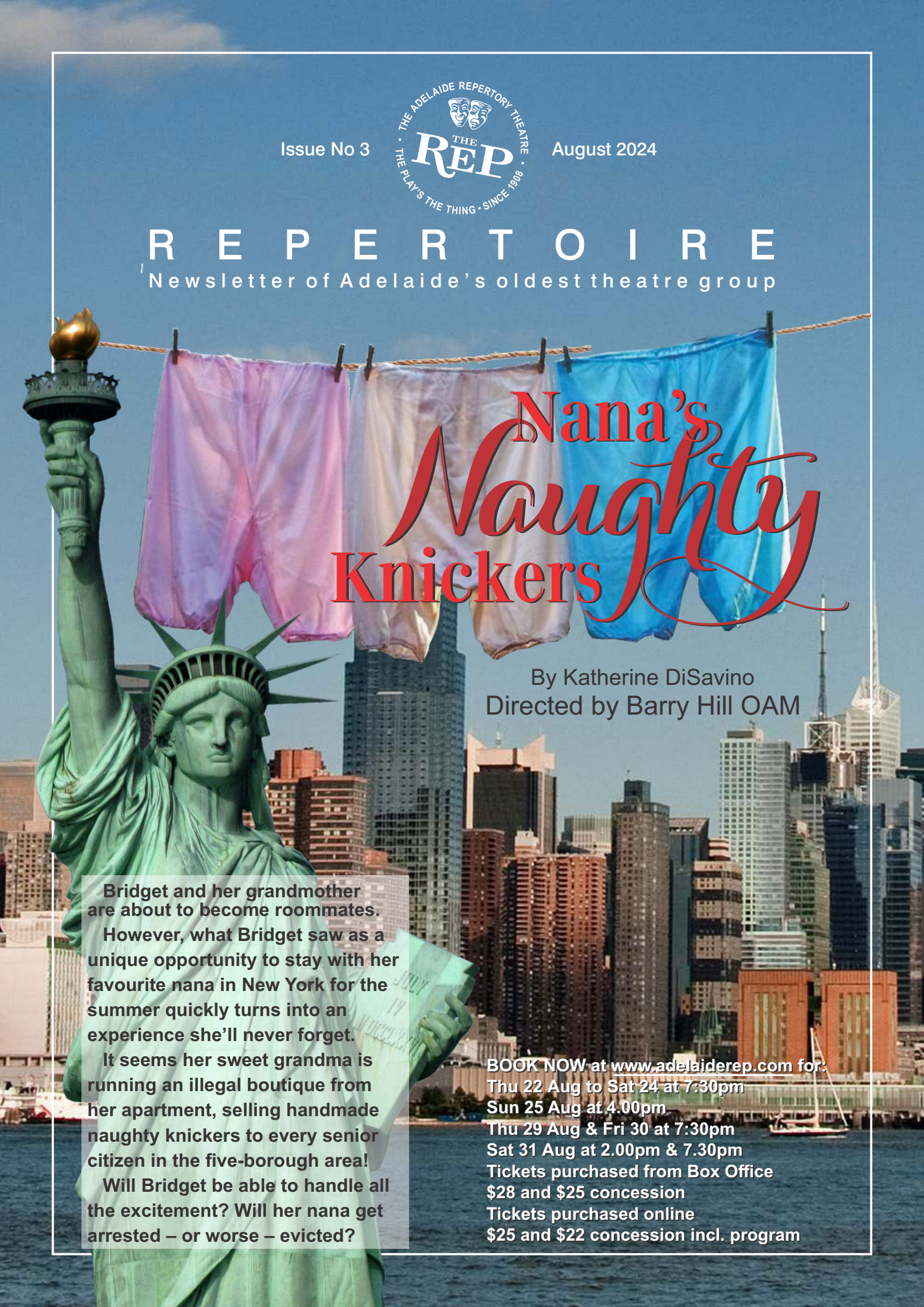
Issue No 3 August 2024

REPERTOIRE

Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group



Nana's Naughty Knickers

By Katherine DiSavino

Directed by Barry Hill OAM

Bridget and her grandmother are about to become roommates.

However, what Bridget saw as a unique opportunity to stay with her favourite nana in New York for the summer quickly turns into an experience she'll never forget.

It seems her sweet grandma is running an illegal boutique from her apartment, selling handmade naughty knickers to every senior citizen in the five-borough area!

Will Bridget be able to handle all the excitement? Will her nana get arrested – or worse – evicted?

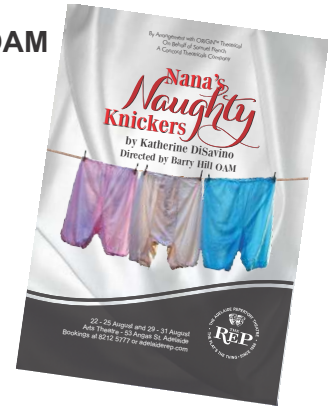
BOOK NOW at www.adelaiderep.com for:
Thu 22 Aug to Sat 24 at 7:30pm
Sun 25 Aug at 4.00pm
Thu 29 Aug & Fri 30 at 7:30pm
Sat 31 Aug at 2.00pm & 7.30pm
Tickets purchased from Box Office
$28 and $25 concession
Tickets purchased online
$25 and $22 concession incl. program

R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Nana's Naughty Knickers

Adelaide Repertory Theatre presents
'Nana's Naughty Knickers'
By arrangement with ORiGiN™ THEATRICAL on behalf of Samuel French A Concord Theatricals Company.

By Katherine DiSavino
Directed by Barry Hill OAM



Bridget (Kayla Cranfield) and her Grandmother (Penni Hamilton-Smith) are about to become roommates.

However, what Bridget saw as a unique opportunity to stay with her favourite Nana in New York for the summer quickly turns into an experience she'll never forget. It seems her sweet Grandma is running an illegal boutique from her apartment, selling hand-made naughty knickers to every senior citizen in the five borough area!

Will Bridget be able to handle all the excitement? Will her Nana get arrested - or worse! - evicted?

Audiences can expect a hearty, laugh-out-loud-great time.

"I saw a production of this play over 10 years ago and promptly fell in love with it!", explains director Barry Hill. "It explores the notion that senior citizens can still enjoy behaving as if they are young adults and enjoy life! It is a joyful celebration of family relationships, friendship, and, of course, racy underwear for the discerning older adult with just a touch of kink!"

Come to *'Nana's Naughty Knickers'* and see if her underwear can "fire men up for a price that won't burn a hole in your wallet!"

Cast: Penni Hamilton-Smith (as Sylvia), Chris Galipo (as Vera), Kayla Cranfield (as Bridget), Clinton Nitschke (as Tom), Frank Cwietniak (as Mr Schmidt), Monique Millar (as Heather Van Pree), Therese Hornby (as Clair), Marcus Catt (as the UPS man and voice)

Don't miss this uproarious romp that will have you laughing out of your knickers!

Writer
Katherine DiSavino



Katherine DiSavino is a Los Angeles writer. She is currently a writer/producer on Apple TV's *'Silo'*. Prior to that, she wrote for *'Nancy Drew'* and *'The Outpost'* on The CW Television Network.

Katherine is a 2019 Sundance Episodic Lab fellow, and was featured on Tracking Board's "Young & Hungry" list of the top 100 New Writers in Hollywood. She currently has several feature films in development, one of which is with a major studio.

Katherine's four published plays *'Nana's Naughty Knickers'*, *'Things My Mother Taught Me'*, *'Nana Does Vegas'* and *'Seasonal Allergies'* have been translated into multiple languages and performed around the world. Theatrical critics have called her work "true-to-life," "superbly written" and "entertaining and laugh-out-loud funny."

WANT TO EAT BEFORE THE SHOW?

Here is a great offer for Rep patrons



R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Director Barry Hill OAM



Barry Hill's lifelong dedication to performing arts honoured with Order of Australia Medal

Adelaide is home to professional and amateur theatre companies and venues, and is known for its vibrant theatre scene.

If you are immersed in the craft of theatre, either as a theatregoer enthusiast or a professional, the news of Barry Hill receiving an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his lifelong contribution to theatre will come as no surprise.

Barry's career in amateur theatre spans over 54 years. He has directed over 100 plays and 50 musicals. The stories, skills, and experiences emerging from his work are both fascinating and inspiring.

Barry, who lives in an ACH Group retirement living village, has shared his fascinating life story.

Finding his voice

Barry's journey into theatre started in his teens. Growing up with a health condition and stutter did not stop him from being curious and open-minded about different ideas and concepts, including singing. His curiosity was noticed by his neighbour who gently persuaded him to join the Henley Beach Methodist Gilbert & Sullivan Society as a chorus member in 1969. In 1974, Barry got his first taste of theatre when he joined the Metropolitan Musical Theatre Co. and has performed and directed there ever since.

Bright beginning

In 1976, Barry joined the Q Theatre where he was mentored by the legendary Q Theatre founder Betty Quin.

Barry recalls how Betty encouraged him to embark on the journey of becoming a musical director, saying: "Darling, you can clearly direct".

So, he did and debuted in 1979, with a performance involving 12 actors, called *'You Can't Take It With You'*. Since then, Barry worked with a number of theatre companies, including; Tea Tree Players, Burnside Players, St Jude's Players, Galleon Theatre Company, The Hills Musical Theatre Company, Therry Dramatic Society, Mayfair Theatre Company, Marie Clark Theatre Company, LA Mama, John Edmund Theatre Company, and the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of SA, to name a few.

Powerful performances & memorable roles

Some of the highlights of Barry's directing career include:

- *'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof'* at Adelaide Repertory Theatre
- *'Tom, Dick and Harry'* at Tea Tree Players
- *'Private Lives'* at Therry Dramatic Society and the Q Theatre
- *'My Fair Lady'* and *'Hello Dolly'* at The Met
- Directing the late June Bronhill in *'La Vie Parisienne'* at Gilbert and Sullivan Society
- Directing the late Marjorie Irving and the late John Edmund in *'The Kingfisher'* at John Edmund Theatre

Barry's favourite acting roles include:

- Roger de Bris in *'The Producers'* at Marie Clark Theatre Company
- Cookie McGee *'Nice Work If You Can Get It'* at The Met
- Ko Ko in *'The Mikado'* at G&S Soc of SA
- Sydney Bruhl in *'Deathtrap'* at Galleon
- Gus in *'Cats'* at The Met
- Noel Coward in *'Noel & Gertie'* at Therry Dramatic Society
- Queen Dottie in *'Sleeping Beauty'* at Tea Tree Players
- Acting Captain Terri Dennis in *'Privates on Parade'* at John Edmund Theatre



Barry (right) as Gus in 'Cats' at The Met in 2015

R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

More on the incredible Barry Hill OAM

Time flies when you are having fun

"When you're performing, it's fun, sometimes hysterical and politically incorrect, but also fulfilling as you see people's immediate reaction," Barry shares. "In contrast, as a director you need to look out for everybody and everything, and have control over the concept."

It's also the people you work with that make it worth it

When asked about the people he liked to work with, June Bronhill – a world famous opera singer, performer and actress, comes to mind.

"This was the beginning of a wonderful friendship that lasted until her passing in 2005. I was lucky enough to have private concerts with her serenading me and learnt a lot of opera theatre skills from the expert!"



June Bronhill and Barry during rehearsals for 'La Vie Parisienne in 1991

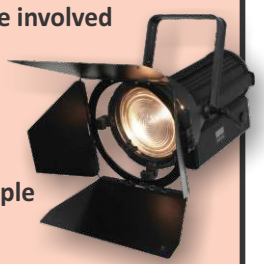
Become Involved
Why not be part of the Rep Team

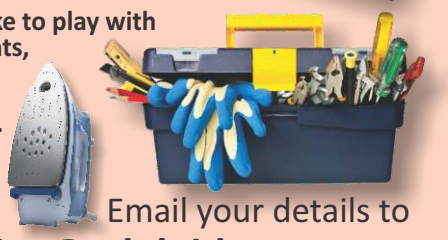
You don't need to be an actor to be involved with the Rep.

Every production is supported by teams of behind the scenes volunteers.

We need people who can prompt, paint, design, construct, show people to their seats; move sets, or sew costumes.

People who like to play with sound and lights, people to make tea and iron costumes.





Email your details to
enquiries@adelaiderep.com

Barry was awarded the BRAVO award for enduring service in Adelaide Theatre, and "the best director" award for *'Tom, Dick and Harry'* at Tea Tree Players.

Beyond COVID complexities

When COVID hit, Barry was in the middle of a season of *'The Producers'* with Marie Clark Theatre Company. He was excelling as Roger de Bris, which is one of his favourite roles. However, due to mask regulations it was much more difficult to read people's reactions, and the cast had to work harder to get feedback from the audience.



Barry (right) as Roger de Bris with Ben Todd as Carmen Ghia 2021/22 – Marie Clarke Theatre Company

Encouraging emerging talent

"You can achieve big things even when you start small," Barry shares, hoping that he will be remembered as someone who is encouraging new talent.

And his advice for someone who wants to give theatre a go? Look for opportunities, keep an eye on Adelaide Theatre Guide auditions, start small, get involved and learn the craft.

Up close and personal

Barry is a former primary school teacher and now works part-time for St John's Youth Services. At night when not directing or performing, he writes theatre reviews for *Stage Whispers* and *It's on the House*. He has also been a voice-artist and featured in many commercials and some TV series.

On behalf of ACH Group, we congratulate Barry on his recognition for his lifelong contribution to theatre and musical performance.

2023 marks the third year of Barry's life at one of ACH Group retirement living communities and as he says: "I'm loving it".

Article copied from ACH Group

R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group



Loriel Smart by Barry Hill OAM

As the great Noel Coward once said "I never cared who scored the goal, or which side won the silver cup. I never learned to bat or bowl; but I heard the curtain going up".

I'm not sure how much goal scoring the winner of the Richard Flynn award for continual, persistent excellence in contributing to theatre in South Australia has done, but recipient Loriel Quin has heard more curtains going up than I have had hot dinners!



Loriel Smart receiving the 2018 Richard Flynn Memorial Award

Before treading the boards under her then stage name Loriel Smart, she was a much sought after runway model and one of the beauties of her time. She was also a TV personality with her own shopping show, and advertised everything from women's cosmetics to the first dishwasher which looked more like a washing machine. She appeared on *'Beauty and the Beast'* and played Michael Pate's illicit love affair in the TV series *'Matlock'*.

Her stage career began almost 60 years ago in *'Moon over a Rainbow Shawl'*. Since then she has worked with many companies, as both actress and director, notably The Adelaide Repertory, The Therry Dramatic Society and The Metropolitan Musical Theatre Company.

She has graced the stages of Theatre 62, Union Hall, Willard Hall, The Sheridan Theatre, The Scott Theatre, Her Majesty's Theatre, The Cottage Theatre and of course The Q Theatre which was founded by her late husband Don Quin along with his then wife, theatre personality and writer Betty Quin.

She has played alongside Dennis Olsen, Don Barker, Marie Tomasetti, Edwin Duryea (better known as Humphrey B Bear), John Edmund, Bunny Brook and Audine Leith to name a few.

Along with her husband Don, together making a formidable theatre team, she founded the Reildon Touring Company taking theatre to country areas under sometimes difficult conditions.

Loriel is no stranger to musicals and plays alike. She has played Frauline Schneider in the professional touring production of *'Cabaret'*, *'Mame'*, and Anna in *'The King and I'*.

Also, such diverse roles as a Trojan woman, a 1920's socialite, a dresser, a showgirl, a retired actress and using her tap-dancing skills, a dancing instructor.

Equally at home as a director and costume designer/dressmaker, her directing skills range from *'The Heiress'*, *'West Side Story'* and *'The Sentimental Bloke'* to *'Lord Arthur Saville's Crime'* and *'The Cemetery Club'*.

Several shows pop up numerous times in her repertoire. She has been involved in *'Night of the Ding-Dong'* six times.

Being an historical play set in Adelaide, it holds a special place in her heart.

The other production is *'West of the Black Stump'*, an Australian musical written by the iconic Reg Livermore. I was lucky enough to play opposite her late husband Don in this musical in 1985.

We first met in 1976 when I was playing the piano for rehearsals of her production of *'The Sentimental Bloke'* (still the best in my opinion). We have featured closely in each other's lives from then on.

On a personal note she has directed me both in plays and musicals including *'Noel & Gertie'* opposite the wonderful Pam O'Grady. I am also an honorary uncle to her Granddaughter Charlotte who I taught many years ago in year 3.

I have directed her in *'Stepping Out'*, *'Waiting in the Wings'* and her last stage appearance in Noel Coward's '*Star Quality'*.

Loriel has been my Director, a member of my cast, my mentor as well as a mentor for many other people, my friend and most of all my theatre mum.



R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Message from President David Sinclair



This year's Theatre Association of South Australia (TASA) award night was held in June with the REP receiving the "Comi-Cal" award for our 2023 production of *'Noises Off'*. As director of this production, I am both delighted and honoured on behalf of the cast and the company to have received this award, but the accolades must go to the incredible cast who brought this difficult production to life on the ARTS theatre stage.

My genuine thanks to all cast members including Julie Quick, Peter Davies, Ian Rigney, Thomas Filsel, Brad Martin, Robyn Brooks, Cassidy Gaiter, Maxine Grubel and Jamie Wright. This award belongs to them.

I would also like to congratulate our newest life member Sue Wylie for receiving the award for "Outstanding Female Actor" for her performance in Therry's *'Good Grief'* and to Leonie Osborn, a stalwart in the Adelaide Musical Theatre scene, for receiving the 2023 "Bravo" award for her tireless and dedicated contribution to musical theatre over the past six decades. These recognitions are well deserved. Congratulations to both Sue and Leonie.

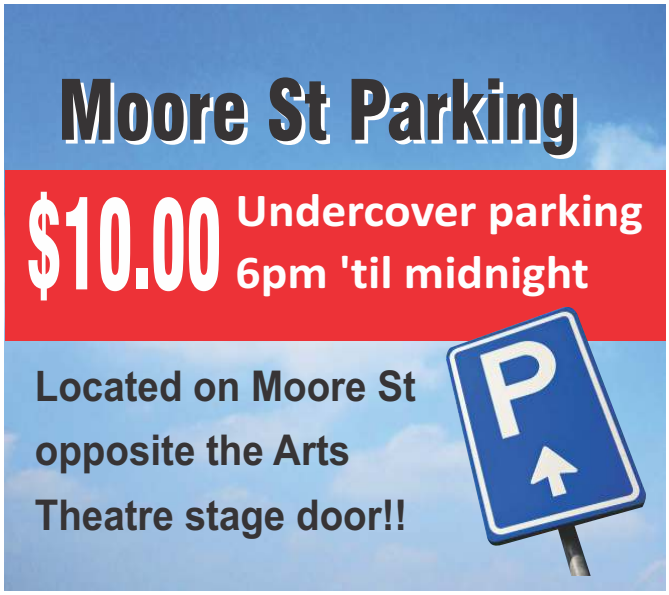
We are well into rehearsals for our next production *'Nanna's Naughty Knickers'* which is going to be a real hoot!!. Director, Barry Hill OAM has assembled a stella cast including our very own vice-president Penni Penni Hamilton-Smith starring as everyone's favourite "Naughty Nanna". This production promises to be a laugh a minute night of entertainment, so please book your tickets now.

The Board is progressing the "Arts Theatre Redevelopment Project". We have now defined a set of key milestones for the first phase of the project and are appointing a working group who will be targeted with the responsibility for driving the project and meeting these milestones. I am pleased to confirm architect Tom Doull of "Architecture That" has joined the working group. Tom's professional expertise as well as his passion for theatre will provide valuable guidance to the group.

I cannot emphasize the importance of your support as well as that of the theatre going public with this project. The REP cannot do this alone. Funding is crucial. We are a community theatre company and we need the theatre community to support us in this journey.

Donations can be made through the REP and the ARTS theatre websites. Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support.





R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Reviews-Nana's Naughty Knickers

'Nana's Naughty Knickers' is a slick comedy by a new playwright, Katherine DiSavino...the dialog is crisp and funny, and the action fast-paced. This Senior Citizen's sexy sideline will have you in stitches!

Lancaster Journal

Audiences may laugh themselves right out of their knickers. The play flows in a perfect rhythm, and hits every high and low note of comedy.

The Dayton Examiner

A hearty, laugh-out-loud-great time.

River Cities Reader

A swirly, brightly coloured serving of cotton candy…light and sweet and eager to please. *'Nana's Naughty Knickers'* brought down the house.

The Grant Tribune Sentinel



The Adelaide Repertory Theatre Inc.

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable **Frances Adamson AC**, Governor of South Australia

Venue: ARTS Theatre, 53 Angas St, Adelaide 5000
Ph: 8212 5777 **Web:** www.adelaiderep.com
Email: enquiries@ adelaiderep.com
Rep Photography: Richard Parkhill
Editor: Penni Hamilton-Smith
Board:
David Sinclair, Penni Hamilton-Smith, Skye Wild, Linda Williams, Gary Anderson, Sam Christodoulou, Lise Windsor, Jaye Antoney.

David Grybowski



Hey David,
we heard you are recuperating from a serious bicycle accident. We just want you to know that we love you, we're thinking of you and we thank you for bringing us the hilarious *'Laughter on the 23rd Floor'* and for all your other contributions to the Rep.





Theatre Association of SA

TASA

Keep in touch with Community Theatre
Join TASA now for FREE!

dfk gray perry
We make it happen!
LEADING ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Vale: Malcolm Benger (1932 - 2024)



The Rep farewells one of our most prolific performers, Mr Malcolm Benger.

Malcom acted, directed and crewed in an impressive 55 plays with the Rep between September 1954 *'A Rogue in Bed'*, performed at the Unley Town Hall) and February 1981 *'My Three Angels at the Arts Theatre'*.

Malcolm passed away in June 2024, aged 91. His eulogy reflected fondly on his years treading the boards with the Rep, which was such a huge part of his life.

Malcolm's wife Geanette was also heavily involved with the Rep, acting and directing in 20 plays between 1961 and 1983. In 1967 the couple jointly directed *'Landed Gentry'*.

Malcolm and Geanette performed alongside some of the Rep's most notable members, including Ruby Litchfield, Mimi Mattin, Hayette Erickson and Nancy Thorpe.



(L to R) Fay Cowling Glenys Myers James Hind Max Birch Malcolm Elliott Mary Wildren Malcolm Benger Jan Colquhoun Geoff Sinclair Joan McDonald Ken Robertson (sitting) Mimi Mattin
1959 "THE MATCHMAKER" Producer: CECIL REED

The couple met in 1954, when they both worked at Adelaide radio station 5KA. According to their daughter "Dad only auditioned because Mum did and he thought she was cute and it was a way to be near her."

Acting runs in the family, with Malcolm and Geanette's daughter, Vanessa, also pursuing an acting career.



Invited guests at the handover of the sound recordings in the South Australian section of the Once Upon a Wireless project, 23 October 1996. Left to right: Staunton McNamara; Kevin May; Cliff Moule; Malcolm Benger.



(L.to R) Frank Mueller Roger Dowsett Fred Cannon Linda Bennett Harry Munn Barbara Saunders Paul Linkson Mollie Hull Malcolm Benger Bob Durie Anthony Bretherick
1962 "THE GAZEBO" Producer: CECIL REED

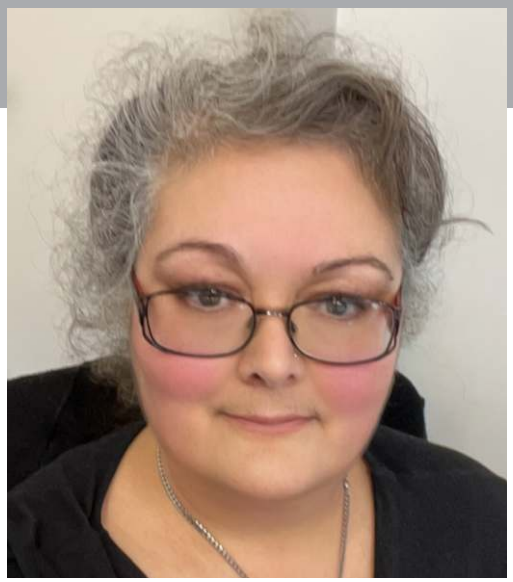


MALCOLM BENGER and LINDA BENNETT
(Felix Dulay) (Emilie Dulay)

Malcolm and Linda on the set of 'My Three Angels'

R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Message from Catherine Reid
ARTS Theatre Manager



Catherine Reid

Hello Theatre Lovers,

The Arts Theatre has had a fantastic run of shows recently, and I'm excited to share what's coming up next. In May, the Met Musical Society brought the house down with *'The Addams Family'*. Following that, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of SA wowed us with their wonderful, stripped back production of *'Oklahoma!'* In early June, The Adelaide Rep treated us to the engaging *'Moonlight and Magnolias'*.

Looking ahead, we've got some great shows lined up. The Marie Clark Musical Society is celebrating their 50th anniversary with *'The Music Man'*, opening on July 19th. Therry Theatre will be putting on *'Jersey Boys'*, starting August 7th. The Adelaide Rep is back with the comedy *'Nana's Naughty Knickers'*, opening on Thursday, August 22nd.

Pelican Productions, known for fostering young talent, has two exciting shows in September: *'Newsies Jr.'* and " *'Heathers'*. Performing at the Arts Theatre is a fantastic experience for young performers, nurturing a lifelong love for the arts and honing new talent.

We're also happy to announce some more upcoming fly improvements for OHS, making the theatre safer and more efficient for everyone.

To keep our theatre in top shape, we welcome your support through donations. Your help is crucial for the upkeep and maintenance of our historic venue, ensuring we can continue to host these amazing productions and support the arts community.

Thanks for your continued support, and we hope to see you at the theatre soon!

TASA Awards



The Theatre Association of South Australia (TASA) held its 2023 Theatrical awards night on June 1st at the Piccadilly Cinema. Congratulations to the cast and crew of the Adelaide Rep's production of "Noises Off" which was the Comi-CAL (best comedy) Winner, directed by our very own President David Sinclair.





R E P E R T O I R E
Newsletter of Adelaide's oldest theatre group

Are you a subscriber having difficulty booking you tickets online?

Then follow the step by step instructions below.
Remember there are always tickets available at the door.

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

To set up an account so you can book your own tickets online, choose click here
and select Forgot Password/No Password set?
Enter your email address. A link will be sent to you to set your new password.
You can then log in, choose the shows you would like to attend and book your seats (up to 5 per year) using the Subscriber ticket type.
You can also book extra tickets as Subscriber Guests at a discounted priced. Or you can just ring us as you have done previously and we will book for you.
To book tickets, choose click here

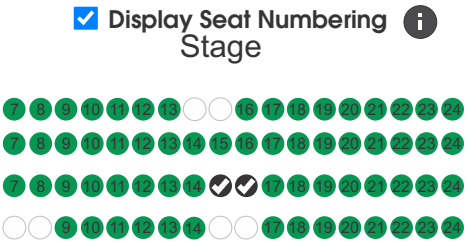
SUBSCRIBER STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

If you have not yet set up a login password:

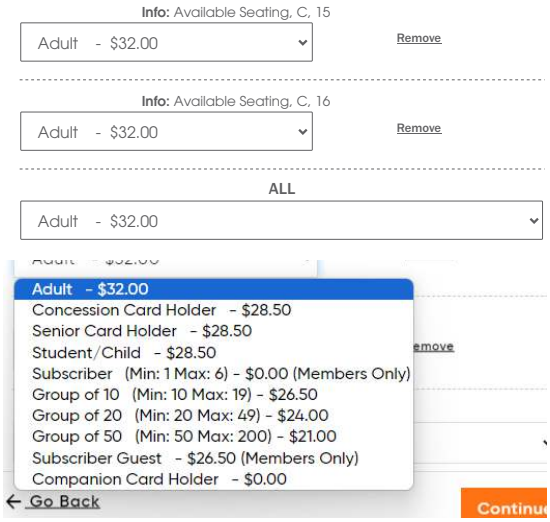
1. Go to https://artstheatresa.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/sales
2. Click on ( ) at top right of screen
3. Click on Forgot Password or No Password Set?
4. Enter the email address you used to purchase your subscription. A link will be sent to you to set your password
5. Once you have set your password, login to your account
6. Check and save your details
7. Click on Continue shopping at the bottom left of the page to book show tickets
8. Skip to Step 4 below

To book your subscriber tickets online:

1. Choose your show and book from our website www.adelaiderep.com or go to https://artstheatresa.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/sales
2. Click on ( ) at top right of screen
3. Sign in with your email address and password
4. Choose the show you want to book tickets for
5. Choose a date
6. Choose a seat or seats (Green seats are available)



7. Choose Click Here to Select Ticket Types
8. Click the down arrow against each ticket to choose subscriber ticket types instead of Adult



9. Click Continue
10. Click Add to Cart
11. Click Go to Checkout
12. Check all your details and click Next
13. Choose whether yo would like your tickets emailed or left at the Box Office for you to pick up
14. Click next
15. Choose Go to next Step or Donate Now
16. You should see a $0.00 order (or your donation amount
17. Confirm you have read the Terms and Conditions
18. Click Complete Order
19. Print or Download your tickets if you wish to
20. Add to you electronic calendar if you wish to