

Just Chatting



Bringing the best of community theatre to the Coffs Coast and Region

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Mum's the Word Teenagers!

Be afraid... be very afraid! This rowdy crowd of soccer mums is about the nicest these mums get.

Yes, they've all got something to say about the teen years. You remember them? The times when you went from being the 'best-mum-in-the-world' (as stated on a dishwasher-safe china mug) to the moment when you became 'stupid', despite the fact that you had managed to raise that amazing young person who just scored a Band 6 in English quite successfully.

MTW Teenagers is a great show filled with funny sketches, crazy dance routines, superheroes, sing-a-long songs and so much more.

The show opens on Wednesday 8 April, 8pm. Be there for a wonderful evening's entertainment... and don't forget to tell all your friends to come along, too.



The Soccer Mums are

Back row: Alison Turner

Middle Row (L-R): Arlene Cole, Marilyn Filewood, Becky Cole, Wendy Jeffery

Front Row (L-R): Vanessa Crossley, Karolyn Gibson

Come along and cheer them on!

Performance Dates and Times

Jetty Memorial Theatre, Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour

8pm performances: Wed 8 April, Fri 10 April, Sat 11 April, Wed 15 April (all tix \$20), Fri 17 April, Sat 18 April

2pm performances: Sun 12 April (all tix \$20), Sun 19 April

Standard ticket prices: Adult \$25, Concession \$22 + JMT Booking Fee

Tel JMT Box Office on **02-6652 8088** or book online at the JMT website: www.jettytheatre.com.au

Thanks to all our new members and renewing members

Thank you so much for renewing your CHATS Membership for 2015. It means a lot to the folks on the committee and the casts and crews of our shows that you support our efforts by doing so. And thanks also to a few brand new members in 2015... Welcome!

As you know, we try to make decisions based on what you, our members, most want to see happen in your community theatre group. That means we are always happy to hear from you. Thus, if you have a project, or an idea, or a play that you would like to see produced, please tell us about it - don't be shy. Our role is not only to perform theatre, but to encourage its development in our region.

As a debuting playwright in 2014 - with *Autumn Song* - I can vouch for that fact - as can the talented Kelly McLoughlin-Wilden, writer of the topical dramas, *Two Doors Down* and *Two Floors Up*. There are not many theatre companies in the world where new authors would be given such wonderful opportunities.

Thanks... and don't forget to write...

Penny Dennis
CHATS Secretary

News in Brief...

- ◆ CHATS is pleased to make a donation of \$500 to Coffs Harbour High School. This is to help pay for the expenses of taking the students involved in the Garlambila Tour to the Saltwater Festival in Sydney
- ◆ Grassroots Writers Weekend May 8-10 at the Coffs Harbour Community Village is a weekend of workshops for anyone of any age with an interest in creative writing. Only \$25 for whole weekend. Registrations at www.grassrootswriters.org.au
- ◆ **Anything Goes** at the Jetty Memorial Theatre - all through May. Cole Porter's wonderful, witty musical brought to champagne-sparkling life by the talented singers and actors of the Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company. Box Office 6652 8088.
- ◆ Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod is happening in June with new sections for Adults (over 18s) in 4-6 minute monologues and Shakespeare soliloquys. Tel Liz Stevens on 6652 2222 for more information.

The Shed Report

If you go down to the Shed today,
you're sure of a big surprise.

If you go down to the Shed today,
no need to go in disguise.

For every dress that ever there was,
Has been spring-cleaned and sorted because,
These months have been

The time when the team's
Been bizzzy.

Yes, our 'teddy bears' have been busy sorting, cleaning, packing and storing all the wonderful costumes and props that both CHATS and CHMCC have acquired over the years.

Lou and Judi have done a brilliant job! Super thanks to them as well as to their little helpers, Fay and Rex.

Meanwhile, we can't pass up the chance to mention the 'Shed Boys' - Merv, Frank, Kerry, Patrick and Nev. These lads do such a great job getting our sets together and bringing our directors' ideas to fruition.

Although... they have had an easy time with *Mum's the Word Teenagers*. Come to the show and you'll see what we mean.

Thanks to the fabulous Shed Crew!

President's Report

Dear members and friends,

2015 is off to a flying start with *Mums the Word Teenagers* about to hit the stage. Shirley (director) and the cast have been working extremely hard to make this show a success. Please support them by coming along in droves to see it. You will not be disappointed.

I have cast and had a couple of rehearsals for *Death of a Salesman* which is on in July. We have pretty well blocked the first act and the acting is first rate even at this early stage.

Myself and Russell Lane from Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company have also been working closely with David Brammah at the JMT cleaning up and painting the backstage area and repainting the stage. Thanks to all those that have helped, it looks fantastic.

I am happy to report that David Williamson's *Birthrights* will be our last play of the year directed by David Quinn.

And, finally, thank you to everyone who came to the Annual General Meeting in February and a big welcome to our new treasurer Lehanne Whittaker. Lehanne takes over from Emilia Guthrie. That's all for now and I look forward to seeing you all at *Mums the Word Teenagers*.

Regards, Rex Madigan

BOTANY BOUND - Stories of a New Life

is a project that Penny Dennis and Wendy Jeffery are putting together, hopefully for production next year. We envisage that it will be a collection of stories, songs, dances, poems, letters, articles, advertisements - all from the period 1790 - 1850. Many of these pieces will be dramatised and, when all put together, we hope to have a performance piece that will inspire and entertain in equal measure.

If you have creative ideas and/or stories of your ancestors that we could include, please email Penny at pendennis@iinet.net.au

Your Committee for 2015

President - Rex Madigan

Vice-president - Shirley Barnett

Treasurer - Lehanne Whittaker

Secretary - Penny Dennis

Committee Members:

Arlene Cole, Marty Elliott, Paul Hutchison, Wendy Jeffery

Coming up in 2015

- We will be having a read-through of *Birthrights* by David Williamson some time in May. The date is yet to be finalised and an email will go out to all members. But if you are interested to come along, but don't have an email contact, please call me (Penny on 0407 396038) to express your interest and I will let you know when and where to go... as soon as I know.
- Anyone interested in hosting a **Poetry and Pizza night**? We know you love a good poet - bush or otherwise - and the suggestion has been put that we have not had a good Poetry Slam for a couple of years. So, let's do it. Volunteers? Oh, go on... you know you want to. Call Penny (as above) to talk it through and get it going.

DAVID
WILLIAMSON
BIRTHRIGHTS
SOULMATES
TWO PLAYS



Death of a Salesman

Death of a Salesman

By Arthur Miller

1949

Arthur Miller is responsible for many American classics, not only 'Death of a Salesman', but also 'All My Sons' (1947), 'The Crucible' (1953), 'A View from the Bridge' (1955) and 'The Broken Glass' (1994).

Set in New York, 'Death of a Salesman' is the story of Willy Loman. Willy is a salesman who believes that he was always a greater success than he actually was. Willy always dreamed of reaching the pinnacle of his chosen career, but never quite made it.

Willy's long suffering wife, Linda, has stuck with Willy through thick and thin; her unwavering faith in her husband and her children knows no bounds.

Their two sons, Biff and Happy, are also like their father. Biff has always tried to show his father that he is successful, a great academic, a great footballer and a great businessman. Unfortunately, it was all a lie. Biff is not only a failure but a cheat, a liar and a thief. Happy also tries to convince his father, mother and brother that he is a bigger success than he really is but it turns out he is just a shipping clerk.

This masterpiece of American Theatre explores both the highs and lows of the Loman family's pursuit of the American Dream. Playgoers will follow Willy's reminiscences as he tries to discover where it all went wrong. This is a classic of American literature written by a genius of his time.

Willy Loman.....Brian Fitzsimons

Linda LomanJan Strom

Biff LomanAndrew deWaard

Happy LomanMarty Elliot

BernardJoel Blythes

Charley EJ Kinsella

Uncle Ben David Tune

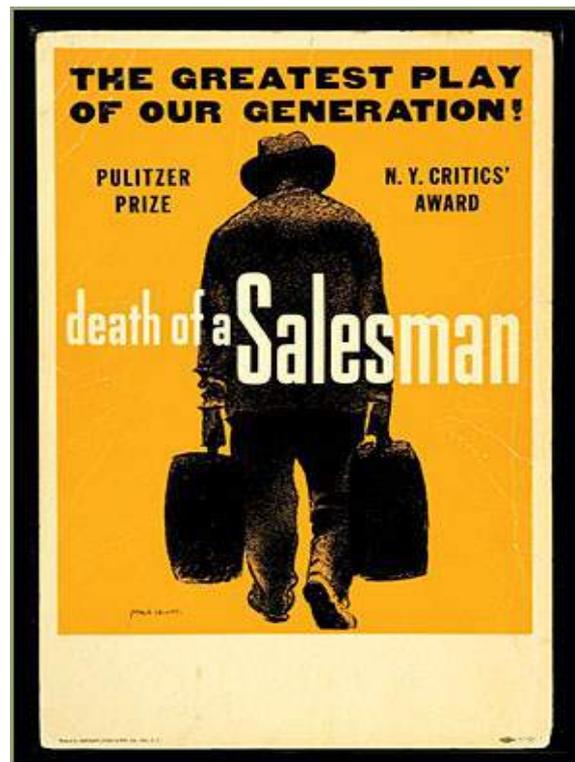
Howard Wagner/StanleyGary Dove

Jenny/OperatorWendy Hardes

The WomanBrenda Smith

Miss ForsytheMaureen Burgess

LettaLehanne Whittaker



CHATS website
www.chats.org.au
for all the latest news

and for all you Downtown Abbey fans, here she is...

Robert (Lord Grantham): Can I tempt you to one of these new cocktails?

Violet (Dowager Countess): No. no. I don't think so. They look too exciting for so early in the evening.

Thanks to Lyn Crossley for all the DA contributions! We love 'em.

Don't forget the CHATS
Facebook page - take a look!