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Spare Parts Puppet Theatre  
*The Bugalugs Bum Thief*  
April 4 opening, April 11 to 24 school holiday season

**SPARE PARTS  
PUPPET THEATRE**

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**Sell out show returns to kick start 2009**

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre is proud to announce that its celebrated theatrical production of Tim Winton's *The Bugalugs Bum Thief* will return to the stage for the fourth time at its Fremantle home theatre for the Term 1 school holidays from April 11 to April 24.

Co-devised by former Artistic Director of Spare Parts, Noriko Nishimoto, Paul Johnson and Jane Davies, this iconic Western Australian theatrical classic premiered in 1998 and revived in 1999 and 2004, and has been enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of children across Australia and overseas.

Written by famous WA author, Tim Winton, *Bugalugs* is one of the most popular children's books in the country, the most stolen book from school libraries and the most popular stage production produced by Spare Parts in its 28 year history. It tells the tale of the inhabitants of the seaside town of Bugalugs waking up to find that their bums have gone missing. The show's hero Skeeta Anderson, his mate, Mick Misery and Roger the Dog embark on an hilarious adventure as they try to solve the mystery of the 496 stolen bums and catch the elusive 'bum thief'.

Designed by Jane Davies, the production involves beautiful life size and life like hand carved puppets created by the company's chief puppet maker, Jiri Zmitko and a wonderful music score, composer, Lee Buddle.

The 2009 production directed by Nishimoto sees the welcome return of Paul Johnson, who has appeared in all four productions, acclaimed puppeteer Michael Barlow and talented newcomer Katya Shevtsov, who starred in the 2008 revival of *Cat Balloon*.

Johnson said that the opportunity of revisiting the show was highly rewarding. "Strangely, coming back to the characters of Skeeta, Mick and Roger is like visiting old friends you've not seen in a while," he said. "I can't wait to get back on stage and share this truly Australian work with a whole new audience."

*The Bugalugs Bum Thief* opens on April 4, a week prior to the first term school holidays. The holiday season runs from April 11 to 24 with two shows a day at the company's newly air-conditioned theatre in Fremantle opposite the train station. Early bookings for *Bugalugs* are essential as the season will sell out - they can be made at [www.sppt.asn.au](http://www.sppt.asn.au) or 9335 5044.

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre is Australia's leading puppetry company creating entertaining and inspirational theatre for young people and their families. In 2006, the company celebrated 25 years of creating quality new Australian Puppetry works that excite the way we view our world through image, illusion and entertainment.

**Excellent images as well as photo and interview opportunities are available.  
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**LISTINGS:**

***The Bugalugs Bum Thief***

*Pandemonium strikes a sleepy seaside town when people wake up to find that their bums have gone missing! Tim Winton's hilarious story is brought to imaginative life by the magic of Spare Parts Puppet Theatre. Suitable for everyone but perfect for 4 to 10 years.*

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, 1 Short Street Fremantle (opposite the Freo Train Station)  
April 4 opening, April 11 to 24 at 11am & 2pm.  
Tickets: Adults at children's prices \$17.50 / Groups 4+ \$15.40 / Groups 10+ \$13.50  
Bookings essential: [www.sppt.asn.au](http://www.sppt.asn.au) or 9335 5044