

# Players Ponderings

## October 2020

### From the President's Desk:

So, the AGM is done and dusted, the new committee installed and finally we're looking forward to live entertainment back in our theatre!

We're testing the waters with a Christmas edition of Showtime. Carols, comics and comradery.

Not that the Players have been entirely at a standstill in the last couple of months. The new committee has hit the ground running with a new strategic plan in place (courtesy of a program of very successful strategic planning sessions), a revamp to our website (big shout out to Dan P for all the heavy lifting on this one), the 2021 season pencilled in and Christmas Showtime up and running in record time. In addition, there's been considerable work achieved in the backstage area (construction of the new office, repair work to the stage wings and set construction areas), costume hire area (the beginning of the culling and overhaul process of the costume hire department) and, perhaps more noticeably, the repair and re-sealing of the stage.

All in all, the Players are in good position to emerge from our Covid enforced hibernation, with a full head of steam, heading toward a bold and bright future.

---

There has been some scuttlebutt around that the Players are on the skids and in danger of losing our theatre. **Not true!** There are some challenges ahead, but we are financially sound and in a good position to meet whatever headwinds present themselves.

---

To fill you all in, our current position is as follows:

Back in 2019 we dedicated our season to strengthening our financial position. After a number of very successful shows we succeeded in rebuilding our cash reserves. This put us in good shape going into the current malaise.

At the AGM our then acting treasurer, Jan Cook, reported that, should the theatre need to remain closed due to Covid, we had sufficient funds to see us comfortably through until the end of 2021.

Fortunately, we are going to be able to re-open on a limited basis this year and run a three-show season next year on a basis to be determined by regulations as they come to hand.





## COVID UPDATE

Under the current Covid rules (as of October 13th) we are able to house up to 50% capacity in the auditorium (subject to all other Covid requirements being met), with some 20 odd people allowed in the foyer at any one time (as per the old 4m<sup>2</sup> rule) and social distancing, surface cleaning and tracing restrictions in place at all times.

As such, our Christmas Showtime production will be run on a similar basis that which we put in place for the AGM, with a limited number of tickets available for in-theatre viewing and tickets available for live-streaming of the performance.

Hopefully by the time we get to our first production of the 2021 season, “We Will Rock You”, restrictions will have eased still further and we’ll be able to get back to our normal bustling activity of overlapping rehearsals, performances and other additional activities.

## LEASE UPDATE

The lease on our land is the other pressing issue of note here. As I think most of you are aware, whilst our theatre is owned by the Players, we lease the land that it stands on from the NSW Department of Industry (the old Crown Lands Department) on a thirty-year lease. The current lease expires at the end of 2022. In the past rolling over of this lease has been fairly straight forward, however changes to the Crown lands department and the possibility of rival bids for the lease suggest to us that we need to get a head start on the process.

Prior to Covid, it had been the Player’s intention to seek early renewal of the lease at the end of 2020, and the Committee had begun a program of community engagement to support that application. An early renewal of the lease being possible if the application is backed by a weight of community support.

Covid has varied those plans (it clearly wasn’t the time to be garnering support for 2022 in the midst of a pandemic), but the committee is currently re-working the program with an eye to now applying for an early re-lease at the end of 2021 (Incidentally, should you wish to become part of the process we will shortly be calling for expressions of interest to join the Community Engagement Team who will put together and run that part of the “re-lease” program).

In an encouraging recent development on this front, our Mayor, in a recent emailed response to one of our long-standing members, has reported that the council has assured her that they have no current plans in place to take over our site. We are in the process of following this up and will keep everybody up to date.

Other issues with the council are ongoing. There has however been some recent progress, with the council installing bollards around our land to assist with the “parking on our grass” problem (a shout out to Guenter and Jan who worked hard with council on this one). Aside from the de-mountable question (which we’ve put on hold till after the lease is resolved), we’re hoping that this new found spirit of co-operation may extend to other urgent issues.

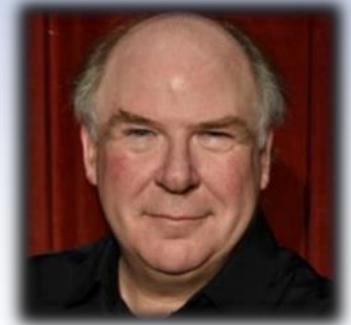
Anyway, bottom line is, we’re still very much alive and we’ll do whatever is needed (man the barricades if necessary) to ensure the Player’s future is assured.

Talking of Jan ... Jan Cook decided not to stand for re-election to the committee this time around. This is a great loss for the committee as Jan is a vigorous, talented and pro-active member of the Players community. Hopefully, Jan, after a well-earned break, will be back with the committee down the track. In the meantime, our sincere thanks go out to her for her efforts to date.

In good news though for the Cook/Smith household, you'll all be pleased to hear that Phil is doing well in his recovery from his latest bout of illness. We're thinking of you Phil and hope it continues to go well (Incidentally, for those of you who haven't been following such things, our current website upgrade is built onto the back of the extensive work that Phil put into the website last year ... Cheers Phil.

A vote of thanks must also be extended to John Hansen. John has been at the helm of our tech department for many moons and we thank him for his dedication and expertise overseeing the team. He has now passed the coordinator role back to committee to be overseen by Dan. Thanks John!

One last thing before I go, if you haven't been to the website recently (and particularly the Members Only area) get online and check it out. Not only is there a new layout, but a lot of new content to sift through. I would particularly highlight the members engagement page. If you've got any thoughts about the Players, or the website or any comments you'd like to put out there to the members, put something in the Community Engagement Chat. Feedback from our members is our lifeblood, so don't be shy.



**Lance Thompson**  
President



**You can help us spread the Players Theatre love by liking our Facebook page  
Search: The Players Theatre Inc**

## Members Only Page

Our Members and their ideas are VITAL to keep the Theatre going!

We want to hear from you!

Use our Community Engagement chat today!

Check out our members groups:

## Members Groups

Script Writing

Community Engagement

Online Play Readings

Radio Dramas

Theatre Trivia

Foyer Chats

# Players Theatre is COVID SAFE

## COVID-safe Behaviours



**When entering the venue please sign in using the QR code**

## PLAYERS THEATRE COVID-19 MEMBER AND VISITOR SAFETY PLAN

### PLAYERS THEATRE SAFETY ADVICE

If you are experiencing any symptoms such as cough, fever or generally feeling unwell do not enter the venue.

Anyone presenting symptoms will be advised to go home and seek medical attention.

All staff are required to sanitise or wash their hands prior to entering the venue

All staff are to wipe down equipment, tools etc before and after use.

There is a 1.5m distance per person within a 4sqm work area or workshop requirement.

There 1.5m distance per person within a 4sqm area in the foyer and auditorium space requirement.

All staff are to read and follow the social distancing signage displayed at venue entrance.

All staff are to read and follow the hand hygiene signage displayed at venue entrance.

The total number of people participating/present is recorded at front entrance in all instances.

All visitors and members MUST sign the venue attendance register and complete ALL fields

All staff are advised to use personal bottled water only and not share food items.

All staff are advised to socially distance during break times

[playerstheatre.org.au](http://playerstheatre.org.au)

# Member Events



Online Play Reading  
October 31<sup>st</sup> from 7pm

## **SUPER SCARY**

by Tim Kochenderfer



For access to the script and zoom meeting link head to  
Players Theatre *ONLINE PLAY READING* group  
on the **MEMBERS ONLY** page  
[playerstheatre.org.au/membersonly](http://playerstheatre.org.au/membersonly)

Please note: the event registration link was emailed to all members earlier  
this week. Please register interest by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

**We are pleased to announce  
our 2020 Christmas Showtime!**

### A Players Theatre Christmas

We look forward to sharing  
some Christmas Cheer with  
our valued community with  
this light hearted variety  
show.

The great news is that we can  
share this in person at the  
theatre and online!

Tickets will be released in  
November via our website

[playerstheatre.org.au](http://playerstheatre.org.au)

Theatre Tickets: \$20

Online Tickets: \$10

No concessions

**The PLAYERS THEATRE Inc.**

# SHOWTIME

## A PLAYERS THEATRE CHRISTMAS

**4th & 5th  
December 2020**

Fri 6:30pm,  
Sat 12:30pm & Sat 6:30pm

**Limited Season**  
Auditorium and Virtual Tickets Available

Online sales only via  
[www.playerstheatre.org.au](http://www.playerstheatre.org.au)

Players Theatre Livestream

Calling For expressions of interest!

# Players Radio Play Project

Voices, sound effects, loads of laughs and all whilst you get to read from the script!  
Sounds like a hoot!

Register your interest in the project via the Members Page – Radio Dramas



Happy coordinator retirement to **John Hansen** who remains part of the tech team, but has passed the reigns back to committee.

Enormous thanks to **Jan Cook** for her tireless efforts and with our set construction team as she takes some well earned family time!



## DON'T FORGET YOUR MERCHANDISE!!

Local Supplier, Constable Printing, provide TOP QUALITY, long lasting garments for all our needs! Support local and order online today!



Order online today! [playerstheatre.org.au](http://playerstheatre.org.au)

# Members Only Page

Welcome to the members only page, where you can find extra benefits such as online play readings, past shows to watch, trivia and much more.

Make a page suggestion

If at any time during this uncertain time you need any assistance please contact us by filling out this form. Even if it's just someone to talk to.

Need Assistance

Players Ponderings

Updates from the committee

Renew Membership

Official Merch

Watch Past Shows

Theatrical Links

Member Resources

Kids Fun

Tell us what areas you are interested in volunteering

## Members Groups

Script Writing

Community Engagement

Online Play Readings

Radio Dramas

Theatre Trivia

Foyer Chats

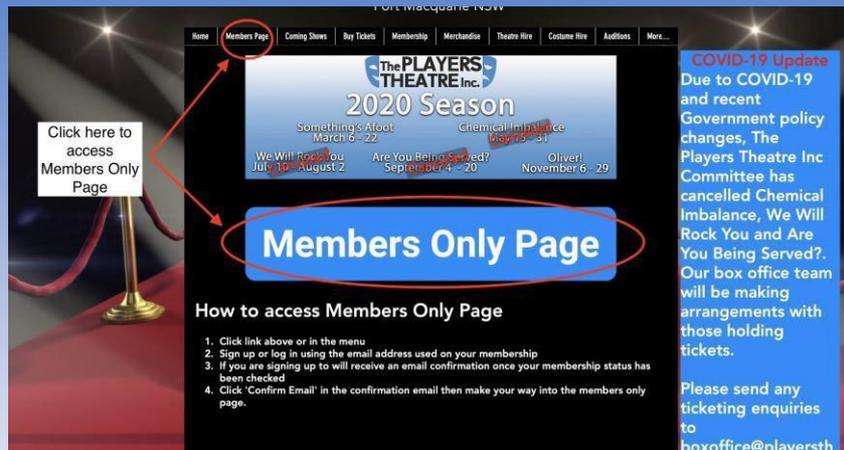
You can see all the updates and plans for member events and even watch past shows.

Please let us know if there is something you would like to see included on the members page!

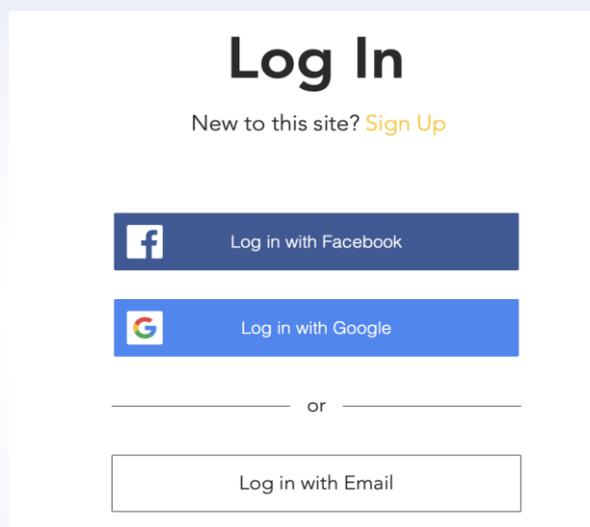
[secretary@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:secretary@playerstheatre.org.au)

# How to access the Members Only Page

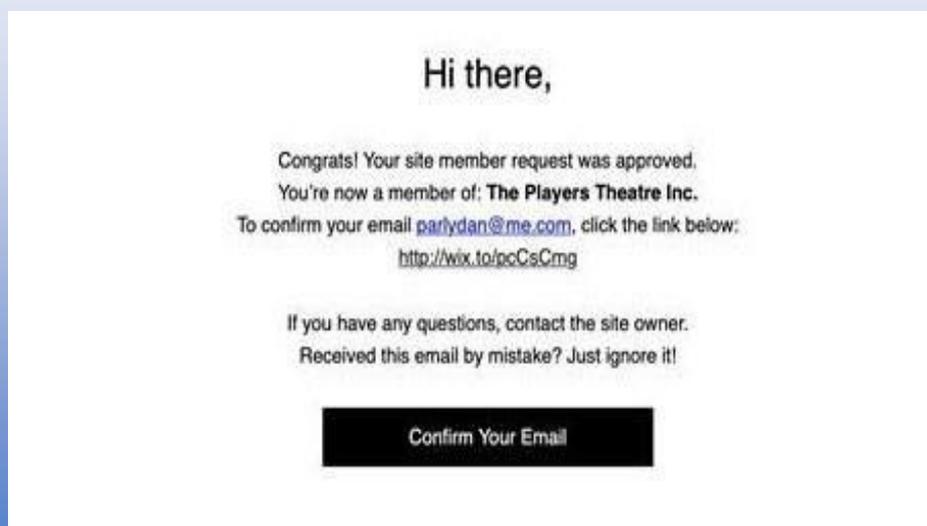
1. Click link on the home page or in the menubar



2. Sign up or log in using the email address used on your membership



3. If you are signing up, you will receive an email confirmation once your membership status has been checked



4. Click 'Confirm Email' in the confirmation email then make your way into the members only page.

# Your Players Theatre Committee

## Executive

President- LanceThompson  
[president@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:president@playerstheatre.org.au)

0419 432 048

1st Vice President – Daniel Parlevliet  
[1stvp@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:1stvp@playerstheatre.org.au)

0413 297 298

2nd Vice President – Jenny Gould  
[2ndvp@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:2ndvp@playerstheatre.org.au)

0407 239 096

Secretary – Greg Fank  
[secretary@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:secretary@playerstheatre.org.au)

Treasurer – Kirsten Keddie  
[treasurer@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:treasurer@playerstheatre.org.au)

## Committee Members

[committee@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:committee@playerstheatre.org.au)

### Property /WH&S

Guenter Bieniasch

### Membership (Wellbeing)

Sarah Rowsell

### Retail (Bar and front of house)

Amie Frank

### Publicity and Marketing

Barbara Sherrin

Fay Blundell

## Committee Assistants

Archives – Paul Bishop

Costumes - Lois Callaghan

Got an idea for us?  
We want to know about it!  
Send it through to:  
[secretary@playerstheatre.org.au](mailto:secretary@playerstheatre.org.au)



[playerstheatre.org.au](http://playerstheatre.org.au)



You can help us spread the Players Theatre love by liking our Facebook page  
Search: The Players Theatre Inc