

Bringing Live Theatre to Local Rural Communities



a Sub-Committee of the Kyogle & District Arts Council

VHP Vagaries

Issue: 4

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VHP ACTOR FOLLOWS HER DREAM

Shyarnah Tryhorn moved to the Gold Coast earlier this year to follow her dream of becoming an actress and she has already had her first big success. In April, she was accepted into a full-time Film and TV Course with TAFTA (The Australian Film and Television Academy). This acceptance came after a rigorous audition process.

Drama has been more than just an interest for Shyarnah from a young age. She studied Drama in high school and also participated in the VHP's DIRT program.

At the same time, she gained roles in KATS and VHP theatre productions.

In VHP'S 2012 production of *Outback Debutante Ball*, Shyarnah successfully auditioned for the role of Sonia, a spoilt, little rich girl and gave a "very high standard" performance at every show.

VHP will follow Shyarnah's career with great interest and pride. Don't be surprised if you see



Shyarnah Lee Tryhorn

more stories about Shyarnah (and last month's talent, Laura Hogan) in future issues of Vagaries.



Playwrights' Competition News

Patron: John Summons

The new Committee met in early May. At that meeting, the Committee determined a plan for ensuring the widest possible promotion of the Competition and work has already begun to that end.

The Committee also decided that the current closing date of 28 June did not allow for enough time, so it has been moved forward to 27 September 2013.

Another change was that all VHP members and volunteers will be able to submit scripts now as there will be no VHP representatives on the judging panel and judging will be blind (i.e. judges will not know the identity of the writer whose plays they are reading).



Laugh Your Dreams Away

VHP's first touring production of 2013 got off to a great start at Rous Mill Hall and ended with a bang at Old Bonalbo Hall. For the second year in a row, Old Bonalbo gave us the biggest audience of the season with 98 people attending. What a magnificent effort Old Bonalbo and our thanks go to all the Hall Committees.

As is probably to be expected occasionally (but we never do), technical difficulties struck with a vengeance for our performance at Woodenbong. During lighting checks, it was discovered that the lights were not responding to any commands from the lighting control board, so *Can You Hear the Music?* was performed without its light show. As background music had been playing before the curtain and during the intermission, it should have been safe to presume that the sound effects necessary for *Farmer Will Swap Combine Harvester for Wife* would work without a hitch. But not so! When the first sound cue failed and all efforts to find and correct the technical fault were to no avail, Paul Worsnop and Lynette Zito provided the sound cues themselves. Paul's wonderful impressions of cars and trucks and Lynette's telephone ringing and baby crying send-ups kept the audience laughing along with the very funny lines of the play.

Our sincere thanks to our Woodenbong audience who took it all in their stride and just had a good time!



VHP Theatre Workshop

Want to know more about how a theatre company works? Ever wondered what's involved in being a Stage Manager, a Producer or a Lighting or Sound Technician? Would you like to become involved but have no desire to be on stage? Want to act?

If you answered yes or even maybe to any of these questions, then why don't you come along to our first Theatre Workshop on Saturday at 10am on 6th July at the KMI Hall, Stratheden Street, Kyogle.

You'll discover what goes on behind the scenes and find out where best to use your talents.

Our programme for the workshop is:

TIME	EVENT
10 – 11 AM	Overview of the roles and responsibilities of members of a theatre company – from the Artistic Director to Front of House workers
11 – 12PM	<i>Break up into groups such as:</i> Actors Stage Managers Lighting Technicians Makeup / Costumes
12 – 12.30	Lunch
12.30 – 1.30 PM	<i>Break up into groups such as:</i> Actors Sound Technicians Director / Producer Front of House
1.30 – 2PM	Q & A

Groups will be facilitated by industry professionals and/or experienced theatre people and will give participants a good understanding of the practicalities behind each role.

The cost of the workshop is \$20 per person and bookings are essential. Bookings must be made by no later than 5 pm Friday 21 June. Please email VHP (*address below*) to book or request additional information.

Children over 12 are very welcome.



2013 VHP Calendar

Time & Date	Venue	Production
7 pm Saturday 10 August	KMI Hall Kyogle	Light & Dark
7 pm Saturday 17 August	KMI Hall Kyogle	Light & Dark
2 pm Sunday 18 August	KMI Hall Kyogle	Light & Dark
7 pm Saturday 24 August	KMI Hall Kyogle	Light & Dark
2 pm Saturday 19 October	Rous Mill Hall	It's My Party and I'll Die if I Want To
7 pm Saturday 26 October	Bundgeam Hall	It's My Party and I'll Die if I Want To
7 pm Saturday 2 November	Eden Creek Hall	It's My Party and I'll Die if I Want To
7 pm Saturday 9 November	Woodenbong Hall	It's My Party and I'll Die if I Want To

Light & Dark combines three, short one act plays, with a thought provoking drama sandwiched between two comedies. Co-produced by Lynette Zito and Gordon Hook, the theme of the production is the power of language and each play illustrates a different aspect of this central theme.

He Said and She Said is a comedy with a sting by American playwright, Alice Gerstenberg. Set in the first months of WWII, Mrs Packard, a dinner guest at the home of wealthy socialites and a terrible gossip, causes havoc before dinner is even served! This play is directed by Lynette Zito & Gordon Hook and is Gordon's directorial debut!

Two in a Room, a drama by our own John Summons, deals with a bizarre encounter between two people – he's trying to buy love and she is simply selling sex. Directed by Lynette Zito.

Call Girls is written by British playwright David Muncaster and directed by Lynette Zito. This play is a very funny comedy set in an IT call centre where four women work. Laura, the new girl on the team, has raised the ire of her three co-workers with her low cut tops, short skirts and her unwillingness to be one of the team. The others speculate on the relationship between Laura and Gary, the boss.

It's My Party and I'll Die If I Want To is by Australian author Elizabeth Coleman. This two-act comedy, produced by Lynette Zito and directed by Paul Worsnop, tells the tale of Ron, a quintessentially Aussie family man who, due to an intractable illness, has been told by his doctor that he has only a short time left. He decides to hold a party so he can break the news to his wife and family and enjoy a few last quality moments with them. This is a comedy of anxiety, absurdity and occasional terror.



Nikki Kenman, Gordon Hook & Meg Ainsworth in *Farmer Will Swap Wife for Combine Harvester* 2013



Village Hall Players Committee

Village Hall Players Committee Meetings are for committee members only, while General Meetings (including the AGM) are an opportunity for anyone interested to come along. We've had to move our AGM to September to allow time for the financials to be completed.

- 4 June – General Meeting
- 2 July – Committee Meeting
- 10 September – **Annual General Meeting**
- 8 October – Committee Meeting
- 5 November – General Meeting
- 3 December – Committee Meeting





Look at the detail in the box of matches and book. Well done, Eden!



Meet the Players

(Each newsletter you'll meet one of the diverse group of amazing people who make up the Village Hall Players. We hope you enjoy meeting us! Ed.)

One of VHP's newest volunteers, Ian "Eden" Lister (pictured above) has a diverse arts background and is lending his considerable talent to painting sets for our 2013 productions.

After leaving school, Eden attended the Art School at Liverpool TAFE. His talent was immediately apparent and one of his oil paintings was purchased by Queensland University!

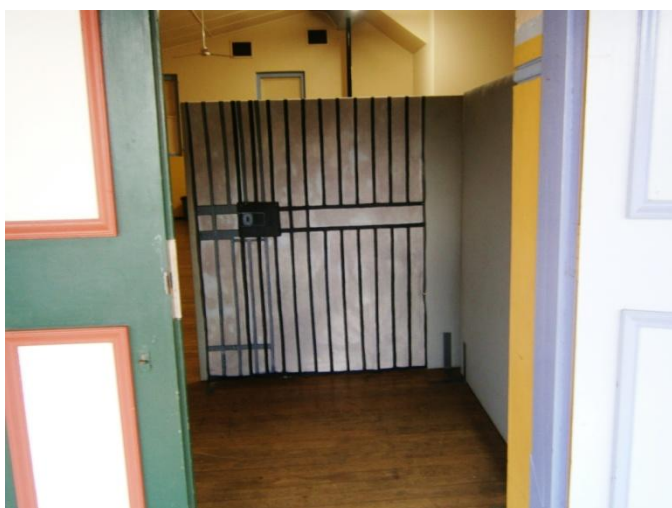
Over the years, Eden's creativity has allowed him to express himself through oil painting, sketching Australian birds and landscapes and, more recently, through downloading music and making covers for his personal collection.

Eden did performance art and film in Brisbane for a number of years and was one of two artists who did all the sets for Childers version of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves set in red soil country.

Since joining VHP, Eden has done the sets for *Truscott* and *Can You Hear the Music?* (see photos left). He has also taken on the role of VHP photographer and has worked as prompt and general stage hand for the 2013 productions.



Truscott set



Front of house artwork for *Truscott*

All photographs in this issue by Ian "Eden" Lister.

See our website for more photos.