.

Our hard working Vice-president, Jane Binstead has had to step down. As many of you know her personal circumstances changed dramatically with the arrival of little Mickey and the pressures of work and study. Jane has been managing the publicity and advertising for VPs for several years now, and has certainly taken us to a very prominent position with the media and the local community. Her efforts have vastly improved the quality of our advertising and the effectiveness of getting our message out to our audiences. On behalf of all members and subscribers, I'd like to thank Jane for all her hard work and cheerful, welcoming smile that has made each of our opening nights so special. Of course she will still be around, in fact, she's playing the title role of Lady Windermere in our next production, so make sure you come along and thank her in person.

This means there will be an election for the position of Vice president, and any consequential vacancies, at our next monthly meeting. I would ask all members to consider taking an active role on your Management Committee.

See you at **The Fan** very soon
Cheers, Leo.



2011 FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS



Play No.3 - LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN
by Oscar Wilde
Directed by Jill Cross
A biting satire on the hypocrisy of Victorian society's attitudes, particularly towards marriage.
26th August to 10th September



Play No.4 - SUMMER WONDERLAND
by Matthew Ryan
Directed by Leo Bradley
A true blue parody of life's trials and tribulations faced by an eccentric group of neighbours in suburban Australia.
18th November to 3rd December



MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

AT THE TAFE THEATRE
WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 2011
8:00pm

ENTERTAINMENT

Andrew Heron is directing excerpts from **"48 Shades of Brown"** by Philip Dean from Nick Earls' coming-of-age novel. Set in Brisbane, the story centres around Dan - not quite 17. Cast includes the talents of Stephen Quinn, Samantha Yeates, Catherine Blake, Matrim Shea and Michael McNish.



[If anyone is interested in presenting an item at our Monthly Meetings, contact a Member of the Casting Committee - phone numbers are on the back page of *The Proscenium*]

JULY ENTERTAINMENT

Lucy Moxon presented an excerpt from *"Three Viewings"* by Jeffery Hatcher. In only a black curtained set, and an antique sofa, the monologue the *"Thief of Tears"* introduced us to Jane, who has changed her name to Mac, and who is a bit of an enigma, who returns to the small town of her childhood to attend her grandmother's funeral.

She tells us about her current occupation, which happens to be quite lucrative, as she chooses her clients carefully. She thieves from funeral parlours, and as she attempts to retrieve from her grandmother, a ring which she believes is rightfully hers dark, hidden memories come flooding back.

Lucy handled the devil-may-care Mac at the beginning with a nicely acerbic delivery, and was particularly moving when the deep emotions surrounding the loss of her husband and children surface at the end.

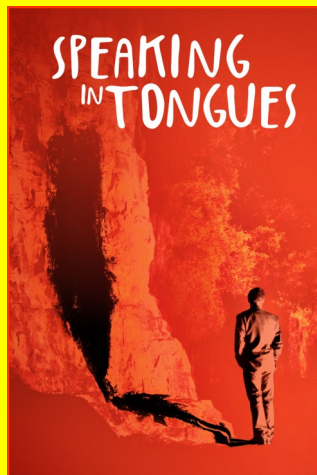


[LEFT]
LOOKING
FOR THE
RING



[RIGHT]
PRAYING
FOR HER
FOR-
GIVENESS

NOTICES



Metro Arts

To book, simply jump online to metroarts.com.au or call (07) 3002 7100 or go in and see the lovely crew at Metro Arts, on level 2 at reception.

Details:
July 20th-August 6th
Tuesday - Saturday, 7:30pm
Adult: \$20 Concession: \$16
Groups: (10+) \$12pp *Booking fees apply*
Preview: 19th July (Just \$12!)
Cheap Tuesdays - \$12 ticket sales at the door!
Hope to see you there!

DIRECTED BY
Anthea Patrick [nee Lock]

STARRING
Dean Patrick

Wanted for Play 4

Many thanks to Kurt Lerps for offering a selection from his vast store of Christmas decorations to Play No.4, but we still need:-

- ⇒ Any spare Christmas or Fairy Lights
- ⇒ Spare Christmas decorations [the tackier the better] especially of the inflatable Santa and reindeer [or kangaroo] type. Also looking for
- ⇒ Any old dolls houses or small children's cubby houses [about 30cm]
- ⇒ A remote controlled toy helicopter
- ⇒ A remote controlled car [about 30cm]



If you have anything like the above or know someone who does, please contact Leo Bradley [3891 5769] or Lucy Moxon.

In Our thoughts

Our thoughts and prayers at this time are with Mary Woodall and family on the death of her dear father, Ken Bielenberg. Ken was a subscriber for many years and passed away on 15th July aged 88 years.

Also at this time we remember John Standen who recently passed away. John performed in some of our monthly meetings and in a festival play in 1979, *The Feast*. He was also a great friend of Maria Thompson.



Election

At our next Monthly meeting on **August 17th**, there is to be an election for the position of VICE PRESIDENT and any other consequential vacancies.

The Vice President is responsible for managing publicity for VPs. If there is not a quorum of financial members, then the election will be held at the next monthly general meeting at which there is a quorum. Any written nominations, signed by the person and one other nominating member needs to be received by the Secretary before the meeting.



2011 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:	Leo Bradley	3891 5769
Vice Pres:	Jane Hamer	0417 072 512
Treasurer:	Rod Thompson	3391 7180
Secretary:	Meagan Lawson	0401 001 391
Casting Liaison:	Maria Thompson	3391 7180
Members:	Trevor Bond	3393 6521
	Andrew Heron	0417 793 133
	Michael McNish	0427 353 639
	Neil Goodwin	0402 064 487

2011 CASTING COMMITTEE

Samantha Tierney	0449 861 812
Rod Thompson	3391 7180
Michael Byrnes	3849 4521
Maria Thompson	3391 7180
Jenny Brunner	3398 9592

Villanova Players
INCORPORATED
 Established 1948

Balmoral Park, Jean Howie Drive
 off Bennetts Road MORNINGSIDE
 PO Box 465 Morningside Qld 4170
 Email: villanovaplayers@gmail.com
 www.villanovaplayers.com

The Hut: Phone: - 3395 5168
 Bookings: Phone: - 3899 9962



WHAT'S ON IN THEATRE

ST LUKE'S THEATRE SOCIETY presents **ON GOLDEN POND** directed by Rodney Wolfe & starring VPs Brian Cannon - 19th to 27th August - Bookings - 3255 6675

BEENLEIGH THEATRE GROUP presents **ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL** - 5th to 7th August - Bookings - 3807 3922

ARTS THEATRE presents **PETER PAN AND WENDY** - by J M Barrie - 13th August to 1st October - Bookings - 3369 2344

CENTENARY THEATRE GROUP presents **THE MOUSE-TRAP** directed Kurt Lerps - 3rd to 24th September - featuring Michael Lawrence and Paul McGibbon from **THE CLUB** - Bookings - 3379 3937

SUNNYBANK THEATRE GROUP presents **ARSENIC AND OLD LACE** - directed by Anne Ross - 26th August to 10th September - Bookings - 3345 3964

MOUNT COTTON DRAMA GROUP presents **'ALLO 'ALLO** directed by Joy Hinckley - 22nd July to 6th August - Bookings - online at their website

TOOWOOMBA REPERTORY THEATRE presents **SPEAKING IN TONGUES** by Andrew Bovell - 24th September to 8th October - Bookings 4632 8058


METRO ARTS presents **SPEAKING IN TONGUES** directed by Anthea Patrick - 20th July to 6th August - Bookings

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

Play 3

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

by Oscar Wilde
 directed by Jill Cross



26 August -
 10 September
 2011



[LEFT] THE MEN DISCUSS THE STATE OF SOCIETY AND THE STATE OF WOMEN



[RIGHT] LADY WINDERMERE PONDERES HER FUTURE