



# RepRap

Issue 36 January 2012

## Geelong Repertory Welcomes 2012

I know we grizzle and complain about the Christmas period; carols and mince pies in supermarkets since October, the idea that on Christmas Day we will have to meet relatives that we've spent the previous 11 months trying to avoid and for those who are not fans of Kris Kringle, the resulting frustrating hunt for presents for all the family members in \$2 shops and beyond. In spite of these and other Yuletide annoyances, I hope all Rep Rap readers made the best of the Christmas holiday and you found many things to enjoy during the break.

Last year was another great year for the company, with high attendance rates and positive reviews. Rather than summarise the highlights of 2011 here, you will find them listed in the President's report to the AGM (See AGM documents which will be sent to you shortly by email or by snail mail, if you do not have an email address). Please note that the AGM will occur at the Woodbin on March 12th at 7pm. I do hope you will try to attend.

The current year promises to be an exciting one for the company. The feedback I have received about the five plays chosen for the year has been very positive. Colin Mockett has pointed out that a feature underpinning the choice of plays is the theme of "memory", an entirely appropriate one for a company that will be celebrating its eightieth birthday this year. I have to say that although that was not in the minds of the Play Selection Committee when we made our decision, he is correct. *The Thirty-nine Steps* and *Our Town* are set prior to the first World War, *Dancing at Lughnasa* in 1936, *The Lady in the Van* constitutes the reminiscences of a playwright who let an eccentric elderly lady park her van in his driveway for a few weeks in the nineteen seventies. She stayed 15 years. Last but not least, *Romeo and Juliet* is replete with memories for all of us, whether it be the story itself, first love affairs, the play we did at school or the pertinence of the theme today.

I hope you will all take at least one and hopefully five trips down memory lane at the Woodbin this year. I look forward to seeing you. And oh yes, enjoy what's left of your summer vacation!

**Bryan Eaton**

# 2012 Season Plays

February 3rd to 18th

*The Thirty Nine Steps* by John Buchan adapted by Patrick Barlow, directed by Kelly Clifford

April 13th to 28th

*Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel, directed by Jacqui Connor

June 22nd to July 7th

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, directed by Cherie Mills

August 31st to September 16th

*Our Town* by Thornton Wilder, directed by Judy Ellis

November 23rd to December 8th

*The Lady in the Van* by Alan Bennett, directed by Geoff Gaskill



## Information sessions/audition times for plays after 39 STEPS

**Dancing at Lughnasa:** Information Night Monday 13th February at 7:30pm

Auditions Tuesday 14th and Monday 20th February at 7:30pm

**Romeo and Juliet:** Information Night Tuesday 10th April at 7:30pm

Auditions Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th April at 7:30. Call backs Monday 23rd April at 7:30pm

**Our Town:** Information Night Wednesday 4th July at 7:30pm

Auditions Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 10th July at 6:30pm.

**The Lady in the Van:** Information Night Wednesday August 29th Monday

Auditions Monday 3rd and Wednesday 5th September at 7:30pm

Play readings will again take place this year on the last Monday of each month. Our first for the year is 27 February at 7:30 - *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* by Dario Fo, facilitated by Steven Georgiadis. Gold coin donation appreciated and bring a plate to share for a fun evening. Contact Steven via [secretary@geelongrep.com.au](mailto:secretary@geelongrep.com.au) for further information.

**ALFRED  
HITCHCOCK'S  
THE**

# **39 STEPS**

**4 ACTORS.  
139 ROLES.  
100 MINUTES  
OF THRILLING  
COMEDY!**

**"THE MOST ENTERTAINING SHOW ON BROADWAY"**  
THE NEW YORK POST

directed by Kelly Clifford  
adapted by Patrick Barlow from the book by John Buchan

**WOODBIN THEATRE**

15 CORONATION ST. GEELONG WEST

**February 3, 4, 10, 11  
16, 17 & 18, 2012 at 8pm**

**Sunday Matinees February 5 & 12 at 2pm**

**Tickets at GPAC on 52 25 1200**



# The 39 Steps

**The 39 Steps** is adapted by Patrick Barlow from the book by John Buchan and directed by **Kelly Clifford** (*The Woman in Black*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*).

This wonderfully inventive and gripping comedy thriller features four fearless actors, playing 139 roles in 100 minutes of fast-paced fun and thrilling action!

Playing both the West End and Broadway, Alfred Hitchcock's classic spy thriller, **The 39 Steps**, has been brilliantly and hilariously recreated as this Tony, Drama Desk and Olivier Award winning comedy.

This blissfully funny show follows the incredible adventures of our handsome hero Richard Hannay (**Ed Dolista** - *Boeing Boeing*), complete with stiff-upper-lip, British gung-ho and pencil moustache as he encounters dastardly murders, double-crossing secret agents (**Lachy Joyce** - *Hairspray*) & (**Jules Hart** - *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*), and, of course, devastatingly beautiful women (**Cassia Webster** in her Geelong Rep debut).

See what the New York Post calls "the funniest show on Broadway!"

The **season opens** at **8pm** on **Friday February 3<sup>rd</sup>** with further performances on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> with **matinees** on **Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>** and **12<sup>th</sup>** at **2pm**. **NOTE TO READERS: TWO MATINEES THIS YEAR FOR EACH SHOW!**

**Tickets** cost \$25 adults, \$23 concession and \$18 students. For **bookings** phone **GPAC** on **5225 1200**.

For further information contact the director **Kelly Clifford** at [kelly@comicgenius.com](mailto:kelly@comicgenius.com) or phone 0408 595 323.

## Free wine and cheese for Front of House people!

*As a token of appreciation to those who helped with Front of House in 2011 and an introduction to FOH activities for those who have not done FOH before, but are considering volunteering, we extend an invitation to a wine and cheese get-together and FOH orientation on Thursday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm. This will be followed by the preview (free) of *The Thirty-nine Steps* directed by Kelly Clifford at 8:00pm.*

Many Rep members have done FOH in the past and enjoyed the associated social activity, but recently it has become increasingly difficult to routinely fill the FOH roster for each of our 5 shows per year. We find that we are beginning to rely on fewer and fewer people to fill the same number of slots on the roster. Consequently we would like to encourage any Rep Rap reader, member or non-member, to help in 2012.

Over the last few years a number of changes have been introduced to FOH procedures. You may have noticed the new digital till, but probably not detected the new safe below the bench. We are also changing the way we serve tea and coffee to a self service procedure on a table removed from the current location. The purpose of the FOH orientation is to familiarise you with the new changes.

One important legal requirement that must be filled is for all FOH staff to receive training in the responsible serving of alcohol. Please let us know if you have the Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) certificate. (Past recipients of training: please make sure that we have a copy of your certificate as it is necessary for us to have them on site). If you haven't completed a course, don't worry. At the last committee meeting it was decided that those who wished to do FOH and who lacked a RSA certificate would receive training at Rep's expense.

For more information contact Bryan on 5255 2977, 0417 167 677 or [president@geelongrep.com.au](mailto:president@geelongrep.com.au) and please remember, you can help by becoming involved in this enjoyable activity.

*Bryan Eaton*

## A message from playwrights Janet Brown and Sandy Fairthorne

Geelong Repertory is a wonderful support to Brown Fairthorne Theatre Projects and our recent touring production *Making Waves* could not have been undertaken without Rep's help

Directed by Cherie Mills with an excellent cast – Claudia Clark, David Postill, Tina Rettke and Ian Rooney - the production consisted of 5 diverse short plays all with the theme of the sea, 3 written by Janet and 2 from Sandy:

*Defection* by Janet with Heidi Giersch. Heidi's story of defection to Australia from East Germany in 1980.

*The Depths* by Janet. Mick's all at sea having lost everything in the GFC... or has he?

*Water, Water* by Janet. A woman who has loved, lost and is surrounded by water

*The Knowing* by Sandy. Love. Marriage. Secrets. And betrayal.

*Snap* by Sandy. Throwing in the towel is not so easy, especially from a busy cliff top.

Presented at various venues in the region, the show opened at Qdos Lorne, played at art@wintergarden in conjunction with a fine exhibition by the best regional artists and finished at The Woodbin on 10 December to a full house with local choir VIVA who joined singers Belinda McArdle and Sue Hindle.

We greatly appreciate Rep's decision to support new writing and enable our projects to be staged. It was great to see so many Rep members and their friends at the production and thank you all for your support.

**Janet Brown & Sandy Fairthorne**

Brown Fairthorne Theatre Projects



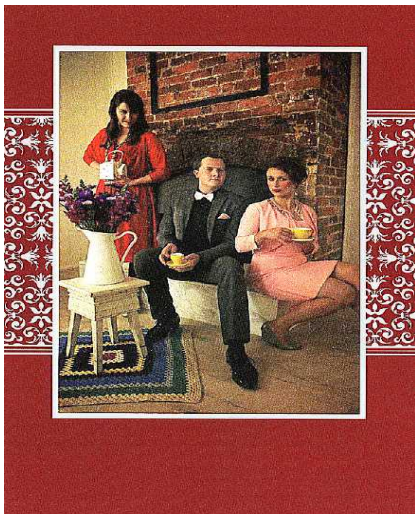
## What is the difference between a subscriber and a member of Geelong Repertory?

Sometimes people wonder about the difference between being a member of Rep and a subscriber. Hope this clarifies things a bit!

A subscriber purchases tickets from GPAC ticket office at a reduced rate for 3, 4 or 5 shows. There are approximately 50-60 subscribers in any one year for Rep shows.

A Geelong Rep member pays a membership fee, \$30 for a full membership, \$25 for a concession and \$20 for a student. For this they get one free ticket to the show of their choice. The number of members fluctuates significantly but we have around 100 at the moment. Being a member shows support for the Geelong Rep. Of course you can be a member and a subscriber. You can see one show free as a member and subscribe to the other four! And that's still good value.

Ex-president Sheila Dawson cutting our 80th birthday cake on the occasion of the 2012 launch on Sunday 20th November. We had one of the best turn outs for a launch in the past few years.



Some of you may remember Regina who came to our aid some years ago as the lighting person. We received this card from her wishing her friends and colleagues at Rep, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Thank you Regina and we all hope your New Year turns out the way you want it to.

If the exertions of Christmas and the holiday period have left you a bit flat and under the weather, you **MUST** see this hilarious show. We have not had a comedy as the first show of the year for a while. So come along and let us know we made the correct decision!

