

Official Newsletter of the
SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

Fostering an outlet for creative youth and community, while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment that enriches, engages and educates.

May 2016

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BONNIE & CLYDE

ONLINE ANYTIME

Book By **IVAN MENCHELL** Lyrics By **DON BLACK** Music By **FRANK WILDHORN**

Co-Directors **BRAD KENDRICK & BRADY WATKINS** Musical Director **BRADY WATKINS**

The poster features a vintage car with license plate "A 5569" in the foreground. In the background, two men in suits and hats are silhouetted against a building. On the right, a black and white photograph shows a man and a woman embracing. Social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn are visible in the top left corner.

SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

audition dates and show times - *mark your calendar*

BONNIE & CLYDE
a new musical
SHOWTIME

**Directed by
Brad Kendrick**
MAY 13 -
JUNE 4

A LAD 'N' HIS LAMP
an ingeniously funny Panto!
SHOWTIME

**DIRECTED BY
ALEX BREEN**
JUNE 29 -
JULY 9

Higher & Higher
The Motown Musical
AUDITIONS 15 MAY 2016

**DIRECTED BY
JAMIE WATT**
AUGUST 12 -
SEPTEMBER 3

BREAST WISHES
an uplifting musical
AUDITIONS 19 JUNE 2016

**Directed by Tess Burke
& Tony Alcock**
SEPTEMBER 16 -
OCTOBER 2

**THE MYSTERY OF
EDWIN DROOD**
AUDITIONS 24 JULY 2016

*The Solve It Yourself
Musical*
OCTOBER 21 -
NOVEMBER 12

PARKING AT BENOWA GARDENS

FOR SPOTLIGHT MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, & PATRONS
IS STRICTLY 3 HRS DAILY.

PLEASE PARK IN THE UNDERGROUND CARPARK.

PLEASE NOTE: THE 9PM CLOSING TIME IS WAIVED AND IS 11PM
WHEN THERE ARE NIGHT TIME PERFORMANCES AT SPOTLIGHT.

DIRECTORS

PLAYBILL SUBMISSIONS REQUIRED FOR 2017

Directors please present your detailed submissions
for

Musicals, Pantomimes and Plays
(OR OTHER EXCITING SUGGESTIONS)
outlining your ideas and production team
for presentation during 2017.

APPROXIMATE DATES

Main Theatre - Musicals

Mid February/March
Latter part of May/June
Late July/August
Late October/November

Basement Theatre Pantomimes/Plays

Early January
Early April
Late June/July
Mid September/October

Submissions close 30th June 2016

Please present to: Production Committee
Spotlight Theatre
185-187 Ashmore Road, Benowa
or mail to: Production Chairperson
Spotlight Theatrical Company,
PO Box 8074 Gold Coast Mail Centre Q 9726

BONNIE & CLYDE



At the height of the Great Depression, Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow went from two small-town nobodies in west Texas to America's most renowned folk heroes and law enforcement's worst nightmare. Now, they're bringing their electrifying story of love, adventure and crime that captured the attention of an entire country to The Spotlight Theatre.

"This musical operates on two levels," said Tony Alcock, Spotlight's Artistic director. "At its core, Bonnie and Clyde is a love story about two young people whose passion for life and each other leads them to make decisions that result in disastrous consequences. It is also a story that has contemporary relevance in that it begs an answer to a question that has been very much [a part] of recent news events: 'What social conditions lead us to make heroes out of those who demonstrate anti-social behaviour?'"

From their very first meeting, Bonnie and Clyde are immediately connected by their desire to be bigger than their small-town lives, and they set off together to chase their dreams. The musical explores the couple's dark descent, from their ambitious beginning to their tragic demise. They captured the public's attention not only because of their youth and beauty, but because of the depth of their passion for each other. It's a love story like no other. It blurs the lines between right and wrong and fame and destruction.

Bonnie and Clyde were notorious criminals, but they were also regarded as heroes by many of the victims of the Great Depression — an almost Robin Hood-like worship based on the "have-nots" striking back at authority and those who "have," Tony said. "The events in the musical are based on actual events, but it is ultimately a romanticised view of the famous couple."

There are 29 scenes in the musical as it moves from events from Bonnie and Clyde's childhoods to the ambush that leads to their deaths. The set needs to be extremely flexible and one that evokes a feel for the period rather than literal locations.

The costumes are based upon the research that the costume team has done. There is an iconic look for Bonnie and Clyde based upon photos that were ultimately left behind during a quick getaway and discovered by the police. These photos became famous and made it increasingly difficult for the couple to stay in one place for any length of time. The photos also helped shape the public's perception of Bonnie and Clyde.

"Bonnie & Clyde" includes music by Frank Wildhorn, lyrics by Don Black and book by Ivan Menchell. It is co-directed by Brad Kendrick and Brady Watkins, who also handles the baton as Musical Director. Choreography is by Laura Carrett.

**BONNIE
&
CLYDE**
OPENS 13th MAY.

Bonnie & Clyde receiving Director's notes



Some interesting Facts about Bonnie and Clyde

You've probably heard of Bonnie and Clyde, but have you heard of Bonnie and Roy?

The notorious crime duo were young gangsters in love who tore across the American Southwest during the Great Depression. They met their end on May 23, 1934, but not before leaving a trail of robberies and murders behind them.

Newspapers demonized Clyde Barrow and his "gunwoman" Bonnie Parker as "notorious desperados" and "dangerous killers", so the following six facts might surprise you.

1. **Although Barrow and Parker claimed to be married, Parker remained legally married to her first husband, Roy Thornton.** On the day she died, she still wore his wedding ring and bore a tattoo on her knee with intertwined hearts and their names, Bonnie and Roy.

2. **Bonnie and Clyde were both short.** Parker was only 4'11" and Barrow 5'4" at a time when average heights for women and men were about 5'3" and 5'8". (Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, who played Bonnie and Clyde in the famous 1967 film, stood 5'7" and 6'2" respectively.)

3. **Parker was an honour student and a poet,** and life as one of America's most wanted didn't stifle those interests. Shortly before her death, Parker wrote a poem called "The Story of Bonnie and Clyde," which was published in several newspapers and immortalized their tale.

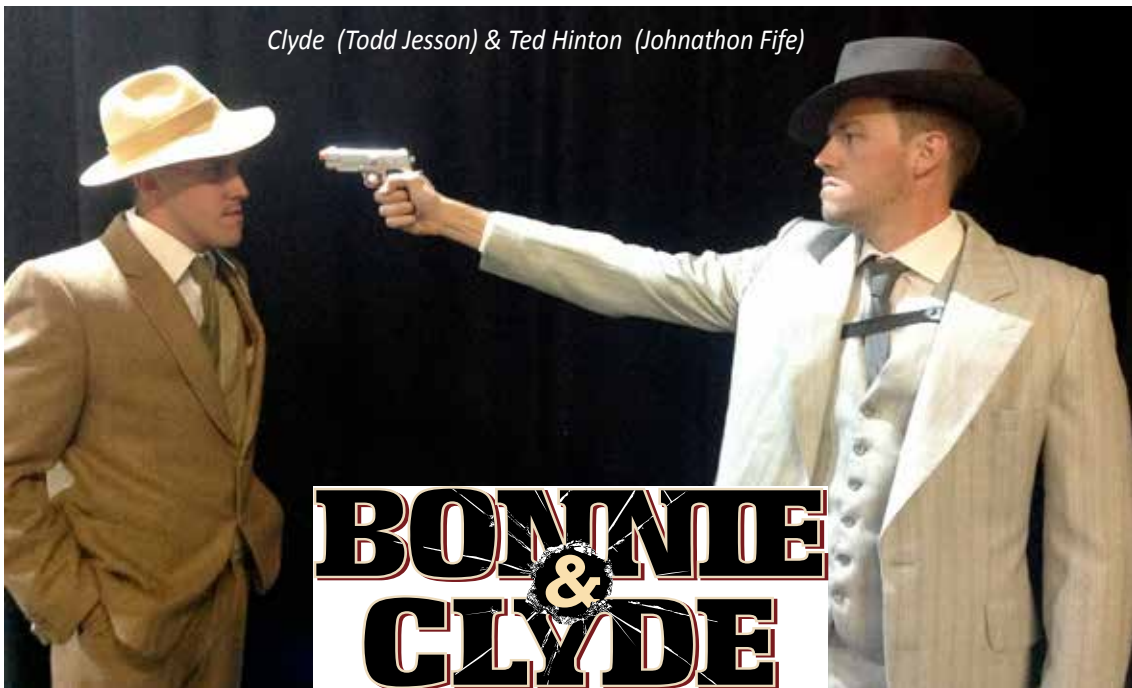
4. **Parker and Barrow remained close to their families,** even on the run. In fact, it was their predictable pattern of stopping to visit family that aided the team of Texas Rangers and deputies who ambushed and killed them.

5. The pair attained such notoriety that **hordes of people flocked to the scene of their death and later to the coroner's to retrieve "souvenirs".** Some attempted to cut off Barrow's ear or finger; others took snippets of Parker's blood-soaked dress or shattered window glass. One man offered Barrow's father over \$30,000 for Barrow's body – the equivalent of over \$600,000 today.

6. Eight decades later, the morbidly curious can see **Bonnie and Clyde's bullet-riddled death car** on display at Whiskey Pete's Casino in Primm, Nevada, outside of Las Vegas.



Clyde (Todd Jesson) & Bonnie (Ruby Hunter)



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or visit/phone Costume Hire at Spotlight Theatre
to join/renew your membership.

GOLDEN GIRLS NEWS

We are halfway through our first season with all numbers flowing smoothly.

We have completed shows at Orchid House Earlhaven, Abri Southport, St Andrews Lutheran Tallebudgera, Bavia Moana Park, Bupa Tugun and Arcare Helensvale. We have nine shows remaining for the season.

Rehearsals are underway for our second season with new numbers and costumes in the works.

I have included photos of Sam, Kerry, Marilyn and myself in The Beatles 'She Loves You' and Sam, Trish, Marilyn, Kerry, and myself, in our opening number for the year *A Wonderful Day Like Today*.

Now back to the boards.

Noni Buckland

Golden Girls Liaison



Joel Beskin's 'Theatre Roundup'

is now on Air every week on Tuesdays.

Tune in to 4CRB 89.3FM between 2.35pm and 3pm
for Community Theatre News and

Kate Peter's 'Showbiz Buzz'

will air on the same station at 2.15pm Friday afternoons.



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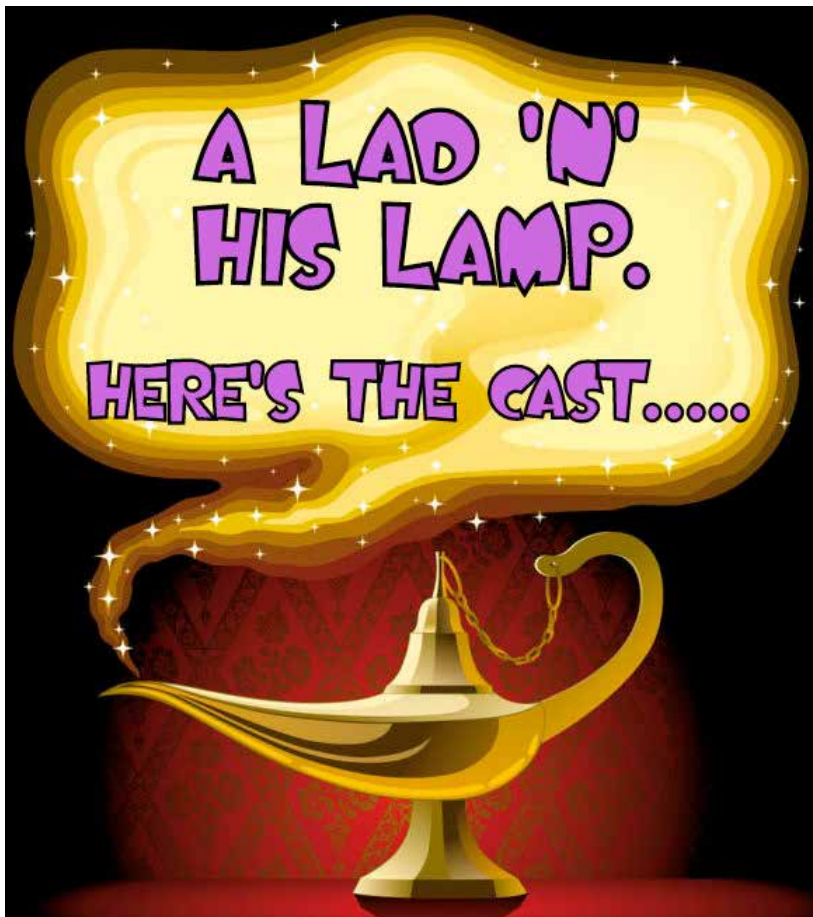
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Cheer the hero and Boo the villains in this wonderfully whacky retelling of '*Aladdin and his magical lamp*'.

A true knockabout pantomime with all your favourite characters, spectacular scenery, stunning costumes and memorable music. Will Aladdin win the heart of the Princess Yasmin? Will the Genie win his freedom? *So Look out! He's behind you!, in front of you and next to you!*

Directed by Alex Breen, this will be a treat for children of all ages!

The *A Lad 'n' his Lamp* cast.

Aladdin - Clay Carlaw

Widow Twankey – Aladdin's Mother – Andrew Cockcroft Penman

Princess Yasmin – Niamh Bourke

The Sultan – Joel Underwood

Abanazar – an evil sorcerer – James Greenwood

Imin – a henchman- Adrienne Morrison

Imout – another henchman – Joshua Brandon

Spirit of the Ring – Georgia Beck

Genie of the Lamp – Nathan French

Magic Carpet – Jack Nepson

Ensemble

Alexander Andersen

Sebastian Andersen

Holly Cruickshanks

Jessica Johnston

Connor Lynch

Wesley Neale

Georgia Ogge

Samantha Price

Lauren Straw

Millie Talbot

Tymyka Wines

Photo: **Director** – Alex Breen (centre)

with **Aladdin** – Clay Carlaw

and **Princess Yasmin** – Niamh Bourke





THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY
PROUDLY PRESENTS

A LAD 'N' HIS LAMP

*"THE INGENIEOUSLY
MAGICAL PANTO"*

*"AN ARABIAN ADVENTURE
FOR ALL THE FAMILY!"*

**DIRECTOR
ALEX BREEN**

**MUSICAL SUPERVISION
MATT PEARSON**

BASEMENT THEATRE

29 JUNE - 9 JULY

2016

**2 SHOWS DAILY
10:30AM & 2:00PM**

BOOK & PAY

(07) 5539 4255

www.spotlighttheatre.com.au



ANDREW COCKROFT-PENMAN (*Senior Drama Teacher*)
JONATHAN WHITLOW (*Musical Theatre Teacher*)
HANNAH CROWTHER (*Intermediate Teacher*)
TERRI WOODFINE (*Primary Teacher*)
VAL LEFTWICH (*YT Administrator*)
MARTINA FRENCH / VAL LEFTWICH (*YT Liaison*)

FROM YOUTH THEATRE ADMINISTRATOR

Youth Theatre is going really well. Second term has started and the Senior classes have started to work towards their productions.

Music Theatre will be the first production with Jonathan as Senior Teacher and Martina assisting with voice training. Music Showcase will take place in the Main Theatre on the 17th and 18th June and I am sure everyone is looking forward to it. Each student will receive four complimentary tickets which have to be booked at the theatre in person or by telephone. Extra tickets can be obtained and these will be at a cost of \$15.00.

The Drama production for this year is ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, a comedy believed to have been written by William Shakespeare in the late 1500's. The play portrays the events surrounding the marriage of Theseus, the Duke of Athens, to Hippolyta. I am sure this will bring back many memories for parents who undoubtedly would have been touched by this novel sometime during their school years. I attended some of the auditions and we certainly have a talented group of students in our Drama classes.

The Junior and Intermediate classes are well attended with students who are very keen to learn the art of theatre. They have all settled in with their teachers Terri and Hannah and have a lot of fun, which is what it is all about at that age. Work on their end of year productions will commence after June.

Some students have found it necessary to change nights for their classes due to school commitments, so if you wanted to enrol but found that the class you wanted was full, then it may be a good idea to contact me again to see if a place is available.

Valerie Leftwich – Administrator Youth Theatre Programme



ALL TERM FEES PAYABLE TO SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

BY CASH, CHEQUE, CREDIT CARD OR DIRECT DEPOSIT TO :

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If you have more than one child attending classes, every child after the first enrolment will receive \$10:00 discount.

CONTACT: Youth Theatre Administrator, VAL LEFTWICH

ph: 0452 501 941 email: val@leftwich.com.au



SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY



SPONSOR A CHAIR

The **Spotlight Theatrical Company** wishes to acknowledge and thank you for your donation to sponsor a chair/s. This sponsorship is urgently needed to replace 240 chairs with new, quality, stackable chairs to fill both our main stage theatre and basement theatre. The **cost of a chair is \$90.00** and Spotlight will have a plaque created and attached to back of every chair purchased by a sponsor.

As this is considered a donation, it would be tax deductible and a tax receipt will be forwarded to person/business donating.

Should you wish to become part of this sponsorship please complete the following and forward to:

Spotlight Theatrical Company, PO Box 8074, Gold Coast Mail Centre, Qld 9726

Or, personally deliver to:

Costume Hire, Spotlight Theatre, 185-187 Benowa Road, Benowa.

Details to appear on plaque: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY BELOW IN THIS TINTED AREA:

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AUDITIONS - MAY 15



Higher & Higher is approaching its audition date of **May 15** at break neck speed and the creative team is hard at work bringing life to some of the most iconic songs of an historic era. Together with Kellie Niebling and Lauren Wormald, I have created a diverse choreographic landscape that caters to the show's varied music catalogue and will leave the audience (and the dancers) gasping for breath!

At present, our Musical Director Ben Murray is tasked with orchestrating and arranging the show. This involves Ben recreating these famous song's full vocal lines and backing vocals PLUS the instrumentals from scratch! As this show contains more than 50 songs, I'm sure you can appreciate what a mammoth task this is. Our cast will go into rehearsals with a full show ready to rehearse thanks to Ben and his team's hard work.

Higher & Higher presents such a unique and rare opportunity for performers and audiences alike. For singers and dancers, there is no better show to flex your muscles than a jukebox style musical. It will push your limits and stamina to areas you never thought possible. For audiences, how often can you see more than 50 of the songs you know every word to on stage with a live band, all in a 2 hour show? The **Higher & Higher** creative team have one mission, to blow the roof off of Spotlight Theatre's Main Stage and leave everyone begging for more.

I have been blessed with a strong team of creatives who are working so hard to make this show an exciting experience for our cast, with some of us working for more than 6 months on the Choreography, and in some cases, over a year now on the show itself to ensure our scheduling wastes nobody's time and produces the best product. This team are no strangers to the Spotlight stage:

Kellie Niebling - Associate Choreographer:

Kellie is no stranger to the stage with over 25 years dance training. She is fully trained in all aspects of dance, having heavily focused on classical ballet studying the Royal Academy of Dance classical ballet syllabus. Kellie is now a highly respected dance teacher on the Gold Coast and is dedicated to sharing her knowledge and passion for dance with her students, teaching lyrical, contemporary, ballet and jazz.

Lauren Wormald - Associate Choreographer:

Lauren is originally from the UK and has been in Australia now for 2 years.

Lauren is a highly respected choreographer in the UK choreographing many community theatre productions, dance school shows, fashion shows and events there, she is also a dance and performing arts teacher with over 10 years of experience and qualifications with the I.D.T.A (International Dance Teachers Association) and U.K.C.A (United Kingdom Cheerleading Association) she is also a Fitness Instructor and has a qualification in Zumba fitness.

Lauren trained at Phil Winston's Theatre works college and agency in the UK for 3 years in all aspects of dance and performance.

Professional credits include: 3 contracts with Disneyland Paris as a Character and parade performer, Siblu Resorts (France) as dance captain and choreographer, Singer/Dancer in the works showcase and cabaret (Blackpool), various promotional events, singer/dancer in variety performance at the Royal Albert Hall (London), Entertainment at Paradise Resort (Gold Coast), Choreographer of community charity fashion shows and various dance schools, college and

university performances, dance and fitness teacher for Madonna's Gym Hard Candy - (Sydney) and many other dance schools, gyms and theatres.

Ben Murray - Music Director:

Ben has been working as a Musical Director, Pianist, Keyboard Programmer, Cabaret Accompanist and Sound Designer in theatres around Brisbane and the Gold Coast for the last 10 years. In that time he has been Musical Director/Keyboardist/Keyboard Programmer/Arranger for more than 50 productions. His Musical Direction credits include **Mary Poppins** (Assistant, Arts Centre GC, 2016), **Sunday in the Park With George** (IMTC, 2016), **Into The Woods** (2013, Ignatians) **The Last Five Years** (2013, Risk Productions), **The Boy From Oz** (2013, Ignatians), **How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying**, **A Very Potter Musical** (2012, Lost Boys Theatre Company), **Anything Goes** (2012, Savoyards), **The Last Five Years**, **Sweeney Todd** (2012, Ignatians), **All Shook Up** (2011, Phoenix Ensemble), **Cabaret** (2010, QMT), **The Wizard of Oz**, **Forbidden Broadway**, **The Last Five Years**, **Urinetown**, **Monty Pythons Spamalot**, **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat**, **Gilligans Island**, **Sweeney Todd**, **You're a Good Man Charlie Brown** and **The Secret Garden** (Phoenix Ensemble 2005-2009).

In 2009 he was co-recipient of the inaugural Gold Coast Area Theatre award for Best Musical Direction for his work on **Monty Pythons Spamalot**.

As a Keyboard Player and Keyboard programmer, he has worked on **Next to Normal** (Spotlight Theatre, 2014), **Jesus Christ Superstar** (RMT, 2014), **Little Shop of Horrors** (Brisbane Arts Theatre 2013), **The Phantom of The Opera**, **Miss Saigon**, **My Fair Lady** (Savoyards 2011-2013), **The Wedding Singer** (Smash Theatrical, 2013), **All Shook Up**, **Avenue Q**, **The Boy From Oz** (Spotlight Theatrical 2010-2012), **Miss Saigon** (Ignatians, 2010), **The Producers**, **Guys and Dolls**, **Jekyll and Hyde** (Blue Fish Theatrical, 2011), **13: The Musical** (Javeenbah, 2011), **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**, **Cats**, **Living in The 80's** (Phoenix Ensemble, 2007-2008), **Dusty: The Original Pop Diva** (BTG, 2010), **Little Women** (Ignatians, 2013), **Downtown: The Mod Musical** (Spotlight Theatre, 2014), **Adding Machine** (Underground, 2014), **Company** (Ignatians, 2014), **Thoroughly Modern Millie** (Savoyards, 2014), **Beauty and the Beast** (Savoyards, 2015) **Legally Blonde** (Spotlight, 2015), **Metalhead** (Underground, 2015), **Miss Saigon** (Gold Coast Arts Centre, 2015)

In the world of cabaret, he has performed alongside local and interstate performers including **Natasha York** (*These Things Take Wine*, *Friends with Benefits*, *Crash Test Love*), **Emily Vascotto** (*The Confession*), **Jess Papst** (*So I Just Turned 20... Something...*), **Belinda Reid** (*Ich Bin Ein Belinda*), **Rhiannon Moushall** (*Surviving the Apocalypse: A Handy How-To Guide... With Jazz Hands*) and **Marcus Skeggs** (*All I Wanted Was The Dream*). He was last seen performing alongside **Natasha York** in *These Things Take Wine*, and with **Megan Kozac** in *Backseat Diamond*, both at the Adelaide Fringe Festival in February/March 2016.

As well as having skills in music, sound and lighting, he has also studied Multimedia, Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, and for the past 8 years has worked as the Network and Systems Administrator for a national retailer.

If you want to be a part of an exceptional team please register your interests in auditions to mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au. *Audition deadline is fast approaching!*

As you can see, Higher & Higher will be the show of the year and we can't wait to unleash it on the world on August 12!


SEASON: 12th AUGUST – 3rd SEPTEMBER 2016

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WWW.SPOTLIGHTTHEATRE.COM.AU

UPCOMING SHOWS

THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS



Breast Wishes

An Uplifting Musical

Music & Lyrics by
BRUCE BROWN

Book by
MERRIDY EASTMAN, JONATHAN GAVIN,
RICHARD GLOVER, WENDY HARMER,
SHERIDAN JOBBINS, JAMES MILLAR
& DEBRA OSWALD

Concept by
ANNE LOOBY

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd

Directed by
Tess Burke & Tony Alcock


Musical Director
Marie Nicholson

Choreographed by
Lauren Wormald

Basement Theatre | 16 Sep - 2 Oct 2016

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THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS



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The Solve It Yourself Musical

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MAIN THEATRE
21 OCT - 12 NOV 2016

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THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY COMMITTEE MEETING is held THIRD TUESDAY EACH MONTH – 7:00pm at The Spotlight Theatre Complex unless otherwise advised.

Don Kibble (GOLD COAST)

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Spotlighter Deadline 19th of each month

Please forward articles and pics to
shirley@spotlighttheatre.com.au

SPOTLIGHTER ADVERTISING RATES

Per Month: 1/4 page - \$20.00 + GST
1/2 page - \$40.00 + GST
Full page - \$60.00 + GST

GOLD COAST THEATRE ALLIANCE

For an update on all current and scheduled plays and shows by Gold Coast and Tweed Shire member groups visit the website:
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Theatre Alliance Secretary:
theatrealliance@qld.chariot.net.au

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IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY?

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for their substantial Rate donation.

CONTACT INFORMATION – SPOTLIGHT COUNCILLORS 2015-2016

Acting President *Patricia Drew* e: patsydrew@bigpond.com

Secretary: *Diana Gibson* e: theatreyeme@gmail.com

Treasurer: *Michelle Edwards* e: michelle@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Councillors

Tony Alcock e: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Martina French e: davidandtina@bigpond.com

Erica Graham e: erica@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Shirley King e: shirley@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Val Leftwich e: val@leftwich.com.au

Jamie Watt e: j_j_watt@hotmail.com

Terri Woodfine e: terri_woodfine@hotmail.com

Production Committee

Chair Person: *Tony Alcock* e: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Committee: *John Davidson, Josh Lovell, Matt Pearson and Terri Woodfine*

Theatre Technical Consultant *Michael Sutton* **Lighting Co-ordinator** *Shaun Wilson*

Library *Matt Pearson* e: matt.pearson@live.com.au

Small Props *Terri Woodfine* e: terri_woodfine@hotmail.com

Grants *Duncan Sims*

Insurance *Glenda Kusters* Insurance matters e: glenda@leaib.com.au

Fire & Security Contacts: *Tony Alcock, Jamie Watt*

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Michelle May Administration W 07 5539 4255

Publicity e: publicity@spotlighttheatre.com.au *Tony Alcock*

Social Media *Jamie Watt* e: j_j_watt@hotmail.com

Costume Hire *Michelle May W 5539 4700* *Tony Alcock – Costume Coordinator – W 5539 4255*

Youth Theatre Teachers e: youth@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Andrew Cockroft-Penman (Head Teacher), Jonathan Whitlow (Musical Theatre Teacher)

Hannah Crowther (Intermediate Drama Teacher)

Terri Woodfine (Junior Drama Teacher) Martina French (Vocal Coach)

Youth Theatre Administrator *Val Leftwich* e: val@leftwich.com.au

Youth Theatre Liaison Officer *Martina French & Val Leftwich*

Golden Girls Liaison *Noni Buckland* e: noni.buckland@bigpond.com

Sponsorships *Erica Graham* e: erica@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Bar Manager - RMLV *Duncan Sims*

Charity Night Co-ordinator *Helen Maden* e: hpmaden2@gmail.com

G.C. Theatre Alliance Representative *Joel Beskin / Erica Graham*

Webmaster *Michael Thomas* e: stc_webmaster@showbizaustralia.com

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Spotlighter Editor *Shirley King* e: shirley@spotlighttheatre.com.au

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