

The business end of the production line

Editor's note...

Consider Yourself – knackered!

Well, *Oliver* is in the middle of the season now and this weekend there will be not one but two extra shows on Sunday. At times like this I'd like to suggest to Mr King that he tries to garner some sponsorship from **V** or **Red Bull**, cos the cast certainly downs enough of them. The show has been very warmly received – with kudos to all of the cast, but a particularly rousing ovation every night is reserved for **Toni Williams'** for her gutsy performance as Nancy. Audiences are also in awe of Daryl Kirkness' amazing set. Well done all!



Toni being a bit of a Nancy

I've heard tremendous buzz about WWLT's *Mr Bailey's Minder*, with effusive praise for the cast and how well they portray the roller-coaster emotional journey of their characters. The show closes on Sunday Nov 4, so do yourself a favour and get down to the Peninsula Theatre to see this witty, gritty and very poignant play.

One of Bailey's cast members – **Darlene Cole** will hit the ground running when the show closes as she'll dive headlong into the organisation of next February's **V**Day celebration and directing the accompanying productions of *The Vagina Monologues*. As regular WHAT readers know – the inaugural **V**Day Wyong event last February raised \$12,000 for local women's shelters and legal aid, thanks to two sold-out performances of the play and the generosity of local sponsors. Next February will be something else again, with events to be held at both Gosford and Wyong with a full day of exhibits and performances – to be called **VIESTA** planned for the Wyong end of proceedings. See the auditions ad for information on how you can become involved. This is of particular interest to visual artists, writers, musicians and female actors of *all* ages – as the **V**iesta is calling on submissions from **female youth actor/writers** to perform their own written works and also requires the talents of one female actor in her 20s to perform a monodrama written by **Wendy Harmer**. By the way – **tickets for The Vagina Monologues go on sale November 1** for Laycock Street Theatre (Feb 4-5) and the end of November for Wyong Memorial Hall (Feb 15-16). With only two performances at each venue, be sure to get your tickets early. Ask anyone who saw it this year – you do NOT want to miss out! A sneak preview is being presented at the Cultural Laboratory on Nov 9.

Speaking of hot acts – **STC Wharf Revue** returns to LST Nov 6-7 (including one matinee) with *Beware of the Dogma*. These guys are an absolute crack up – and with an election looming, what better way to combat the hypocrisy and excess we're going to be inundated with in the coming weeks than with the sublime political satire these gifted comedic actors dish up. It just so happens that Laycock Street Theatre would like to give WHAT readers extra

SPECIAL OFFER!

incentive to see this great show with an **EXCLUSIVE TWO FOR ONE OFFER**. Call the LST box office now on 4323 3233 for your chance to buy two tickets to this great show for the price of one! Just say **WHAT!**

Don't say I never do anything for ya!

...Ed

HEADS



UP!

GO BACK TO THE FUTURE

CC CONSERVATORIUM PRESENTS: "Bach & Sons"

Gosford High School Sat, Nov 24 at 8pm

Celebrate the glorious music of Bach with the Central Coast Philharmonia. **Tickets:** \$25 Adults; \$20 Conc/Seniors; \$10 Children; \$60 Family. **Bookings:** 4324 7477

DON'T FORGET...

GMS' GALA 60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

CC LEAGUES CLUB, SAT NOV 17 AT 6.30.

Tickets: \$45 (members) or \$50. Includes drink, nibbles on arrival, three course meal and beer/wine/soft drink. **RVSP:** Purchase tickets at GMS Costumes by Nov 3. **Dress:** Black Tie. Entertainment provided.

SINGLE MINDEDLY HILARIOUS

In the classic Alan Ayckbourn comedy, *Absurd Person Singular*, three couples each host a Christmas party on three consecutive years, past, present and future. The up and coming Hopcrofts (anxious to impress their bank manager and his drunken wife and an architect neighbour and his suicidal wife) host a party. Sidney Hopcroft is clearly out of his social depth. Watch as the couples status changes from year to year in this hilarious play **Presented by Valley Artists from Nov 10-18 at Laguna Hall.** Details are at www.valleyartists.org Tickets and other queries to boxoffice@valleyartists.org or ring the hotline on 4998 3419.

CC THEATRESPORTS presents...



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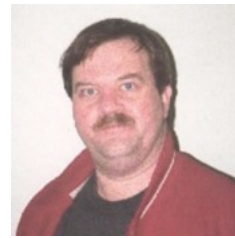
MR MCGEE and the BITING FLEA

NOV 22-23 at Laycock St Theatre

The elegant simplicity of Pamela Allen's enchanting repertoire of picture-book stories for children will be transformed into a theatrical storyfest featuring *Mr McGee*, *Alexander's Outing*, *Belinda*, *Brown Bread and Honey*, *Inside Mary Elizabeth's House* and *Mr McGee and the Biting Flea*. This show celebrates the possibilities of storytelling using the immediacy of theatre and the potential of children's imaginations. Final presentation of the 2007 subscriber season **BOOKINGS: 4323 3233**

SPOTLIGHT ON....

...**PETER DEANE**



How long have you lived on the coast? 42 years.

What is your day-job? Office Manager with Coastal Air Conditioning at West Gosford

When did you become involved in theatre? I used to do puppet shows and other stuff in primary school. Mum was a dancer and Dad was a magician, so it was in the blood. *(I think you can take shots for that – Ed)*

Where did you learn your craft? In 1979 a group of us at Gorokan High formed a theatre group. We'd meet after school for a few hours and we learnt a lot. Overall my main source of inspiration is Michael Green's "The Art of Course Acting".

Your first role? As a tree in Kindergarten. I didn't have any lines, however. *(Your kindy teacher told me your performance was really wooden, which I guess - in this case - means good).*



Favourite play/musical – in which you were involved? Alan Seymour's *The One Day of the Year* which I directed twice for Wyong Drama Group.

Favourite play/musical that you have seen? *Cats*.

What would be/has been your dream part? Humphrey Podmore in *Running Riot*. I didn't come on for about 25 pages, but there was such anticipation. It's great being the centre of attention without a huge number of lines to learn.

Favourite movie? *Goodfellas*. **TV show?** *Get Smart* and *The Bill*

Favourite actors? Tom Hanks & Meryl Streep.

Singers? Paul McCartney & Olivia Newton-John.

Favourite food? Mince steak and tomato sauce. *(And?)*

Ideal Saturday night? Staying at home in front of the telly with my wife.

Did a funny thing happen on the way to the theatre? Final dress rehearsal of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, I stopped in the car to go through my lines. After an hour I got out and put the script down on the roof of the car. I retraced my steps – it had stayed on the roof for at least two km!

WDG proudly presents **Eric Idle's first play, *Pass The Butler***, a very silly romp through the class system, with a murder mystery and a spot of gender-bending thrown in. Featuring a top cast including Duncan Mitchell (Best Actor at Central Coast Theatrefest) as 'The Butler'. It's a guaranteed fun filled night full of crazy Pythonesque humour. With a combination of table and tiered seating, patrons are encouraged to BYO to add to the party atmosphere. Season: Nov 8-17, Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Rd, Wyong. Tickets \$15 (Fri and Sat 8pm) and \$12 (Thurs 8pm, Sat 2pm). **Group discounts available**. Phone: **43534353**.

Kudos Korner...

Seen something you like? Write to Ed. *Letters may be edited for space & clarity.

Dear Ed

Ben is thrilled to be home - he has a new piano and is writing new songs - and is also in the process of producing his new film. All is well. He enjoyed his time at *Idol* but believes his time was up, so he could come home and still be Ben. He had a great profile and was well liked. He wanted to be more independent and more creative - rather than performing other peoples' songs each week. They canned the Originals Night this year and that was one of the main reasons he auditioned in the first place. He will always love his time in *Idol* - he has made some awesome friends and great contacts in the music industry, and has learned so much. Hopefully it won't be to long and you will be able to buy his first CD. Ben is still the same crazy Ben - just a little more focused on making a career out of what he does best - singing, movie making and art. Thank you all so much for all your support. PS. he will be at the ARIAS this Sunday night and also is back to *Idol* on November 14th to prepare for the Finals on November 25.



Lyn McKenzie

Dear Ed

Last week I went along to *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* - I get tired of people raving about every show that they ever go to - so often totally undeserved - HOWEVER Bottom Line Productions raised the bar so high with this production that something must be said. Anyone who is working on shows and dares to think that near enough is good enough had better jolly well think again after this amazing effort and that includes the Performing Arts students where I teach. *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* was a knockout. To all the other shows out there and that includes the crappy version of *COMPANY* that Kookaburra (our national music theatre company - ple-e-e-ze gimme a break) put on recently at the Theatre Royal my message is this - if you're not at least as good as the Bottom Line mob I'll be leaving early. **Ross S**

Dear Ed

Just a quick word about WWLT's *Mr Bailey's Minder*. This is an amazing production - possibly one of the most powerful I've seen for a long time. I had tears streaming down my face. The cast is fantastic. Congratulations to Brenda Logan and her brilliant cast.

Lois L

Dear Ed

Wyong Musical Theatre Company's latest adult/child production, *The Wizard of Oz* was certainly worth the visit. Some new faces made an appearance on stage with many favourable comments on the performances of Michael Manwaring, Daniel Travers and Les Besseny, with young Brooke Garvey, as Dorothy. The sets were innovative and overall it was a fun show.

Kerrie R

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AUDITIONS/EOI

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

After a brief hiatus, Quench Theatre announces auditions for William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to be produced at the Avoca Beach Theatre in March 2008. Proceeds from the performance will go to New Hope International which is a charity providing training for teachers in developing countries. Auditions on Mon 29 of Oct from 4.30 pm. For more information and to book a time for your audition please contact Rouba Elhage on 0413480458.

GMS PRESENTS 'ANNIE GET YOUR GUN' MARCH 2008

Director - Anne Hart, MD - Heidi Lambert, Choreographer – Karen Snook. Audition material will be available at GMS Costumes. Auditions on Monday Nov 5 and Tuesday Nov 6, with Weds reserved for callbacks. Rehearsals commence: Monday November 12. For info on the show have a gander: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annie_Get_Your_Gun_%28musical%29

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

VDay Wyong 2008 and VDay Gosford 2008, will stage two fundraising performances each of *The Vagina Monologues* at Laycock Street Theatre and Wyong Memorial Hall. Information Sunday Nov 11 from 2pm at The Grand Hotel, Wyong. It is highly recommended that you attend this information day if you wish to audition. **Auditions by appt only:** 7.30 Nov 20, 21 and 22 at Wyong Memorial Hall. **Performance dates: Feb 4-5 LST and Feb 15-16 WMH.** The information day is of interest to female actors (scripts available for perusal) as well as potential sponsors, beneficiaries, crew members, volunteers, visual artists, comedians and musicians for proposed **VIESTA**. For info, contact Darlene Cole: darlene_cole@aapt.net.au or ph: 0419236566 and visit: www.vday.org **'VIESTA' – SEEKING YOUNG ACTRESSES!**

Young women, 13-17 years are invited to write, devise and perform a monologue of up to 5 mins exploring the issues facing young women today. For further info, come to the above Info Day or contact Darlene. Also, seeking one female actor 25-30 for the internationally acclaimed monodrama - *What Is The Matter With Mary Jane?* by Wendy Harmer. It is a touching, hilarious and at times shocking play dealing with anorexia nervosa and bulimia.

MISCELLANEOUS

CINEMA SEATING FOR SALE – CHEAP!

The former owners of The Kincumber Ritz Cinema have 280 high back cinema seats for sale, some of which need recovering. There are 160 red cloth ones from cinema 2 and 120 grey vinyl from cinema 1 (with also some spares). They are only \$1 a seat. Contact Peter for more details 0407 905 014,

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CALENDAR...

BOTTOM LINE PRODUCTIONS @ AVOCA BEACH THEATRE: 4382 1677

NEXT PRODUCTION TBA visit: http://www.myspace.com/bottom_line_productions

CENTRAL COAST CONSERVATORIUM, MANN ST, GOSFORD - 4324 7477

Oct 28 – Happy Hands piano recital (2.30pm); **Nov 14** - Un Dia de Noviembre, guitar recital by Eric Cathan (7.30); **Nov 18** – Best Sax of My Life (2.30pm); **Dec 1** @ 3pm – The Trevor Haines and Frank Streather Scholarship, finalists. Followed by the Senior String Orchestra @ 5pm.

LAYCOCK STREET THEATRE: www.laycockstreet.com Box Office: 4323 3233.

Oct 12-Nov 3 – GMS' Oliver!; **Oct 26** - Grant Galea; **Nov 4** – CC Concert Band; **Nov 6-7** – Sydney Theatre Co. Wharf Revue – Beware of the Dogma; **Nov 7** – A Merry Mega-star's Christmas (mat); **Nov 9** – Ding Dong Downe – Denise Drysdale and Bob Downe; **Nov 18** – Gosford City Brass Band; **Nov 22-23** – Mr McGee and the Biting Flea; **Feb 4-5, 2008** – *The Vagina Monologues. Two performances only - tickets on sale from November 1*

MAD COW THEATRE: www.madcowtheatre.net Brooks Ave, Wyoming. 4328 4432

Oct 27 - Next Theatresports. Theme: Best o' British!

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

Nov 9 – The Cultural Laboratory – a variety of performance art presentations and community talks,

Oct 19-Nov 4 – WWLT presents: Mr Bailey's Minder, directed by Brenda Logan.

WOY WOY LITTLE THEATRE: www.wwlt.com.au Box office: 4344 4737.

Oct 19-Nov 4: *Mr Bailey's Minder*, directed by Brenda Logan. Tickets on sale Mon Oct 2

WYONG DRAMA GROUP: www.wyongdramagroup.com.au Ph: 4353 4353

Nov 8-17 – Eric Idle's hilarious play, Pass the Butler. Table and tiered seating. BYO nibbles/drink.

WYONG MEMORIAL HALL

Nov 8-17 – WDG presents Pass the Butler; **Feb 15-16 2008** – *The Vagina Monologues – two performances in Wyong only – tickets on sale end of November.*

WYONG MUSICAL THEATRE CO: www.wmtc.com.au Bookings: 1300 366 470

NEXT PRODUCTION TBA

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE INDIVIDUAL WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

RANDOM QUOTES #43

Chazz: The night is a very dark time for me.

Jimmy: It's dark for everyone, moron!

Chazz: Not for Alaskans or dudes with night-vision goggles.

Will Ferrell and Jon Heder – 'Blades of Glory'

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