



Act 1 Theatre Newsletter

Vol 27 Issue 2 February 2025

A Few Words from Our Outgoing President. . .

Following the well-attended AGM, Stan asked for my report for the newsletter. I had as usual wandered from script and realised as well that I was no longer president. So, at home post meeting with time to think and write here are my final??? words.



I've been part of Act 1 now for **25** years, have racked up many roles and know and tell many of our stories. I know I lack Michelle's memory for patrons but did miss our regulars at AGM time in John and Elizabeth Arden, I pray they are well.

This year in July we will celebrate **60** years as a company and **40** in our home building, two great feats. Keep a lookout for this important event and we welcome your involvement—stories, memorabilia, your presence.

In my report I spoke of knowing where the bodies are buried and hidden truths and mysteries. Between us Jenny and I have **45** years of stories and yes, we do often see different versions of the same story.

I vividly remember Anne Wilson's husband offering his keys the day we worked together on the day he died. "You might need these." I remember when ordinary battling members gave us free loans just so we could pay rights and insurances to start a year. I remember robberies big, small, non-existent. But mostly I remember the people who have made us what we are.

Our Life Members board helps span our **60** years with known and unknown names from those earlier days. Others gave generously of time and talent then parted company for many varied reasons. Thanks to all who have made us successful.

I thank you for my **25** years. I'm not gone, just leaving ladders to younger legs and set building to shoulders that work. I'll continue in the bar and directing (I have five opening shows lined up, all uproariously funny). Continue to HAVE FUN.

Yours in theatre.....*Terry*

Act 1 Theatre 2025

Management Committee

President

Andrew Munslow

Vice President

Terry Frawley

Secretary

Tracey Simpson

Treasurer

Mark Whitmore

Stage Manager

Deb Hossack

Publicity Officer

Deb Hossack/Andrew Munslow

Social Secretary

Trisha Bromley

Sound & Lighting

Andrew Munslow

Front-of-House Co-ordinator

John Scandurra

Bar Co-ordinator

Terry Frawley

Newsletter Editor

Stan Wisniowiecki

Webmaster

Stan Wisniowiecki

Other Positions

Bookings Co-ordinator

0413 759 741

Membership Enquiries

0413 759 741

Patron

Nikki Boyd MP

BOOKINGS: 0413 759 741

CONTACT ACT 1 THEATRE

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Cnr. Gympie Rd & Hall St (Nth)

Strathpine Qld 4500

Phone: 0458 579 269

Mail: PO Box 436

Strathpine Qld 4500

E-mail: acttheatre2@gmail.com

Website:

www.act1theatre.com.au



And from Our Incoming President. . .

Hello from New Zealand!

When I booked this trip, I wasn't expecting to be running for the position of president. I've always been happy with the position I've had in lighting and sound which I will continue to fulfill obviously. Although Terry is stepping down, he's not going anywhere as such. My additional job as president is to take on the strain of day-to-day dealings for the Theatre and to give Terry a well-earned rest from it.

I first met Terry in 2011 while we were both doing JC Superstar (with Prima) my first show since I was a teenager. I came to help in a show here at Act 1, fell in love with the place and have never left.

I've been here long enough to understand how the Theatre works pretty much from top to toe, so when Terry said he was stepping down I knew in my heart I needed to step up, being one of the only others who knows the Theatre almost as well as Terry does and being young enough to take it through its next phase. While I agree with Act1 Theatre's recipe for success and I won't be changing that recipe, we may find ourselves adding a few ingredients to spice things up a little bit over the next couple of years and we'll see how that goes.

We do have a younger generation stepping up to continue the Theatre of tradition. By younger, I mean 40s plus, those who have found their way back to the Theatre and are now here for the long-term, having done with the child raising and the schooling and the multitude of things that keep us from doing what are our true passions are in life, I'm not gonna name them personally. They know who they are and over the next couple of years we're gonna be looking to them to step up and keep Act 1 Theatre strong.

Looking forward to the year ahead.

Andrew Munslow



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John Scandurra

Bar Co-ordinator

Terry Frawley

Newsletter Editor

Stan Wisniewiecki

Webmaster

Stan Wisniewiecki

Memberships Due

Membership renewals for 2025 were due from the 1st of January.

Membership is \$20 (Full rate); \$15 (Concession cardholders).

Membership subscriptions can be made at <https://www.trybooking.com/CUIBR>

If unable to use this, alternatives are:

Option A: If there is no-one who can assist you (i.e. family or friend) to follow the procedure, contact the Membership Enquiries number on Page 1, have a debit/credit card handy and they will walk you through the process.

Option B: You can renew your membership at the theatre when you come to see the first show of the year. You can purchase tickets to the first show at membership rate using your 2024 membership number, but you must renew your membership for 2025 when you arrive. You can pay by EFT or cash.

Deb Hossack on Behalf of the Committee. . .

So, the time has come to say goodbye to some friends from the committee and welcome some friends on to the committee.

I'd like to thank **Samantha Sutherland** and **Ramesh Maheswaran** for their year's work on the committee. Sam and Ramesh also performed in shows at Act 1 throughout the year this year.

And welcome to **Mark Whitmore**, **John Scandurra** and **Tracey Simpson** to the committee. I've worked with all three as stage manager (SM) and I know they will do a wonderful job. We also welcome our beloved Stan, your newsletter editor and webmaster to the committee. And I would like to congratulate Stan for his amazing work in these roles over the past year. He's done a stellar job!

I also need to thank **Joan Bell**. Even though Joan was not officially holding the position of front-of-house (FOH) she willingly stepped into the role to help out. As SM running the show, it's incredibly important to have someone you can trust organising things out the front. Joan and Terry were those people. Thank you.

To the returning committee:

Andrew—congratulations! You're perfect for this job!

Trisha—social secretary—who better than you?

Terry—Thank you for everything you have done. Four years ago, I came here as stage manager for a show a friend was directing here. You said to me "we'd love you to stay" and I did. You've no idea how you making me feel welcome changed my life. You're a wonderful man and you can be very proud of your years as president! Now have fun as vice president!

Deb

From the Editor. . .

I would also like to add my two penn'orth.

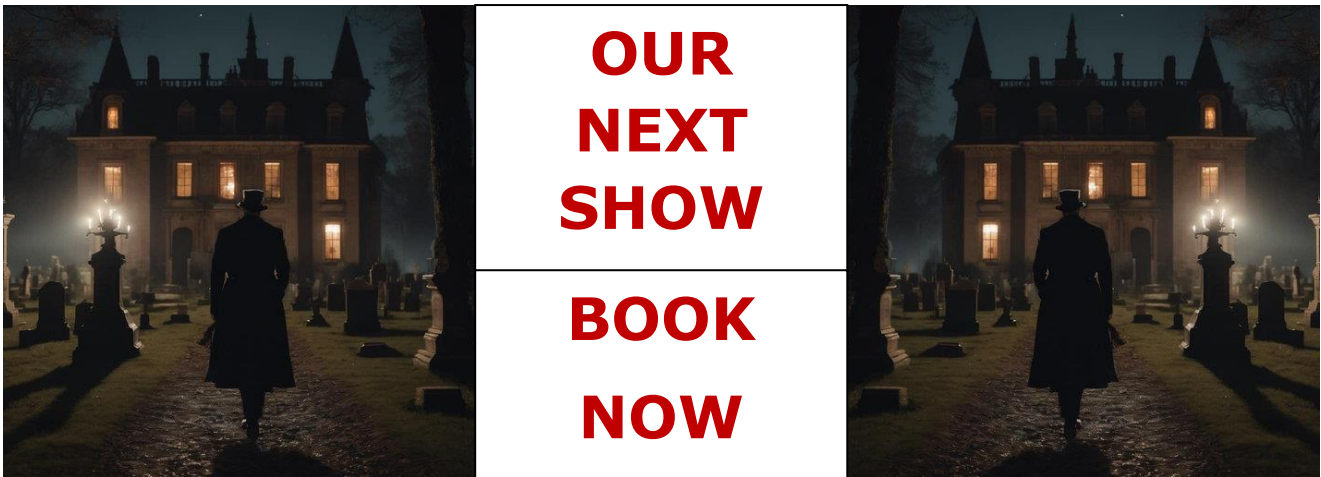
Welcome to **Tracey Simpson**, our new secretary who can be seen in our next production, *Prepare To Meet Thy Tomb*. Tracey writes, "Hey there. I grew up in the area, moved away for 22 years, but am back now, to stay. My first time treading the boards at Act 1 was in 1995 and now I'm back "home" you may see me either selling you a raffle ticket or a beverage or performing on stage. Community theatre rocks!"

Welcome to **Mark Whitmore**, our new treasurer and a big help behind the scenes at Act 1. Lately, Mark can be found as Andrew Munslow's assistant technician and stand-in up in the 'Bio Box' (read how Bio Box got its name elsewhere in this newsletter). Good to have you on board as treasurer, Mark, because you really count!

Welcome to **Trisha Bromley** in the now official position of social secretary. For the last two years Trisha has organised several members' events: *Red Carpet Gala*, *You've Arrived* and *Christmas Party* famously spring to mind. Trisha says, "Have loved being Vice-president and now looking forward to continuing on the committee for 2025 as the newly created Social Secretary."

Welcome to **John Scandurra**, the new front-of-house co-ordinator. John has become a regular at Act 1 Theatre since the beginning of 2023, performing in a diverse range of productions. This will be a completely new role for him. John is a responsible person so, if there's a crisis in FOH, we'll know who's responsible!

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Prepare To Meet Thy Tomb

Prepare To Meet Thy Tomb follows ***Tomb With A View*** and ***Tiptoe Through The Tombstones*** and completes the trilogy by Norman Robbins. The three plays all focus on the Tomb family who play together and slay together in the melodious Monument House.

Our audiences can expect to be confused and will be kept guessing about who kills whom, where and how. Of the ten characters only one survives.

Our production opens on Friday 21 March and runs till April 5. Performance dates are March 21,22,23,28,29,30 and April 4,5. Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:30 pm and Sunday Matinees at 2 pm. Our well-stocked bar opens well before the shows, at least an hour before so come early and enjoy a drink. Opening night will include a free supper served pre-show at 7 pm. Tea, coffee and snacks are available at all shows.

The first show for the last two years has been the earlier Tombs so it will be rewarding to finish the trilogy. Some cast members have been in all three, some in two and one even in four because they did the first Tomb over 25 years ago when Michelle directed it here.

I was lucky enough to have played the evil solicitor Penworthy in the first Tomb and have found the suspense and sheer stupidity of this crazy family intriguing.

As director only this time I have even more time to try to have the cast get the comedic timing and bring the story to life, or is that DEATH?

Being on stage gives me and the cast the chance to tell a story, to become someone else for a few hours of fun and nonsense, and to make people happy. When everything comes together it is a relief and a disappointment when it is over.

Come and have fun. For tickets go to <https://www.trybooking.com/CXYTL> or the website www.act1theatre.com.au or phone the theatre on 0413 759 741

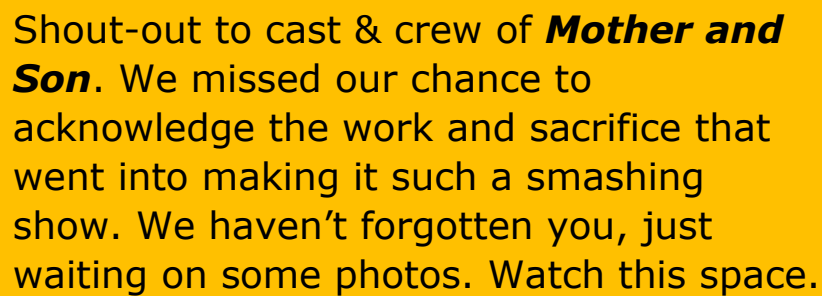
Terry

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Heartfelt Thanks to Our Amazing Deb

We are incredibly fortunate to have Deb as our Stage Manager and Publicity Officer. Her tireless dedication, remarkable generosity, and genuine kindness have made our theatre a place where everyone feels valued and appreciated. Deb's thoughtfulness in remembering everyone who works in and with the theatre is truly special.

Deb, thank you for your unwavering commitment and for always going above and beyond to make our theatre a wonderful place. Your contributions and warm spirit make all the difference.

Shout-out to cast & crew of ***Mother and Son***. We missed our chance to acknowledge the work and sacrifice that went into making it such a smashing show. We haven't forgotten you, just waiting on some photos. Watch this space.

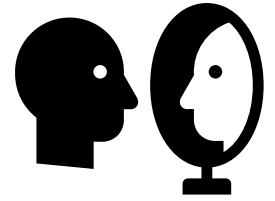


One act plays

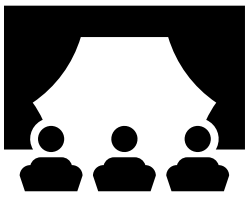
We have our season of One Act Plays coming up in May / June. We are still looking for plays to fill spots, preferably comedies. If you have a play you would like to perform or if you're keen to direct, please contact Deb on debkhossack@gmail.com

Meet the Members

Our next meet the member is a very familiar face. He has appeared onstage with the band in every theatre restaurant, is a founding member of the Actones and has also acted on the stage. It's the Master of Music — Doug Buchanan!



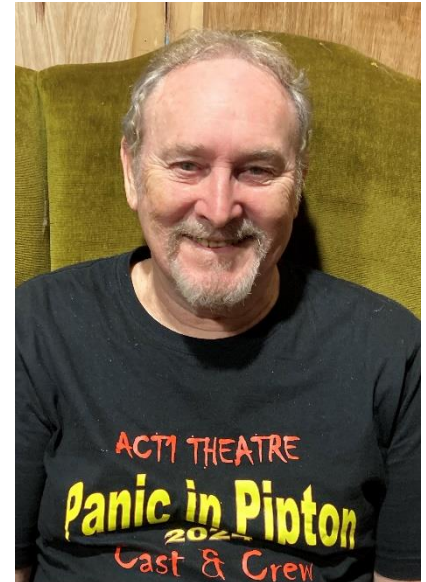
Doug first came to Act 1 in the early 2000s and performed here in Oklahoma! After a stint with Prima getting his musical fix, he rejoined Act 1 to help out with the music around 15 years ago and has been here ever since!



Not only is Doug one of the nicest guys you'll meet, but he's also one of the most talented! He plays keyboards, guitar and his kazoo is out of this world! Not to mention the duets he and Andrew perform could rival the

Bee Gees.

Don't believe me? You'll have a chance to witness it for yourself later on this year!



Famous Birthdays to Celebrate in February

- Steve Irwin — Feb 22, 1962
- Charles Darwin — Feb 12, 1809
- Elizabeth Taylor — Feb 27, 1932
- Nicolaus Copernicus — Feb 19, 1473
- Jack Lemmon — Feb 8, 1925
- Jules Verne — Feb 8, 1828
- John Travolta — Feb 18, 1954
- Charles Dickens — Feb 7, 1812
- George Harrison — Feb 25, 1943

Drink can sometimes lead to audience comments that just have to be brazened out. There's a story about Robert Newton on tour as Richard III. He and a fellow actor went on an all-day spree and got to the theatre only just in time to dress, make up and go on stage.

When the curtain rose and Robert Newton somewhat slurringly began his first speech, a voice from the audience shouted accusingly: 'You're drunk!' Newton stopped, came downstage and spoke across the footlights:

'You think I'm drunk? Wait till you see the Archbishop of Canterbury!'



Hello members. **WE NEED YOU**. If you find yourselves looking for ways to be more involved in our theatre, we really need more volunteers in FOH. It is a fun job greeting patrons and socialising with other members. We generally have 8 performances per show and any offers of help would be appreciated. Please contact Deb Hossack on 0431 843 887 for further details on how you can become involved.

Please note: New members and guests may not be aware that our theatre has raked seating. In effect, this means that EVERY seat has a perfect view of the stage. We are one of the very few community theatres that can offer premium seating at economy rates. So please continue to support your local theatre, enjoy grandstand seating and please pass it on to your friends and frenemies!

Act 1 Management Committee contacts:

Andrew Munslow, President/Sound & Lighting	0413 759 741
Terry Frawley, Vice-President/Bar	5433 0655
Tracey Simpson, Secretary	0438 611 557
Mark Whitmore, Treasurer	0412 398 926
Deb Hossack, Stage Manager	0431 843 887
Trisha Bromley, Social Secretary	0490 053 908
John Scandurra, Front-Of-House	0415 060 056
Stan Wisniowiecki, Newsletter/Website	0431 965 307

Other contacts:

Membership Coordinator	0413 759 741
Bookings	0413 759 741
Jo Barry, Group Bookings	jbarr30@eq.edu.au



Act 1 polo shirts available

New polo shirts, navy blue in colour, with Act 1 embroidered logo are now available. They can be worn when working front-of-house or for special events like TheatreFest or any time you want to look flash. Cost is \$30. See illustration below. Available for inspection at the theatre and purchase if we have your size or ordered if not. If interested please call Terry [5433 0655](tel:54330655) or message on [0488 222 596](tel:0488222596) or tezzasf@gmail.com, with your size and male or female style.

TERRY WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ALL OUR THEATREGOERS, "CAR PARKING. DON'T FORGET THAT THE BACK COUNCIL CAR PARK IS OPEN BEFORE SHOWS AND I PROMISE NOT TO LOCK YOU IN. ENTRY IS VIA STATION RD."

Encourage your friends to join Act 1.

Act 1 members receive our monthly newsletter and a significant discount on tickets to Act 1 shows and at Mousetrap, Sandgate, and KSP theatres.

Membership subscriptions can be made at <https://www.trybooking.com/CUIBR>, or by contacting the Membership Enquiries number on Page 1.

Share us on Facebook

Please share any Facebook posts about Act 1 with all your contacts. Facebook is one of the main ways we publicise Act 1 and our shows. If you can spread the word to all your Facebook contacts; that will help us greatly. Many thanks for your assistance.

Act 1 Containers for Change drive

Refunds from empty bottles and cans from our bar are donated to the **Motor Neurone Disease** charity.

Drop your refundable items at the theatre or use the MND customer code **C 10084082** when you return your bottles and cans to a refund point and the refund will be paid directly to them. On 28th March we deposited \$31. That is \$65 so far in two drops. MANY, MANY THANKS

Suzy and Johnny on the radio

It Takes Two with Suzy & Johnny on 99.7 Bridge FM is on **6-10pm on Sundays**. They concentrate on the Arts & Entertainment, promoting community events, particularly theatre. If you have something you would like them to help promote, contact them at suzyandjohnny@997fm.com.au or mobile 0408 718 351. Listen in on Sunday. You can become a member of 99.7fm for just \$5. Details at www.997fm.com.au .

What's on at local theatres.

We have reciprocal arrangements with these theatres to charge their members' ticket price for Act 1 members (theatre restaurants excepted).

Mousetrap Theatre: TBA

www.mousetraptheatre.asn.au, ph. 0439 954 719.

Sandgate Theatre: TBA,

www.sandgatetheatre.net, ph. 3283 2608.

KSP Theatre, Burpengary: Eurobeat Moldova, AUDITIONS Sun 2nd March @ 6pm

<https://www.facebook.com/ksptheatreinc/>
www.ksptheatreinc.net, ph. 0434 885 802.

What's on at other theatres.

VOX Productions: *Lady Macbeth Uncut*, AUDITIONS Sat 22nd Feb 1pm—3pm
Lavalla Centre – Marian Room, 58 Fernberg Rd, Paddington QLD 4064
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1882718775592376>

Theatre 102 / Redcliffe Musical Theatre: *CHOCOLATE FACTORY*, 21-30 March at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre.
<https://www.redcliffemusicaltheatre.com>

North Brisbane Theatre Company: *MACBETH*, April 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13
<https://www.facebook.com/northbrisbanetheatrecompany/nbtc.com.au> (*broken link*)

Upstage Theatre: *THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES*, Fri 28 March - Sat 12 April
Wonargo Cultural Centre, 62 Flower Street, Northgate 4013
<https://www.trybooking.com/CXZUF>

Centenary Theatre, *VERONICA'S ROOM*, February 15 to March 9
<https://centenarytheatre.com.au>

Nash Theatre, New Farm: *GUNSMOKE*, 28 February, 1,7,8,14,15 March
<https://nashtheatre.com>

Sunnybank Theatre Group: *THE BIRTHDAY PARTY*, Fri 28 February to Sat 15 March
<https://www.sunnybanktheatre.com.au>

Find more of South-East Queensland's theatre scene at **Stage Buzz Brisbane:**
<https://www.stage-buzz-brisbane.blog>

The **Bio Box** is a dedicated area or room in an event space, which is traditionally used by Technicians to operate and control audio visual equipment for an event.

The name originates from the "Biograph" film projector, which was one of the first film projectors to be produced. As there were no purpose-built cinemas at the time, public halls & theatres were converted through the removal of seats and the building of enclosures or boxes to house the noisy film projectors – thus the name Bio Box.

As films became more popular, purpose-built cinemas were erected, with hidden projection booths. This left the converted halls and theatres with an unused enclosure or box at the rear of the room. With the evolution of sound, vision and lighting technologies, this disused space was utilised by Technicians for operating audio-visual equipment, due to its isolation and centre position to stage.

Our brochures are kindly printed by Allclear Harding Colour. For all your printing needs, please call Greg on 0413 433 780 or visit <https://allclear.net.au> .