

# SPOTLIGHT

## NEWSLETTER OF PHOENIX PLAYERS

Vol.20 No. 02 November 2008  
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Welcome to our November edition of Spotlight.

This edition includes:

- Canberra Festival of One Act Plays
- A season return for It Was That Way When I Got Here
- An update on The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – and looking for backstage volunteers
- An invitation to the Phoenix Players Christmas Party
- And much more!



### FESTIVAL OF ONE ACT PLAYS

The Phoenix Players entry in this year's Canberra Festival of One Act Plays, the play "Thirty Minutes to Charlie", was nominated for three awards:

- Best actor in a comedy – Sean Ladlow
- Best director of a comedy – Nick Leon
- Best comedy production.



Congratulations to Sean Ladlow who won the Adjudicators Encouragement award for his role as Reid.

Well done to everyone involved! A great achievement.

### PHOENIX PLAYERS CHRISTMAS PARTY



Phoenix Players will have their Christmas Party on Thursday 4 December at **My's Restaurant**, 13 Whitney Place, Weston.

We have arranged a special deal – a \$20 banquet (with free dessert!). The food is Vietnamese, and the place has rave reviews on [yourrestaurants.com.au](http://yourrestaurants.com.au)!

We will have our usual secret Santa – just bring a unisex present to the value of about \$10 to put in Santa's sack...

We would love to see you all there!

Please RSVP by Monday 1 December to [gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au](mailto:gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au)



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## PHOENIX RISING SHOW IN SEASON RETURN

After the huge success of *It Was That Way When I Got Here*, in May this year, it is back by popular demand for a season return at The Q from 13 -15 November – a very limited season, this time under the steam of sevenonesix (rather than Phoenix Players).

The original musical comedy by Andrew Hackwill and Jonathan Flack, showcased in our 2008 Phoenix Rising program in May this year to an almost sell out crowd for 5 shows. As the show was so well received the first time (and they need get some more use out of all the props they bought), it's coming back! Bookings 6298 0290, or [www.TheQ.net.au](http://www.TheQ.net.au)

So if you missed out last time, don't miss out again... or come along and see it for the second time (or third, or fourth...) and spot the changes.



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## THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE – UPDATE

Rehearsals are progressing well and moving up a notch. The cast will begin full run throughs of Act 1 from next week. Unfortunately, due to injury, Jarron Dodds, who was playing the role of Peter has had to pull out of the show. He has been ably replaced by Oliver Bailey. Some of the cast performed at Floriade on 11 October, with the lucky spectators given flyers with special ticket offers... well done to all involved.

If you are interested in helping **backstage** for this show, please contact Myles Leon on [mysama965@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mysama965@optusnet.com.au).

Bookings for The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe are now open. Call Theatre 3 on **6257 1950** to get in early and book your tickets.



### Production Team

Co-Directors: Myles Leon/Graham Bauerle  
Musical Director: Max Gambale  
Choreographer: Ylaria Rogers

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## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Don't forget to renew your membership, or join if you are new to Phoenix Players! All memberships (except if you joined during A Chorus Line or the One Act Play) expired on the date of the AGM.

Everyone in a Phoenix show needs to be a member to be covered by insurance. And there are also some other great benefits such as regular updates via Spotlight and tickets to Phoenix shows at member prices. So send in your membership form now! The membership application/renewal form can be found on our website at <http://www.phoenixplayers.com.au/images/membershipform.pdf>

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## CAN YOU HELP?

If you can spare some time on the afternoon of Saturday 8 November to put costumes onto clothing racks (fabulously constructed by Wayne Shepherd) in our new storage location (U-Stow-It Belconnen), please call Pam McManus on the phone number at the top of this newsletter. It should not take long, so even if you have ½ an hour to spare, please let Pam know...



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...



Congratulations and happy birthday to our members who celebrate their birthdays in November:



Richard Block	3	November
Graham Bauerle	4	November
Jason Duval	5	November
Oliver Bailey	13	November
Jennie Norberry	17	November
John Kelly	20	November
Thompson Quan-Wing	21	November
Kelda McManus	24	November
Pam Kelly	26	November
Cornelia Carson	27	November

Have a fantastic birthday!

Note: If you have any objections to having your birthday published in the newsletter, please email the editor a few months before your birthday on [gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au](mailto:gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au)

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## THEATRE AROUND CANBERRA

Click on this link to get all the info:  
<http://www.canberralocaltheatre.info/>

**canberralocaltheatre.info**

*theatre in Canberra - information for local theatre goers*

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## AN ODE TO THE CREW

### Song of the Stage Hands

We work in the wings at various things  
That nobody sees from the stalls:  
You don't think of us unless there's a fuss  
And bits of the scenery falls.  
But what would be seen of the old Fairy Queen  
If the Palace came down on her head?  
The actors may bark: but if they're in the dark  
It don't matter what Shakespeare said.  
It's the same thing wherever you go:  
The bloke in the front gets the show.  
But where would he be if it wasn't for we -  
Working away in the wings?  
It looks all serene: you see a new scene -  
From the bed-chamber, say to the yacht.  
But you'd change your mind  
If you came round behind  
And saw what a job we have got.  
We lower the mast but the damn think sticks fast:  
The rigging is foul of the punt.

We push houses round,  
but we don't make a sound,  
For the hero's proposing in front  
And then, when we change to the wood  
With the moon coming up as it should,  
Well, give us a hand, the invisible band  
Working away in the wings.  
But still we're all proud  
that we're part of the crowd  
That's pulling the jolly old strings:  
For, bless you, we know  
we're as much in the show  
As the fellow who dances or sings.  
We've got no bouquets,  
and they don't wait for days  
To see us come out of the door.  
We can't write a play,  
but if we go away  
There won't be no plays any more.  
But there - though we bark we don't bite:  
It'll be right on the night.  
Enjoy yourselves, do:  
for we'll see you through  
Working away in the wings.

By Sir Alan Herbert  
Originally posted to rec.arts.theatre.stagecraft by Lynda McLean