



# Poignant story is pure gold

**SCREENING:** Tora, described as a poignant, modern day ghost story, will premiere at the Heart of Gold International Film Festival which gets under way in Gympie tomorrow. Contributed

THIS week's Heart of Gold International Film Festival presents a special short film starring David Suzuki in his first acting role.

Tora, directed by Wendy Ord (Canada) follows a jaded city woman inherits a lake-front property in the interior of British Columbia.

Dilapidated log buildings hidden in the bush and unsettling visions of a ghostly eight-year-old Japanese girl hints there is more to her inherited land than she has been told.

Jenna experiences the pain of loss, the power of hope and the value of forgiveness when she learns that her new property was once a Second World War Japanese internment camp.

A modern day ghost story, Tora should haunt us all. Canada interned more than 22,000 people of Japanese descent during the Second World War, three quarters of whom were Canadian citizens. All of

their belongings were sold and the profits used to support the camps. At the end of the war, the "prisoners" had nothing and were no longer allowed to reside in BC.

This poignant and sweeping story is set in the stunning scenery of BC's interior and swings between present day and the cold winters of the 1940s.

According to director Wendy Ord, "One might think we're crazy. Our script called for three seasons, from snow blizzards on ice bound lakes to hot summer nights. Several locations that swing between modern day and the 1940s, a cast that included a child, an old man and a dog! We needed soldiers, horses, dozens of extras and ghosts! Special effects ranging from misty lakes, blowing snow, street wet downs etc.

"We needed cars, trucks, jeeps and a motorcycle with a side car

from the 40s! We had water work, massive night scenes, steady cam shots and helicopter shots to do. The film includes flashbacks, dreams and mystical journeys and... we wanted to shoot on film."

Tora will have its Australian premiere at Heart of Gold.

Screening: Shorts 15, Saturday, March 19, 5.30pm, Heritage Theatre, Gympie Civic Centre.

Heart of Gold International Film Festival runs in the Gympie Civic Centre from March 20-17. Tickets available now from [www.heartofgold.com.au](http://www.heartofgold.com.au), phone 5483 7000.

The festival program includes an extensive collection of short films, select features and is partnered with a comprehensive series of workshops, seminars and master classes. Tickets on sale now.

**FESTIVAL PROGRAM P.14-15**



**COLLISION:** Paramedics attend to the injured motorcyclist in Hall Rd. Renee Pilcher

## Motorcyclist injured in car-bike collision

A MOTORCYCLIST, believed to be in his 40s, suffered a suspected broken leg after the motorbike he was riding and a Holden Commodore station wagon collided outside the Twin Lakes Hotel in Hall

Rd yesterday afternoon. Neither the Commodore's driver nor passengers, believed to be a family, were injured in the crash. Police and paramedics were called to the scene about 4.30pm.

## The Gympie Times

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## Shutterbugs



"Oh, to be as agile as this frog!" says Robyn Whittall, of Gympie.

Send us a photo of your favourite pet or a wild animal you snapped on your last holidays. Email to: [photographer@gympietimes.com](mailto:photographer@gympietimes.com) or send it to 197 Mary St.

## Wake up and laugh!

A LITTLE silver-haired lady calls her neighbour and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle and I can't figure out how to get started".

Her neighbor asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster".

Her neighbor goes over and studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "No matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says, "So I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea, and then let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box".

- N. BREEN

Joke of the Week wins \$20. Email your joke to: [community@gympietimes.com](mailto:community@gympietimes.com)

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## Thought for today

IF you can control your breath, you can control your mind. If you can control your mind, you can control your life.

-Yogi Bhajan, on the art of dedication as taught in Kundalini yoga

## Would you believe it?

The most overdue book in the world was borrowed from Sidney Sussex College in Cambridge, England and was returned 288 years later.

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# WIN

THE BOOK OF

THE MONTH!

Moonshadow The Twilight War by Simon Higgins

Attacked by the powerful Fuma clan, the agents of the Grey Light Order fight for their lives; in the heat of battle, one of their number disappears.

Young Moonshadow is on a dangerous quest that could end in a rescue, or the destruction of a trusted friend?

For your chance to win 1 of 4 copies valued at \$16.95 each, simply collect 3 The Gympie Times mastheads from Tuesday March 1 until Saturday March 26. Put these into an envelope with your name address and daytime phone number and send to "Book of the month" PO Box 394 Gympie Q 4570 or drop into The Gympie Times office.

Terms and conditions apply and are available from [www.gympietimes.com](http://www.gympietimes.com) or from the front office. Entries close: 5pm March 28, 2011.

Gympie Times

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