

# WHAT E-NEWS

The unthinking person's 'Variety'

## Editor's Note

First up, a word about our local drama festivals. Wyong Drama Group wish to advise that - due to unforeseen circumstances, **Central Coast Theatrefest** is being pushed back a week, to be staged on Friday & Saturday July 2-3. Friday night's curtain-raiser is an opportunity to socialise, whilst being entertained by mini-performances from the drama academy 'Xtract' and Saturday features three sessions (nine x one-act plays in all) from 10am, 2pm and 6pm. All are given professional adjudication and the day culminates with an awards presentation an hour after the final play. Hot food, beverages and refreshments (tea, coffee, wine and beer) will be available throughout the day. Tickets - \$10 per session or \$25 for the full day's entertainment.

In other festival news, I received word this week that Gosford City Council will not be co-ordinating a local **Short and Sweet** event in 2010. Those of us who have enjoyed participating in this wonderfully inclusive local version of the international 10 minute play festival over the



past three years will undoubtedly be disappointed. One consolation is that Newcastle will be kicking off their own festival this year and Central Coast entrants are invited. Info on this event can be found at: <http://www.livesites.org.au/> you can email: [info@livesites.org.au](mailto:info@livesites.org.au) or phone 4925 3969. Meanwhile, you can get inspiration to write or act in this festival (or next year's Sydney festival) by heading to the Peninsula Theatre on June 25-26 to see the BEST of the Festivals over the past couple of years – as

the national tour of **SHORTER + SWEETER** is headed our way. Meanwhile, Gosford City Council assures us that it is committed to providing opportunities for people to participate and increase their skills in theatre. Apparently something new will fill the Short + Sweet void and as soon as I know what that is, I'll let you all know.

Last weekend saw me immersing myself in musical theatre! I snuck along to a final rehearsal of **Some Enchanted Evening** and got a great taste of the fun and nostalgia provided by the superb GMS' vocalists who wowed 'em in the Donnie last weekend. On Saturday I rocked out with the dream cast in **Leader of the Pack** and on Sunday I caught a matinee of WMTC's delightful **The Music Man** (which closes this Saturday night) so I really ran the gamut. We are truly blessed with fine performers here on the Coast and this phenomenon is partly due to the wonderful community support for Youth performers. Speaking of which – the annual **Youth in Performing Arts** (YiPA) showcases continue at Laycock St this weekend – so do yourself a favour and catch one of the final sessions.

*Till next time, keep your powder dry...*

Ed ☺

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# WHAT OP

## **The Threepenny Opera** is not an opera... It's a classic of Music Theatre!

Brecht's brilliant Music Theatre piece The Threepenny Opera is playing in the Hunter!

Mack the Knife is the anti-hero in this Jazzy, inspired piece.

**Cessnock, June 4-5 (Ph 4990 3174) and Newcastle Civic Playhouse, June 18- 20 (Ph: 4929 1977). For more details visit: [www.NFOpera.com.au](http://www.NFOpera.com.au)**

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Don't miss this fabulous opportunity!

## **Francine Bell's Presentation & Performance Workshop**

**6.30-9.30 PM TUES & WEDS JUN 8 & 9, DON CRAIG ROOM, LAYCOCK ST THEATRE**

New York born and raised, Francine Bell lectured in contemporary performance and presentation and was the first contemporary singing teacher in the history of the Uni of Newcastle's Conservatorium of Music. She's made many TV appearances; worked with Erana Clark (Vocal Director of Australian Idol) and had roles in movies such as *Matrix Revolutions* and *Superman Returns*. A consultant for the Talent Development Project in Australia (which has given us performers such as Paulini, Felicity Urquhart and Human Nature) Francine is sought after worldwide as a performer, teacher and motivational speaker. The Francine Bell Presentation & Performance Workshop is designed to build confidence in the areas of voice production, stage presence, microphone technique, selling a song, 'patter' and public speaking. Register on line [www.francinebell.com/workshop.html](http://www.francinebell.com/workshop.html) or ph: 1300 980072



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## **PEARL BEACH 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**Saturday and Sunday June 12-13 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm daily**

Pearl Beach Memorial Hall, 9 Diamond Road, Pearl Beach. Hall has wheelchair access and facilities. Ticket cost \$30 each performance, children (under 15) \$15. Refreshments available Bookings – 4343 1455. Proceeds to local community projects.

## **KANTARA HOUSE PRESENTS: A CHRISTMAS IN JULY CAROL**

Enjoy a winter feast and laugh your Dickens off, every Friday & Saturday night throughout July. This hilarious adaptation by Timothy Wilde, stars **Anthony Howes, Jess Vickers, Gareth Davis** and **Timothy Wilde**. Doors open at 6.15pm with the show beginning at 7pm. Two course meal and show \$55 per head - group discounts available. Bookings essential: 4369 1528.

**WW LT**  
General enquiries: 4341 2931  
Box Office: 4344 4737  
(Open 2 weeks prior to opening date)

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## Spotlight On...

### Patrice Horne



**How long have you been a Coastie?** In my heart, all my life but I spent a large chunk of time working in Sydney. I moved back 14 years ago to the street where I grew up.

**What is your day-job?** Mum/housewife/cook/cleaner...you know the drill. I'm also the Marketing/Publicity person for WWLT.

**What did you want to be when you grew up?** I wanted to work in television. I also wanted to be a singer/actor/dancer. I've done each in some fashion, some better than others.

**When did you become involved in theatre?** My parents, Bill and Pat Flynn are founding members of WWLT. The old Umina Progress Hall was my playground. I also took part in musicals with 'The Brisbane Water Theatre Company' back in the 70's.

**Where did you learn your craft?** We used to do 'Old Time Music Hall' type shows for anyone who wanted to fundraise. I was also a back-up singer with my sister Kerry in a band at Channel 7 called 'A Truckload of Pigs and the Hotsie Totsie Sisters'. My brother Brendon Flynn played keyboards. *(Oh how I wish you'd provided a picture with this info! Ed)*

**What was your first role?** 'The Princess' in *The Red Shoes*

**Favourite play/musical – in which you were involved?** *The Rocky Horror Show* with notables such as Carolyn McNamara, Steven McGrath, Michael Beckley et al. Ah those were the days. *(Indeed. Now no one can get the amateur rights to The RHS)*

**Favourite play/musical that you have seen?** Tie: *Cats*, *Les Miserables* and *Wicked*.

**What would be/has been your dream part?** Any part is a dream. I lost my confidence years ago. Last year I dared to step on stage in *Don't Drink the Water* in a non-speaking role. That was a dream because I didn't have to learn lines! I recently appeared in a play for WWLT's One Act Play Season and reprise that role at Theatrefest. Then I have a part in WWLT's *Operator* in July. Talk about jumping back into the deep end! *(I was just about to say that!)*

**Funniest moment in the Theatre?** When I kicked the lid of a grand piano whilst doing a cartwheel in the can-can and it slammed shut! Darn those long legs and yes it did hurt.

**Best/Worst movies you ever saw?** I like all the fantasy type movies, *Harry Potter*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Avatar* etc. Oh and *Come with Me Fly...* a short film produced here, on which I was production assistant. *(Don't be modest! You also played a great "woman on bench" too!)*

**Favourite TV show?** *Masterchef*, *The Good Wife*, *V* and of course *Dr Who*.

**Favourite actors?** Cate Blanchett, Johnny Depp. **Favourite books?** Don't read that many books...last one was a *Harry Potter*. **Favourite singers?** Pink, Missy Higgins, Idena Mendez and the band 'Mind Priorities' in which my nephews Liam and Daniel Scarratt play.

**Favourite quote?** 'Yesterday is history, tomorrow's a mystery, today is a gift that's why it's called the present.' *(I guess that about wraps it up)*

**Who do you think should play you in a movie about your life?** Cate Blanchett because she is a bit humble, very grounded and she'll give anything a go.

**Finish the sentence "If only I could..."** Go back in time and not have been so shy. I would love to have taken sing lessons so I could be in another musical. *(If we could turn back time!)*

**PATRICE RETURNS TO THE BOARDS IN THE DELIGHTFUL 'WHO'S ON THE COUCH'  
WRITTEN BY WWLT REGULAR, PENNY DILWORTH AT CENTRAL COAST  
THEATREFEST AT WYONG MEMORIAL HALL ON SATURDAY JULY 3 AND THEN  
FEATURES IN WWLT'S NEXT PRODUCTION DAVID WILLIAMSON'S 'OPERATOR' AT  
THE PENINSULA THEATRE FROM JULY 23. FOR MORE INFO SEE PAGE 5**

# FEEDBACK

*\*Letters may be edited for space & clarity.*

## **Dear Ed**

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed **Poetica** at the East Gosford Regional Art Gallery last weekend. I found the performances unusual, beautiful and moving and the gallery and its gardens provided a perfect setting. Congratulations to everyone involved. I hope Gosford Council will continue to support innovations of this kind. **Karen R**

## **Dear Ed**

My husband and I saw **Hot Chips** at Kantara House on Friday night – Lee Gaynor and her cast were amazing - such real characters. The play has a great story line - had us all captured by the plot and energy of the cast. I caught my husband having a great chuckle a number of times. Congratulations. **Vera**

## **Dear Ed**

Now that you have seen **Leader of the Pack** I suspect you will agree that the only thing that could have been better with the legendary previous run of LotP was the venue. Saw it again on Fri night (for the third time) and they were spot on the mark. If I were to highlight anyone it would be to elevate them over 100% and I could be tempted to do it with Suzanne and Elyse possibly because they were first timers for me and were great. I thought the dramatic song when Ellie was losing it was beautifully done by the talented Miss Gleeson. I could easily keep going back. WELL DONE MIPA what's next? **Wasa D**

*( I agree, the tiered seating at Laycock is more ideal, but the sound levels were fabulous and I got to dance in the aisles so I was pretty happy. It was what it was, and what it was, was spectacular – Ed)*

## **Dear Ed**

I was lucky enough to see **Some Enchanted Evening** on Saturday night. It was fantastic! Everyone I spoke to was keen to see more of the same sort of thing. **Richard G**

## **AUDITIONS/WORKSHOPS**

### **WOY WOY LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS 'A SPIDER'S WEB' BY AGATHA CHRISTIE**

Director Denise Main is looking for 11 cast members comprising seven males and four females with diverse roles suiting a wide variety of ages. Rehearsals are two nights each week from July to October. Auditions 7.30 pm on Wednesday June 30 and Thursday July 1 at the Peninsula Theatre, McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Please note that you'll need to be available for the production dates which will be October 29 to November 14. Enquiries – Denise Main 4342 2897

### **WYONG MUSICAL THEATRE CO. presents... 'BYE BYE BIRDIE' (SEPT/OCT)**

Auditions will be held June 6 from 1pm and June 7 from 7pm at Wyong Memorial Hall. There are roles for all ages from adults to kids, especially teenagers! For more information contact Bec Stewart: [rebecca@wmtc.com.au](mailto:rebecca@wmtc.com.au) or 0438 200 860; or Amanda Daniel: [amanda@wmtc.com.au](mailto:amanda@wmtc.com.au) or 0422 033 090.

### **ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY THEATRE (ACT) PRESENTS 'STAGECRAFT 2010'**

A.C.T. is excited to announce details of the seventh State Conference of Community Theatre to be held at NIDA on the weekend of July 24 and 25. A dynamic weekend of artistic and technical workshops is planned for those who tread the boards and those who work off stage. The highlight on the programme is the dinner on the Saturday evening where members are inducted into the Hall of Fame. This year's Key Note Speaker is Musical Theatre identity Simon Gallagher. Nancye Hayes once again features among the tutors. The conference is to individuals or groups representing community theatre organisations. Ask your local community theatre group if they are a member of the ACT and if you can join their contingent. Fee includes lunches and dinner. The full programme of events and nomination forms for the Hall of Fame can be downloaded at [http://www.showline.com.au/html/community\\_theatre.html](http://www.showline.com.au/html/community_theatre.html)

## **\*COMING ATTRACTIONS\*\*\***

**PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES FOR THE LATEST SHOWTIMES**

### **CENTRAL COAST CONSERVATORIUM**

Check full programme at: <http://centralcoastconservatorium.com.au/>

**CENTRAL DANCE COMPANY:** [www.centraldancecompany.org](http://www.centraldancecompany.org)

### **GOSFORD MUSICAL SOCIETY**

**WIZARD OF OZ** Junior (July School Holidays) **BOY FROM OZ**, JULY/AUG; **ANYTHING GOES** OCT/NOV. Web: [www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com.au](http://www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com.au) Box Office: 4323 3233. Venue: Laycock Street Theatre, Laycock Street, North Gosford.

**KANTARA HOUSE** [www.kantarahouse.com.au](http://www.kantarahouse.com.au)

**A CHRISTMAS IN JULY CAROL** – Friday and Saturday evenings throughout July.

### **WOY WOY LITTLE THEATRE INC**

**OPERATOR** by David Williamson (July 23-Aug 8) Website: [www.woywoylt.com.au](http://www.woywoylt.com.au) Venue: The Peninsula Theatre, Cnr MacMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Box office opens July: 4344 4737.

### **WYONG DRAMA GROUP:**

**HARP ON THE WILLOW** – August 12-21 Web: [www.wyongdramagroup.com.au](http://www.wyongdramagroup.com.au) Venue: Wyong Memorial Hall, Anzac Ave, Wyong. Box office opens July: 4353 4353

### **WYONG MUSICAL THEATRE CO**

**THE MUSIC MAN** May 28-June 5. Web: [www.wmtc.com.au](http://www.wmtc.com.au) Venue: Wyong Memorial Hall. Box office: 1300 366 470.

More info about Ed at: <http://ccenews.tripod.com>

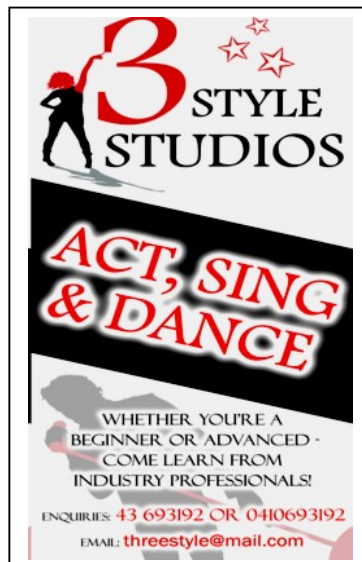
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