

QP AGM - 10th February!

The 2009 Annual General Meeting for Queanbeyan Players will be held at 8pm on Tuesday, 10 February, at the Queanbeyan Bowling Club.

An agenda for the meeting and the minutes of last year's meeting are at the back of this Prologue.

As usual, the meeting will be preceded by dinner in the bistro from 6pm, for anyone who wants to come along.

Both the current President (**Joyanne Gough**) and Vice President (**Simon Wall**) are stepping down this year, so we're looking for nominations for these officers; nominations are also encouraged for Secretary and Treasurer, as well as for general Committee Members. Nomination forms are included at the back of this Prologue.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The venue has changed from the last few meetings. This year, the AGM is at the Queanbeyan Bowling Club in Campbell Street (just off Canberra Ave), NOT the Kangaroos Club.

Membership

Remember, you must be a financial member of QP to vote at the AGM or nominate to be a committee member. A membership form is attached to this Prologue – why not fill it in right now?

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President - Joyanne Gough 6281 4756 0402 838 717

Vice president - Simon Wall 6258 9562 0404 859 404

Secretary - Gail Giuliano OAM 6288 1911

A Very Pleasing *Pirates*

Once again thanks are due to all the people who made *Pirates of Penzance* such a great show.

On the music side, our deepest gratitude to **Jennifer Groom**, who soldiered on despite personal bereavement. Jennifer, we know it was a difficult time for you, but despite everything, the music was just fantastic. Thanks to **Ben Craig** for conducting orchestral rehearsals, **Peter Smith** for organising them & providing rehearsal midis for cast, **Judith Colquhoun** for vocal coaching, and **Iris Willetts, Laura Casey & Miriam Miley-Read** for playing piano. Thanks to our wonderful orchestra.

Thank you **Mandy Yialeloglou** for pointing all those left feet in the right direction and to **Gail Giuliano** for assisting with the dance rehearsals. (Also for all those suppers!) Thank you **Thompson Quan Wing** for coordinating the fights.

Behind the scenes, our Stage Manager **Leanne Cramond** kept everyone in line and made sure that the show flowed smoothly. Thanks Leanne!

On the artistic side, thanks to **Norma Roach** for the costumes, **Helen McIntyre** for props, **Jenny Hobson** and **Nina Stevenson** for the set design and **Trevor Roach, Alan Johnston** and **David Keys** for set construction.

Up in the bio box, **Leigh Wilmington, Steve Walsh** and **Jennifer Ralph** enjoyed themselves with sunsets and things, whilst **Bevan Noble** and **David Garrard** made sure that cast were heard as well as seen.

Thanks to front of house manager **Deb Hourigan** and to the Q box office, ably managed by **Susie** and **Andrea**. It's lovely to have such a terrific venue to perform in!

Last but not least, thanks to the cast, who soldiered on despite much rehearsal re-scheduling and bouts of the dreaded lurgy that laid so many of us low. None of this showed on stage - you were all terrific!

In short, thanks to anyone & everyone who helped in any way what so ever.

Audience numbers were good and we will have made a nice profit even after paying all of our bills.

- **Editor's note:** **Janetta McRae**, the director of 'Pirates', provided the long list of thanks above, but she also deserves an enormous thank you. I'm sure everyone who participated in and saw the show appreciated all the hard work she put in – in spite of all the obstacles enumerated above! Thank you Janetta.

Snugglepot and Cuddlepie

Rehearsals for **Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, the Musical** will be starting very soon. It will be directed by **Patrick Helean**, with musical direction by **Jennifer Groom**, and choreography by **Nikole Skavlos**. The performance season will run from 22 May to 7 June 2009 at The Q.

We've assembled a very strong cast, and it promises to be a very exciting show!

Cast list

Snugglepot.....	Elysia Muirhead
Cuddlepie.....	Jarron Dodds
Ragged Blossom.....	Millie Malcolm
Mr Lizard.....	Brian Daly
Kookaburra.....	Greg Wallace
Possum.....	To be cast
Snake.....	Sue Camm
Capt Banksia Man.....	Jeremy Broom
Banksia Man 2.....	Peter Smith
Banksia Man 3.....	James Gibson
Winky.....	Lluka Johns-Mead
Mrs Koala.....	Debra Byrne
Frilly.....	Greg Wallace
Reverend Sardine.....	Jeremy Broom
Queen Obelia.....	Michelle Cooper
Anne Chovy.....	Kat Leigh
John Dory.....	Peter Smith
Adult Chorus.....	Sarah Bilton-Semek Kobi Cumberland, Bec Daniels, Erin Gough, Bill Lord, Jenny Maclean, Doreen Robinson, Donna Starr, Maureen Stewart, Claudia Tetreault
Children's Chorus.....	Pippin Carroll, Maddison Catlin, Brooke Dal Cortivo, Georgina Davidson, Maddison Furner Jessica Gowing

Taylor Hembling
Meg Hobson
Miriam Huber
Sarah James
Elizabeth Lord
Isabella Markoski
Sophie Maurice
Hannah McKenzie
Melissa McMillan
Emily Mullamphy
Kaitlin Nihill
Clare Pinkerton
Charlotte Scott
Madison Wallace,
Shane Whitman

But we need YOU too!

Although we've got a great cast as listed above, as usual we could use some more **MEN** – and **BOYS!** We're also looking for some more very strong dancers, both male and female.

If you're interested (and you should be – it looks like it will be a fabulous show), contact **Joyanne Gough** on 6281 4756 after business hours.

CAT Awards

The Telstra Countrywide Canberra Area Theatre Awards 2008 will be awarded on Saturday 21 February at the Canberra Theatre.

This year QP's leading ladies were recognised in the nominations. Congratulations to **Jessica Taylor**, who is nominated for her performance of Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific*, and to **Laura Casey**, nominated for her role as Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Tickets are on sale at the Canberra Theatre: phone 6275 2700 or online at www.canberratheatrecentre.com.au.

Auditions!

ACT Singers are holding auditions on 1 March for their production of *A Journey with Gilbert and Sullivan*, to be presented in June and July with direction by **Phil Perman** and musical direction by **Michael Politi**. They are looking for chorus, soloists and actor/singers. If you're interested, more information is available at www.actsingers.org.au.

Member news

Laura Casey, Mabel in our recent production of *Pirates*, has departed for London to 'seek her fortune' as a singer. Good luck Laura!

Ben Kopilow, our photographer for many past productions, has had great success in photography competitions, awarded 3rd place in the DWF International Wedding Photographer of the Year competition and receiving a number of awards in the International Aperture Awards. Congratulations!

If you have any news you would like to share with other QP members – the more titillating the better – email editor@qp.org.au.

What's on?

While you're waiting for *Snugglepot and Cuddlepie*, here are some other amateur shows that are on now or coming up soon.

For current information just visit www.CanberraLocalTheatre.info.

- *Guys and Dolls*, presented by Free Rain at The Q, 13 - 28 February. The quintessential Broadway musical!
- *I Hate Hamlet*, presented by Canberra Repertory at Theatre 3, 20 February - 14 March. An actor plays Hamlet onstage, but he hates the Danish Prince!
- *The Mikado*, presented by Canberra Philharmonic at Erindale Theatre, 5 - 21 March. A brand new production of the G&S classic. Directed by Barbara Denham.
- *The Pink Panther Strikes Again*, presented by Free Rain at the Courtyard Studio, Canberra Theatre Centre, 19 March - 4 April. Inspector Clouseau fights for his life and the future of all mankind.
- *The Incident at Fugue Bay*, presented by Canberra Dramatics at Tuggeranong Arts Centre, 21 March - 4 April. A mysterious story of love that will keep you guessing to the very end.

And to finish...

Given the success of last year's production of *Pirates*, it seems very appropriate to end with this musical look at its (admittedly ridiculous) plot, written by **Margaret Rogers** and published in *How to Be Tremendously Tuned in to Opera*, edited by **E.O. Parrott**. Sing along, if you like, to the tune of 'I am the Very Model of a Modern Major General'!

This is the very model of Victorian comic opera,
With girls that flit as lightly as a flight of
Lepidoptera,

They're the Major-General's daughters, and one of
them is Mabel, who
Would wed apprentice pirate, Frederic, if she were
able to,
He's twenty-one, but still his leap-year birthday
makes him under the
Age when from the pirates he can tear himself
asunder; he
Wants to be set free from Ruth, his former
nursemaid's blunder, but
His word he's given, now the bargain he will never
undercut.
These pirates are soft-hearted; Ruth reveals, at last,
they're really just
Drop-outs from the peerage who poor orphans
always clearly trust;
Now, though crushed by constables who are made to
look hilarious,
They're saved from being charged – although their
purpose was nefarious,
But the Major-General cheated them, no orphan he
– they're marrying
His daughters, for they're ex-con swells; no plain
Tom, Dick or Harry-ing
Would bring such a remission. Thus the opera
lightly ridicules
The powers that be and makes them seem corrupt
and snobby, silly fools.
But still the satire's trapped in tunes delightful to be
singing, so
The Pirates of Penzance will never set alarm bells
ringing-o.

AGM Reminder!

Since you may have already forgotten since the beginning of Prologue – a whole three pages ago – QP's AGM is on Tuesday, 10 February. Necessary paperwork is attached to the Prologue. Come along and make a contribution to the running of YOUR society!



*Queanbeyan Players:
worth going interstate for!*



Queanbeyan Players

PO Box 390, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please: enrol me as a new member

renew my membership

My details are:

Name Home phone

Address Business phone

..... Mobile phone

Email address

Type of membership requested Single (\$25)

Family (\$40)

Concession (\$20)

I enclose payment to the amount of

Signature Date

Please send form and payment to:

The Queanbeyan Players
Membership Secretary
PO Box 390
Queanbeyan NSW 2620



Queanbeyan Players

PO Box 390, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10 FEBRUARY 2009

QUEANBEYAN BOWLING CLUB

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous AGM on 12 February 2008
3. Business arising from the previous AGM
4. President's Report – Joyanne Gough
5. Treasurer's Report – Peter Smith
6. New Business
7. Presentation of the Queanbeyan Players' Awards for 2008
 - On-Stage Award
 - Off-Stage Award
 - Contribution Award
8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members
9. Close

QUEANBEYAN PLAYERS INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 6 FEBRUARY 2007
KANGAROOS CLUB, QUEANBEYAN

PRESENT:

Cllr Ann Rocca (Patron)	Gail Giuliano
Joyanne Gough	Helen McIntyre
Andy Gough	Peter McIntyre
Erin Gough	Erin McIntyre
Norma Roach	Deborah Hourigan
Trevor Roach	Andrew Thomson
Janetta McRae	Diana Thomson
Maureen Stewart	Janette Humphrey
Carmel Bourke	Moya Ewin
Simon Wall	Barbara Denham
Imogen Wall	Peter Dark
Peter Smith	Berin Denham
Anthony McGlynn	Helen Bridges
George Bennett	Jon Millard
Kristil-Rae Mobbs	Bevan Noble
Anna Wise	Tim Sekules
Sandy McArthur	Thompson Quan Wing
Doreen Robinson	Patrick Helean

APOLOGIES:

Laura Wise	Marie Jensen
Judith Colquhoun	Merrelin Robbins
Frank Pangallo	Robyn Robertson
Rowan McIntyre	Marie Jensen
Jonathon Garland	Jeanette Bingley

1. Welcome

The President, Joyanne Gough, welcomed our Patron, Councillor Ann Rocca, and members. She thanked the outgoing Management Committee.

2. Minutes of Previous AGM – 8 February 2007

The motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, with no changes, was made by Andrew Thomson, second by Janette Humphrey and carried.

3. Business Arising from last AGM

- **OH&S** – Joyanne Gough noted that there will need to be further changes to our approach to OH&S when we move into The Q. We will need to have at least two members with the First Aid Certificate at every performance so the Committee is arranging for First Aid training.
- **Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre** – Councillor Ann Rocca thanked the Queanbeyan Players for their support of the Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre (The Q). She said that the theatre looks great but some elements (e.g. the sound system) had been delayed. She reported that the car park had been reconfigured with a net loss of less than 20 spaces.

Joyanne reported that The Q will be formally opened by a week of festivities commencing 24 February. Queanbeyan Players will be the first company to perform in the theatre, when we

reprise HMS Pinafore on that date. The week will conclude with a Gala Concert, to be opened by the Governor-General.

Joyanne advised that Queanbeyan Players has tentative bookings, twice a year for the next five years, but that we will be flexible regarding these dates. She reported that both bookings for 2008 had been brought forward one week to assist The Q with other bookings.

Joyanne moved a vote of thanks for Ann Rocca, Norma Roach and all who had been involved in the development, design and construction of The Q. This was carried by acclamation.

- **Sponsorship** – Joyanne Gough reported that Nina Stevenson had approached EDS regarding sponsorship, some of which she proposed to offer to Queanbeyan Players.
- **Food Co-operative** – Joyanne Gough reported that the Food Co-operative had caused minor disruptions at the Uniting Church Hall but these had not adversely affected rehearsals. She advised that the Food Co-operative is expected to move to another venue.
- **Audition Workshop** – Joyanne Gough reported that the Management Committee had set a date for an audition workshop and had approached other theatre companies for their involvement but circumstances meant that the idea had to be postponed. It will be reactivated in 2007.

4. President's Report

The full report is attached. Its acceptance was moved by Barbara Denham, seconded by Jon Millard and carried.

5. Treasurer's Report

The full report is attached. Acceptance of the report was moved by Patrick Helean, seconded by Andy Gough and carried.

6. General Business

Moya Ewin moved a vote of thanks for Andrew and Diana Thomson, who are moving to Queensland after many years as active members. This was carried by acclamation.

Norma Roach advised the meeting that Greg Wallace has been invited to audition for Opera Australia.

Ann Rocca advised the meeting that the Queanbeyan Players' fund raising commitment for the new theatre had been the reason that the NSW State Government had awarded Queanbeyan the largest grant ever made outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.

7. Presentation of QP Awards

Joyanne Gough presented the following Awards for 2007:

- On-stage – Award – Peter Dark and Anna Wise (equal)
- On-stage – HM – Tim Sekules
- Off-stage – Award – Andrew Thomson
- Off-stage – HM – Juliet Sera and Jeanette Bingley (equal)
- Contribution Award – Bevan Noble

8. Life Memberships

Simon Wall, Vice President, awarded life membership to the McIntyre family.

9. Election of Office Bearers

Joyanne Gough stepped down as President and Andrew Thomson accepted the role of Returning Officer. The following Office Bearers were elected for 2008:

Office	Name	Moved by	Seconded by
President	Joyanne Gough	Gail Giuliano	Doreen Robinson
Vice President	Simon Wall	Joyanne Gough	Gail Giuliano
Treasurer	Peter Smith	Joyanne Gough	Andy Gough
Secretary	Gail Giuliano	Carmel Bourke	Janetta McRae

There were seven nominations for Committee members. The following were elected:

Committee Member			
	Deborah Hourigan	Norma Roach	Gail Giuliano
	Norma Roach	Deborah Hourigan	Carmel Bourke
	Carmel Bourke	Gail Giuliano	Janette Humphrey
	Janette Humphrey	Diana Thomson	Andrew Thomson
	Janetta McCrae	Gail Giuliano	Joyanne Gough
	Berin Denham	Doreen Robinson	Janetta McRae
	George Bennett	Mark Burnett	Rob Grice

Joyanne Gough confirmed that Norma Roach will continue as the Public Officer and that Carmel Bourke will be Membership Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2007

Another year has sped by, a year of success and anticipation! Tonight I will report on our achievements in 2007 but will also highlight a new future for Queanbeyan Players.

We produced two shows in 2007. The first, "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" was produced by a young and inexperienced team. Queanbeyan Players demonstrated its genuine commitment to developing new talent by supporting a first-time Director, Musical Director and Choreographer through the challenging experience of 'putting on a show'. This decision did receive criticism from some quarters in the local theatrical arena but the efforts of Gordon Nicholson, Max Gambale and Erin Wells, combined with the more experienced Janetta McRae as Production Manager and Andrew Thompson as Stage Manager, produced an entertaining show that got better and better with each performance. I was particularly impressed by the ensemble performances of the six, younger brothers and found that them entirely convincing in their roles. "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" was a relatively inexpensive show to produce and achieved a net profit of around \$14,000.

Our second show of 2007 was Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore", directed by Norma Roach, with Jennifer Groom as Musical Director and Juliet Sera as Choreographer. This was the third time that we had produced "HMS Pinafore" and Norma's second foray as Director. Peter Dark also reprised the role of Sir Joseph Porter, taking his performance to even greater levels of comedy and wit.

We began the season of "HMS Pinafore" with a gala, invitation-only opening night to celebrate our final show in the Queanbeyan Bicentennial Conference Centre. Many old friends and colleagues joined us that night and there was much reminiscing about the 19 years that we have been performing in 'the Barn'. "HMS Pinafore" achieved a net profit of around \$12,000 and our total administration cost for 2007 was around \$9,000. This leaves us with an overall net profit of about \$17,000.

Other milestones were achieved in 2007. We reached our target of \$50,000 as a contribution to the new theatre (we will be paying for the stage curtain); bought a new rehearsal piano, to replace the ancient but venerable one that has been in use for so many years and had major, but necessary, work on the drainage system at the Shed. This was all achieved with no sponsorship and whilst remaining financially viable, no small thanks to the dedicated work of the Management Committee.

So, what of the future? The night of the gala opening of "HMS Pinafore", I reminded our guests that we have transported our audiences to Japan, the American Wild West, the Tower of London, the mountains of Oregon and of Austria, Russia, Italy, a cruise ship, a warship and a mystical town in the Scottish highlands, to name just a few. Next we will be transported to an idyllic island in the South Pacific but this will not be staged in a barn but in a beautiful new theatre – to be known as The Q.

The production team of "South Pacific" was given a tour of The Q a few weeks ago and I can honestly say that it is breathtaking. It may look like a large, black box from the outside but as you step through the door into the foyer you find yourself in a stylish, sophisticated space, with elegant lines and seemingly endless panels of glass. The theatre itself seats 350 people, all with perfect sight lines, in comfortable, roomy seats. There are catwalks above the stage and the house and the stage is large and airy. Backstage, there are large dressing rooms, bathrooms, storage areas and even a green room. Sheer luxury for a theatre company that has performed in a church hall, a school hall, a converted cinema and a cavernous conference centre.

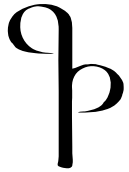
I am thrilled to be able to report that Queanbeyan Players will be the first company to perform in The Q. On Monday, 25 February, as part of the opening celebrations, we will present a revival of "HMS Pinafore". If you missed it last time, or want to see it again and experience the new theatre, you can purchase tickets for only \$15.

We have also been invited to participate in a Gala Opening Concert, attended by the Governor-General, on Saturday 1 March. The Nuns' Chorus, from 2006's "The Sound of Music", will open the entertainment (the Nuns have decided that this will become an annual event – having performed this time last year for the CAT Awards), and the leads from "South Pacific" will perform a song from the show. Former Queanbeyan Players, including Michael Martin and Jacqui Keys, will also perform. This is an invitation-only event so, as Simon Wall put it in the latest edition of 'Prologue – if you haven't received an invitation "you probably won't be there" – but you will be ably represented, I can assure you.

I would like to now talk about the future of Queanbeyan Players. The opening of The Q means that many things that we have taken for granted will have to change. For example, we will no longer be serving tea and biscuits at interval; the theatre has a bar and café that will operate for all performances, providing a venue for audiences and cast. Ticket prices, which have been the best value in the region for many years, will have to rise, although we are aiming to keep them as low as possible; however, with this comes with the facility of an on-line box office that will allow patrons to print off their own tickets. Our costs will also rise, although the Queanbeyan City Council has been very generous in the package that has been negotiated; but with this comes state-of-the-art technology and a performance space that 'is to die for'.

We will be sharing the space with a variety of other theatrical events, professional and amateur, and have to recognise that we will be competing with these for the hearts, minds and wallets of audiences. This means that we have to move with the times, select shows that will attract audiences rather than indulge the desire of a few, cast these shows with top talent and ensure that the society continues to be managed efficiently and cost-effectively. We need new blood to join the Management Committee. I am being completely frank with you when I tell you that the current members of the Management Committee are ageing and, unless we can attract younger members, there will come a time when there is no-one left to run the company.

A member of the cast of "South Pacific", who has returned to amateur theatre after many years' absence, has told me that he is impressed by the efficient and organised way in which the process has been run and I had to agree with him; but, I ask you, how much longer can this go on. Shortly, we will dissolve the current Committee and take nominations for a new one. I urge you to think about nominating or making a contribution in some other way. To paraphrase John F. Kennedy – "Ask not what your society can do for you – ask what you can do for your society".



QUEANBEYAN PLAYERS

PO Box 390,
Queanbeyan NSW 2620

NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2009

I nominate
for the position of:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee Member

of the Queanbeyan Players.

Name

Signature

Date

Signature of nominee

Date

*Note: Both nominator and nominee must be financial members of the
Queanbeyan Players.*

Completed forms should be submitted to the current Secretary, Gail Giuliano,
or current President, Joyanne Gough, before the AGM on 10 February 2009.



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