

MATES THEATRE GENESIS Inc.

audition information pack



THIS IS AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION
BARBECUE

Written by Daryl Peebles.

Licensed by David Spicer Productions Pty Ltd

> **HOW TO REGISTER YOUR AUDITION** <

Read this Audition Pack first then email your name, mobile and the character you wish to audition for to auditions@matestg.org.au

Minimum age is 18 years at time of audition.

DO NOT EMAIL YOUR PHOTO/BIO.

Bring a printed copy of both to your audition.

the producer

MATES THEATRE GENESIS INC.

MATES Theatre Society was started in 1990 by a group of performers who had a love of theatre and wanted to bring performance opportunities to their local community. After performing in many local venues in the early days, MATES is now based in the Birkdale School of Arts.

From a small, local presence, MATES has been building a reputation that attracts patrons from all over Brisbane, producing plays, musicals and various opportunities for community involvement. In 2015, MATES Theatre Society merged with local theatre group, Theatre Genesis, and MATES Theatre Genesis Inc. was born.

MATES is a community based (amateur) theatre company, governed and managed completely by volunteers. MATES also enjoys the generosity of professionals who offer their services at little or no cost simply to encourage theatre in Brisbane. Australian theatre, film and television actor, Paul Bishop, is MATES Patron.

about the show

Smell the snags on the barby and listen to the sound of a tinny being cracked open. **'Barbecue'** is a grassroots Australian comedy set around the cultural ritual of the backyard "barby".

The story line centres around retired truck driver Colin Cooper and his family who unexpectedly win the Casket and move from the working class suburb of Bestwood to the ritzy suburb of Grand Bay.

Many hilarious moments unfold as the Coopers rub shoulders with their upper class "successful" neighbours, the McKenzies. Meanwhile a love affair unfolds between a visiting Missionary from Utah and the Cooper's coming of age daughter.

Is money all it's cracked up to be or is mateship more important? With quintessential characters and fearless Aussie humour, 'Barbecue' is a delightful insight into what goes on in backyards all over Australia.



the director

Tereska Hart

Tereska Hart began singing, dancing, and playing the piano at a young age.

Queensland Theatre Company gave her the opportunity to perform professionally when it offered her the role of Baby Louise in "GYPSY" (1980) followed by the lead role in "ANNIE" (1981). "ANIMAL FARM" (1986) was followed by a 12 month touring contract with the "Theatre In Education" program.

Over the years Tereska performed in theatre restaurant shows, bands, World Expo88, community theatre productions, dance and performance teams, and shopping centre holiday shows. She has appeared in television commercials as well as film and television productions.

Tereska has taught dance, music, drama, and musical theatre for a number of independent talent schools, and as a primary school teacher, she devised, choreographed, and directed performances for competitions and fun.

She is now semi-retired from the Education Department, and looking forward to contributing in a positive and vibrant way to local community theatre.

audition format

ALL CHARACTERS

PRIVATE AUDITIONS BY APPOINTMENT

The Redland Museum, 60 Smith Street, Cleveland Qld 4163

Audition times available from 9.30am - 3.30pm, Saturday, 5 October, 2019.

- 15 minute private audition.
- Prepare two contrasting monologues, at least one must be comedic. **NOTE: These do not have to be committed to memory, but it may be helpful if they are.**
- Bring a colour headshot (minimum size 10cm X 15 cm). This is non-returnable. Professional headshots are nice but not necessary.
- Bring your audition form, completed in full and listing ALL conflicts with the production dates listed in this document.

character notes

Ages shown are indicative. Some flexibility may apply at director's discretion.

Colin Cooper

Early to mid forties. "Salt-of-the-Earth" bloke. Recently retired truck driver, having had a change of fortune. Line count 506.

Connie Cooper

Col's wife. Late thirties. Also good, honest battler; not at all phased by the family's recent good luck. Col and Connie are model parents of their two children. Line count 99.

Kylie Cooper

About twenty, a Uni student who is fairly street-wise from growing up in the working class suburb of Bestwood. Line count 117.

Krystal Cooper

Mid-teens, still at high school, probably year eleven or twelve. Both Kylie and Krystal are well adjusted, loving kids who answer to the pet names their parents have bestowed upon them of Possum and Bubby, respectively. Line count 85.

Leroy Young

A visitor from America who is on a mission. Leroy is in his early to mid-twenties and ready to break out of the mould cast for him by his parents. Line count 67.

character notes (cont'd)

Jonathan

Leroy's friend and "business" partner. Slightly younger than Leroy, a little more naive but, like Leroy, ready to question the life his parents have mapped out for him. Line count 123.

Kevin Glover

The Cooper's new neighbour and financial adviser. Very successful in business. A bit of a latent playboy. Kevin's age is immaterial but probably late twenties onwards. Line count 230.

Len McKenzie

Apparently a successful businessman in the community of Grand Bay. Len is probably late fifties and full of his own importance. He is a councillor, President of the elite golf club in the district and a server at the local Anglican church. Line count 220.

Judith McKenzie

Len's wife. From a moneyed background, Judith is the embodiment of all the worst things people think about the social-climbing set. She is loud, self-centred, opinionated and shallow. The character is early to mid fifties but as Judith would fit into the "mutton dressed as lamb" category, she could be played by a woman of any mature age. Judith has red hair. Line count 187.

Marion McKenzie

Len and Judith's daughter. Stereotypical "spoilt rich bitch" who has had it all and done it all and continues to do it all, in contrast to the relative innocence of the Cooper girls. Marion is probably early twenties but emotionally "going on sixty"! Line count 78.

Denzil and Denise

Non-speaking "guests" at the barbecue whose primary role is to oversee the cooking and delivery of sausages to cast and audience members.

important information

Successful cast members pay a membership fee of \$20 to participate in one of our shows (Membership fee expires on 30 September each year. If members join after 30 June, their membership fee will be valid for the following year). Rehearsal materials and costumes are provided, and all participants are covered by our Voluntary Workers Personal Accident Insurance. Cast members and volunteers supply their own shoes and personal items such as makeup. They enjoy a great community environment, social events, and the opportunity to improve their theatre skills.

By accepting a place in this production cast members are committing to attend rehearsals as well as publicity appearances, photo shoots or media calls as required.

Casting decisions are made by the Director and no discussion will be entertained about casting decisions. Audition registrations are taken until our audition schedule is full. We do not choose auditionees – we are a community theatre and it is first in first served.

If you are successful in receiving an offer for this production, you will be expected to be available for rehearsals and performances on the schedule. Please list any conflicts with these dates on your audition form. Detailed rehearsal schedules are released periodically throughout the rehearsal process.

The minimum age to participate in this production is 18 years old.

Notification of Offer

ALL auditionees will receive notification of the outcome of their audition. Performers receiving a casting offer will be notified via mobile phone and/or by email.

Performers not receiving a casting offer will be notified by email.

A social media blackout remains in place for successful cast until authorised by Mates Theatre Genesis.

production dates

Pre Audition Script Reading of 'BARBECUE'

Birkdale School of Arts Hall, 1010 Birkdale Road, Birkdale Q 4159 (Downstairs)

Monday, 30 September (7pm - 9pm)

Limited onsite parking available

Auditions

The Redland Museum, 60 Smith Street, Cleveland Qld 4163

Saturday, 5 October (9.30am - 3.30pm) by appointment

Rehearsals

The Redland Museum, 60 Smith Street, Cleveland Qld 4163

Thursdays (7pm - 9.30pm) - from 24 October to performance

Sundays (9.30am - 3.30pm) - from 27 October to performance

Tuesdays (7pm - 9.30pm) - from 7 January to performance

BREAK FOR CHRISTMAS - 16 December to 1 January (no rehearsals)

Performances

The Redland Museum, 60 Smith Street, Cleveland Qld 4163

Saturday, 25 January @7.30pm

Sunday, 26 January @ 7.30pm

Monday, 27 January @ 2pm PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Friday, 31 January @ 7.30pm

Saturday, 1 February @ 7.30pm

Saturday, 8 February @ 7.30pm

Sunday, 9 February @ 2pm

audition form

Please complete this form **IN FULL** and bring it with you to your audition.
STAPLE your performance history and colour 10x15cm headshot (minimum size) to this form. (Minimum age is 18 years at time of audition)

PERSONAL INFORMATION OF AUDITIONEE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mobile: _____ Email: _____

AUDITIONING FOR (please circle)

- Colin Cooper
- Kevin Glover
- Leroy Young
- Connie Cooper
- Len McKenzie
- Jonathan
- Kylie Cooper
- Judith McKenzie
- Denzil/Denise
- Krystal Cooper
- Marion McKenzie

I am willing to be cast in another role: YES/NO

CALENDAR CONFLICTS

Please list ALL known conflicts you have with the calendar included in this audition pack. Please include any other shows you are performing in. While we understand that work commitments come first, we expect a high level of commitment from our performers. Knowing your date conflicts allows us to create a productive rehearsal schedule.

OFFICE USE ONLY -

OFFER: _____

DATE PHONED/EMAILED: _____

NOTES: _____
