



Not the Programme Notes

*Being sundry items of interest about our upcoming productions and the arts in general
June 2010 - Issue 10*

Money and Friends



*Rehearsals are well under way for our next production.
Bob Philippe directs the cast.*

Friends? With friends like this...

David Williamson writes with a savage wit and a remarkably accurate ear for dialogue, and somehow we are always able to recognise his characters – they're our friends! Director Bob Philippe and Valley Artists introduce us to a few interesting people, and meeting them is a must.

Robyn Nevin credits Williamson with "creating the most hilarious worst marriage ever seen on an Australian stage" in *Money and Friends*. Williamson himself says that Vicki and Alex are two of his most outrageous narcissists, second only to Carmela in *Influence*. They are, he says "a recipe for marital disaster, but that's theatrical fun."

Williamson sees a lot of himself in some of the characters. Stephen is a neurotic who spends his hours "not in delighting in nature's wonders at beautiful Crystal Inlet, he's haunted by fears of creeping dry rot under his deck."

There is an "obsessive and depressive side of Stephen making sure everyone gets the benefit of his wisdom, at length, whether they like it or not."

"My wife Kristin" says Williamson, "hooted with laughter whenever Stephen opened his

mouth as she felt she was married to someone quite similar."

However... "I like to think that there is something of me in Peter, the generous man who trustingly went guarantor for his brother whose business then collapsed and left Peter facing bankruptcy. My lack of psychopathic tendencies has, in life, sometimes made me too trusting of others."

Sylvie Drake, Times Theatre Critic, describes some of the other characters:

"Margaret, the outspoken survivor of a tough divorce, serves as our witty tour guide [and introduces us to] the players.

"These dwellers of Crystal Inlet, 'scared they might miss a trend-shift,' turn out to be tightly knit only by wealth and the dirt they know about each other. Decent and devoted Penny has left her orthopedic surgeon husband, the 'toxically adversarial' Stephen, a couple of times, but she keeps coming back.

"Crass attorney Alex and wife Vicki love to flaunt status as they bristle up to one another. ('If there's a social ladder in sight,' Margaret tells us, 'Vicki will climb it.')

"Television producer Conrad and his pregnant third wife Jaquie reserve their weapons of choice for jousts with Conrad's grown son Justin, who is visiting. This rebel offspring of Wife Number One has the manners of a rhinoceros but a body that has the older women in the group ogling.

"And there you have it: changeless hypocrisy, love, sex, delusion and marriage."

Now that sounds more interesting than *Neighbours*, doesn't it!

Laguna Hall, July 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10 at 8pm. We recommend you leave the kiddies at home. Bookings at Wollombi and Laguna stores, or through our website at www.valleyartists.org.

Our Competition



Brian Connolly was the winner of our first quiz. Here he is, finally receiving his prize, personally presented by Michael Noyce – a bottle of Noyce Brothers Sparkling Chardonnay – a very nice drop.

Our question last issue was: Who was John Lubbock, and what did he do? The answer: In 1871 he introduced into law the bank holiday.

A record number of entries, but only one winner. Lynne Sheppard picked up a bottle of Stonehurst Chambercin, which, I believe, she has already enjoyed with a few friends. Thanks to our sponsors, Daryl & Phillipa Heslop, who donated this prize, and also a bottle of their excellent Semillon, won by Anne Adams.

Want to be in the running for this month's prize? Just answer the following question – first correct answer to info@valleyartists.org wins.

A recent event in Newcastle aroused my interest in a certain lady. For a time she shared Napoleon's bedroom, and Oscar Wilde called her 'a touchstone of mysterious feminine beauty', but she didn't become really famous until she was kidnapped.

Walter Pater, in an essay that made him famous, said this of her: "She is older than the rocks among which she sits; like the vampire, she has been dead many times, and learned the secrets of the grave; and has been a diver in deep seas, and keeps their fallen day about her; and trafficked for strange webs with Eastern merchants; and, as Leda, was the mother of Helen of Troy, and, as Saint Anne, the mother of Mary; and all this has been to her but as the sound of lyres and flutes, and lives only in the delicacy with which it has moulded the changing lineaments, and tinged the eyelids and hands."

Who is she?

Stop Press

Unfortunately we have had to postpone our film making workshop originally scheduled for 16, 17, 18th July. We intend to re-schedule ASAP – watch this space!

The Fabulous Tivoli

In 1946, a night at the Tivoli would be a good choice for an exciting night on the town, and that's exactly where we took our sponsors at this year's Sponsors Dinner.

What a night! Vaudeville revisited, once again displaying the incredible depth of talent we have here in the Valley - including singers, dancers, comedy, an erotic dancer, and show-girls with very long legs.

As you can see from the cast photo below, all on stage for the grand finale. There's no business like show business - indeed!

Did I mention the food? Delicious!

A fabulous night's entertainment.

A great and fitting way to say thank you to those of you whose generosity makes so much of what we do possible.



A quote to ponder from the Post-Impressionist painter Paul Gauguin: 'There is always a heavy demand for fresh mediocrity. In every generation the least cultivated taste has the largest appetite.'

Not the Programme Notes is edited by Peter McCloy on behalf of Valley Artists, who do not necessarily share the views of the editor. All correspondence to info@valleyartists.org.

ENTRIES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Valley  Artists Inc

WOLLOMBI VALLEY SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 2 2010 LAGUNA HALL 7PM

ANY GENRE 10 MINS OR UNDER

DOWNLOAD THE ENTRY FORM FROM
www.valleyartists.org
\$15 PER FILM TO ENTER

FIRST PRIZE \$1000
SECOND PRIZE \$750
THIRD PRIZE \$500
PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD \$250
KINDLY DONATED BY LAGUNA WINE BAR

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES
SEPTEMBER 17 2010

ENQUIRIES:
Email: filmfestival@valleyartists.org



ENTRY FORM FOR 2010 WOLLOMBI VALLEY SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Film Title: _____

Logline: (a one or two sentence mini-synopsis, what submitted work is about)

Country of Production: _____ Format: _____

Duration: (max 10 minutes) _____

Is this an Australian Premiere? YES/NO

(List previous screenings) _____

Previous Festival Awards: _____

Send Entries with a \$15 cheque or money order **made out to Valley Artists Incorporated**, to: Wollombi Valley Short Film Festival, C/- Valley Artists Inc., Old Northern Trading Post LAGUNA NSW 2325

www.lagunawinebar.com.au



Valley Artists Sponsorship Packages

Sponsorship enables us to bring you a level of performance which rivals most theatre companies. Sponsorship allows us to send our youth and others on performing arts scholarships to NIDA or ATYP. It allows us to run educational workshops throughout the year. It helps us to help other community events by supplying lighting/sound gear and technicians.

We are a not-for-profit organisation. All funds are committed to the administration of the organisation and the staging of our productions. All of us are unpaid volunteers.

As a sponsor, you will be entitled to tickets to all our productions, our invitation only Sponsors' Night, and advertising/acknowledgement in our program. Donations may be tax deductible.

To become a sponsor, fill in the form below, and return with your payment. If you would like further information, call Karen (4998 3361) or Fiona (4998 3339), or email us at sponsors@valleyartists.org.

As a sponsor you will be entitled to:

Sponsorship level	Cost	Tickets	Sponsors Night	Program
Gold	\$900	6	6	1/2 page
Silver	\$600	4	4	1/4 page
Bronze	\$300	2	2	Mention
Aluminium	\$150	1	1	Mention

Payment Details

Business Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Preference: Email/Post

Package selected: Gold (\$900) Silver (\$600) Bronze (\$300) Aluminium (\$150)

Please pay by cheque to Valley Artists Inc, c/- Laguna Store, Laguna NSW 2325

or

Pay cash or by credit card at Laguna Store