



**Media Release:**

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## **Araluen Welcomes *The Happiest Show on Earth***

Families in Alice Springs are guaranteed to have a good time at *The Happiest Show on Earth* at Araluen Arts Centre on Monday, 7 November and Tuesday, 8 November 2011.

Araluen Arts Centre Director Tim Rollason said the Patch Theatre Company production is aimed at 4 to 8-year-olds, but all ages will enjoy this engaging vaudevillian show.

"Full of comedy, magic and foot-stomping music, *The Happiest Show on Earth* manages to be entertaining and educational at the same time," said Mr Rollason.

"Since its premiere season in 2009, the production has gone through significant development and refinement, and Araluen Arts Centre is delighted to be a part of its 2011 tour across Australia."

The show features Dr Smith, who shares his secret to happiness with his little blue bottle of magic, entertaining the crowd with his Fabulous Flea Circus, the Sensational Sharp-Shooting Carrots and the Hilarious Happ-o-meter.

But when he attempts to perform the Lighter-than-Air Levitation Act, it goes embarrassingly wrong without the help of his sister Dorrie, who is unhappy that Dr Smith won't let her finish her new ventriloquist act. As the show begins to fall apart, it is up to Dorrie and her ventriloquist doll Danny to save the day.

Along with plenty of silliness and sing-alongs, Mr Rollason said *The Happiest Show on Earth* also carries some important messages for youngsters.

"It cleverly explores themes of happiness within our materialistic society, conveying the message that true happiness rarely resides in the things we buy," said Mr Rollason.

*The Happiest Show on Earth* will be at the Araluen Arts Centre at 6pm on Monday, 7 November 2011 and at 10am and 1pm on Tuesday, 8 November 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 on upcoming events at the Araluen Cultural Precinct, go to [www.araluen.nt.gov.au](http://www.araluen.nt.gov.au).

Ends

**Media Note – for more information, contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126.**

**Images – 1. Dorrie, Danny, Dr Smith and Zac from *The Happiest Show on Earth*.**

**2. Dorrie and the Sharp-Shooting Carrot Act.**

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