



Burnside Players News

Who is the Busybody?

Find out this November...



**BURN
SIDE
PLAYERS**

The third and final production for what has been award-winning year for Burnside Players is yet another bold and unusual choice for the company – a Restoration comedy, Susannah Centlivre’s *The Busybody*.

It is the late 1600s and friends Miranda and Isabinda are plotting to escape the suitors their parents have chosen for them, in favour of their own choice of potential husbands - Sir George and Charles. With the help of their faithful servants Patch and Whisper (who, meanwhile, have plans of their own) they plan to keep the parents fooled until the wedding bells ring out. Unfortunately, they are not counting on Marplot (the Busybody), who is always *trying* to help – but without much success. The result is an hilarious, touching and eminently satisfying comedy.

Susannah Centlivre (1669-1723), actor, poet and playwright, began her career on stage in Dublin, later moving to London, where she was a prolific producer of plays. *The Busybody*, first produced in 1709, is her most widely recognised work.

Director Brendan Clare was recently inspired to direct the show after happening across an adaptation by the Villanova Players, a Brisbane theatre company who updated the language a little – but without omitting the ‘egads’ and ‘zounds’ that give the play its flavour.

‘It has a number of female characters who make things happen – they aren’t just the passive romantic interests of the men,’ says Clare. ‘They do as much plotting and scheming – and, in the case of Miranda and her maid, much more. And although it’s the sort of play Grandma would love, teenagers can relate to it too – after all, it’s about two girls who like two boys and how they have to get around their parents to be together.’

Brendan has appeared numerous times for Burnside; his roles include Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Mr Thompson in *Daisy Pulls It Off*, The Actor in *The Woman in Black* and numerous ensemble characters in *Oh! What a Lovely War*. He directed *Deadline Dawn* for Burnside in 2000.

The cast includes some

familiar names at Burnside - Natalie Driver as The Servant, Alison Craig as Patch, Alicia Hovell as Isabinda and Richard Gruca as Sir Francis. But there are some new faces as well – Tim Benveniste as Charles, Steve Parker as Sir George, Kate Portos as Miranda, Pete Hammer as Marplot, Lyn Crowther as Lady Jealousie, Tim Shaw as Whisper and Justine Gaudreau as Scentwell.

The show runs from November 9 to 18 in cabaret style at the Burnside Ballroom, corner of Portrush and Greenhill Roads, Burnside.

Performances are Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, with a Saturday Matinee on Saturday November 18 at 2pm, and a Twilight Performance on Sunday November 12 at 6pm.

Tickets: \$18 and \$14 concession. Group rates (for 10 or more) and members’ rates available. **Bookings: Burnside Booking Line 0500 520 105, BASS 131 246, or online at www.burnsideplayers.com**

November 2006

Memberships

Memberships are \$40 for full members and \$30 for concession. Our single show cast membership is \$20.

Members receive a free ticket to each show for members, and a \$5 guest ticket which represents excellent value and a saving of up to \$45 over our regular prices.

Send a cheque and your details (including email address if you have one) to Burnside Players Inc. PO Box 151 Burnside SA 5066

Burnside’s *The Crucible* wins ATG award!

We are proud to report that the winner of this year’s Adelaide Theatre Guide award for Best Drama (Amateur) was our April 2006 production of the Arthur Miller classic *The Crucible*. Also nominated were John Rosen (Best Actor) and Megan Dansie (Set Design).

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2007 Season

Quiz Night and Variety Show

First up will be the first ever Burnside Players Quiz Night and Variety Show. The date and venue is still to be confirmed; details will appear the first newsletter of next year. But you can guarantee it'll be a night of fun and frivolity—Burnside Style.

By Jeeves

In July 2007 we will be proud to present the Australian premiere of *By Jeeves*. Based on the Jeeves and Wooster series by PG Wodehouse, with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and book by celebrated playwright Alan Ayckbourn, *By Jeeves* is an hilarious, light-hearted musical, suitable for the whole family. Under the watchful eye of Megan Dansie, director of our award-winning production of *The Crucible*, this promises to be one of Burnside's finest productions.

Much Ado About Nothing

Burnside's love for The Bard continues in 2007, with Thorin Cupit, director of Burnside's smash hit of 2004, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, returning to helm *Much Ado About Nothing* - one of Shakespeare's best and most-loved plays. But it's going to have a twist...

Auditions

By Jeeves

Auditions for *By Jeeves* will be held either later this year or early next year. Details will appear on our website at www.burnsideplayers.com, on the Adelaide Theatre Guide website, and in the Saturday Advertiser.

The show calls for male and female singer/actors and chorus. For more information contact megan@burnsideplayers.com