Shakespeare Alfresco!

Experience the magic of live performance in three of Queensland’s most stunning locations when the fifth annual Shakespeare in the Park Festival returns to Toowoomba and tours to Fraser Coast and Springfield in Autumn of 2008.

Toowoomba’s premiere ‘green-space’, Queens Park comes to life with Shakespearean performances, displays and workshops in late February through to the first weeks of March each year. For the second year running, Fraser Coast audiences will also welcome the Bard when the Festival tours to balmy Seafront Oval at Hervey Bay in mid-March coinciding with the Fraser Coast Cultural Festival. And, for the first time, Shakespeare visits Springfield with a performance of the mainstage show.

The 2008 season will feature an unforgettable production of *Romeo and Juliet* on the starlit stage, together with primary and secondary School Workshop Days and a public forum discussing the social themes embedded in *Romeo and Juliet*.

We invite you to join in the 2008 Shakespeare in the Park Festival; revive your cultural senses, immerse yourself in the works of the Bard, and at the same time, enjoy the great outdoors.


... simply stunning ... not to be missed
612 ABC Radio, 2007
Penned over 400 years ago, Shakespeare’s tale of two star-cross’d lovers is as popular today as it was with London audiences over four centuries ago.

The classic tale follows Romeo, a Montague, and Juliet, a Capulet; young lovers caught up in a bitter family feud. The sparks of their innocent love will set the stage alight.

*My only love sprung from my only hate: too early unknown and known too late.*

This is Shakespeare at his undeniable best.

Love, lust...plots, potions...twists and tragedy.

Don’t miss this unforgettable night of theatre played out beneath a starlit sky in Toowoomba, Hervey Bay or Springfield.

Gates open an hour prior to each show – come early and enjoy your picnic dinner as the sun sets – then settle back for an unforgettable night of theatre under the stars.

Pack a picnic or sample some gourmet fare from our on-site vendors including Symphony Hill Wines.

Don’t forget to bring a blanket or chair (just in case).

In light of the many important youth-related social issues raised in the *Romeo and Juliet* text, a Community Forum will be held during the Festival.

Chaired by an expert working in the field of teenage relationships, the Forum will include a panel of four local practitioners. This will be an opportunity to publicly discuss personal and social issues embedded within the *Romeo and Juliet* text such as relationships, families, love and suicide. The Forum will be interactive, inviting questions and comments from the floor.

Cast members from the mainstage production of *Romeo and Juliet* will also be on-hand to perform relevant scenes from the play to further highlight issues.

Tea and coffee will be provided after the forum – which will finish just in time for the start of the evening performance of *Romeo and Juliet*.

TOOWOOMBA
Sunday 2 March from 3-5pm
Wednesday 5 March from 4-6pm
Queens Park, Cnr Margaret and Lindsay Streets

FRASER COAST
Saturday 15 March from 4-6pm
Seafront Oval, Hervey Bay

Bookings are not necessary for the Forums. $2 entry fee on arrival (donated to Lifeline).

Don’t forget to bring a blanket or chair to sit on and a hat!