

Patron: Her Excellency Professor The Honorable Kate Warner AM





# FOLLOW SPOTS OCTOBER 2017

# **Auditions!!**



The auditions for our 2018 production of *Stepping Out* by Richard Harris will be held later this month at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Cameron Street, Launceston.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 2-5pm

To book your audition: Please phone Grahame Foster on 0413 629 500 to advise him of your preferred date and time.

If you would like to audition and cannot make any of these times, please phone the Director Mark Horner on 0415 977 786.

Alternatively, if you would like more information and an audition pack, with production and cast details, please email <a href="mailto:secretary@launcestonplayers.com">secretary@launcestonplayers.com</a>

### **Hosts for International Students**

It is always great to see international students in our fair city but the homestay programme is short of host families in 2018. The number required is 60 short stay hosts, and 30 long stay hosts. If you are interested in being a part of this very worthwhile programme, please email <a href="mailto:homestay@geti.tas.gov.au">homestay@geti.tas.gov.au</a> or go to the website - <a href="http://study.tas.gov.au/homestay/">http://study.tas.gov.au/homestay/</a> or phone (03) 6165 0727.



"Be My Home Away from Home".

# Theatre Drinks

Three River Theatre will be the hosts for Theatre Drinks on **Friday 20 October.** We hope to see as many members and friends there to support the Theatre Drinks initiative. Drinks will be at Happy Hour prices and some tasty nibbles will be provided.

Where: Tram Bar Lounge – Best Western Plus opp. Earl Arts Centre

When: 6pm - 7.30pm, Friday 20 October

# **Vale Edith and Barry**

It is with sadness we record the passing of former members Edith Holton and Barry Bracken. Our sincere sympathy is extended to their families.

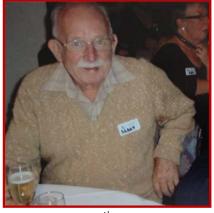
#### **EDITH HOLTON:**



Edith & Eric Holton at Evandale in 2005

Edith served as Wardrobe mistress for a number of years (1982 – 1990), and was also a committee member from 1982 – 1989. During that time, the wardrobe location was moved several times, the last being to Wellington Street. In addition to this, Edith was responsible for the costumes for several productions, dressed participants from the Players for parading at the Evandale Penny Farthing Championships, also for the Batman Festivals and open days at many historic country houses. When speaking to Edith she always mentioned how she loved the many parties and other social events that the Players organised during the years of her involvement.

#### **BARRY BRACKEN:**



Barry at the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Players.

Barry was part of a group of Invermay teenagers who were members of the Invermay Youth Club. Margaret McIntyre, with assistance from Ann McIntyre, recruited members of that club to form the Youth Players. They were taught the basics of acting and theatre and would present a skit or a short one act play at each meeting of the club which was held at the Railway institute on Invermay Road.

The Youth Players won the one act play section of the Launceston Competitions at the National Theatre in the mid-forties with a play called *The Ugly Duckling*. Barry went on to the Launceston Players for a short time appearing in *Controversy* and *Much Ado about Nothing*.

# **Coming Attractions**

**Tasmanian Poetry Festival**: 6 - 8 October at St Albie's Hall, 46 Margaret Street. Tickets online at <a href="https://www.trybooking.com">www.trybooking.com</a> or Petrarch's Bookshop. More details at <a href="https://www.taspoetryfest.org">www.taspoetryfest.org</a>

Launceston on Stage: a History of Amateur Theatre in Launceston: presented by Barbara Hatley at the Launceston Historical Society's meeting 15 October at 2pm – Meeting Room QVMAG. Free admission and afternoon tea to follow the talk.

*Fifty Shades of Grey Nomad*: presented by Stephen Beckett Productions 12-15 October - Earl Arts Centre. Tickets on sale now at the Princess Theatre Box Office or online at <a href="https://www.theatrenorth.com.au">www.theatrenorth.com.au</a>

**Blood Brothers**: presented by Encore Theatre Company 27 October – 11 November - Earl Arts Centre. Bookings: The Princess Theatre Box Office, or by phone on 6323 3666, or online at www.theatrenorth.com.au



'Launceston on Stage: a History of Amateur Theatre in Launceston' on Sunday, 15 October starting at 2pm in the Meeting Room, QVMAG Inveresk.

Barbara Hatley: Launceston on Stage: a History of Amateur Theatre in Launceston

How to explain the liveliness of performance activities in Launceston – the number and variety of amateur theatre companies, dance and musical groups, keenly supported by local audiences?

A major factor is Launceston's size – large enough to produce significant numbers of talented performers: compact enough to give them a sense of performing for the city as a whole, and for audience members to feel represented, involved. Crucially, people with performing skills and interests coming to Launceston to work in other areas, as teachers, academics, radio broadcasters, medical doctors, were quickly spotted, made vital connections, joined performance groups. This presentation will recount the stories of key figures in Launceston theatre over the decades, trace their contributions to the dynamics of performance activities, then reflect briefly on recent developments. Hopefully some of these living legends will be able to attend this celebration of their lives!

**Barbara Hatley** came to Launceston in 2000 as Head of Asian Studies at the **University of Tasmania** where she now has a Professor Emeritus position. With much experience of Indonesian performance, her major field of research, she was intrigued by the richness of the Launceston theatre scene, attended many performances, and made contact with theatre groups and interviewed key participants.

# Sponsors for 2017

The Launceston Players thank our sponsors for their continuing support in 2017.









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