



# Stages

Issue 4 April 2009

**HOT!** **STOP PRESS ...** **More Pg 3**  
**!!!! HACKETT HALL IS OURS !!!!**



**OPENS MAY 8**  
 Season: May 8, 9, 14-17, 21-24, 28-30.  
**BOOKINGS:**  
 Playlovers 0415 777 173  
 bookings@playlovers.org.au  
 or BOCS 9484 1133  
 www.bocs.com.au  
**more info pg 3 & 4**

**PARTY PARTY PARTY**  
 Celebration for taking over the hall and our new raked seating.  
 Where: Hackett Hall 9th May after performance of *Spelling Bee*  
 Free Champagne & Supper

**INSIDE THIS EDITION** ★★★★★ **STOP PRESS ... HACKETT HALL IS OURS !!!** ★★★★★  
 ★ THE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE ★ SEATING UPDATE ★ PLAYLOVERS BRAG BOARD  
 ★ BUSY BEE ★ PLAYBILL 2009 ★ THE HALL IS OURS ★ MORE ON SPELLING BEE ★ ITA FANCY DRESS QUIZ NIGHT  
 ★ OUR ROVING REPORTER ★ PLAY SUBMISSIONS 2010 ★ THE HISTORY BOYS ★ WHAT'S ON ELSEWHERE

## Seating Update

Arrangements for the arrival of the seating is going according to plan. The wiring has been completed and we just await the actual seats.

The system will allow us to roll out the seats from 1 metre to 7 metres in depth, and will be eight rows high. There will be a centre aisle with eight seats either side of that aisle, except for the top row which will have two extra seats making this row 18 seats wide, thus giving a total of 130 seats.

Each seat will be fully upholstered, with backrest, in a rich red colour.

If all these raised seats are allocated, we can provide three rows of extra seating in front of this system, using the older style seats. When we raise further funds, extra upholstered seats can be purchased.



*And now... for a different type of buzzy Bee...*



## BUSY BEE

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May @ 2.00pm  
Here's your chance to see our brand new tiered seating!!

Why not come and give a hand cleaning.  
I can't wait !!

We always have so much good fun!!

## Playlovers' Playbill for 2009

					
<b>"I HATE HAMLET"</b>  Directed by James Hough Neilson  March 13 - 28	<b>"THE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE"</b>  Directed by Kimberley Shaw May 8 - 30	<b>"THE HISTORY BOYS"</b>  Directed by Bev Jackson-Hooper July 10 - 25	<b>"THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY"</b>  Directed by John Milson September 11-26	<b>"RUTHLESS"</b>  Directed by Tyler Jones November 6 - 28	<b>Christmas Show</b>  incl. Plover Awards December 11 - 13
<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>Current Show</b>	<b>In Rehearsal</b>			

## The Hall is Ours!!

On Sunday April 4th 2009 at 1500 hours, the lease agreement for Hackett Hall between Nedlands City Council and Playlovers was signed. There for the historic occasion were our President, Marie Corrigan, and Vice President, David Young, and the man of the moment, Terry Tinsley. Terry the tenacious!

Terry only joined Playlovers committee in 2005 and immediately began badgering and cajoling the Nedlands City Council to give us the hall.

Prior to that, our immediate past-Presidents, Alex McLennan and David Young, had spent many years working on the task – and, we like to think, softening up the Council!

However, it was Terry's dogged persistence that finally won the day. They finally gave up in 2006 - after we sent them a formal proposal. In return, they gave us a (not very favourable) lease agreement. And another one! Then another one! Seven in all! Terry the Tornado! I had worked out that he spent 200 hours with the Nedlands City Council at meetings; they probably thought that he was on their payroll!

*Thank You, Terry!!*

What does this all mean?

Well, we have to pay a peppercorn rent... Hurrah!

We have to clean, maintain and insure the hall, seek approval for change and manage others who wish to use the hall. And inspections will take place. It's a 10 year lease, with a 5 year extension.

This is the biggest change in Playlovers history, probably since we got the hall in 1960.

We are so Excited!!

Marie Corrigan – Playlovers President



## The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee



SPELLING BEE opens at Playlovers on May 8.

From the talented team who brought you *Eurobeat*, *Seussical the Musical* and *Pageant* along with brand new and fitted 130 tiered seating – this means 166 seats in total - WOW – this show is going to be speckie !!





## *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Music and Lyrics by William Finn  
Book by Rachel Sheinkin  
Director - Kimberley Shaw

*Spelling Bee*, a musical comedy, centres around a fictional spelling bee set in a geographically ambiguous Putnam Valley Middle School.

Six quirky adolescents compete in the Bee, run by three equally-quirky grown-ups.

One third of the Spelling Bee cast are completely new to Playlovers. We thought you might be interested in finding out more about them.

### **Lauchlan Bain**

Lauchlan plays William Barfee (it's pronounced Barfay), a slightly odd kid, with a mucous membrane disorder. William finds out a lot about himself during the show, and Lauchlan's portrayal is superb. Best known as a dancer, we get to see Lauchlan's talents in a fabulous number called Magic Foot and in a pas de deux.

You may have seen Lauchlan as a Kit Kat Girl in Wanneroo Repertory's *Cabaret* or in the role of Jack in *Fame*. Lauchlan has completed a Certificate II in Music Theatre at WAAPA and is presently studying for a Bachelor of Arts in English, Dance and Music, and Education.

We get to keep Lauchlan for a while, as he will shortly appear as Scripps in the Playlovers production of *The History Boys*.

### **Jeanette Teh**

Jeanette auditioned for Spelling Bee in our thirteenth hour of auditions, when we thought we had made up our minds. She blew us away as a potential Marcy Park and forced us to rethink our decisions. She has continued to impress us ever since and is absolutely delightful as the petite over-achiever who is good at everything she tries. Jeanette is a bit like this in real life... She first began studying music at the age of four by playing the piano and violin. She then went onto complete a Bachelor of Music Education at UWA and subsequently a Master of Music from the University of Queensland. She freelances as a violinist and also helps conduct string orchestras for WAYMA. You may have seen Jeanette in the ensembles of the MS Society's South Pacific and Wanneroo's Fame. We think she'll blow you away in her first leading role.

### **How Do I GET TO BE AN AUDIENCE SPELLER?**

Most frequently asked question at the moment seems to be "How do I get to be a Volunteer Speller in 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee?"

For those unfamiliar with the show, four volunteer spellers join the cast on stage every evening in 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. This ensures that every show is different and is part of the charm of the production.

\*The biggest tip is ARRIVE EARLY. Although we are planning to start the show a little late each night (just to process the volunteers), you'll increase your chances if you arrive early.

\*Bring lots of friends. It helps us if you are part of a big group, so bring everyone you know.

\*Answer the questionnaire you'll be given honestly and BE YOURSELF. (We're not looking for people to show off...the show is great on its own.)

\* We will be looking for variety in terms of age, gender and personality, so a big part will be luck.

Even if you are not chosen we are sure you'll have a great time. See you all there!

Kimberley Shaw, Director

### **Chris Gerrish**

We are really excited to introduce Chris to Perth theatre. Originally a Queenslander he has performed in Queensland and the UK, before moving to Perth with his lovely Irish wife. After a long break, he returns to the stage to play Vice Principal Douglas Panch, the word pronouncer for the Spelling Bee. Working closely with Vicki Kirkman (Seussical), Chris' role demands a great deal of improvisation and he has made us cry with laughter during rehearsals - with some of his ideas being clean enough to put in the show. If you are lucky enough to be an audience speller, its Chris you want to impress, as he decides which words will be spelt - a combination that will be different every night. As a high school teacher in real life he has perfected the "teacher stare" and you do not want to be on the receiving end - so make sure you behave...even in the audience!



- **It's not just fun – you'll actually learn something**
  - **Interactive with some fun audience participation**
- ***Spelling Bee* moved to Broadway's Circle in the Square Theatre on April 15, 2005. It closed on January 20, 2008 after 1,136 performances**

City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St. West Perth.

# Grand Fancy Dress Quiz Night

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH 2009.**  
7 PM FOR 7.30 START  
At City West Lotteries House

\$ 10 per person  
Tables of 8  
Book: 0402.249.249  
davism@people.net.au

Prize for Best Dressed Person

Prize for Best Dressed Table

Bring nibbles  
Bar available

**Quiz Master:  
Watch This Space**

**ROLL-UP, ROLL UP!!**

The I TA will hold a "Fancy-Dress Fund-Raising Quiz Night" at City West Lotteries House, West Perth on Saturday 13 June from 7pm.

Come and support your local theatre association and have fun (whilst possibly winning a prize!!)



Tables of 8 at \$10 per person.  
Bring nibbles - bar will be available.  
There will be a prize for the Best Dressed Person and the Best Dressed Table - think Rocky Horror or Priscilla.  
Masters of Ceremony: Kimblery Shaw & Paul Treasure. (so probably lots of trick questions)

Come one Come All...

Saturday 13 June

Time: 7pm

Bookings: 0402 249 249

[davism@people.net.au](mailto:davism@people.net.au)



Our Roving Reporter spotted this item in the Australian newspaper (acknowledgements to Strewth)

**Artist underappreciated**  
Perth Blak Yak theatre is pleading for people to see its new play 'Brown Acid' whose cast of nine performed to unintentionally exclusive audience of two when it opened on Wednesday night at Subiaco Arts Centre (**Malcolm Turnbull** possibly knows how they feel) in words of director **Nick Donald**, 'It's an entertaining look at a band it. completely useless and who it. Anyone who's ever been in band will find it close to the bone and incredibly amusing.'

*(Mistakes in this quote occur in the original.)*



**...SPELLING BEE !!!**

*"We love nouns - that's our sport - we love talcum on our towels.  
We love consonants and vowels, and we feel, kinda real.  
We are fearless spellers who love scary words.  
We're the nerds with the dictionary on our knees."*

## The History Boys

An unruly bunch of bright, funny sixth form boys in pursuit of sex, sport and a place at university. A maverick English teacher at odds with the young and shrewd supply teacher. A headmaster obsessed with results, a history teacher who thinks he's a fool.

In Alan Bennett's new play, staff-room rivalry and the anarchy of adolescence provoke insistent questions about history and how you teach it; about education and its purpose.

"Nothing could diminish the incendiary achievement of this subtle, deep-wrought and immensely funny play about the value and meaning of education... In short, a superb, life-enhancing play." *Guardian*

"A play that strikes me as one of the finest Bennett has ever written, packed with superb one-liners that are surely designed to enter the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations... But this is a play of depth as well as dazzle, intensely moving as well as thought-provoking and funny." *Daily Telegraph*

"Brilliantly funny, with lines that we will, I hope, be quoting for years to come and several show-stopping vignettes. Bennett is still naughty, impish, endlessly ironic. But by the end tears are as near as laughter. *The History Boys* is moving disquieting: one follows it with a heart brimful... This is Bennett's first play this millennium, and it more than repays the wait; I think it his finest work in decades." *Financial Times*

The History Boys premiered at the National Theatre in May 2004.

Congratulations to the following cast:

### The History Boys

#### Staff

Headmaster - Ken Gasmier

Hector - Tom Rees

Dorothy Lintott - Beverley Lawrence

Irwin - Jordan Sibley

#### Boys

Dakin - Christian Dalton

Posner/man - Leo Hamilton

Scripps - Lachlan Bain

Rudge - Samuel Moscou

Lockwood - Andrew Thom

Timms - Kaleb McKenna





## PLAYLOVERS 2010

Playlovers are now calling for play submissions for their 2010 seasons.

Playlovers are always on the lookout for exciting productions to showcase and fabulous directors.

For all enquiries and submissions contact  
Marie Corrigan ph 9445 8626  
info@playlovers.org.au



### SPELLING BEE ACCOLADES:

**Tony Awards:** Winner: Best Book, Best Featured Actor in a Musical  
Nominations: Best Score, Best Direction, Best Featured Actress in a Musical, Best Musical

**Theatre World Awards:** Winner: Dan Fogler and Celia Keenan-Bolger

**Drama Desk Awards:** Winner: Outstanding Book of a Musical, Outstanding Director of a Musical, Outstanding Ensemble Performance.

Nominations: Outstanding New Musical, Outstanding Lyrics, Outstanding Music

## Auditions Elsewhere

### *"Lucky Sods"*

a comedy by John Godber  
 directed by Peter Kirkwood  
 Harbour Theatre  
 cnr Cantonment & Parry Sts, Fremantle  
 Audition: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May – 2pm  
 More info: Peter ph 9364 7648 a/h

### *"Dial M For Murder"*

a mystery by Frederik Knott  
 directed by Rory Cornelius  
 Roleystone Theatre – Church opposite  
 587 Brookton Hwy, Roleystone  
 Audition: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – book audition time  
 More info: Rory 0402 009 777

**For more information on Auditions and What's On Out & About**

Theatre Australia [www.theatre.asn.au](http://www.theatre.asn.au)

or

TAZ Entertainment [www.tazentertainment.com.au](http://www.tazentertainment.com.au)

## What's On Elsewhere

### *"Absent Friends"* – Melville Theatre

written by Alan Ayckbourn, directed by Sue Hayward  
 cnr Stock Rd & Canning Hwy, Palmyra  
 Dates: April 30 – May 2, 7 - 9  
 Time: all 8pm, except Sun 26<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm  
 Tix: \$17/\$13 **Bookings: 9330 4565**

### *"Bannockburn – The Almost True Story"*

– a lad in sane productions  
 a comedy written & directed by John Grimshaw  
 Phoenix Theatre, Joe Cooper Rec, Pomfret St, Spearwood  
 Dates: April 29 – May 2, 6 - 9  
 Time: all shows commence 8pm **Bookings: 9355 5591**

### *"Out of Order"* – Wanneroo Repertory Club

a comedy by Ray Cooney, directed by Sue Mainwaring  
 Limelight Theatre, Civic Drive, Wanneroo  
 Dates: Apr 16 - 18, 22 - 24, 30 - May 2  
 Time: all 8pm Tix: \$18/\$15 **Bookings: 9571 8591**

### *"Sleuth"* – Harbour Theatre

a mystery by Anthony Shaffer,  
 directed by Dannielle Ashton  
 cnr Cantonment & Parry Sts, Fremantle  
 Dates: May 1 - 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16  
 Time: all shows @ 8pm  
 Tix: \$18/\$16 **Bookings: BOCS 9484 1133**

### *"We Happy Few"* – Old Mill Theatre

a comedy/drama by Imogen Stubbs,  
 directed by Simon James  
 cnr Mends St & Mill Point Rd, South Perth  
 Dates: May 1, 2, 7-10\*, 13-16  
 Time: all 8pm, except Sun 10<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm  
 Tix: \$20/\$15 **Bookings: 9367 8719**

### *"Sugar Daddies"* – Darlington Theatre Players

a dark play by Alan Ayckbourn, directed by Peter Clark  
 Marloo Theatre, Marloo Rd, Greenmount  
 Dates: May 6, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23  
 Time: all shows commence 8pm  
 Tix: \$16/\$14 **Bookings: 9255 1783**

### *"Dad's Army"* – Kalamunda Dramatic Society

a comedy by Jimmy Perry & David Croft  
 Directed by Anita Bound  
 KADS, Town Square Theatre, Barber St, Kalamunda  
 Dates: May 8-10\*, 13, 15-17, 20, 22 - 24, 27, 29, 30  
 Time: shows @ 8pm, except Sunday's @ 2pm  
 Tix: \$15/\$13 or Sat \$20 incl Fish n Chip Supper  
**Bookings: 9293 2621**

### *"Flapper"* – Stirling Players

a musical comedy directed by Peta Flanigan  
 Stirling Theatre, Morris Place, Innaloo  
 Dates: May 8-10\*, 14-17\*, 21-23  
 Time: shows @ 8pm, except Sun 10 & 17 @ 2pm  
 Tix: \$20/\$16 **Bookings: BOCS 9484 1133**

### *"The Producers"* – Murray Music & Drama

a comedy by Mel Brooks, directed by Carole Dhu  
 Pinjarra Civic Centre, Pinjarra Rd, Pinjarra  
 Dates: May 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23  
 Tix: \$20 **Bookings: 0408 947 047**

### *"The Unexpected Guest"* – Garrick Theatre

a mystery by Agatha Christie, directed by Dale James  
 16 Meadow St, Guildford  
 Dates: May 29-31, June 4-6, 11-13  
 Time: shows @ 8pm, except Sun May 31 @ 2pm  
**Bookings: 9379 9400**

If undelivered, please return to:-

Playlovers Inc  
PO Box 164  
Wembley WA 6913

PP602669-00364

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## “The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee”

**PERFORMANCE DATES 2009:**

May 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Playlovers 0415 777 173 [bookings@playlovers.org.au](mailto:bookings@playlovers.org.au)

**TIX ON  
SALE NOW**

**BOOKINGS:  
BOCS  
9484 1133**

Don't forget you can always  
contact us by email at  
[info@playlovers.org.au](mailto:info@playlovers.org.au)

[www.playlovers.org.au](http://www.playlovers.org.au)

<b>President</b>	Marie Corrigan	9445 8626
<b>Vice President</b>	David Young	9444 2395
<b>Secretary</b>	Kristen	0429 426 845
	Twynam-Perkins	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Natalie Arcus	9383 7005
<b>Committee Members:</b>		
Publicity & Marketing	Kerry Goode	9328 7369; 0439 885 521
Box Office	Robert Vincent	9472 0222; 0413 000 336
Front of House	Bronwyn Hammond	9447 0945
Bar	Kevan Hook	0419 831 643
Theatre Maintenance	Tony Ridout	9446 6592
Wardrobe	Lyn Hutcheon	6293 1138
	Claudette Ridout	9446 6592
Newsletter Editor	Graeme Johnson	0415 044 413
<b>Ex-Officio Members:</b>		
Sound/Lighting	John Woolrych	
Nedlands Council Liaison	Terry Tinsley	

Committee 2009