

Funny ode to dads who don't always know best

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THE musical play *It's A Dad Thing* tells fumbling fathers that parenting doesn't have to be a smooth path.

Matthew Carey and Adam Goodburn's musical adaptation of an earlier play continues to grow into a show with plenty of heart, crazed comedy and a trailer-load of tips on how dads can contribute more than just playgrounds to their family.

The lyrics need a trim but memorable tunes are *Morning Glory* and the *Vasectomy* song.

With a few new songs since the initial version last August, director/designer David Lampard has concentrated more on the sketches and less on the playground construction slapstick.

It's often hilarious and painfully accurate but the episodic nature of the show doesn't always link smoothly.

However, the strong ensemble of Rodney Hutton, Adam Goodburn, Kent Green, PJ Oaten and welcome new addition Nicholas Cannon make it work, as a bunch of offbeat dads sharing their hard-won experiences. Let's hope this show gets another life down the track as dads need somebody to relate their labour pains.

***It's A Dad Thing*, February 18-19, The Opera Studio. Book at FringeTix.**