



Encore  
Theatre Company

# SHOWBUZZ

APRIL 2010

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## RETAIL THERAPY

Time to write "I'm free" in your diary for July 2010!

The AYBS Cast are already getting head-down and tail-up into their costumes and characters but Director Jamie Hillard just wishes that Nic Tolputt would get a haircut and give Mrs Slocombe back ALL of her wigs!

With its innuendo-laden comedy, penchant for slapstick and panto-type characters, *Are You Being Served?* had something for everyone and became a juggernaut of 1970's television.

Set in the antiquated Grace Brothers department store, the show followed the OTT antics of its staff.

Leading the troops was the dowdy Captain Peacock, a city gent with a penchant for pomposity. Head of ladies fashion, Mrs Slocombe sported a different hair colour every week and continually harped on about her "pussy", while assistant, Miss Brahms was the literal butt of a slew of bottom-pinching antics.

The stand-out character, however, was Mr Humphries, a camp, senior assistant in the menswear department, who became infamous for trilling his catchphrase, "I'm free!".

Although the show was often criticised for its bawdy content, it was a family favourite, often attracting audiences of over 20 million before the series finally came to a close in 1985.

WANTED: If you are in the mood to have a chuck out, Encore are on the lookout for 1970's style suits, mens jumpers, overcoats, womens bras, dresses, 70's style hats and berets, ties and more! Also, we have one suitably daggy glass shop counter... does anyone have another?

Grab your tickets now – there are 3 easy ways to book:

ONLINE: [www.theatrenorth.com.au](http://www.theatrenorth.com.au)  
PHONE: 6323 3666  
IN PERSON: Princess Theatre Box Office  
SEASON: 2-10 July @ Earl Arts Centre, 10 shows only

The Earl Arts Centre now has RESERVED SEATING and a limited number of wheelchair places. To get the best seats BOOK EARLY!



BOOK EARLY  
Season already  
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09  
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Awards

For the final wash-up on Les Miz let's  
Take 5 with Eponine's final words...

# Epi-Blog

So the time was then the day has been...

... and I feel so blessed to have been a part of the most well known and loved musical Les Miserables. The two weeks in the theatre were nothing but intense and exhilarating with some wonderful memories, rewarding experiences and well-receiving audiences.

Everyone was so amazed when we got to the theatre and saw the effect of the revolve, set and lighting. I was very overwhelmed to think this was going to be our lives for the next fortnight. All the dress rehearsals ran smoothly thanks to the hard working technical crew and the massive hours they put in, which just made the dress runs so successful; everyone was set for opening night.

An opening night that was more memorable than any I've ever known. I had no idea what was happening when, as we were singing the final song, I noticed the exit sign flash off and on, then the red light circling and heard the fire alarm. Could this really be happening? Yes! The entire theatre evacuated. But the amazing feeling of the audiences request to get back on stage after at least 30 minutes outside, so they could give us the standing ovation they had intended was beyond words.

This really set the potential for a fantastic season to come. Every show brought with it a special memory and a moving moment and the final climb over the barricade to my death completed a dream-come-true like no other. The act one beginners went to the stage urged on by my high fives (thanks convicts!!) and the curtain went down with the Encore family sharing a final moment like no other.

So it's Eponine signing off, thanking all the cast and crew for sharing this experience and thank you for taking the time to share the journey with me.  
- Natalie 'Eponine' Bramich



In 2010  
Seeing is  
Believing

Book online NOW for

Are You Being  
Served?

Disney's Beauty  
and the Beast

Boy's Own  
McBeth

[www.theatrenorth.com.au](http://www.theatrenorth.com.au)

Or call 6323 3666



# Pam Corrick Exposed!

## And it's all Jamie's fault...

Seeing is Believing

Book online NOW for

Are You Being Served?

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Grahame 'Aunty Jack' Bond's Boy's Own McBeth

[www.theatrenorth.com.au](http://www.theatrenorth.com.au)

Or call 6323 3666

Yikes! Run for cover!!

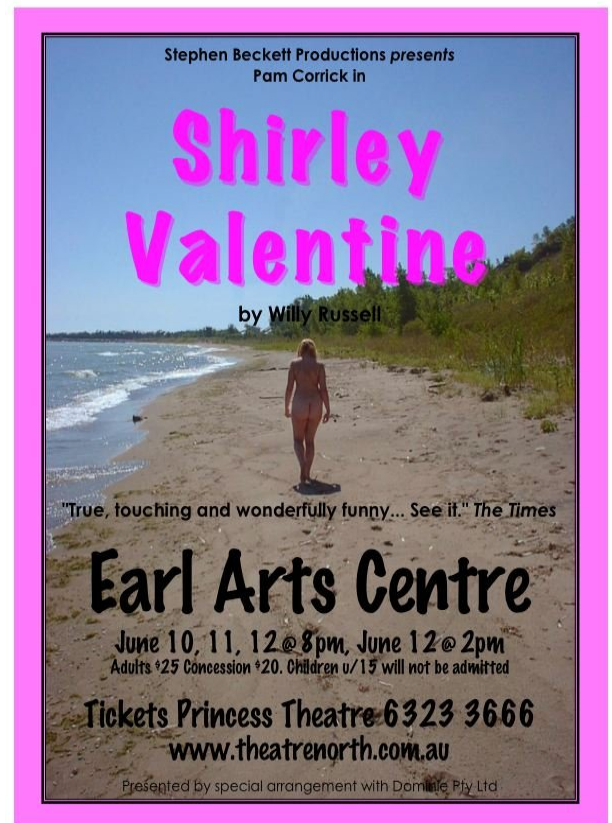
On a serious note, if Jamie Hillard had not convinced Pam to audition for The Boy from Oz, she would not have been seen by Stephen Beckett Productions and therefore would not have been asked to play the role of Shirley Valentine.

Pam thanks Encore for the nurturing and support she has received through her involvement with the company. She is also thrilled and terrified at the same time but can't wait to challenge herself in this role.

Tickets are on sale now for the strictly limited season of 4 performances.

TICKETS: from the Princess Theatre Box Office call 6323 3666 or online at [www.theatrenorth.com.au](http://www.theatrenorth.com.au)

DRESS: Obviously optional





## Encore Superstars

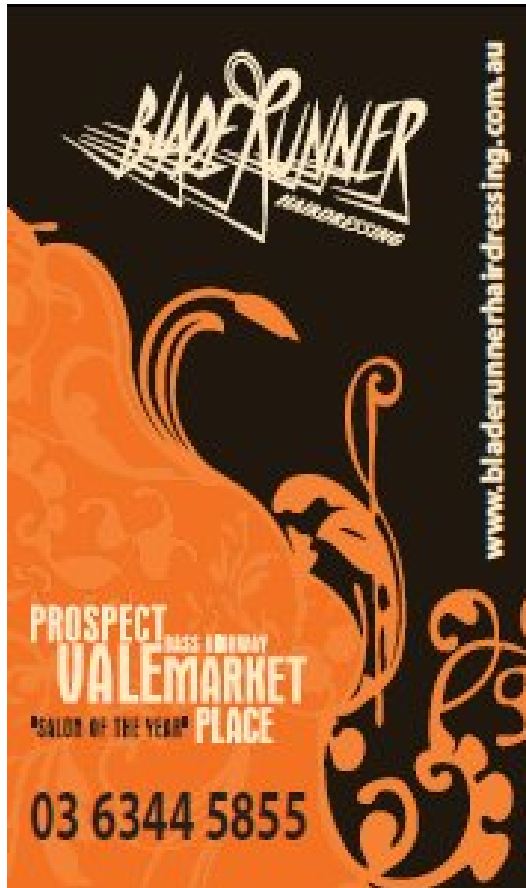
Encore is extremely grateful to the numerous people who contribute to and make up their organisation and each month they highlight the efforts a member of their invaluable volunteer team.

This month's Encore Superstar is hairdresser Nikki Butler. Along with Courtney Harwood from Bladerunner Hairdressing and Gemma Hammersley from The Terrace, they literally 'headed up' creating the look for the students and poor of 19<sup>th</sup> century France.

However, the work didn't stop there. On bump out day Courtney and Nikki pitched in to assist with dismantling and moving the enormous Les Miz set, and Nikki in particular kept going all day!

Congrats Nikki on being our Encore Superstar of the Month, and indeed thank to everyone who assisted with bump-out.

We COULD NOT have done it without you!



## ON SALE NOW

The Princess Theatre Box Office has been very busy with Encore tickets since Les Miz. Already the rush is on for tickets to Are You Being Served? and Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

Have you secured your tickets yet?

3 easy ways to book:

ONLINE: [www.theatrenorth.com.au](http://www.theatrenorth.com.au)  
PHONE: 6323 3666  
IN PERSON: Princess Theatre Box Office

**20% OFF**  
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Only Until  
30 April

## WHAT'S ON in TASSIE?

Buy Locally & support your own theatre companies!

21-24 April The Pillowman presented by CentrStage at the Annexe Theatre, Inveresk

12-15 May Dinkum Assorted presented by the Launceston Players at the Earl Arts Centre

25-29 May Uni Revue: Inglorious Bartletts presented by Old Nick Theatre Company at the Princess Theatre

10-12 June Shirley Valentine presented by Stephen Beckett Productions at the Earl Arts Centre