

# WHAT E-NEWS

Your rest-stop on the information superhighway

## *Editor's Note*

**Winter has me in its grip...**sang Don McLean. As I write this we're enjoying some pretty glorious weather after all that rain. When the sun's out it can be as cold as it wants to as far as I'm concerned – nothing can dampen my enthusiasm for clear blue skies on a winter's day. The view from my ivory tower up here in the hills of Wyoming is bathed in a beautiful golden glow. Mind you - theatre also has me in its grip, which is why I'm feeling particularly chipper today. I'm absolutely beside myself to be taking part in rehearsals for a truly beautiful play with Wyong Drama Group at the moment; **Harp On the Willow**, by John Misto. Rehearsals are a sheer joy – even in winter - when you are as in love with the material as I am. So if you see me on the street and I've got a dreamy smile on my face – that's why. I'm completely inspired. Actually, speaking of being out and about, I'd really like to thank the people that I've been bumping into lately who take the time to say thanks for this newsletter. It's really appreciated. Life behind a computer monitor can be somewhat of a vacuum. People don't send in their feedback all that often so when it's expressed to me face to face – it's especially gratifying. So thank YOU.

There's much cool stuff brewing for July! GMS Juniors' **The Wizard of Oz** due to open in a mere two and a half weeks and then WWLT presents David Williamson's **Operator**. But before that – **Theatrefest** happens on July 3 at Wyong Memorial Hall. I'm having the year off from competing this year so I'm really looking forward to just relaxing and enjoying the day's programme of nine, diverse, one-act plays.

I'm also very excited about **Shorter + Sweeter** coming to the Peninsula Theatre next week – as I've been having Short Play withdrawals. I've already seen a couple of the plays that make up the nine 'best of the festival' which have been touring the country and I'm looking forward to seeing them again. They are all original amusing and thought-provoking pieces, by Australian writers, presented by a strong and versatile cast. This is *State of the Art* in the truest sense.

I had my work cut out for me editing this week's Spotlight, as you'll see on page 3...and 4! However the beauty of having sole control over this newsletter is I can fit things in any way I please. (*But I don't let all that power go to my head...honest!*) The immediacy of the internet also means that you can contact me literally at the very last minute to tell me about your upcoming event and I can usually find space to squeeze it in. I do my utmost include as much relevant information as I can, but I need you to keep me informed, so keep those press releases coming. ***Till next time, enjoy the sun while it's shining...*** (Yes, that was a metaphor)

Ed ☺

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# WHAT UP

## This Month at The Happy Herb Shop Erina...

Poetry by Suzie Palmer with Gregory Cole; Art Space by Stephanie Gregory & MaYanya;  
Fire twirling with Bec & Brad; Live Music with Tim Orgias and much more.

**Sunday June 20@4pm for a 4.30 start, shop 2/220 The Entrance Rd.**

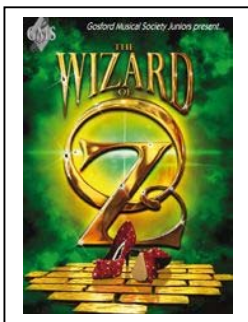
\$5 Adults - children free. PLEASE RSVP: 02 4365 4571; 0415 207887; 0425 213 544.

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*Evolutionary Enterprises (Gabriella Salmon) Presents...*

## ~\*~\*~\* THE SOUND GARDEN \*~\*~\*~

A space to explore voice, rhythm, song and the magic of sound. If you've always wanted to sing but have been told you 'can't' then maybe it's time to try something different. Using body and vocal percussion, toning, group songs and soundscapes and a host of quirky games the aim is to create a 'garden' in which our vocal expressive selves are free to play; and our listening, knowing selves are free to grow. Usually on the first Sunday of every month – by popular demand there will be one this Sunday, June 20 from 11am at The Rhythm Hut, (the red, orange and purple building) Erina St Gosford. Only \$10. For information contact facilitator Gabriella Salmon: 0418259224



### GMS JUNIORS PRESENTS **WIZARD OF OZ**

**6-10 July, Laycock St Theatre.**  
10.30 Tues-Sat & 7.30 Thurs-Sat .  
**ALL TICKETS ONLY \$16.**  
**DON'T MISS OUT: 4323 3233**

### CCSO SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT 2

**2.30 Sun, June 27 Laycock St Theatre**


Program includes Sibelius Symphony No 2  
and Concerto for Harmonica and Orchestra

Conductor: **Christopher Bearman**  
Soloist: **Christian Marsh**

Credit Card bookings: 4324 7477

WWLT PRESENTS... **OPERATOR** BY DAVID WILLIAMSON  
July 23 – Aug 8, Peninsula Theatre, Woy Woy.

A power-hungry corporate executive is on the rise. He'll do anything he can to succeed regardless of the impact on the people around him or the company for which he works. Directed by **Christine Vale** and featuring a fabulous cast: **Paul Russell, Greg Buist, Bob Farmer, Sara Kelly, Liz Greiner** and **Patrice Horne**. Fri/Sat @ 8pm; Sun 2pm. \*Extra Sat Matinee Aug 7. Bookings 43444737.



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

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## Spotlight On...

### Timothy Wilde



**How long have you been a Coastie?** I'm born and bred. **What is your day-job?** Writer.

**What did you want to be when you grew up?** An astrophysicist. (*D'oh - so close! - Ed*)

**When did you become involved in theatre?** At 20 I had a post pubescent crisis. Realising I'd be investing entire my life into a job, I figured I had better love it. I was a nurse at the time. I asked myself, "What do I love?" The answer was *Star Trek*. I started acting lessons.

**Where did you learn your craft?** Hanni Witt introduced me to the art of acting. I then studied it at the now defunct Ensemble Studios with Hayes Gordon just before he died. Spent 18 months studying drama at Newcastle Uni and eventually finished a Master's in Screen Writing at AFTRS mentored by Billy Marshall-Stoneking. I learn more now from the people who attend my lectures at Metroscreen and my drama students here in Gosford than any institution or class.

**What was your first role?** In year six I performed 'The Voice of Jack' in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, (we all had to have a role). The first proper role I landed was in The Fringe Theatre Company's production of *Two Weeks with The Queen*. Whatever happened to that little company? (*Beats me.*)

**Favourite play/musical – in which you were involved?** *The Harlequin Shuffle* with Central Coast Theatre Company out at The Hangar at Ourimbah. Dave Kerlake created this amazing cartoon-like circus wagon set out of...*stuff*. They were great times. It was a group of people creating thought-provoking theatre of a professional standard simply because they loved it. The Coast lost a valuable cultural asset when CCTC wrapped up. (*I wish I'd been there*)

**Favourite play/musical that you have seen?** I can't remember the title, but it was a play I saw a few years back with Ian McKellen in it as part of the Sydney festival. I met him afterwards and we talked about *The Hobbit*. I enjoyed his attention until my handsome friend Steve Hirst stole it; then everyone else seemed invisible.

**What would be/has been your dream part?** Batman, but unfortunately my body type isn't right to be the Dark Knight. (*Dude, isn't it all about the suits?*)

**Funniest moment in the Theatre?** The most recent was with Anthony Howes, in the audience for GMS's production of *Cats*. We were in the front row admiring the form-fitting costumes, when a couple of the Cats leapt off the stage. One of them whacked Anthony on the knees with a cloth sack, then she whacked me - but her aim was off. I copped one in the plums - from a dancing cat!

**Best/Worst movies you ever saw?** Hmm...tough question. Best crafted? Worst made? What films I connect with emotionally? I'll go with that; the former will turn into a droll essay on the art of film making and end with me bitching about the Australian film industry. *Dark knight, Avatar, Goodfellas, Sin City, Taxi Driver, Star Wars* (Eps IV-VI) all changed me. (*I was kind of hoping for the former, then I could have remarked, "how droll". I've always wanted to say that*)

**Favourite TV show?** I adore television. I worship great television. *Breaking Bad* is some of the best television ever made. *True Blood* is my fantasy world. I love all *Star Trek* except for the series *Enterprise*; I just pretend it never happened.

**Favourite actors?** I have a massive man-crush on Ryan Reynolds and I sinfully covet his wife Scarlet Johansson. (*Who doesn't?*)

**Favourite book?** I'm addicted to comic books. I also love everything by Tolkien, Oscar Wilde, Edgar Allan Poe and Alan Moore. One single book? *Watchmen* by Alan Moore.

**Cont'd...**



The bewitching Stephen Hirst. Look away, while you still can.

**Favourite singers** Again, there are so many. Right now The Snowdroppers' album *Too Late to Pray* is the soundtrack to my life. My favourite singer right now is Jess Vickers. Those who've heard her sing know the power and majesty this young woman commands over an audience. Those that haven't, need to come to Kantara House and see her before we lose her to Broadway.

**Favourite quote?** Depends how I feel. As I write this the quote "forte est vinum fortier est rex fortiores sunt mulieres super omnia vincit veritas" comes to mind. (*That's easy for you to say*)

**Who do you think should play you in a movie about your life?** Me. Written by me with David Mamet and David Goyer; directed by James Cameron. It would also star Bruce Spence playing my tormented gay friend Anthony Howes, Mark Hamill as Gareth Davis and Mary-Kate Olsen as Jess Vickers. Oh yeah, Scarlett would be my nymphomaniac fiancé, and my Kramer-esque neighbour Todd Keys would be played by Brad Pitt. (*Normally I don't allow the 'me' answer but due to the creativity of your embellishment – I'll allow it*)

**Finish the sentence "If only I could..."** If only I could I probably would and then I'd know I can. *Unless I couldn't in which case I wouldn't and I'd die a boring old man.* (boom boom!)

**GIVEN THAT MANY OF MY INTERVIEWEES ARE PEOPLE OF FEW WORDS, I WAS RELUCTANT TO TRIM TIM'S THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTION DOWN TO ONE PAGE. TIM IS PREPARING FOR 'THE HOLIDAYS' WHEN HE AND SOME OF HIS BEST AND MOST TALENTED FRIENDS PRESENT THE CRAZY**

**A CHRISTMAS IN JULY CAROL**  
(AND HE'S NOT EXAGGERATING ABOUT MISS VICKERS. IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN AUSTRALIA'S ANSWER TO KRISTIN CHENOWITH PERFORM – DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR!)

\*Every Friday & Saturday night in July. 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.

**FEEDBACK**

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

**Dear Ed**

Congratulations to Wyong Musical Theatre Company on *The Music Man*. What a fun show! I was very impressed with **Steve Killeen** and **Kathryn Peterson** as Howard and Marion and the fabulous orchestra. It was a joy to see such a diverse range of ages in the cast and clearly everyone was having so much fun. WMTC should be very proud. **Dianne R.**

## **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

### **GMS JUNIORS PRESENTS – BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

Information night – Friday July 23 @ 5.30 in the GMS shed, beside Laycock St Theatre. Auditions will be held on August 8. Ensemble/Dancers: from 9am-12pm. Principals from 1pm BY APPOINTMENT. More auditions on August 9 from 6pm for those who cannot make it on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Callbacks on Aug 10. Audition material will be available at the information night and on the website later this month. All enquiries should be directed to the Production Manager: Chris Cox on 43244109 or 0408 704 053

## **\*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 6-10; **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:**

**HOSTING THEATREFEST, SATURDAY JULY 3 – THREE SESSIONS COMMENCING AT 10AM. Next - 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**

**BYE BYE BIRDIE. Sept.** 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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\*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. All notices are welcome but preference is given to community theatre and charitable organisations.

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