

# Then and Now





## Women in Australian history from the First Fleet to the early 1900's.

Then and Now looks at the determination, courage and good humour of Australian women. Using story-telling techniques, visual aids, audience participation and puppets, students are transported back in time to explore the vast differences between the way things were done then, compared to now. The "What am I?" segment has students identifying everyday objects from the past including a screw driver and drill, wash board, wooden pegs and a pre-electric iron as they explore a time when cleaning clothes was a much bigger task than throwing them into a machine.

The Story: When Louise (a life size child puppet) just can't get to sleep, her mother resorts to telling her bedtime stories of Australia's past but instead of going to sleep, Louise's head is filled with questions of why and what happened then. The result is 50 minutes of entertaining, informative theatre.

With lavish period costumes, a versatile set and a collection of adorable puppets, the show flows seamlessly from stories of the first fleet, through stories of the early immigrants of the 1800's to the 1900's. Students are amazed at the fashions of the late 1800's as Mary Lee (South Australian Suffragette) explains each of her many pieces of apparel as she dresses in front of the audience.



**What schools have said:** Covered relevant historical events and concepts - good insights into the past. Puppetry and characters were engaging for the students. Excellent period costumes. *Lisa Glanfield. P-6. Miallo State School. QLD.*

Very engaging, entertaining and relevant to stage 1 history.

*Helen Rhodes. 1-2. Sanctuary Point Public School. NSW.*

Students were very involved and enjoyed the show. They asked appropriate questions and gained knowledge. *Debra McArdle. Seven Hills North Public School. NSW.*

**Curriculum Relevance. Humanities and Social Sciences / History:** British colonisation of Australia - Living in communities - Families - People past and present - The way we were - Workers in the community - Identity - Values and culture past and present.

**Price:** \$5.50 per student (GST incl.).

**Suitable:** Preps, K to Year 7. **Minimum Audience Size:** 130 students.

**Times:** Show: 50 minutes. Set up: 50 minutes. Pack up: 40 minutes.

**Requires** an indoor performing area 6m deep x 4m wide x 2m high.

