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*\*\*All monies raised go to support the  
Arts in South Australia\*\**

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IAF is proudly supported by:

**Arts SA**

**Carclew Youth Arts**

**Trak Cinema**

**Wakefield Press**

**Em-Kay Design Jewels**

**Skye Cellars**

## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Happy new year to all our members!

IAF can be proud that we have made a big difference to young artists' careers this past year.

An outstanding example is our support of young emerging opera star, Grace Bawden, which enabled her to accept an offer of study at the prestigious *La Scuola Dell'Opera Italiana*. We raised well over \$6,000 through the Fundraiser Concert, an IAF grant (\$1500), generous individual donations and a grant of \$3,000 from the Italia-Australia Association.

Grace wrote....*"To the Independent Arts Foundation, Board and Members, please accept my deepest gratitude for your exceedingly generous efforts towards helping me on my journey to study opera in Italy. Without your generous support, the opportunity to study in*

# NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2015

*Bologna would be little more than a dream. I can't wait to perform for you all and showcase how much your contribution has made to my life.  
With Love, Grace Bawden."*



*Grace Bawden with Frank Ford*

Our assistance to Brenton Shaw to study musical theatre in the USA is another fine achievement for IAF. Brenton showed his appreciation by entertaining us at the Christmas Party. It was truly amazing that this young composer, writer and performer had obtained permission from Bryce Courtney to adapt his book *Jessica* into a musical. Brenton's talent was strikingly obvious in his impressive performance of his songs from *Jessica*.



*Brenton Shaw at the IAF Christmas party*

In December at Carclew's young artists awards ceremony long-time IAF member and internationally recognised artist Franz Kempf AM presented the Independent Arts Foundation Franz

Kempf Printmaker Award to Sarah Thame. With a celebrated career spanning over half a century, Franz realises the value of providing development opportunities for emerging printmakers.

This biennial Award supports the professional development of a South Australian printmaker (aged 26 and under) "to further develop their practice" and is valued at \$4,000.

The annual Adelaide Critics' Circle Awards, also held in December, were attended by a capacity crowd at the University of Adelaide's Little Theatre. IAF sponsors the Innovation in the Arts Award which went to the production "Notoriously Yours" by the theatre company "five.point.one" IAF supported one of their first productions a few years ago.



"five.point.one" at the Adelaide Critics' Circle Awards

In the IAF July Newsletter other grants were mentioned and the reports from some of these artists in this newsletter give testimony to the beneficial results of our grants.

IAF will initiate a new scholarship next year "to support a young artist (working in any art form) to undertake a course of study in Italy which furthers their practice". This is a joint funded \$4,000 scholarship by IAF and The Italia-Australia Association named the *June Tanner Memorial Scholarship*. June Tanner was a great supporter of the arts and Italian-Australian relations. Our Board Members Cheryl Appelkamp (President of IAA) and John Hillier are to be congratulated on initiating this new scholarship which will be administered by Carlew for IAF.

There have been many enjoyable activities thanks to the chairs and committee members of the clubs: Lynn Crosby (Film); Cheryl Appelkamp (Literary); Beverley Miller (Convenor, Book Lovers' Breakfast and Christmas Party); Tina Turci (Convenor, Marjorie Fitz-Gerald Dinner and Grace

Bawden Fundraising Concert); and Jessica Dames AM (Clare Regional).

I wish to make a very special mention and thank you to Barry Elsom for co-ordinating bookings over many years. Barry is retiring from this position and in appreciation of their many years of outstanding service Barry and his brother Alan have been awarded Honorary Life Membership of IAF.

Unfortunately I have to advise members that due to soaring costs and new regulations, we have had to suspend our Book Lovers' Breakfast for the time being.

At the AGM, all current members of the Board were re-elected. Board Members give many hours of service to IAF and we are lucky to have such a dedicated and diligent IAF Board and I particularly wish to thank our Treasurer Mary Odlum, Secretary Jeanette Roulston and Members Secretary David Gosnell for their many hours of IAF work. Mary Odlum and Margaret Kellett have done an excellent job of producing our newsletters – thank you.

We have some very exciting events coming up in 2015 beginning with a cruise on Popeye to view the Adelaide Festival's Blink illuminations. This event is already booked out! We have also managed to secure a special group booking for Adelaide Festival's *Black Diggers* which is an extraordinary piece of Australian theatre. Finally we have 100 seats reserved for the very popular Adelaide Cabaret Festival Gala night which, apart from our reserved seats, is completely sold out! Notices will be sent to members about these events.

Please inform us of your email address if you haven't already done so, as occasionally we receive discounted tickets at short notice and can only communicate that information to members through email. Please send your email address to: [secretary.iaf@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.iaf@gmail.com)

Through the sterling efforts of Board Member, John Hillier, IAF has been granted Tax Deductible Status for donations to our grants. All donations to IAF are now tax deductible. So please help us in our efforts by donating and we will return to you the tax deductible receipt for your donation.

The support IAF gives to young, emerging artists is greatly assisted by the generosity of our sponsors and we gratefully thank them: Maria Kenda AM, Em-Kay Jewels and Skye Cellars.

Carclew Youth Arts kindly make their facilities available to us. We also thank the generosity of many members and supporting sponsors who assist our activities throughout the year. I wish to especially thank former IAF Chair, Mrs Marjorie Fitz-Gerald OAM and her partner Mr Marshall Steer, and her daughters Kate and Lesley and grand-daughter Madeline who gave a most splendid and very successful Fundraiser dinner party for IAF last September.

Thank you to all members and their friends who have attended IAF activities which allow us to continue assisting young emerging artists and arts organisations. Please encourage your friends to join IAF as we welcome new members to assist us in actively supporting the arts in South Australia.

**Frank Ford AM – Chair**

## **Stop Press - Australia Day Awards at Adelaide Town Hall**

Lord Mayor Martin Haese announced Frank Ford AM as the ***City of Adelaide Citizen of the Year Award*** for his service to the arts in Adelaide at the Australia Day Awards at the Adelaide Town Hall.



Lord Mayor Martin Haese said *“Frank’s work in the arts community in Adelaide spans many decades. He’s played an integral role in establishing Adelaide as the ‘festival state’ and we are so pleased to be able to afford him this recognition,”*

*“He is a wonderful role model for young artists and performers and a true testament to Adelaide as a place of possibilities when creativity, vision, drive, ambition and support can grow and flourish.”*

### **SENIOR ARTS PROJECT**

An IAF Sub-Committee comprising Frank Ford, Tina Turci and Greg Mackie, assisted by Vincent

Burke as project co-ordinator, has been working for nearly two years on a special project (‘Boomers or Bust’) to find ways of encouraging older people to be or become regular attendees at arts events.

Having concluded our research and consultations a few months ago, we made a presentation to the leading SA arts organisations, several of whom joined a special working party to consider ways of achieving this objective. Whilst the cost of tickets is obviously the main issue, there are other practical obstacles to overcome.

We asked these organisations to introduce into their mission statement a commitment to develop their own policies to encourage older people to attend, just as they endeavour to attract young people. We are delighted that State Theatre Company and Adelaide Festival Centre have done this, and others have agreed to do so.

We have met the Minister for the Arts to discuss this, and he responded very positively. We have also asked the Minister for the Ageing for further support. Office for the Ageing has funded the project to date. We also met senior executives of the Australia Council for the Arts in Sydney, and are hopeful of getting support next year.

The next step forward will depend on securing initial financial support from various agencies. We will continue to work on this project, and will keep members informed on any progress.

**Vincent Burke – Project Co-ordinator**

### **REPORTS FROM EMERGING ARTISTS**

The IAF has donated grants of \$1000 to support the following emerging artists-

#### **Kate Cheel**

“With the generous funding received from the Independent Arts Foundation, I was able to attend two courses of advanced, Intensive study at the prestigious Stella Adler studio of Acting in New York City. My intention in undertaking this project was to seek out specific and rigorous training that would enhance my artistic practice, further my professional development and expand my career opportunities. I feel confident now, at the end of this experience, that all of these outcomes have absolutely been achieved above and beyond my expectations. The learning that happened both in and out of classrooms and the networking with new artists afforded in a cultural capital like New York has been invaluable.



*Kate in New York*

Both courses at Stella Adler were structured to provide 30 hours of classroom time over 5 days. Rehearsal hours outside of class time were also required creating a very focused and disciplined training environment. The Shakespeare Intensive largely focused on the use of the language, how it works. Verse and language class provided in-depth analysis of language features and how to use them to make interesting choices, rather than trying to impose something onto the words. I enjoyed looking at the text like a piece of music – finding its rhythm then distorting it to create something more original and meaningful to me. I discovered how to play with the words and the spaces between them.



*Kate as "Jesikah" in SA State Theatre production 2014.*

Voice and movement classes helped me develop the agility and dexterity required to play Shakespeare at the level it demands. The classes explored breath, support, resonance and physical release – all critical factors in cultivating a great Shakespearean actor. Scene Study classes were opportunities to observe and learn from the work of my peers and better acquaint myself with the entire Shakespeare library. I had never before studied Stage Combat, but it soon became my favourite class. We were instructed in the use of rapiers and eventually choreographed a fight for a scene in Hamlet.

From this Intensive I have gained a far more comprehensive knowledge of Shakespeare's plays and built an intimate relationship with his writing that will support the continuing development of my skills. I feel more confident in approaching the challenges of the language and excited by the work I have done and now can do. I feel that I have not only developed my skills as a Shakespearean actress, but as a versatile, intelligent, brave and eloquent artist.

The Chekhov Intensive focused more on cultivating a rich imaginative internal life and how to truthfully access it while performing. Unlike Shakespeare, the storytelling of Chekhov exists in what lives beneath the words and thus requires a very different approach. In Scene Study classes I learnt how best to thoroughly analyse the plays to help build personal and truthful connections to the material. We spent time discussing the cultural and historical references, characters, themes and the life of the writer to aid in better understanding and interpreting his texts. Voice and Movement classes were geared toward developing an expressive and responsive instrument so that our work was not impeded by tension, lethargy or self-consciousness. Classes in Physical Acting taught me how to use the natural environment to make interesting characterization choices. I could subtly shift the rhythms and mannerisms of my characters by imbuing them with the essences of the natural world...butterfly wings, fire, mud and so forth. This Intensive has greatly improved my text analysis skills with specific focus toward character development. I have a better understanding of the kind of work that needs to be done to repeatedly deliver emotional material with clarity and authenticity. I am committed to becoming a more honest and open actress and now have the means and knowledge to pursue this.

My time at Stella Adler and in New York allowed me to form relationships with many artists from around the world. I networked with many actors, directors and writers with potential to evolve to future collaborations. I have been able to build the foundations of an international artistic community around me. "

**Kate Cheel**

#### **Eleanor Stankiewicz**

"I am back in Australia now and I am still reeling from the experience of my trip to London. Firstly, I want to say thank you to IAF for helping me make this trip a possibility. When I first thought about continuing my education post NIDA with a workshop in London I thought it would never happen. I am so glad that I did. Secondly, I am not sure if I will be able to accurately report on what I

experienced in London, especially during my course, as I am still processing it all. I will give it my best shot.

Thanks to the support of the IAF I was able to travel to London for a cultural immersion and a voice and Shakespeare workshop. "This workshop brings together international actors and actresses to work on the development of their voice, outside the pressure of rehearsals. Under the guidance of Nadine George and assisted by Bill Wright (accredited teacher of the Nadine George Technique), each participant will be given the opportunity, time and space to explore their individual voice and apply this work directly using Shakespearean text."

[\(http://www.voicestudiointernational.com/index.php/workshops/\)](http://www.voicestudiointernational.com/index.php/workshops/)

As a recent graduate of drama school I was eager to continue to learn. I had already been cast in STCSA's *Neighbourhood Watch* starring Miriam Margolyes and felt quite unprepared and green. Unfortunately there are not many courses available in Australia in the discipline of voice, so I had to expand my search overseas. The Head of Voice at NIDA recommended a few courses to me. In voice there are many different approaches and techniques to choose from. Nadine George's approach seemed that it would be the perfect fit for where I was at with my training.

The workshop had only twelve places for international actors and actresses. Gaining IAF funding as quickly as I did enabled me to secure my place. The course itself was nothing like I had expected. It was made up of men and women from all over Europe (France, England, Scotland and Sweden) and then me, all the way from Australia.



*Eleanor (front, third from left) with workshop team members*

Each morning started with breathing and relaxation exercises that were done in pairs and then as a whole group. We then followed this by the skills work, learning the foundation of the approach. This consisted of group singing and then moving on to individual work, one-on-one with Nadine.

The workshop was a combination of observation and participation. Everyone was in the room the whole day, giving feedback and supporting the discoveries and challenges that came up for everyone. In the afternoon we began to apply the morning skills works to our scenes. We all had scenes from *Othello*, mine was Act IV scene 3, and I was playing Desdemona. It was fantastic watching everyone grow and learn as we grappled as a group with the concepts learnt and experienced in the morning sessions. By the end of the first week we were all overwhelmed with the information that had been steadily handed to us, the weekend was timely. The second week was similar to the first but with more of a focus on connecting the work to ourselves through the scene work. What I have learnt over my time in London has been invaluable. I am already planning my next trip and hoping to do the advanced workshop next year!"

**Eleanor Stankiewicz**

### **Chelsea Evans**

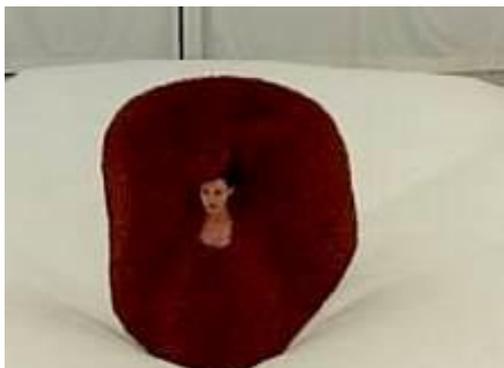
"Recently, with the help of the Independent Arts Foundation, I travelled to Berlin and participated in a 3 month intensive dance and experimental theatre program called SMASH Berlin. I was lucky enough to be accepted (only 18 artists are taken each year) and I'm so glad I was because I had the most amazing and artistically rich experience of my life. Over the 3 months I was taught by 10 international choreographers who shared with me and the group their personal research, vision and methodology. We danced, created, improvised, debated and had a lot of laughs.



*Chelsea (front) at SMASH, Berlin*

I was particularly influenced by Davide Sportelli and Angela Schubort. In Davide's classes we trained through guided explorations, improvisational scores and movement sequences. He taught us to practice distraction. Through his work I found a freedom in improvising that I had

never felt before. I realized I didn't need to be producing material, everything is already there, the space is feeding me information, I just need to respond. With Angela we trained to undo our current bodily and perceptive habits. Through partnering work based on extreme physicality (breath, exhaustion and duration) we experienced how our realities can literally be transformed. I found using her techniques irregular and uncensored physicality's unfolded from my body. Both of these teachers influenced me hugely and I have prospects to work with them again in the future.



*Chelsea's costume is made out of a carpet*

What I learnt did not stop in class though, Berlin has a vibrant and radical dance scene and I saw as many shows as possible. I attended Peter Pleyer's 'Invisible Undercurrent'; a new forum Pleyer has created where he brings some of the biggest dancers and choreographer of our time together to speak about dance and dance history and to improvised together. I was fortunate enough to see Sasha Waltz, Meg Stuart, Jeremy Wade, Yoshiko Chuma, Mark Tompkins and Eva Karczag talk about dance and improvise together onstage! It was amazing, eye-opening and solely inspiring.

I have returned back to Australia now with an open heart and mind, I am excited to see what is next for me and my career. Thanks again to the Independent Arts Foundation for helping me have this once in a life time experience."

**Chelsea Evans**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

We have had a very exciting first six months of the new financial year as from September 2014 we were able to offer tax deductible donations. \$5160 has already been received thanks to some very generous individual donations. Grace Bawden was our first recipient from the Special Fundraising account.

Tina Turci, assisted by John Hillier, convened two very successful IAF fund raising events. Firstly a dinner generously hosted at the home of Marjorie

Fitz-Gerald OAM and Marshall Steer and secondly, the Grace Bawden Fundraising Concert held at Carclew. All our regular events have also been well supported and we are going into 2015 confident we can continue with our main aim of supporting young and emerging artists.

**Mary Odlum – Treasurer**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Current membership is at 242 members. We would love to see this increase so please continue to renew your membership and encourage your friends to join!

We gratefully acknowledge donations received from July to December 2014 from:

Nick Canny & Barbara Mayfield	
John Bishop AO & Barbara Pidcock	
Cheryl Pomeroy & Maggie Middleton	
Phillipa Walker	Felicity Morgan
Rodney Birbeck	Diana Evans
Patricia Lange	Betty Salomon
Paquita Nicholls	Franz Kempf
Grant Thomas	Charles Figallo
Diana Laidlaw AM	Rebecca Holland-Kennedy
Patsy Bennett	Judy Sinton
Jill Argent	Helen Onopko

**David Gosnell – Membership Secretary**

### **LITERARY CLUB**

The Literary Club finished its 2014 season at the Public Schools Club on 2 December, later than usual again as I was away from Adelaide for the last two weeks of November. Wakefield Press continued to generously sponsor the Club in 2014, donating books as prizes for the monthly quiz and providing a varied and interesting source of guest speakers. Michael Bollen, Publisher of Wakefield Press, also compered each meeting during 2014 and enhanced the evening's entertainment with his wit.

As is our custom, we had two guest speakers for the final meeting of the year - the delightful poet, Jude Aquilina, who entertained us with readings of her own poetry in her usual cheery fashion, and Tim Lloyd, a former Senior Arts Editor of The Advertiser, who acted out some readings from favourite books, including an amusing excerpt from 'The Sentimental Bloke', where Dave meets Doreen's mother. As it turned out, it was a great coincidence having Jude and Tim at the same meeting, because some of Jude's poems had been published on bottles of wine by Tim's family winery, Coriole, and Jude read out one of her poems from one of these bottles!

The catering staff at the Public Schools Club turned on quite a feast of their delicious finger-food for this last meeting of the year, so much so that we didn't manage to eat all the food they provided. As they had a full house that evening with various other functions at the same time as the Literary Club, they are to be commended for their efforts. I also want to thank Susan Bardy for her assistance in taking the phone bookings and greeting guests at the door and David Gosnell for organising the monthly raffle in 2014.

**Cheryl Appelkamp – Chair**

**CLARE REGIONAL BRANCH  
CLARE VALLEY FILM CLUB**

Sixty guests attended and during the night guests joined the IAF committee thanking the chefs and the Blyth Hall Committee for providing the delicious dinners after each film for the past year. Our food and wine menus have been superb.

To finish on a cheerful note we showed the film *Swing Time* (Ginger Rogers & Fred Astaire) which came out in 1936 and as our talented reviewer Neville Michael said it came out in the middle of the depression and was thought to have uplifted peoples' spirits. The dialogue was naïve but the dancing was exquisite. As the lovely Ginger Rogers said "dress up" and many of us did on the night. To thank these generous people from the Blyth Community, Pip Edson (our in house poet) changed the words from "You're the Top" by Cole Porter and included the names of some eighteen people who have worked hard to make our evenings a success.



*Lisa Smedley and  
Chris Cocks in the  
foyer of the Blyth  
Cinema*



*Louisa Norman,  
Country Arts SA with  
Pip Edson*

They offer their services for free including the two chefs. The money raised for these evenings go to the Blyth Community for local projects and of course the IAF. A wonderful community spirit has

emerged from these evenings. Everyone sang "You're the Top" with great enthusiasm to the volunteers. It was just lovely. Now this arrangement has been in place for one year and we can say the attendances have increased. Ranging from thirty eight to sixty guests.

The films we held within the last three months are mostly non mainstream films for instance "Traks", "Grand Hotel Budapest," and a French film "And If We All Lived Together". Love our Adelaide members to come up and attend one of these events next year. You would enjoy it and if you stayed a couple of days you could visit the unique cafes, restaurants, art galleries and world class wineries in the region.

**Jessica Dames AM – Chair**

**BOARD EVENTS**

**FUNDRAISING DINNER –September 2014**

Life Member Marjorie Fitz-Gerald OAM and partner Marshall Steer hosted an intimate three course dinner accompanied by fine wines for twenty people in their home.



Mr David Minear, newly appointed Chair of the Adelaide Fringe Festival gave an entertaining speech as the invited after dinner speaker



*David Minear, Marjorie Fitz-Gerald, Frank Ford, Simon Stretton - current and former Chairs of the Adelaide Fringe Festival.*

Marshall Steer generously donated two very prestigious bottles of port which were auctioned and together raised \$700.



*Marshall Steer with successful bidder Anna Muller*

Overall the dinner brought in \$1928. Many thanks go to Marshall and Marjorie and her daughters Kate and Lesley and grand-daughter Madeline.

**GRACE BAWDEN FUNDRAISING CONCERT-  
October 2014**

Over 80 people came along to support Grace Bawden's Fund Raising Concert held at Carclew. Grace impressed the crowd with her wonderful voice and repertoire.



*Grace Bawden giving her thank you speech*

A generous donation of \$1000 was received on the night from Charles Figallo and others soon followed in the mail!



*Charles Figallo, Grace Bawden,  
Frank Ford, Marjorie Fitz-Gerald*

Thank you to all who supported Grace. It was a wonderful evening!

**Tina Turci - Convenor**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY – November 2014**

The Crystal Room, at the Stamford Plaza Hotel was the venue for the IAF Christmas Party this year. Our Patron Dr Diana Laidlaw AM and IAF members and their guests were privy to an evening of professional entertainment with singer



songwriter Brenton Shaw and his accompanist Nerrisa Peace. Our MC for the evening was Catherine Campbell.

Brenton included some of his own songs that he has written for his musical "Jessica" along with many old favourites giving a most entertaining selection.



*IAF Member, Chris Lockhart was delighted when she won the chocolates in the raffle.*



*Paul Rogers & Jeanette Roulston enjoying the music.*

Thank you to all who supported this event. We expect to hear more of Brenton in the future!

**Beverley Miller - Convenor**