

Just Chatting



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

In this Issue

- Birthrights
- President's Report
- Play-readings
- Auditions for Noises Off
- Christmas Party
- Chitty Chitty coming soon



All *Birthrights* photos by Tom Caldwell. Thanks Tom!

Current production - *Birthrights* - opens this week!

MY SISTER, MY SURROGATE

Family dynamics are both unique and complex – no more so than when they involve a sibling acting as a surrogate for her infertile sister. This is the premise of *Birthrights*, coming to the Jetty Memorial Theatre from 16th October.

The cast of four women and two men – all talented local actors – bring this nuanced David Williamson play to life, telling the story from all sides.

For Becky Cole, the manager of CHYFM community radio station, this has been a labour of love. 'It (surrogacy) is not something I had given much thought to before now. But this really makes you think – my heart goes out to everyone involved.'

Other cast members include local mother-of-three, Alice Cooper, last seen on stage in *Scrooge* and John Miller

who has been a long-time volunteer at the theatre, but has only recently turned his hand to acting.

Director, David Quinn, says, 'Although the idea of surrogacy was relatively new in 2003 when the play was written, Williamson was able to highlight the issues and examine the family dynamics in depth and with humour.'

Birthrights is at the Jetty Memorial Theatre from 16-23 October with special discount performances on Sunday 18 and Wednesday 21 when all tickets are only \$20. **Look out for the Gala Opening night (16th) when there will be some tasty nibbles on offer, too. Call 6652 8088 to book your tickets** or online at www.jettytheatre.com



Back Row (L-R): Alice Cooper, Rory Banwell, Becky Cole, John Miller
Seated (L-R): Michael Sutherland, Rebecca Sutherland

CHATS + CHMCC CHRISTMAS PARTY

It's Xmas Brekkie time at the Sheds yet again - our 3rd year of this fabulous event to celebrate all of our achievements and get together with our mutual pals.

Sunday 20th December from 9am at the Jetty Memorial Theatre Sheds.

Join us for a wonderful BBQ Breakfast - Egg and Bacon rolls - Snags - Champagne - Buck's Fizz!

Play-Readings, Auditions, Future Productions

PLAY-READING

There will be a full read-through of *Noises Off* on **Saturday 31st October at the Mud Hut at 2pm**. This will be an opportunity to see if you think you might want to audition once you have got the gist of the whole play; it's a complicated one, so it's important that you really get a feel for the humour in this physically challenging yet immensely funny play. Rex Madigan will be directing, so please contact him at info@chats.org.au if you would like more details.

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held for *Noises Off* on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th November at the Jetty High School at 10am. Please be prompt.

Cast calls for men and women of ages from 20s through to 60s, so there is something for everyone.



On stage together for the first time!

Real-life father and daughter, Michael and Rebecca Sutherland team up as stage father and daughter in *Birtherights*.
Art imitating life, or what!...



Ann Poidevin and Louwanna Kaur having fun at the recent Mix-It-Up Disabilities Workshop and Performance. Thanks Girls! You look great!

President's Report

Hello Members.

Well, here we go again. David Williamson's *Birtherights* is about to hit the stage. Director, David Quinn, has been working with a wonderful cast to bring this very topical play together.

CHATS is, as always, extremely lucky to have such talent to work with. As usual, if you can help in any way during the run, please contact me on 0421 756618 and I will point you in the right direction.

I will be auditioning CHATS' next production, *Noises Off*, on November 7 and 8 at 10am at Coffs Harbour High School. If anyone can't make either of those times or days, please ring me and I will see what can be arranged. This play is very physical and difficult, but hugely rewarding for actors. It is also one of the funniest plays you will ever see. *Noises Off* is due to go on in mid-March next year.

The Christmas Breakfast is on again - we finally decided to set it for 9am on Sunday 20th December and I hope you can all be there to enjoy a tasty (and free) breakfast in some very good company and with a glass or two of champagne.

Also look out for the ACCTS theatre fundraiser in February which was such a huge success last year.

My family and I are taking a break for 4 weeks from mid-November to explore the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree. But I will be back for the Xmas celebrations and then to start rehearsing *Noises Off*. See you all at *Birtherights*.

Regards, Rex Madigan

and in November...

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

brought to you by the Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company