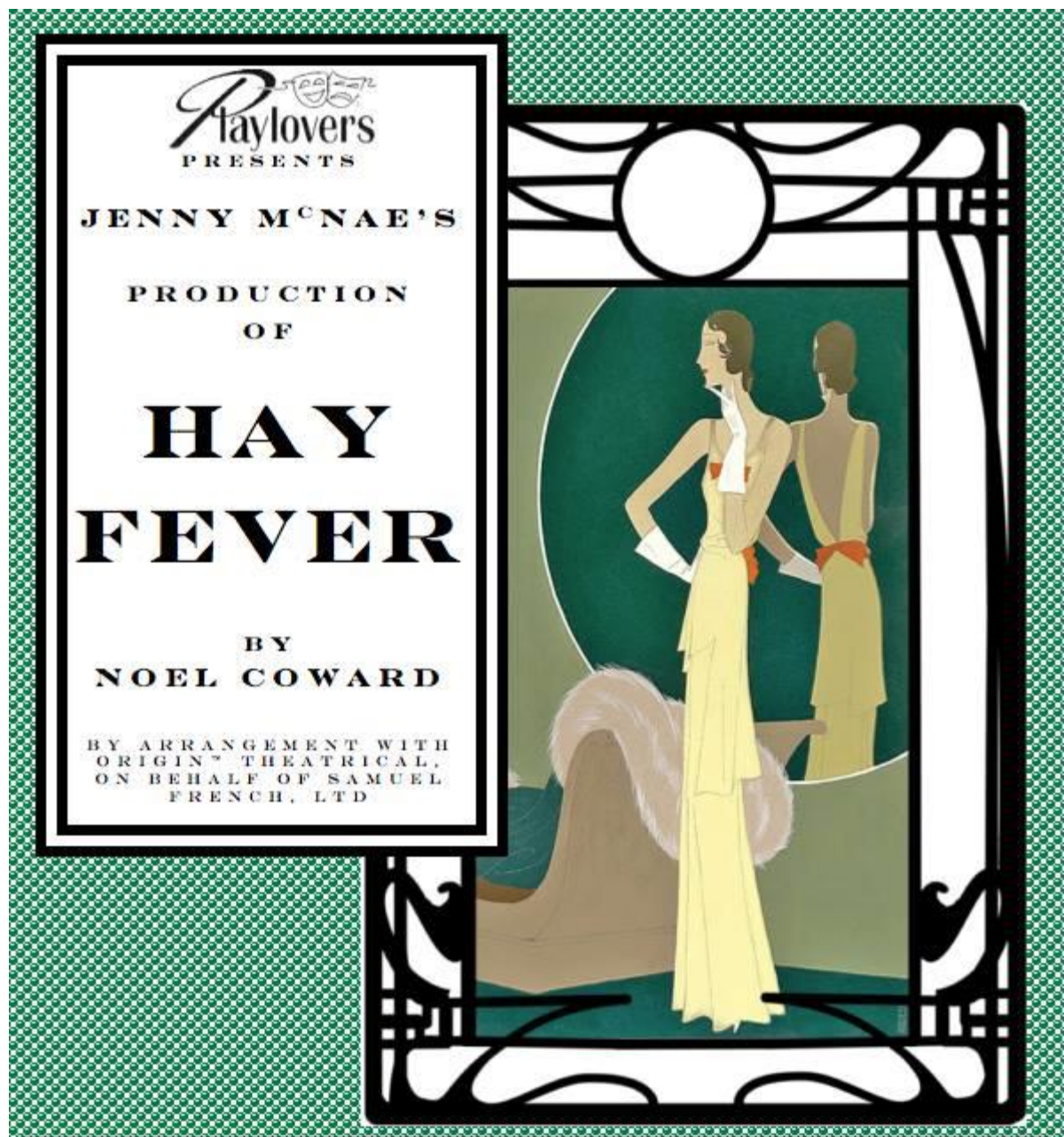


STAGES

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #4—June-July 2014



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Hay Fever

By Noel Coward

Directed by Jenny McNae OAM



Perth Theatre Royalty, Jenny McNae OAM is coming to Playlovers to direct Noel Coward's seminal comedy.

After more than 50 years in the theatre industry, Jenny McNae was awarded the **Medal of the Order of Australia** for her contribution to performing arts. Ms McNae received the medal for her service to performing arts; in particular, theatre, as a director, actor and mentor of young artists. In her career, Jenny has held the title of Artistic Director for The Hole In The Wall Theatre company; for which she would be known best to Perth theatre audiences. She established a theatre skills courses in remote centres, directed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, held the position of teacher and mentor at the WA Academy of Performing Arts and ran rehabilitation and self-esteem workshops at Bandyup Women's Prison. She has appeared on television in both Australian and Britain, in the Australian films "Temperament Unsuitable" and "The Olive Tree", as well as treading the boards in over 30 productions for many of the country's premiere theatre companies in all states of Australia and in the UK. And now, it is with great excitement and pride, that we welcome Jenny McNae to Playlovers to direct "Hay Fever".

Best described as a cross between high farce and a comedy of manners, the play is set in an English country house in the 1920s, and deals with the four eccentric members of the Bliss family, who live in a world where reality slides easily into fiction. Sorel and Simon Bliss, a brother and sister, exchange artistic and bohemian dialogue in a vain attempt to impress each other. Judith, their mother, displays the absent-minded theatricality of a retired and faded star actress, and David, their father, a novelist, is concentrating on finishing his latest book, that no-one will read. Their outlandish behaviour is an amusement to themselves, but no-one else. They each invite a guest, without consulting the others, to spend the weekend. Upon entering this world, the

unfortunate weekend guests are repeatedly thrown into melodramatic scenes wherein their hosts profess emotions and react to situations that do not really exist. The result is comedic chaos.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Dates and times:

July 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19

All performances at **8pm** except Sundays

July 6th & 13th – matinee performances at **2pm**.

The matinee performance on Sunday, **July 13th**, will be followed by **high tea**.

Performance Venue:

Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat, WA

Doors open half an hour prior to curtain.

Ticket Prices:

\$20 Adult

\$15 Concession

\$15 group bookings (group =10 or more)

There is an additional **\$5** charge for the Matinee performance on **Sunday July 13th** as this includes a post-show high tea

CAST

David Bliss	Phillip Lord
Judith Bliss	Angela Kennedy
Simon Bliss	Jordan Holloway
Sorel Bliss	Helen Kerr
Sandy	Jaxon George
Jackie	Clare Thomson
Myra	Susannah Devenish-Bell
Richard	Andrew Govey
Clara	Ann Speicher

AUDITIONS

ONE-ACT SEASON

Play : The Broken Slipper

An original piece written by Yvette Wall and directed by Alida Chaney

Auditions will be held **Saturday 26th July** from 12.30 onwards in the green room, Hackett Hall , Draper St, Floreat..

Brief outline of the story: The Fairytale tribunal meet to decide the fate of Cinderella who has left her story and broken the rules. Grandma (Red Riding Hood) heads the tribunal, the Wicked Witch from Hansel and Gretel is second in charge and Snow White is the Secretary and Administrator.

Cinderella does not want to 'toe the line' by returning peacefully to her story or to Prince Charming.....

Cast required:

- Grandma:** (any age) wise and to the point. Looks like the typical Red Riding Hood Granny
- Wicked Witch:** (any age) quite sweet in spite of her hideous appearance. Looks like your typical witch.
- Snow White:** (40+) Needs to look older than she portrays herself to be as she is menopausal but still declares herself to be the fairest of them all. Wears typical Snow White attire
- Cinderella:** (late teens early 20's) Has attitude and is street wise. No shrinking violet. Wears a modernised version of your typical Cinderella outfit
- Prince Charming:** (20+) Needs to be good looking. Must be able to speak with an upper class British accent. Effeminate acting required.

Also needed are lighting and sound operators.

Contact either Alida Chaney, at alida.chaney60@gmail.com or Yvette Wall at yvette.wall@gmail.com or 0408471060 for more information and audition time.

Play: Hotel d'Amour

Directed by John Senczuk, written by Peter Leonard Bibby

Auditions will be held in the green room at Hackett Hall, Draper St, Floreat **Sunday 27th July** 12.30 onward..

Brief outline: An Australian country pub has been transformed into 'French provincial chic' as a theme hotel to attract both tourists and those otherwise 'romantically' inclined!

It's a crazy, stormy night when three clients find themselves booked into the same room — the only one left. In town for the cattle auction, Laurence just wants a good night's sleep, but 'fantasy tourists' Maroniste and Chiquit (really Megan and Jackie) can't believe their luck!

Cast required:

- Laurence:** (20-40) a cattle buyer, traveling between auctions, single, jilted, commentator on life, a not-so cheerful cynic
- Maroniste:** (30s) in her late prime and glowing health, having a holiday from loveless marriage - a holiday with a difference, simulating luscious French 18th century fashion for the fun of dressing up.
- Chiquit:** (20s) friend of Megan, also revels in the historical, but this is her turn to be the servant, which is masochistic, but has unexpected rewards. A sport, brisk and lively.
- Trufteau** (30-50) real name Dobson, the "historical" and somewhat hysterical Hostess, businesslike, no nonsense, but with French affectations and suffering a cold she doesn't mind sharing around; determined to get maximum income off the room.

Also needed is a lighting operator.

Contact either John Senczuk, at senczuk@bigpond.com or Peter Bibby at joomalid@comswest.net.au or 0439936860 for more information and audition time.

Meet the Committee - Clayton Zwanenburg

Name: Clayton Zwanenburg
Committee Portfolio/s: Publicity, Marketing, and Poster & Program Design
Place of Birth: Wagin, Western Australia, 1973
Occupation: High School Teacher - Arts

Favourite:

Play	The Crucible
Musical	Jesus Christ Superstar
Production	National Theatre's "War Horse", London, 2009
Film	The Color Purple / The Silence of the Lambs
Music	Prince
Book	The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
Food	Handmade Hamburgers
Country	Turkey

Bucket List Item: Eat my way around India
Dislikes: Shark Culling



How I came to be involved with Playlovers... I was cast in my first play outside of University or High School back in 1997; SNOOPY! I played Schroeder and had an amazing, miniature grand piano to play, I loved it!

How I came to be involved in theatre... I undertook a Drama Studies degree at ECU with the aim of becoming a Drama Teacher. But it wasn't until Snoopy! that I really began to become involved in theatre. I have since appeared in, directed, designed and produced over 30 plays and musicals.

What my role is on the committee... my role is the public face of Playlovers. I promote shows to media outlets, assist in creating publicity images for the production and edit the programs. I also manage the Facebook page of Playlovers.

What would I like to achieve for/contribute to Playlovers... a wider audience, who may be unaware of Playlovers, coming over to Hackett Hall and seeing first hand the first rate local talent we have here in Perth. Reaching out through social media and major street media outlets in Perth to a theatre audience who are hungry for variety, innovation and theatrical culture.

Where do I see the future of Playlovers... I see Playlovers cementing its position in the Perth theatre landscape, staging innovative and entertaining plays to a consistently high standard as the appetites of Perth theatre goers continues to grow and develop. I have grand plans for Playlovers. [Cue maniacal laugh]

One-Act Plays Rule in September

We have a great programme of one-act plays in store for you during September.

To begin, there is the Playlovers one-act season on 12, 13 and 14 September. For the last few years, because of our tight production schedules, Playlovers has been unable to include a season of one-act plays. But this year we have managed to squeeze a season in - 2 original plays written by local authors. We will present *The Broken Slipper* and *Hotel d'Amour*. See the auditions notice on page 3 for more information. And in the interval, a delicious light supper will be provided.

The following weekend, 18-21 September, we are proud to host Youthfest, the youth section of the ITA's one-act drama festival. This year's adjudicator will be Melissa Merchant.

And to finish, Playlovers is honoured to host the 2014 Dramafest in the week 22-28 September. The ITA has introduced a number of changes for this year's festival:

- it is being held during the evenings over a week;
- the final evening of the week will be a gala evening and awards night for all participants;
- a new category called "10 minute spotlight" has been introduced, which will play in between the set changes of the main program. Short items are usually more lighthearted and humorous.



More on this in our next newsletter - or watch the ITA website or facebook page

<http://www.ita.org.au/dramafest2014/>

<https://www.facebook.com/DramafestWA>

respectively.

Carmel Dean - A Quirky Tony Tale

Early in June, while Hugh Jackman was singing and dancing on the glittering stage at Radio City as host of the Tony Awards, another Australian was having her "Tony moment" in a far more mundane environment - a bathroom.

Carmel Dean, who is originally from Perth and had some involvement with Playlovers, is currently Musical Director of the new musical *If/Then* which has been playing on Broadway since March this year. The show's star, Idina Menzel, was a nominee as Best Actress in a Musical, and was asked to perform one of its numbers on Awards night. As her Musical Director, Carmel was invited to conduct the singer - which she did - **from the 4th floor bathroom at Radio City**.

A friend captured the experience on video, complete with background noises of the cleaner emptying rubbish bins in the corridor. Check it out at

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_Dva_BCTjl

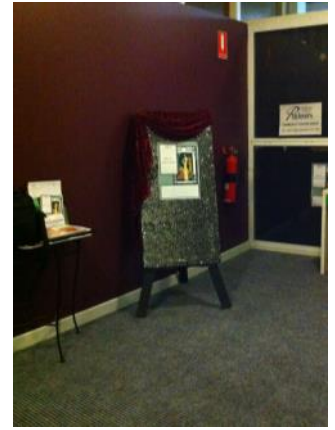
Redecorating Hackett Hall

Not been to a Playlovers' production recently? Then come back again and enjoy our newly refurbished premises as well as a great theatrical experience.

The foyer and Green Room have been freshly painted and beautifully re-carpeted. This complements the improvement to audience comfort from the airconditioning installed earlier this year. And we have not yet finished.

There are further upgrades planned for the Bar area and also the courtyard.

So keep attending our shows and watch our theatre blossom, both creatively and physically.



What they said about *Quartermaine's Terms*

Again Playlovers has shown its commitment to supporting young talent and works that are a little unusual. Our last production *Quartermaine's Terms*, was described by one reviewer as "gentle" and may not have been to everyone's taste. However, a number of those who attended were sufficiently inspired by it to share their thoughts by email. Some of the extracts follow:

"the Show was brilliant"

"has truly broadened my view of theatre"

"hope to see more shows like it in the future"

"the show was designed to a standard not normally seen in amateur theatre"

"this is looking like a standout"

50TH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY BRANCH

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What's on Where

What's on	Where	When	Bookings
The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of Macbeth	Marloo Theatre, Marloo Road, Greenmount	4-19 Jul 2014	9255 1783
Cranford	Garrick Theatre 16 Meadow St, Guildford	10-19 Jul 2014	9378 1990
The Hatpin	Old Mill Theatre Cnr Mends St & Mill Point Rd, South Perth	11-26 Jul 2014	9367 8719 www.oldmilltheatre.com.au
Relative Values	Melville Theatre Stock Rd and Canning Hwy Palmyra	11-26 Jul 2014	9330 4565
The Great American Trailer Park Musical	Roleystone Theatre Brookton Hwy, Roleystone	18 Jul-9 Aug 2014	www.roleystonetheatre.com.au
Laughing Matters (One-Act Season)	Stirling Theatre Morris Place, Innaloo	24 Jul-2 Aug 2014	9440 1040
I Hate Shakespeare	Murray Music & Drama Club Pinjarra Civic Centre	1-9 Aug 2014	tickets@mmdc.com.au
Pride and Prejudice	Limelight Theatre Civic Drive, Wanneroo	7-23 Aug 2014	9571 8591
'Allo 'Allo	Rockingham Theatre 8 Attwood Way Rockingham	8-23 Aug 2014	www.rockinghamtheatre.com

Playlovers' Playbill 2014

SUBSCRIPTION TO LOVE	QUARTERMAINE'S TERMS	HAY FEVER	ONE-ACT SEASON/ DRAMAFEST	TBA	PLOVER AWARDS
Directed by William Dunlop 13-15 March	Directed by Alaric Korb 8-17 May	Directed by Jenny McNae 4-19 July	12-14. 18-21, 22-28 September	Directed by David Gardette 7-22 November	TBA
COMPLETED	BOOKINGS OPEN				

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PLAYLOVERS INC
PO BOX 164
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Bookings Open

HAY FEVER

By Noel Coward

Directed by Jenny McNae

4-19 July 2014

Bookings: www.playlovers.org.au/online-bookings
bookings@playlovers.org.au or
0415 777 173

PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE: www.playlovers.org.au

PLAYLOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL: info@playlovers.org.au

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