**In The Wings**  
**a monthly glance at the Wagga School of Arts Community Theatre**

**FEBRUARY 2013**

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| **February Fundays**  SoACT’s first show for 2013 will be John Galsworthy’s *The First and the Last*, a short suspenseful mystery, to be staged in the Basement Theatre each Sunday in February - February 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th at 3pm.  Directors will be Louise and Dennis Blackett, with the cast of three featuring senior actors from Louise’s Theatre Workshop.  Dylan Dukes-Grenfell, Nicholas Papasidero and Lili Blackett are making a quick change in characters and time after leading roles in the January school holiday performances of *Aladdin*.  The production gives audiences a chance to enjoy a play from one of Britain’s classic writers – among Galsworthy’s works is the well-known *The Forsythe Saga*. At the same time it showcases the talents of up-and-coming young actors.  Ticket price is just $10 and afternoon tea will be provided after each performance.  So set aside a February Sunday afternoon for this tantalising start to SoACT’s 2013 program of entertainment.  ***BELOW: Dylan Dukes-Grenfell, Lili Blackett and Nicholas Papasidero prepare to step from Aladdin’s cave to John Galsworthy’s play.***    **2013 – a year of entertainment with SoACT**  A program of variety promises plenty of entertainment for audiences this year.  **February Fundays – *The First and the Last* by John Galsworthy**  February 3, 10, 17, 24 at 3pm in the Basement Theatre  Two people fall in love and would be happy but for the fact that they are faced with a crime they have committed.  ***Calendar Girls* by Caroline Kennedy**  April 11-14; April 18-21 at 8pm in the Basement Theatre. **WATCH FOR CALL FOR AUDITIONS.**  Two friends come up with an unusual fund-raising activity for their local hospital – a calendar featuring members of the local English Women’s Institute without their clothes!  (Sponsored by Pavilion Boutique Hotel and Apartments)  **Ten x 10 Theatre Gold Play Fest**  June 7, 8, 9 at the Nathan Room, Wagga Commercial Club  An exciting selection of plays from local and regional writers in our fifth year presenting this popular short play festival.  (Sponsored by Riverina Water)  **August Month of Sundays – *Hay Fever* by Noel Coward**  August 4, 11, 18, 25 at 3pm in the Basement Theatre  Inimitable comedy from Noel Coward as the eccentric Bliss family torments a group of unsuspecting visitors over a lost weekend.  (Sponsored by Rules Club Wagga Wagga)  **October Surprise**  October 3-6; 10-11-13 at 8pm in the Basement Theatre.  Topical revue returns to the Basement with a new look at local, national and world events.  +++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++  Committee member Bob Hitchens and his wife Sue, join Aussie ranks at the Australia Day citizenship ceremony.  Congratulations!  This year’s Walk of Honour plaque in Wagga’s main street has been awarded to our long-time member and friend, June Dunn.  A nomination for recognition of June’s achievements and contributions to Wagga’s cultural life was submitted by SoACT, and at the announcement during the Australia Day Ceremony on 26 January, the certificate was accepted by June’s niece, Pat Macdonald.  June, who died in 2009, gave more than 50 years of service to local cultural activities, including SoACT, the Riverina Theatre Company, Wagga Shakespeare Club, the Golden Gown Committee and many others.  A ceremony to unveil a plaque in the main street will be held in a few months’ time, on a date to be set.  This honour follows our planting of a tree dedicated to June at the rear of the Civic Theatre last August.  BELOW: SoACT President, Nancy Blacklow, June’s niece Pat Macdonald, and committee member, Fay Walters, all smiles with the official certificate.    -------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------  **BELOW:** An excited audience in the Basement Theatre recently when about 50 children from a day care program got up close with the cast of Children’s Theatre Workshop show, Aladdin. Fun for all. | ***President’s Corner***  Welcome to 2013 at SoACT.  As you’ll see in this newsletter we are planning a great line-up of shows through the year, beginning next weekend with our February Fundays and moving right through the year to our October end-of-year offering which promises something a little different for players and audiences. (see page 2)  2013 is also a significant year for theatre in Wagga generally.  Fifty years ago on 29 June 1963, the Civic Theatre was officially opened, giving various local groups a sizeable, comfortable and well-equipped performance space after previous venues included school and church halls.  As noted in the December issue of this newsletter, Wagga School of Arts Community Theatre group had a major interest in the birth of the Civic Theatre, having sold its main street assets and handing over more than 57,000 pounds as a major contribution towards construction of the theatre. It is only fitting, therefore, that we will be working towards being part of the June celebrations with a date set aside for a show on one night, so giving us a long-awaited return to the Civic Theatre stage.  I hope members will join us in all our endeavours this year to make 2013 a significant and enjoyable time.    Planning is well under way for the annual Ten x 10 Play Fest to be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 7,8 and 9 2013.  For the second successive year, the play fest will be held in the Nathan Room at the Wagga Commercial Club and SoACT is grateful for the continuing generosity and support for this event from the Wagga RSL/Commercial Clubs management.  The call late last year for ten-minute plays brought in an amazing 56 entries and our three assessors are currently reading through these entries. Many thanks to all the writers who submitted scripts.  With the selections expected to be finalised late in February, we are now seeking directors interested in taking up a play. If you are interested please let us know at the Office, phone 69212594 or email [contact@soact.com.au](mailto:contact@soact.com.au) or Tenx10 production manager, Fay Walters, email [faygwalters@bigpond.com](mailto:faygwalters@bigpond.com)  Also make a note of the date for the official launch of the Play Fest - Thursday 16 May at 7pm in the R J Hall Room, Wagga Commercial Club.  Because of the 50th anniversary of the Wagga Civic Theatre this year, the Ten x 10 Play Fest will be under the banner of Theatre Gold. **We are delighted to welcome Riverina Water as the naming rights sponsor for the 2013 festival.**  **What’s On**  *The First and The Last*. Basement Theatre, February 3, 10, 17, 24 at 3pm  Vivaldi, Bach, Mozart. Civic Theatre 7 February.  Don’t Shoot Me – I’m only the piano player. Civic Theatre 14 February .  Tripod Civic Theatre 16 February.  Wagga Antiques Society Show and Tell of members’ collections. ARCC Hall, Tarcutta Street, 15 February.  Wagga Antiques Society - 4 Societies Dinner. Sportsmen’s Hotel, Kincaid Street, 7 March.  David Strassman Civic Theatre 11  March.  xxxxxxXXXxxxxxx  **The next Committee Meeting will be on Monday, 11 February, at 7.30 pm in the Basement Theatre.**  **All members are invited to attend.**  **Best wishes from the Committee:**  President: Nancy Blacklow  Secretary: Vacant  Treasurer: Margaret Bannister  Committee members: Tony Trench, Fay Walters. Jan Farndale, Jackson Balme and Bob Hitchens.  xxxxxxXXXxxxxxx |