



MARCH 2010

For details of future productions visit our website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>



Eddie Manchip (David Edwards) is in trouble again with Minnie (Ruth Henderson) in Javeenbah's upcoming production *Who Goes Bare?* — Picture: SHANE CADDAYE

Barely ever out of trouble

A successful “Meet the director and cast” function has set the tone for a winning run of Javeenbah’s next production, the comedy *Who Goes Bare?*

Directed by the Gold Coast’s Queen of Farce, Dorothy Henderson, *Who Goes Bare?* is set in a large and somewhat decaying English country mansion that is being run as a health and strength home.

Dorothy introduced her cast and some of her

Holiday wrap-up

This issue of Javeenbah’s newsletter covers happenings over the end of the holiday period in mid January 2010 to the end of February. The next newsletter will be published on 1 April 2010.

production team at the “Meet the director and cast” function and answered questions about staging the play. With eight doors on set being used for quick entrances and exits staging techniques are an important part of the comedy.

She also gave a taste of what’s to come, although for copyright reasons it was not possible to be too explicit.

Who Goes Bare?, by Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon, is a *Carry On* style of farce containing lots of innuendo and British seaside postcard humour. As well as the entrances and exits, there’s plenty of slapstick and items of clothing being shed in confusion.

The play’s synopsis has Eddie Manchip, played by David Edwards, running the health and strength

CONTINUED ON P4

Javeenbah Theatre Company Inc gratefully acknowledges the support of Gold Coast City Council

Audition overturns gender bias

The world must be ending.

Amy-Louise Anderson held auditions for *Zigzag Street* and found herself turning men away while looking for more women.

Amy wanted three men and five women for the Philip Dean comedy. But the women weren't there. Even a couple who e-mailed her the day before to say they'd be there did not show.

The men showed though. Amy auditioned some in advance and others turned up on the day. She ended up giving two men the "don't call us" message.

As this issue of the newsletter went to press, Amy

was still tracking down somebody for one of the female roles.

Zigzag Street, an Australian comedy which Dean wrote from the book by Nick Earls, is a funny and engaging adventure through six months in the life of the hapless Richard Derrington, a corporate lawyer whose girlfriend recently dumped him.

In a pitiful attempt to rebuild his life he seems to make one rotten choice after another. Despite frequent attempts to get it together, his life remains "crap". All of the characters in his life, his best mate, his boss, his doctor are determined to help him find his way clear of the chaos and only seem to make things worse for Richard.

The arrival of the equally quirky Rachel brings something Richard never dreamed he'd have again: Hope!

Vital info: *Zigzag Street* opens at Javeenbah's Nerang Playhouse, corner of Stevens and Ferry Streets, Nerang, on Friday 30 April and runs until 15 May. There will be a matinee on Sunday 9 May. There is likely to be a preview performance on Thursday 14 May and a "meet the cast" function near the end of April. Further information from the director Amy-Louise Anderson at amyandflynn@live.com.au or from Javeenbah's website, <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>

Playbill starts taking shape

Next year's playbill is starting to come together but Javeenbah's productions sub committee wants more feedback.

Artistic director Amy-Louise Anderson and her team want a well-rounded program for the year with a musical or two, a "bums-on-seats" play and a couple of dramas and comedies. At least one of the productions should present actors and crews with a real challenge.

We are already well-known for our willingness to take a risk with a challenging play and that's a reputation Amy wants us to keep.

So the call is out for potential directors to let us know what they'd like to put on our boards in 2011 and to all members to have a say in what we should be producing.

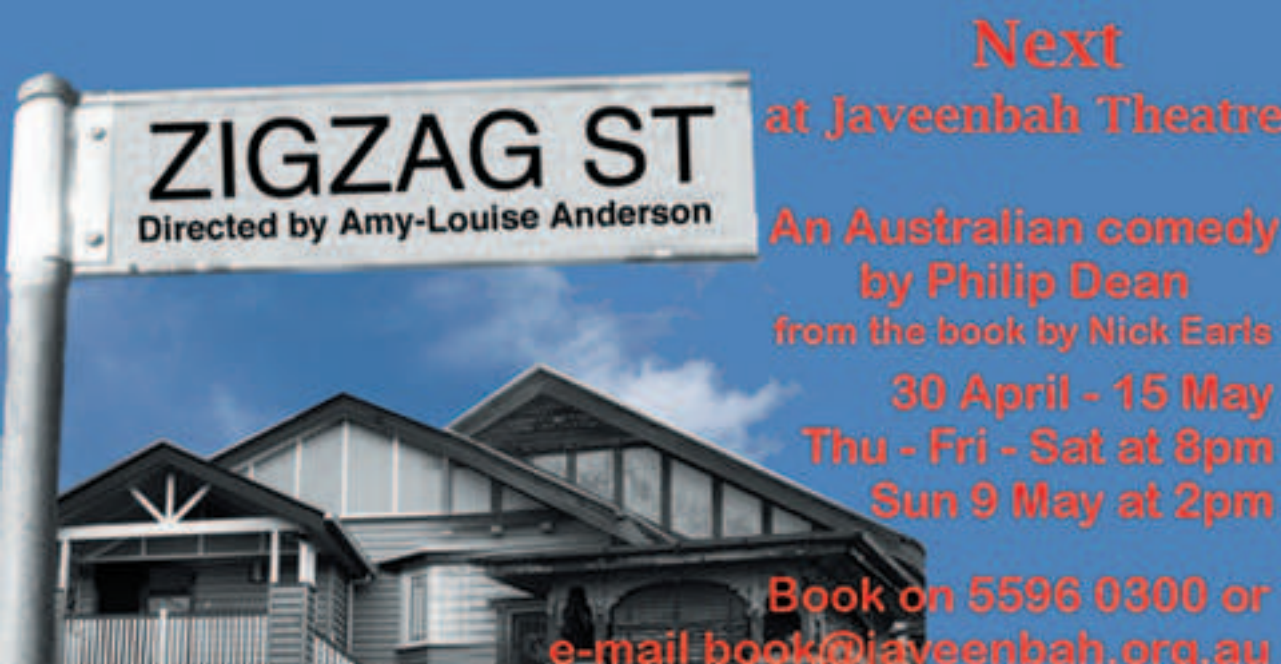
Send all ideas to Amy by e-mail to amyandflynn@live.com.au or phone to 0407 799 983 before the end of June.

Offensive

It's only community theatre until it offends someone, then it's ART!

Committee meeting

The next meeting of Javeenbah's management committee will be at the theatre on Tuesday 16 March at 7pm. All financial members are welcome to attend committee meetings and may contribute by arrangement with the president.



Next
at Javeenbah Theatre

An Australian comedy
by Philip Dean
from the book by Nick Earls

30 April - 15 May
Thu - Fri - Sat at 8pm
Sun 9 May at 2pm

Book on 5596 0300 or
e-mail book@javeenbah.org.au

Website becomes audition hit

Javeenbah's new website is already proving valuable.

One of the site's features is the ability to submit an audition application form online. Within 12 hours of the mailback program being installed — and while it was still being debugged — the first form was submitted from somebody wanting to audition for *Zigzag Street*.

All productions for the rest of the year have audition details and an audition application form. So while you cannot actually audition online, you can at least tell the director what you're interested in.

It also gives directors the opportunity to gauge interest in the production in case they have to look for people to fill particular roles. And it makes it easier to arrange closed auditions.

We can also take membership applications direct from the website. We have not yet set up secure pages so we cannot take credit card details over the net, but would-be members and people renewing their membership can post their subscription online directly into Javeenbah's bank account.

The new website follows our decision to move from where the site was being housed in the United States to a host in Brisbane. The new address is <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>.

The switch also means a change of e-mail address. Our general e-mail is now info@javeenbah.org.au and we have a separate address for the booking office — book@javeenbah.org.au.

So take a look at the new site and let us know what you think. A couple of the pages are still under construction but we'll gradually work our way through the updates.

If you have a look, you'll find that one feature we're putting together is a complete record of all productions ever staged by Javeenbah. You can find it by going to the "About us" page and clicking on the link to "Plays of the past".

We've got to February 1997 on the net, so there's still a way to go. But we're running into problems and we're seeking help from members.

We have opening dates, titles, authors and directors going back to Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross* in June 1996. We also have a fairly comprehensive list which we have not put on the website yet which goes back to 1985. However, this list lacks the names of directors. And before 1985 things are pretty sketchy.

Can you help fill some gaps? If you directed, acted in or took part in anything we staged in the 1970s or 1980s please drop us a note (e-mail to info@javeenbah.org.au is best) and mention opening date, title, author, director and anything else about the production that would be good to have on record.

FOH volunteering raises concern

Response to calls for volunteers to staff front of house during the run of a production is getting worse. It's now so bad that we have difficulty covering if a volunteer is ill or for some other reason cannot make it on the night.

FOH manager Scott Pickett is canvassing all members to take a turn at FOH during the run of *Who Goes Bare?*. We need three per performance and four is better — one to look after the box office, giving out tickets and ticketing walk-ins; two behind the bar; and one to sell raffle tickets and be a general "floater". On Gala Nights there is also the need to put out food for the after-show function.

With four we can be happy we have enough people to provide a satisfactory level of security for the premises and to assist in the event of an emergency.

We do not expect FOH people to regard their rostering as a chance to see the play for free. They are there to do a job, not sneak into the auditorium.

The job is not onerous. You have to be able to add up money and give change. The box office person needs to practise with the eftpos machine before the doors open. Other than that, it's primarily a job of being pleasant to the customers and making them feel welcome.

Alco-pops comeback

We are returning to our previous practice of selling pre-mixed drinks at the theatre bar. We stopped last year when the mixers became so expensive. But selling spirits and mixes separately has not caught on.

FOH manager Scott Pickett reported to the February management committee that spirit sales had disappointed. The committee decided it would be better to go back to offering pre-mixed drinks even though they attracted the alco-pop tax which made them expensive.

Flood problem returns

The downstairs area of the theatre continues to suffer from flooding whenever there's heavy rain. Theatre manager Norm Strambini is working on the problem with a builder who is planning extra drainage to alleviate the problem.

Other work to be undertaken soon includes unblocking a gutter that is letting water leak into the main toilet area and sorting out the mess after vandals smashed the lights outside the dressing room door.

The overflowing toilet cistern in the dressing room has also been replaced.

Acting, singing courses

Merrimac State High School is establishing a purpose built college on its campus which will open this year to provide a one-year full time or two year part time Certificate IV in Music Theatre for students between the ages of 16 and 24. The school is also offering a part-time acting and singing course for performers over 17. For further information contact Lynn Dyer on 0414 268 800.



ABOVE: Police sergeant (Norm Strambini) is non-plussed at the sight of Mrs Court-Bending (Marie Dickson) and her unmentionables. ABOVE RIGHT: There's nothing between them — Brian (Stuart Brennan) and Nancy (Maria Buckler). — Pictures: SHANE CADDAYE



CONTINUED FROM P1

home. The staff except for Minnie (Ruth Henderson) an hysterically excited maid, have deserted him, partly because he's exploited them and failed to pay them.

The plot centres on Eddie signing away the deeds of the house to Mr Butcher (Barry Gibson) who calls to collect his dues and disaster follows disaster.

Eddie's erring, pompous brother Brian (Stuart Brennan) turns up, hoping for a cheap weekend getting his evil way with Nancy (Maria

CONTINUED OPPOSITE

Javeenbah Theatre Company Inc
by special arrangement with Dominic Pty Ltd

PRESENTS

Who Goes Bare?

By Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon

Director
Dorothy Henderson

Book on **5596 0300** or e-mail book@javeenbah.org.au

12 to 27 March
Thu - Fri - Sat
@ 8pm
Sun 14 & 21
March @ 2pm



CONTINUED FROM OPPOSITE

Buckler) a tennis-player who gets the erroneous impression that she's at a nudist hang-out.

Other characters are Brian's suspicious wife Joan (Naomi Thompson) quick change artist Maxie (John McWatters) who appears as someone different every 10 minutes or so, Nancy's kilted Scottish husband Angus (Michael Madden) and a hearty countrywoman (Marie Dickson). Norm Strambini completes the cast and adds to the confusion as a police sergeant.

Vital info: Season at Javeenbah Theatre Company's Nerang Playhouse is 12 to 27 March 2010. Matinees 14 and 21 March 2pm. Charity performance on preview night, 11 March. Book by phone on 5596 0300 or by e-mail to book@javeenbah.org.au.



TOP: Eddie (David Edwards) and Mr Butcher (Barry Gibson) stagger in.

ABOVE: Anyone for tennis? Nancy (Maria Buckler) is ready to play.

LEFT: The end: Joan (Naomi Thompson) views the best feature of Brian (Stuart Brennan).

— Pictures: SHANE CADDAYE

Sweet Charity goes to audition

If your friends could see you now they'd know you were hot-footing it to the 14 March auditions for *Sweet Charity*.

Yes, the musical that gave us such wonderful numbers as *If My Friends Could See Me Now*, *Big Spender* and *Rhythm of Life* is Javeenbah's July production.

Sweet Charity, from the book by Neil Simon, with music by Cy Coleman and lyrics by Dorothy Fields, is being directed and choreographed by Kim Reynolds, who gave us the smash-hit *Cats* last year.

Charity is a girl who wants to be loved so much that she has lost sight of who she is. Her world is the all too real world of Times Square.

The people who pass through her world are as deceptively charming a group as ever swept across any stage. From her cynical, hard-core girlfriends at the dance hall, to the phoney evangelist "Daddy", the Coney Island "fun people" and the Central Park "strollers" every character is interesting.

Kim is looking to fill nine main parts and up to 20 support roles.

Roles being cast are:

- ❖ Charity Hope Valentine – The girl who wants to be loved (20+) strong actor, singer and dancer
- ❖ Oscar Lindquist – A nervous man whom Charity befriends in a stalled elevator (20+) actor/singer
- ❖ Nickie – One of Charity's closest friends (25+) strong actor, singer and dancer
- ❖ Helene – One of Charity's closest friends (25+) strong actor, singer and dancer
- ❖ Herman – The authoritarian owner of the Fandango Ballroom and Charity's boss (30+) strong actor/singer

- ❖ Vittorio Vidal – A famous Italian movie star (25+) actor/singer
- ❖ Daddy Brubeck – The enigmatic leader of the Rhythm of Life Church (18+) singer/dancer/actor
- ❖ Charlie – Charity's boyfriend in the opening of the show (20+) actor (will also play ensemble roles)
- ❖ Ursula March – Vittorio's girlfriend (18+) actress (will also play ensemble roles)
- ❖ Eight Fandango Ballroom Hostesses – (25+) singer/dancers
- ❖ Six male and six female dancers – (16+) will also play ensemble roles

All auditionees will be required to book an individual singing audition with the director as well as attending the en masse dance audition. Auditions will probably be held in the Senior Citizens hall a couple of doors up the hill from Nerang Playhouse because audition day coincides with a matinee for *Who Goes Bare?*

Kim has the core of a support team already but will also need a big wardrobe team and a strong backstage crew, including dressers.

You can book your individual audition either by contacting Kim direct on misskimmi_22@hotmail.com or you can click on to our website at <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>, fill in the *Sweet Charity* audition form and click the green button.

Vital info: *Sweet Charity* auditions on Sunday 14 March. Audition times will be arranged with the director who will also confirm venue. Performance dates are 9 to 31 July 2010 at Javeenbah's Nerang Playhouse, corner of Stevens and Ferry Streets, Nerang. Matinees are provisionally Sunday 18 and 25 July. There is also likely to be a preview performance on Thursday 8 July and a "meet the cast" function in mid-June. Further information from Kim Reynolds at misskimmi_22@hotmail.com or from Javeenbah's website, <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>

Javeenbah's playbill

2010

12 March *Who Goes Bare?*, by Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon, director Dorothy Henderson – until 27 March

14 March *Sweet Charity* auditions

30 April *Zigzag Street* adapted by Philip Dean from the book by Nick Earls, director Amy-Louise Anderson – until 15 May

9 July *Sweet Charity*, book by Neil Simon, music by Cy Coleman, lyrics by Dorothy Fields, director Kim Reynolds – until 31 July

11 July *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?* auditions

15 August *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* auditions

17 September *Has Alice Frikkin a Ghost of a Chance?* by David Scott, director Joan Stalker-Brown – until 2 October

26 November *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* by playwright/lyricist Joe DiPietro, composer Jimmy Roberts, director Iain Hogg – until 11 December

On other bills

Now Murwillumbah Theatre *Ladies Down Under* until 6 March

Now Spotlight *Curtains* by John Kander and Fred Ebb, until 6 March

20 March Spotlight 40th Annual Entertainers Festival Grand Champions Concert until 28

23 March Ballina Players *Arsenic And Old Lace* until 10 April

5 April Queensland Theatre of Puppetry *Mariottes On Parade*

8 April Top Hat Productions *Singin' In The Rain* until 11th at Twin Towns Services Club

16 April Spotlight *Play On* until 1 May

17 April Gold Coast Little *Showboat* until 15 May

17 April Tweed Theatre *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs of the Black Forest* until 2 May

Ruby challenged audiences



Pamela Sexton and Noel Thompson (above) give their take at the after-show party on how *Ruby Moon* dialogue could have been delivered. The actors, who took all the parts in the play, added a touch of humour with their version that the author never intended.

Ruby closed after drawing a huge audience from schools which helped the drama deliver excellent houses overall.

The enigmatic play had audiences staying back in the auditorium after the final curtain, debating Who-dunnit: Was it one of the neighbours, the parents, or was anything done at all? A thoroughly absorbing piece of theatre.

Other pictures: LEFT, Director Jocelyn Moore-Carter joins Pam and Noel to cut the party cake. BELOW: Even the teacups were in Ruby's signature colours.



Committee

President

Colleen Reynolds

P 0420 788 017

E colleengail@hotmail.com

Vice president

Katrina Lardner

P 0418 596 277

E klardner@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

Secretary

Ralph Lenton

P 5502 6794

E pentalibra@qld.chariot.net.au

Assistant secretary

Jocelyn Moore-Carter

P 5576 3869

E jocelyn.moore-carter@tlc.qld.edu.au

Treasurer

Sharyn Waterhouse

P 0418 715 882

E sharyn@tacticalprotection.com.au

Assistant treasurer

Vacant

Group bookings

Martin Jennings

P 0425 302 809

E mjennings@goldcoastwater.com.au

Publicity

Vacant

Artistic director

Amy-Louise Anderson

P 0407 799 983

E aanderson@marymount.qld.edu.au

FOH manager

Scott Pickett

P 0432 413 512

E sap@onthenet.com.au

Theatre manager

Norm Strambini

P 0428 556 485

Wardrobe

Christine McLachlan

P 0407 784 672

E cmmclachlan@hotmail.com

General

Jim Dickson

P 0408 691 418

E jaydee2598@gmail.com

Gossips get the 'facts' so wrong

It's amazing the misinformation you hear about Javeenbah around the Gold Coast theatre circuit.

At one function a couple of months back, a committee member heard a Javeenbah member, in a very loud voice, telling her party that "poor old Javeenbah" was on its knees financially. It would be difficult to be further from the truth.

As all members who went to AGM know, Javeenbah has cut its costs significantly and increased its revenues. The result is a pretty healthy bank balance. Sure, there's not enough to throw around. But we pay our bills and, barring disasters, we are unlikely to have a cashflow problem this financial year or next. Not many people can say that about a not-for-profit organisation that relies totally on volunteers.

Our financial health owes a lot to the quality and popularity of what we put on the boards. Our last two musicals pulled in the crowds and made money. Most straight plays break even at least. Although we do have the occasional financial flop, we need productions that are challenging, as well as the "bums-on-seats" fare. So we do have to take risks.

Members who have been earbashed by the loud-mouthed knockers are more than welcome to attend any management committee meeting and get the facts. The next one is 7pm on Tuesday 16 March.

If you do come along you'll find that, apart from the boring stuff like minutes and correspondence, 90 percent of what happens at committee meetings gets a mention in the newsletter. So there's really no excuse for people to be peddling misinformation.

Cyber newsletter

Don't forget, Javeenbah's newsletter is available by e-mail. If you receive the snail mail newsletter and you want to go on the e-mail list, send an e-mail to us at info@javeenbah.org.au with "Newsletter" in the subject line.

We've now got the file size down to around 500kb, so it's not too terrible to download on dial-up and a breeze on broadband.

Group bookings

Martin Jennings has taken on the post of group bookings officer, swapping over from the job of assistant treasurer. Martin has the task of contacting all clubs and social groups in our area and getting them to make group bookings to our productions.

Official newsletter of the publisher, Javeenbah Theatre Company Incorporated, PO Box 1101, Ashmore City, Qld 4214, (Cnr Ferry/Stevens Sts, Nerang, Qld 4211) Phone 07-5596 0300, fax 07-5596 7513, e-mail info@javeenbah.org.au, website <http://www.javeenbah.org.au>, ABN 85217315331. Editor Ralph Lenton