



FOLLOW SPOTS

OCTOBER 2020

COMMITTEE REPORT

Your committee met on October 5th and sadly, restrictions are still in place for the performing arts. We will meet again in December when hopefully we will have a clearer picture of what 2021 will look like, which will allow us to plan for our productions.

MARKET STALL

A reminder that we will be holding a trash/treasure stall on **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7TH** in the garden area outside Holy Trinity Hall, Cameron Street, commencing at **8.30a.m.** and closing at **11.30a.m.**

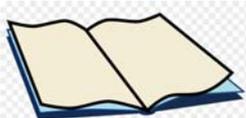
We will be joined by the Holy Trinity Garden Stall and the Lions Club of Kings Meadows who will be selling their famous Christmas cakes.



We hope to see lots of members and friends supporting this endeavor as our funds will go towards the publication of the Players history book.

If anyone has any pre loved items they would like to donate, please call the organiser Dennis Mann on 0419 537 692 or the secretary on 0419 371 143 and they will arrange for them to be picked up.

PLAYERS HISTORY



This book is being written by noted Launceston historian Dr. Thomas Gunn who presented a progress report to the committee at our recent meeting. At this time it is anticipated that the history will be completed and the book published in 2021 to celebrate the Players 95th birthday. So..... watch this space!

SET STORAGE CLEANUP

Last week five committee members had two big days sorting out old sets and flats that had been stored 'just in case' they could be used. After much consideration and heavy lifting, two truckloads were taken to the waste disposal centre.

Thank you to Grahame, Jeff, Alan, Mark and Dennis for the sterling effort. The next challenge is to find a storage space for the remaining items.



VALE EDWARD

It is with sadness that we record the passing of former member Edward Broomhall and we extend our deepest sympathy to Noel and the family.

Edward was a quiet and unassuming man whose life was... "always focused on the arts, theatre and exploring the natural world". He was involved in several theatre productions for the Launceston Players including "Annie", "Evita", "My Fair Lady", "Guys and Dolls", "Cabaret", "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", in addition to other wonderful productions in Launceston. His quote from the "Annie" program was "Leapin' Lizards! Annie is great!" an indication of the enjoyment he got from being in the show.



Edward was also a talented set designer, and designed many productions for the then TCAE including Jeff Hockley's production of 'Tales of a Violent Man', and Martine Croft's 'Pillars of the Community', and 'The Tempest'.

VALE MARCUS

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of our friend and colleague Marcus Bower, and we extend our deepest sympathy to Suzie and their children Dominic and Belle.

Marcus had a very long association with the Players commencing in 1974 when he appeared as one of the Von Trapp children (Friedrich) in our production of "The Sound of Music". He was a gifted actor, director, writer, teacher and a fair and constructive art critic.

Marcus also served on the Players committee as Vice President (1981 – 1987) and President in 1988. In addition to his committee positions, Marcus had a very busy time on stage during the 80s.



1982 – "Bedroom Farce" – cast

1983 – "The Fantastiks" – cast

1984 – "Cop Out" – cast

1985 – "The Real Inspector Hound" – cast

John Lohrey in his critique of the show wrote *"The comic highlight of the evening is provided by Marcus Bower's splendidly toffy-nosed Simon, and the rest of the cast would do well to take their cue from him."*

1986 – "Grog for the Guv" – cast

"Breaker Morant" – director – regarded as his first major production for the Player

1987 – "A Streetcar Named Desire" – director

Marcus was quoted in The Examiner in March 1987 when talking about his choice of this play, *"I like to put on serious plays that have worth and as an HSC teacher, I like the students to see live theatre"*.

- "Cabaret" – major role of the Emcee

Who could forget the moment Marcus set foot on stage resplendent in the heavily beaded white tails, topped off with the clear, shiny top hat.

"The show demands an extravagance of acting style, and this is supplied by Marcus Bower as the emcee and Robyn Gardner as Fraulein Schneider" ...John Lohrey, The Examiner.

1989 – "Don's Party" – director and lead role of Don.

In 2013 Marcus agreed to direct "Emerald City" being both director and cast member. Suzie Bower was also in the cast as had happened many times in the past. This was Marcus's last directing role for the Players.



It was fitting that the Tasmanian Theatre Council awarded Marcus a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019 for his contribution to the Cultural life in Tasmania.

Marcus was a real “character” with a lively intelligence, quick wit and a wonderful sense of humour (and of the ridiculous). This was evident in the very popular revues

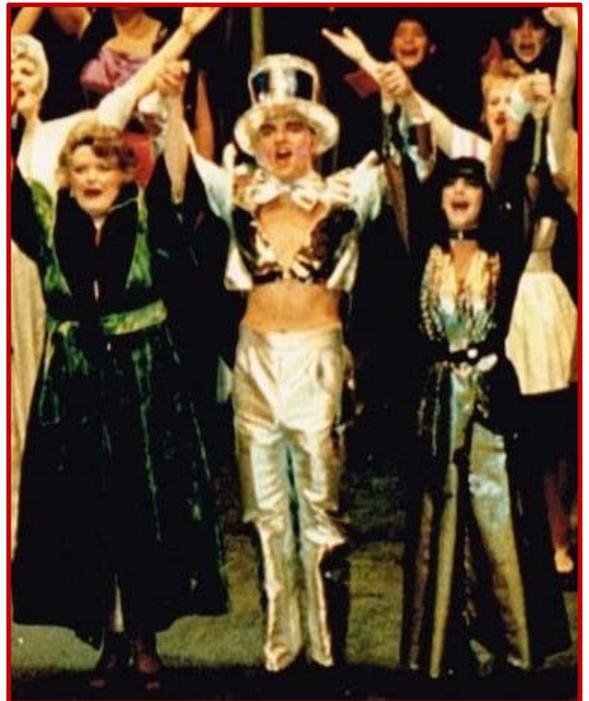
at the Royal Oak Hotel during the 80s. Marcus initiated the shows, directed and acted in them and was always supported by a very talented cast.

Marcus will be remembered with admiration for his courage in coping with his illness, and with deep affection for being such an endearing personality. He will be greatly missed by us all.

SOME PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIES



Cabaret 1987 – Marcus in his pink suit



Cabaret 1987 - Marcus as the emcee (centre) in his heavily beaded white satin suit.



2013

