

SPELLING BEE



● Junior high school students compete in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, the quirky musical being presented by Williamstown Musical Theatre Company until August 29 at the Williamstown Mechanics Institute. Performers from left are Michael Bingham (William), Erin Marr (Marcy), Lisa Pilkington (Logainne), Steven Frisby (Chip) and Brendan Tollitt (Leaf Coneybear).

In WMTC fine tradition, this show is outstandingly strong vocally, but Barbara has also ensured her cast are talented all-rounders who can move and act well, too.

Performers include Sophie Collins (Rona), Will Deumer (Vice Principal Panch), James Hutchinson (Mitch Mahoney), Lisa Pilkington (Logainne), Gemma Foster (Olive), Michael Bingham (William), Erin Marr (Marcy), Steven Frisby (Chip) and Brendan Tollitt (Leaf Coneybear).

This is a well-presented show, giving opportunity to enjoy the work of talented local performers and have a fun night's entertainment.

Another fine WMTC tradition is the personal greeting and farewelling of audience members at the theatre door by company president Marcus Cassidy-Anderson.

Bookings: 1300 881 545 or www.wmte.org.au

■ The Williamstown Musical Theatre Company is presenting a terrific interpretation of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* until August 29 at the Williamstown Mechanics Institute, Cnr Melbourne Rd. and Electra St., Williamstown.

This is the musical where adult performers play a group of markedly different junior high school champion spellers in a contest run by school Vice-Principal Panch, hosted by former spelling bee champion Rona and assisted by parolee Mitch.

Director Barbara Hughes has selected an excellent cast and the entertaining, pacey show keeps audiences engaged for almost two hours without an interval.

Four volunteer spellers from the audience add to the fun by joining in the spelling bee. A great sound is heard from the orchestra, co-musically directed by Daniel Heskett and Dior Deumer and Dior has also choreographed the show's quirky dance movements.

Photo: Shirley Woodson

- Review by
Cheryl Threadgold