



Media Release:

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Classic Children's Tale Hits the Stage at the Centre

Fans of Graeme Base's beloved children's book, *My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch*, can now see the magical tale brought to life at the Araluen Arts Centre on the 18 and 19 of August 2011.

Araluen Cultural Precinct Director Tim Rollason said the author has worked with producer Garry Ginivan to adapt his well-known story into an amazing musical adventure full of humour and charm.

"Araluen patrons will remember a number of high-quality Gary Ginivan productions that have toured to the Arts Centre in recent years, such as *Possum Magic* and *Wombat Stew*, which also were collaborations with well-known authors," said Mr Rollason.

"*My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch* is one of those books that has a special place in the hearts of many Australians.

"Seeing it on stage at the Araluen Arts Centre with puppetry and original music is guaranteed to delight adults who loved the book when they were young, as well as children discovering this rollicking tale for the first time."

My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch tells the story of Kate, a city kid who has to spend her summer holidays with her eccentric Grandma in outback Gooligulch.

Kate is certain it will be the worst holiday of her life, but when she realises the animals in Gooligulch can talk, her eyes are opened to a whole new world.

Mr Rollason said the production stars Pat Pitney as Grandma, as well as featuring a talented young cast with many theatre and TV credits between them.

"*My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch* premiered at the Arts Centre in Melbourne in 2006 and was nominated for the Helpmann Award for Best Production for Children, which recognises excellence in Australian live performance," Mr Rollason said.

As part of its national tour, *My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch* will be showing at the Araluen Arts Centre at 6pm on Thursday, 18 August 2011 and at 10am and 1pm on Friday, 19 August 2011.

For tickets, contact the Araluen Arts Centre Box Office on 8951 1122. Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$18 for concession and Friends of the Araluen Arts Centre and \$15 for children.

For more information about upcoming events at the Araluen Cultural Precinct, go to www.araluen.nt.gov.au

Ends

Media Note – for more information, contact Kelsey Rodda on 8951 1132.

Image – The cast performs in *My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch*. Credit: Ponch Hawkes.

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