

# WHAT? E-NEWS

For what you are about to receive....for what indeed!

## *Editor's Note...*

I've often wondered if Chris King's a gambling man. If so, I might make sure I'm standing behind him at the TAB next time he's having a flutter. He's gone and picked the trifecta. His third directorial effort for GMS: **Shout – the Legend of the Wild One**, is following the trend of his first two productions, **Cabaret** and **42<sup>nd</sup> St** by selling out before opening night. I'm lead to believe there's little over 100 seats left for the entire run and opening night's still nine weeks away! So if you haven't bought tickets ...hesitate no longer. They will be gone very soon. My spy says August 4 has the most seats left. With a cast of over 70, choreography by Karen Snook and Musical Direction by Alex Stoner (*Suessical*) this show will rock the house this winter.



Next week **Wyong Musical Theatre Co** celebrates it's tenth anniversary with the very same show that kicked it all off for them – **Guys & Dolls**. The director is John Gerrie (pictured left in blonde wig. No..he's not playing one of the Hot Box girls..the pic is from GMS' **The Scarlet Pimpernel** in which John had a principal role last year). All of us here in the **WHAT?** Home office in Wahoo Nebraska (ie: me) wish the cast and crew a fabulously successful and enjoyable run. For booking details, check out the calendar on page seven, or try WMTC's fabulous web page: [www.wmtc.com.au](http://www.wmtc.com.au)

The next cab off the rank will be all the fine young cannibals...I mean kiddies...who will be performing their socks off during **YIPA** week. Do yourself a favour and check it out. At the end of June, WWLT's **The Beauty Queen of Leenane** will open. Don't be fooled by the flippant nature of the title, this is a serious piece...with a marvelously witty edge to it. I've been lucky enough to be privy to rehearsals (*prompt!*) and let me tell you the wonderful cast will have you mesmerised.

OMG how good was Ian Cooper? I went to the **Supper Club** in 'The Donnie' last Friday night and was absolutely enthralled by this amazing (and extremely funny) fiddler. The Don Craig room was packed. The Supper Club has got to be THE coolest monthly gig in town.

Another cool monthly gig is **Theatresports** at Mad Cow. Iain 'Mouse' Maguire has assembled a strong and enthusiastic little impro army over the past 12 months, which is extremely dedicated to the cause of providing a regular diet of spontaneity to Central Coast audiences. Check out the new **Yahoo** group to stay apprised of all the happenings (shows, workshops, classes, jams, forums etc) <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/centralcoasttheatresports/> More info on acting courses etc, can be found at [www.madcowtheatre.net](http://www.madcowtheatre.net). Incidentally, the details of tomorrow night's show have changed...please check page two for more info.

**Until next time, get your act together...**

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**WHO ARE MARAT/SADE?** (Tip: the latter's no singer)

"MARAT/SADE" is the abbreviated name of the play - "THE PERSECUTION AND ASSASSINATION OF MARAT AS PERFORMED BY THE INMATES OF THE ASYLUM OF CHARENTON UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MARQUIS DE SADE". Written in the early 1960's, the time of the play is 1808. The infamous Marquis de Sade is confined in the lunatic asylum of Charenton, where he himself stages plays. The setting is the bathhouse of the asylum of Charenton, where de Sade is held incarcerated. Subsequently we have a play within a play. In their play, de Sade and his inmate-players portray the revolutionary times and recreate an infamous murder...that of Jean-Paul Marat (a revolutionary who played his part in the French Revolution's bloodiest period - *The Terror*). It is the eve of Bastille Day and fifteen years have passed since Marat was killed in his bathtub by Charlotte Corday a young nun from the provinces. The director of the asylum watches the entertainment and matters eventually get quite out of hand as the revolutionary fervour infects the patients. Combining historical events with modern theatrics, Marat/Sade is one of the more exciting plays of recent times. This play is to be presented later in the year during Mental Health Week. Actors and singers required. **SEE AD HOC AUDITION ADVERTISEMENT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS ON PAGE SIX.**

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**POSTPONED!**



SORRY  
about that  
CHIEF!

**Stop press:**

**THEATRESPORTS CORRECTION!**

Do not adjust your set! Due to technical difficulties beyond our control the **Salute to 60s TV** advertised last issue, has been moved to **JUNE 24** and will be a teams event!  
(More on that next month)

Meanwhile come to Mad Cow Theatre  
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**NEXT THEATRESPORTS SHOWS - MAY 27 & JUNE 24@ 8PM!**

## SPOTLIGHT ON....

...JUDI JONES



### ***'Maureen' in WWLT's Beauty Queen of Leenane***

**How long have you lived on the coast?** Immigrated to Sydney in early '92 and moved here later that year after discovering this beautiful part of Oz by accident.

**What is your day - job?** Full-time mother to two gorgeous girls while selling ladies shoes in a large dept store on a casual basis.

**When did you become involved in theatre?** As early as my school days. I had to give my first stage kiss at the tender age of 10 in a play set in Granada, Spain. (I'm hoping the kiss-ee was also ten - Ed)

**Where did you learn your craft?** Did a couple of acting courses in Sydney over the years but as a child of seven I was directing and acting in street productions of *Cinderella*.

**What was your first role?** My first adult role came at the age of 19 playing the part of a stripper in an Everyman production in Cardiff, Wales.

**Favourite play/musical – in which you were involved?** *Caravan* was a lot of fun, lots of naughty bits! My favourite has to be *Dancing at Lughnasa* (another Irish play directed by John Hickey). Great cast in a beautiful, poignant story and the theme music still haunts me.

**Favourite play/musical that you have seen?** Nothing can top *Les Miserables* (had me in a trance) but *Beauty & the Beast* comes second; gave me such a magical feeling!

**What would be/has been your dream part?** To have had a dream voice so I could have played the part of Eponine in *Les Mis*. Now I'm that much older I would love to have the voice to play Maria in *Sound of Music*.

**Did a funny thing happen to you on the way to the theatre?** One day on the way to the Peninsula Theatre, I was run down by a bus full of children's party entertainers. I think some clown must have been at the wheel. (Actually, Judi didn't have a funny story to tell, so I made this bit up – Ed)

**Best/Worst movies you ever saw?** Best: *Titanic*, *Schindlers List*, *Four*

*Weddings and a Funeral* (Hugh Grant is hilarious). I only watch movies that I know I'll enjoy.

The delightful and talented Judi's role in "Beauty Queen" is both challenging and confronting - the best kind of role from an actor's point of view, but the audiences are also in for a fascinating ride - this is a play with bite. The first rate cast includes local veteran **Margaret McGowan** as Mother 'Mag', **Mike Jeffries** as gentle 'Pato', Maureen's would-be suitor, and **Damian Fitzpatrick** as Pato's fiery younger brother, 'Ray'. These three were most recently seen in the uproarious *It Runs in the Family*.

You can expect a few laughs with this one, but expect the unexpected.



**THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE** opens at the Peninsula Theatre June 30. See page 7 for box office info.



# FEEDBACK

## Dear Ed

Once again I ask your assistance (you gave my Youth Festival a fantastic write up last year – thank you). I am organizing the second annual Wedding Expo at Erina Fair – 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> June. Last year it attracted over 75,000 people across two days throughout the centre. This year I want to showcase local music acts and also dancers that are suitable for the wedding market. I need the following: someone to play the digital grand piano in the middle of the mall – both Saturday and Sunday at various times of the day. Music acts suitable for weddings. Such as string quartets etc. – both Saturday and Sunday at various times of the day. In return: I would like to offer anybody participating exposure via our MC, through our programme guide in our newspaper advertising, and the opportunity to hand out their promotional material whilst they are playing in the centre. Exhibitors would normally pay \$750 to have a site in the centre for the weekend, so for someone wanting to promote their services this would be a great opportunity. For further information ask your readers call me. **Deborah Lowndes**, ph: 43 670 899; mob: 0416 126 215

Send feedback by reply E-mail. \*Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

*WHAT? E-NEWS* © is produced and edited by **Rose Cooper**. All opinions are the responsibility of the editor, except where otherwise stated. All events are correct at the time of publication. The editor takes no responsibility for late changes. Enquiries to: 0422 866822 or email [rose.cooper@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rose.cooper@optusnet.com.au). For more info about the editor, plus website links, visit: <http://ccenews.tripod.com>

Laycock Street Theatre presents Perth Theatre Company's

## THE CHATROOM by Reg Cribb...June 2-4

This National tour will have theatre audiences on the edge of their seats and returning home to find out what their teenagers are really up to on the internet. Carmen's parents are frightened to let her wander the streets, but there may be a greater threat in their own house, in Carmen's bedroom, at the click of a mouse. From one of Australia's best and most highly awarded playwrights comes a story of power games, rebellion, and of trying to take charge while everything is spinning out of control. Exposing a disconnected world where people are desperately trying to make contact in any way they can, *The Chatroom* is a riveting thriller that takes us into the murky space of on-line relationships. **BOOKINGS LAYCOCK ST THEATRE: 4323 3233**



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### **ETCH COT INVADED (M)** Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou, Paul Bettany, Alfred Molina...Directed by Ron Howard (*A Beautiful Mind*)

The hype, controversy and subsequent backlash surrounding this movie (if you haven't twigged yet, this is a review of *The Da Vinci Code*) makes it a tricky one to look at objectively...but here goes. Most of us, when we see a movie after reading a book, go in with expectations. I went in with an open mind and afterwards I felt like I'd witnessed a very faithful interpretation. Howard took no particular licence...nor did he try to be overtly arty-farty. If you haven't read the book, you will still find the movie easy to follow...and if you have read the book...you'll find yourself revisiting it in your head, mentally ticking off the plot points without feeling dismayed by inappropriate casting or the things 'thrown in for cinematic effect'...unless you're *really* nitpicky – then you may note a few shortcuts. Ultimately, how you enjoy this film will rest largely on if you enjoyed the book. I personally loved the thread upon which Brown's story was dangled. The idea that the Christian Church should have been shaped by a woman is a captivating and life affirming notion – particularly if you happen to be female. I wasn't brought up as a Catholic or even a Christian, so I can't relate to the Church's fear of this film. Ironically...both the book and the film made me feel more cognisant of the spiritual message of Christ than not, so people should get a grip, after all...IT'S ONLY A MOVIE. Anyway...off the soapbox. It's a fine film. Bettany's amazing as the overzealous albino, the delicious Miss T was the perfect casting, while Hanks is efficient and understated. The star of the film is the same as the book: Mary Magdalene. You go girlfriend! **3.5/5**

### **THE WORLDS FASTEST INDIAN (M)** Starring Anthony Hopkins

Australian writer/director Roger Donaldson, (*The Recruit*; *Thirteen Days*) directs the true story of Burt Munro, a New Zealander who broke the land speed record for a 1000cc motorcycle in 1967. At 63, Munro dreams of travelling to America to compete in an international challenge to break the land speed record. This story of overcoming adversity is genuinely moving, the cinematography is stunning, and the depiction of Munro's final attempt to break the record is intensely gripping. Occasional melodrama mars an otherwise captivating film. (Guest reviewer – Nick McDougall) **3/5**

#### **ALSO SHOWING:**

**X-MEN III – THE LAST STAND (M)** THE PREVIEW LOOKS AWESOME! Fans of those misunderstood, mutated comic book freaks won't be disappointed.

**EIGHT BELOW (PG)** This doggy tale is about eight sled dogs' fight for survival after they are left stranded for close to six months during one of the worst winters in Antarctica's history. From the master of the survival genre, who directed *Alive!* and starring Paul Walker and Jason Biggs

#### **MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (M)**

Apparently these critters mate for life, and go through hell to protect and feed their young. If you ever wanted to be a frozen fly on the wall of a penguin's dramatic life story, this one will have you enthralled. This year's Oscar winner has been a surprise box office hit all over the world.

#### **KOKODA (M)**

*Platoon*, *The Thin Red Line*, *Born on the Fourth of July*, *Black Hawk Down*...just some of the successful 'war stories' from the US. Finally a story about our diggers and the infamous battle fought in Papua New Guinea during WWII. The remarkable story is told with realism and integrity.

### **COMING SOON: CARS (the latest gem from Pixar) and THE BREAK UP**

**Seniors:** \$7-50 all sessions. **Bargain days: Tue & Wed** \$8-00 All sessions **Sun** \$8-50 All sessions (\*Except Public Hols) **Other days** \$9-00 before 6pm. After 6pm \$10-00 Adults, \$9-00 Child (2-15) \***LIVE ORGANIST Tue and Wed from 10:00am & 1:00pm**

# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

ALL NOTICES/ADVERTISEMENTS PROVIDED FREE

## AUDITIONS...

### GMS PRESENTS: BEAUTY AND THE BEAST OCT/NOV 2006

Directed by Terry Lay. Auditions Sat & Sun, June 3 & 4. Principals **by appt only** - phone John Burg - 0421 022 777. Bring photo. Call backs June 6. Rehearsals start July 11. Audition material at GMS costume cottage. Season Oct 13-Nov 4. Inc some Sun matinees. (18 performances).

### AD HOC THEATRE AUDITIONS: MARAT/SADE

June 6 and 8. Actors & singers req'd. Principal Roles: 5M, 3F Chorus: 12 – 15M/F. Production to take place during Mental Health Week (Sep/Oct). Directed by Terry Collins, Choreographed by Francoise Angenieux. Speaking roles: 2 males age 40 – 60 years, and 3 - 4 males age open. One female speaking part, early 20s, plus possibly two others - age open. The Chorus is integral - 4 Main Singers, at least one man and woman. Also 10 - 12 roles of patients of a mental asylum, some of whom are required to speak individually, but all will be involved in singing as part of a group. Auditions for Chorus on Tues 6 June, and Principals on Thur 8 June at 7.30pm at the New Horizons office, 64 William Street, Gosford (up the lane on the left of the building). For Principal Auditions, please contact Terry Collins on 0425 370 560 for an audition piece and time.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### GOT A SHOW TO PROMOTE? MT PENANG MARKETS IS THE PLACE TO BE

Are you looking to do some fund raising? Do you have something to sell, promote or demonstrate? Mt Penang Markets at Kariong take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month from 8.30am to 2pm. Open a stall, go busking, and promote your theatre company with a mini performance. Currently there are fresh food stall holders, Australian made arts and crafts, wine tasting and hot food stalls. The licensed premises on site means that the markets operate more like a village fiesta, which is a great atmosphere for artistic groups to display their wares. If you have any enquiries about opening your own stall, setting up a stage to present your performing arts item, call Denise Pastor on: 4389433. **BUSKERS AND THEATRE PRODUCTION PROMOTIONS WELCOME!**

### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A MANAGER?

A & K Management is the Central Coast's leading talent agency, sourcing work for 11 years. Wanted: Actors, Models, Extras, for TV, commercials, movies and promotions. All ages, shapes and sizes. For a free assessment, phone Robyn: 4384 6785. E-mail: [shine\\_on@tpg.com.au](mailto:shine_on@tpg.com.au)

## WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

### MAD COW THEATRE COMPANY

Mad Cow Theatre Co. has drama classes for kids of all ages, as well as Theatresports classes for adults. New courses to start in term three. Get all the information you need by phoning: 4328 4432 or visit: [www.madcowtheatre.net](http://www.madcowtheatre.net)

### CHRIS KING'S YOUNG TALENT SCHOOL

Chris King's young talent school is expanding to include an exciting range of new courses for the all round entertainer. Visit: [www.chrisking.com.au](http://www.chrisking.com.au) or call: 43411188 for more information.

## TOTALLY RANDOM QUOTES #5

**“I’ve been around so long...I knew Doris Day before she was a virgin.”**

*...Groucho Marx (1895- 1977)*

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## CALENDAR

**GOSFORD MUSICAL SOCIETY: [www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com](http://www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com) ph: 4323 2300**

**Currently rehearsing** – July/Aug: *Shout* - The Legend of The Wild One; Next production: Oct-Nov: *Beauty and the Beast* (see auditions advert). Juniors: *Trouble in Panto Land* (July hols)

**GOSFORD REGIONAL GALLERY East Gosford Ph: 4325 0056**

Art and Literature talks are held at 2pm on the last two Saturdays of each month (except school holidays) Cost: \$7.50 & \$5 members.

**LAYCOCK STREET THEATRE: [www.laycockstreet.com](http://www.laycockstreet.com) Box Office: 4323 3233.**

**May 27** - Gosford City Brass Band; **May 27** – Neil Diamond Tribute; **May 30-31** Melbourne Comedy Festival Roadshow; **June 2-4** - The Chatroom; **June 6-10** - YIPA (Youth In Performing Arts). Every program features different performances from the cream of CC youth. **June 7** – The Patrick Brady Irish show (mat); **June 12-13** – Bell Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*

**MAD COW THEATRE CO: Brooks Ave, Wyoming. Bookings: 4328 4432**

Next Theatresports @ **May 27** – Maestro madness; **June 24** - Teams salute 60s TV. Book early.

**THE PENINSULA THEATRE, Cnr McMasters & Ocean Beach Rds.**

**30 June -16 July** - the *Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Directed by John Hickey.

(\*NB: For all bookings, except WWLT plays, call Laycock St on 4323. 3233)

**WOY WOY LITTLE THEATRE: Venue - Peninsula Theatre. Box office: 4344 4737.**

**Next production: 30 June -16 July** - the *Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Cast: Judi Jones, Margaret McGowan, Mike Jeffries and Damian Fitzpatrick. Book early to avoid disappointment.

**WYONG DRAMA GROUP: Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Ave: 4353 4353**

**Next Show** – August. *The (female) Odd Couple*. Table seating, BYO nibbles and drink.

**WYONG MUSICAL THEATRE CO: [www.wmtc.com.au](http://www.wmtc.com.au) Bookings: 1300 366470**

**June 2-10** – *Guys and Dolls*. **STRICTLY LIMITED TWO WEEK SEASON!**

**Do you know of an upcoming local production, audition or gig by a local artist that is not mentioned here? LET ED KNOW! All publicity is free!**



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