



# Knox Theatre Company

5 Harewood Close. Boronia VIC 3123 Phone: 9762 1901

Newsletter September 2008

## Season 1, 2008

### "Run For Your Wife" by Ray Cooney

This season proved to be hugely successful on all levels. Our audiences loved the show, we sold out on several nights and had our biggest audiences in years. A big thank you to you, our patrons, for being so supportive.

We would also like to thank Knox Community Arts Centre management for all their help over the season. Their assistance and friendliness throughout was really appreciated. We had the luxury for the first time in years of keeping our set up between shows which made things so much easier for Steve Jennings, our setbuilder, and our crew.

We would also like to thank our FOH workers. These people work very hard behind the scenes to ensure everyone is made to feel welcome. We would especially like to thank, Sandie McArdle, Janine Murphy and Marianne Simpson who offered their services for FOH. It was a lovely change to have people asking to help rather than us having to find someone.

Finally, a big thank you to the cast and crew who worked tirelessly throughout the season to make this production such a success.

On a sadder note, we wish Steve Mangan all the best for the future, Steve lives in Hoppers Crossing and due to the long hours of travel, he has decided that it's not feasible, or fair on his family, to perform so far away from home again.

Steve will be remembered by our patrons for his performances in many KTC productions including "There Goes The Bride", "The Curious Savage", "The Club" and last season for his memorable role of 'Detective Sergeant Porterhouse'.

Even though he says it's his last play with Knox, we live in hope that he may move or see his way clear to perform with us again in the future.

## Season 2, 2008

### "Respecting Your Piers" by Peter Quilter

#### Directed by Jill Hiam

*Respecting Your Piers* is a comedy with moments of high farce that is also gentle and touching.

Five women inherit equal shares in a dilapidated pleasure pier and are forced to settle their differences in order to get the pier operational again. There is Pam, the embittered mother; Theresa, the confused daughter; Betty, the eccentric grandmother; Jackie the health addict and Sharon, the loud-mouthed punk. This comedy takes its humour from the culture clashes between the women, two of whom are sworn enemies!

#### The cast:

Shirley Cattunar, Rochelle Dennis, Claire Freeman, Jane Holmes and Renee St Claire.

#### The crew:

Matt Barber, Kieran Dennis, Mark Hardy, Kathleen Hunter and Steve Jennings

Please see attached booking form for more information.

When booking tickets, why not take advantage of the following discounts?

Senior or concession card holders  
Members of Knox Theatre Company  
Group bookings of 10 and over  
(One discount per booking)

## Subscriptions

Once again, it's that time of year. Subscription fees are due. If you wish to receive the benefits available, please return the enclosed application form.

Please note that subscription fees are now \$15.00 per year. We have decided to raise the fees and offer our subscribers a larger discount of \$3.00 per ticket. By paying your subscription you will receive 2 discounted tickets per season.

# Introducing the cast of 'Respecting Your Piers'

**Shirley Cattunar**



"What shall I do with myself now?" says 'Betty' from "Respecting Your Piers". Keep on keeping on, says Shirley.

After fifty odd years of theatre (odd is right), there is no point in stopping now, it is in the blood, and without it I might just pass on. In between keeping busy "showing off", I have had six children, they in turn have had between them twenty children, and those wonderful grandchildren produced another thirteen off-springs. So a lot of my time is taken up remembering birthdays.

This is my sixth appearance with Knox Theatre. Believe it or not, I was nearly young in those days) and I always feel as if I am coming home each time I perform in their wonderful productions.

I am really enjoying the role of 'Betty' and it is great to be in the company of four fine, dedicated spring actors. I also must mention Jill's direction. She creates a lovely atmosphere in which to work and her attention to detail is exemplary. Both being very important towards producing a successful production. I wish her every success.

**Rochelle Dennis**



I have been involved in amateur theatre for many years both on and off stage.

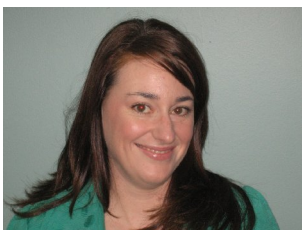
I first appeared on stage with Adlib Children's Theatre, then later, ITT Productions. 'Molly' in "Jake's Women" was my first role with Knox Theatre Company in 2006 and "Respecting Your Piers" is my second since first coming along to KTC workshops back in 2003.

A professional circus coach and performer and a founding member of Circus Folk Incorporated keeps me very busy.

In 2005, I was selected to begin training as a Young Leader with the Reach Foundation, and now, as an accredited crew member help to deliver programs for youth at risk throughout Victoria.

It's very exciting to be involved in "Respecting Your Piers" and I'm thoroughly immersed in the role of 'Theresa'. I feel very lucky to be among such a great cast. I'm able to explore and develop this character and, grow as an actor as well.

**Jane Holmes**



I have been with Knox Theatre Company for two years now, first participating in our 2006 staging of "Time of My Life" followed by "Jake's Women". Before that I had not been in a stage production since high school. Apart from theatre, I'm an ardent and passionate supporter of the Melbourne Football Club and defending the Club has often led to conflicts. Despite advice to the contrary, I feel no shame in being a Demon and encourage others to join - the sooner the better!! I'm also a great lover of music, sighting U2, Radiohead and The Foo Fighters as being amongst my favourites. Whilst achieving world peace was on my agenda when in my 20's, I have since handed the mantle of world saver onto the likes of Bono and now enjoy good wine and great food instead and every so often can be found carrying on in the kitchen not dissimilar to Gordon Ramsay albeit without the same culinary results, much to the disappointment of my family.

## Renee St Clair

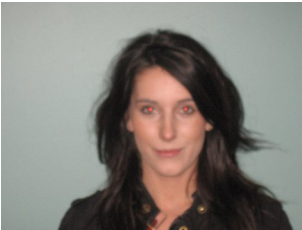


Being very interested in theatre, I studied Theatre Studies and Dance in VCE, and then went on to the National Theatre in St Kilda to complete a Certificate 3 in Stage and Screen Performance where I gained a Diploma in Stage Management, I am still at the National Theatre, this time studying a 3 year Diploma of Acting course. I love everything about theatre, and hopefully, one day will be on stage acting professionally.

I have worked previously with Knox Theatre Company on stage in "Time Of My Life" as 'Maureen' and behind the scenes where I stage managed "Jake's Women". When not studying I work part-time at Coles and am about to begin work as a tour guide for the TV show, "Neighbours".

For relaxation I'm interested in singing, script writing, hip hop and funk dancing and going to live theatre.

## Claire Freeman



As a child my brother and I would make up different plays to act out, but it wasn't until I was at MLC where one of my subjects was Drama that I appeared on stage. My most memorable production at MLC was "West Side Story" where I was a dancer and in the chorus.

After school I went on to Deakin University where I completed a double major in Drama and Philosophy - I completed this course last year.

My boyfriend, being a promoter, has given me the chance to appear in the Tropfest Film 1963 and very recently in a video clip, "Deeper Love", by the rapper, Medee Bear.

This is my first production outside Uni and I'm really loving working in a play with substance and with a great cast. When reading a synopsis of my character, 'Sharon', I felt drawn to her as there are many traits the same as mine - one being a junk food addict, much to the annoyance of my Mother who is a fabulous cook.

While sitting back relaxing and listening to my favourite music, in the main, Fleetwood Mac or David Bowie, I am now thinking about which direction I want to take in the entertainment world.

# KTC Online



Visit our website - Our address is: <http://www.knoxtheatrecompany.com>

If you have any ideas for the website, we would love to hear from you.

Contact Jill Hiam on 9762 1901 or [jhiam@netspace.net.au](mailto:jhiam@netspace.net.au) or Janna Wright at [fizzie09au@hotmail.com](mailto:fizzie09au@hotmail.com)

## Theatrical Superstition



In theatre, many of our superstitions are based on old lore with origins that are lost in history. Often we can only conjecture how they started. Whatever their origins, they are fixed by constant repetition and are a firm part of what makes theatre interesting and colorful.

The color green is considered to be unlucky. This is said to date from the time when most performances were given out-of-doors. Wearing green would make it hard to distinguish the actor from grass/trees/bushes in the natural setting beyond the performing area.

One ghost-related superstition is that the theatre should always be closed one night a week to give the ghosts a chance to perform their own plays. This is traditionally on a Monday night, conveniently giving actors a day off after weekend performances.

Theatres that have stood for more than a few decades tend to have lots of associated ghost stories, more than other public buildings of similar age.