

Tap Pack mines old school cool

By **CRYSTAL BRAND**

MAGICAL things tend to happen when friends share a common passion.

When mates Jordan Pollard, Jesse Rasmussen and Thomas Egan came together a few years ago they were looking for a way to share their desire to dance.

By putting their own spin on classic performers such as Frank Sinatra, they started a project called *The Tap Pack*.

"We wanted to capture the essence of old-school cool," Mr Pollard said.

After 22 years of immersion in the world of jazz and tap, he had reached a point where he wanted more.

Mr Pollard started with jazz and tap through his mother's dance school at the age of five.

"I didn't know how much I enjoyed it until we started *The Tap Pack*," he said.

"The passion really started with this project."

They started with a couple of tap routines before adding a few jokes.

Mr Pollard said after a while they decided to expand.

"Dance is great storytelling itself, but we wanted more. We wanted to challenge ourselves and we felt passionate about it."



SOLE BROTHERS: *The Tap Pack* cast of Jordan Pollard, Jesse Rasmussen, Thomas Egan, Daniel Raso and Christopher Horsey.

Since *The Tap Pack's* first show in 2012, they have rewritten the show three times.

The show in Newcastle will be their fourth instalment and has been customised for the cast and space.

Mr Pollard said since they started they had collaborated with a six-piece band.

"Live music is really important for our show, we have an improv tap-off with the drummer each performance.

"Nothing is better than live music, it brings an energy to the performance that you just don't get with a CD."

■ The Tap Pack will perform at Civic Theatre Newcastle on Friday, October 24, at 8pm;

Saturday, October 25, at 2pm; Saturday, October 25, at 8pm; and finally Sunday, October 26, at 7pm.

For tickets go to civictheatrenewcastle.com.au or phone 4929 1977.

music

LIZOTTE'S NEWCASTLE Busby Marou, November 7.
NEWCASTLE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE Hilltop Hoods, October 31.
WESTS CARDIFF James Blundell, November 22.

band

5 SAWYERS COOKS HILL Friday DJ Jonathan; Saturday DJ Patsan; Sunday DJ Tone.
BEAUFORD HOTEL MAYFIELD Saturday Kirsty Larkin.
BELMONT 16s Friday Matchbox; Saturday Talk of the Town, Bella, Codi Kaye; Sunday Franky and Johnny.
CHARLESTOWN BOWLING CLUB The Levymen; Sunday Bobby C.
CROWN AND ANCHOR HOTEL Friday Marissa Lee;

Ballard due at The Depot



JOKER: Comedian and former Triple J presenter Tom Ballard will appear at The Depot On Beaumont next Thursday, October 30. Tickets \$30 presale from bigtix.com.au or \$35 on the night.

Sunday Holly Wilson.
DEPOT ON BEAUMONT Thursday Russell Morris; Friday Kylie James; Saturday Karen Anne; next Wednesday Annie O'Dee and The Steel City 3.
DUKE OF WELLINGTON Friday 2GoodReasons; Saturday The Nick Raschke Duo; next Wednesday The Bob Corbett Band.

EXCHANGE HOTEL Friday Overtone; Saturday Flying Mare.
HOTEL JESMOND Friday Hey Poncho.
IRON HORSE INN Saturday Fashion.
LAKE MACQUARIE TAVERN Friday Tom Buckley.
LAMBTON PARK HOTEL Friday Zac and Ben.
LIZOTTE'S Thursday Joe Louis

Walker; Friday Rick Price; Saturday Blues Brothers Rebooted; Sunday Don Walker.
MARK HOTEL Friday Glam Slam; Saturday Daniel Arvidson; Sunday Love That Hat.
NORTHUMBERLAND HOTEL Friday Mick Boogaard.
SHAFT TAVERN INXS tribute band.

SEVEN SEAS HOTEL Friday Thomas Blake; Saturday Garth Prentice Band
STOCKTON RSL Saturday Fake Four.
WARNERS AT THE BAY Thursday Kylie Jane; Saturday The Cruisers.
WICKHAM PARK HOTEL Friday Lachy Doley; Saturday Helen and Friends, Pat Capocci; Sunday Firebanned III Bishfire Benefit with Scottish, DV8, Voodoo Express and Backfire.

Life with Passion by Nilmini De Silva, until October 27.
WATT SPACE GALLERY *Honey Drips so the Memory Slips* by Rachel Fortune and Josie Dwyer; *Shadowlands* by Penny Sunstan; *I'm Not Dead Yet* by Courtney Chate; *Botanica* by Alysha Fewster and Hugh Grant; *The Town Bike* by Michelle Jenkins and Suannah Louise, until November 23.

art

BACK-TO-BACK GALLERIES *Deconstructed Elements: glass, silver, clay*, October 24 to November 9.
COOKS HILL GALLERIES *Watch Out!*, until November 3.
LOVETT GALLERY *Anne Frank: A History for Today Exhibition*, until November 29.
WALLSEND DISTRICT LIBRARY *Fate or Destiny: Living*

theatre

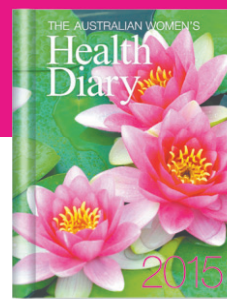
CIVIC PLAYHOUSE Hissyfest 2014: A Festival of Short Plays, November 7 and 8.
DEPOT ON BELMONT Tom Ballard, October 30.
THEATRE ON BRUNKER *Nuncrackers: The Nunsense Christmas Musical*, November 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29.
YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE *Jack and the Beanstalk*, until November 15, call 4961 4895.

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