

# Limelight Letter



**The stunning cast of "Quartet"**  
Gino Cataldo, Sue Marsh, Chris Juckes, Susan Vincent



## PRESIDENT'S SPOT

*Hello members and friends*

*So glad you've all been enjoying these interim news letters, I've certainly enjoyed bringing them to you. I've particularly liked my trip down memory lane with past productions and photographs, and, yes, there's more in store in this issue!*



*“Quartet” is our priority when the world returns to the way we used to view it and this play will be staged at the Limelight Theatre as soon as we're given the go ahead. Unfortunately, we don't know whether that will take 2 months or 6 months. The set is in place and ready to receive its final touches, the cast still 'meet' via electronic means once a week to keep it fresh and they are eager to return as soon as possible. Everyone is keen to share this production with our members and friends—we just don't know when!*

*Our plans for future productions remain unsure. Whether all of the planned seasons for 2020 will eventuate this year or next remains to be discussed at committee and with the directors. But as soon as these details are finalised, we will publish a revised calendar so that you too can plan your Limelight Theatre year!*

*So, in the meantime, as I mentioned in the previous issue we will still try to keep doing what we are allowed to do in the theatre. The auditorium seating, some of which was removed whilst the new lighting bar was installed, has been replaced thanks to Wally, Malcolm and newer member of the Task Force—Vince Haines. Joan, Julie and myself spent some enjoyable time removing everything from the dressing rooms so that they can be repainted following the installation of new wash basins, counters and mirrors. (Yes, we are observing physical distancing during these activities.) And the wardrobe culling continues—shoes were the focus last in the last couple of weeks—some retained, some put aside to go to the recycle shops and some to the bin!*

*Shelley*

## THE 80'S CONTINUE!



1985



"Hotel Paradiso"

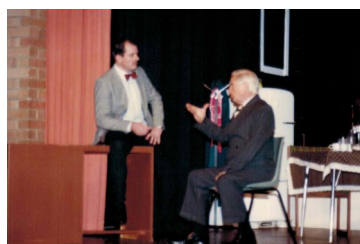
"Fame & Fortune:"



"The Anniversary" & "Toad of Toad Hall:"



From 1988—"Fiddler on the Roof" & "Bard"



In 1989 "The Secretary Bird" & "Death of a Salesman"



"South Pacific" was the first production staged in the "Limelight Theatre" in 1989



And rounding out that year was a comedy, "Why Me?" and a pantomime—"Humpty Dumpty"



1986 was a very busy year with the following productions -  
3 one-act plays—"Crimson Coconut", "Day of Atonement" & "The Vacancy"  
"Dusa, Fish, Stas & Vi", a drama, directed by Richard Evans  
"Company B Blues" a variety show, directed by Brian Lovre  
"Pass the Butler" a comedy, directed by Ian Anderson  
"Every Other Evening", a comedy, directed by John Mager  
And, "The Wizard of Oz". Which starred renowned Australian actress Lisa McCune  
aged 15, directed by George Dickinson.

1987 also began with 3 one-act plays

"George", "The Good and Faithful Servant" and "Dark Brown"  
then came the musical "Dracula Spectacular", directed by Linda Masterman,  
the comedy "Billy Liar", directed by Tom Brandwood and the traditional end of year  
pantomime, "Cinderella" written and directed by Lorna Lofthouse with original music  
by Robin Silver.

*In case you wondered why I haven't included any photos of 1986 and 1987, the photo  
albums for those years seem to have disappeared! If anyone knows whereabouts,  
please let me know so that I can feature memories from those years and then return the  
albums to the office.*

#### A LITTLE LIMELIGHT HISTORY

Building the Limelight Theatre that we know was quite an undertaking and many of us who now enjoy using it may not be aware of the planning and work that brought it to fruition.

The "Theatre Shed", that I mentioned in the previous newsletter, had deteriorated to the point where a new home was desperately needed—flooding under the doors, insects crawling in and out of the piano, and perpetual vandalism which wrecked properties and the script library. The Civic Centre was never really a suitable theatre venue either, with poor acoustics, no heating and being shared with a variety of other community groups. Fortunately, there was a member who had heard of a Commonwealth Employment program—a scheme devised to give training and employment to long-term unemployed people—and he suggested that building a community theatre would be an ideal project. A building committee was formed and negotiations continued.

In 1985, approaches were made to various city councilors and local government departments of the day and several major business were solicited for sponsorship, unfortunately without success. However, the committee were not deterred and eventually managed to gain the support of the Shire who offered the land and their technical expertise for the project.

Members rallied and eventually the first stage of the theatre was completed. Initially there existed an auditorium, stage, dressing rooms and toilets for both cast and audience. The foyer that we enjoy today was not built until the second stage—the auditorium door was, at that time the front door access to the theatre, and the tiny cupboard under the stairs acted as the bar and tea/coffee servery!

There is much more to relate—tall tales and true! But I thought I would just give readers a taste of our bygone history.

The full history of the formation of the Club, building the theatre and many delightful anecdotes can be read in full in a publication written by Brenda Redding, founding member, called "Lights Up!". If you are interested contact one of the committee if you'd like to borrow a copy of this book.

## Answers to the 2nd April issue quizzes

### PART ONE—WHICH FILM ...

1. 16 going on 17
2. They all have songs about money
3. Meet me in St Louis
4. The King and I
5. Annie
6. Pal Joey or Babes in Arms
7. The Sound of Music
8. West Side Story
9. The King and I
10. Oklahoma
11. Calamity Jane
12. Baltimore

### PART TWO—WHICH MUSICAL, WHICH CHARACTER?

1. "Chicago" - Velma
2. "Les Miserables" - Grantaire
3. "The Sound of Music" - Maria
4. "Cats" - Grizabella
5. "Hairspray" - Tracy Turnball
6. "Les Miserables" - Cosette
7. "Chicago" - Squish
8. "Annie" - Burt Healey
9. "The Sound of Music" - Maria
10. "Mamma Mia" - Sophie
11. "Wizard of Oz" - Dorothy
12. "Phantom of the Opera" - Christine & Raoul

*How did you go? 24/24 maybe?! There will be more quizzes in subsequent newsletters—watch this space!*

The quiz for this issue is all about William Shakespeare - test your knowledge!

General knowledge -

1. Where was Shakespeare born?
2. What was the name of Shakespeare's wife?
3. How many sonnets did Shakespeare write?
4. What is the name of Shakespeare's theatre?
5. Where is Shakespeare buried?
6. Which is the shortest of Shakespeare's plays?
7. Which is the longest of Shakespeare's plays?

Which plays are these quotes from?

8. "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."
9. "If music be the food of love, play on."
10. "The course of true love never did run smooth."
11. "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown"
12. "To thine own self be true."

Answers in the next newsletter issue.

## **YOUR CURRENT COMMITTEE AND THEATRE MANAGERS**

**PRESIDENT—Shelley McGinn  
([president@limelighttheatre.com.au](mailto:president@limelighttheatre.com.au))**

**VICE PRESIDENT—Jane Anderson**

**SECRETARY—Richard Tudge**

**TREASURER—Mike Gibbs**

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Julie Clark—Maintenance Manager**

**Carol Binks—Publicity & Marketing**

**Paul King—Sound Manager**

**Kathleen Del Casale**

**Karen Murray**

**Ashlee Torrens**

### **NON-COMMITTEE**

**Bookings & Membership—Patrick McGinn**

**Front of house—RJ Smolders**

**Wardrobe—Joan Braskic**

### **FOR BOOKINGS**

**phone—0499 954 016**

**(Mon, Wed & Fri 9 -12)**

**Or on line -**

**[www.limelighttheatre.com.au](http://www.limelighttheatre.com.au)**