



HIGHLIGHTS

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**Horsham Arts Council
Committee
2105**

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HAC House is Finally "Officially" Occupied!!!!

After almost 15 years, the committee is proud to announce that we finally received our occupancy permit for HAC House in Hamilton Road.

It has been a long time coming and we have experienced many delays and deferrals over time. We have always been legal and insured to use the building, but we have never had that piece of paper to make it official.

Last year, the HRCC informed us that we had to carry out certain works on the building to conform with current laws and specifications or they would not allow us to use the building.

The committee appointed Jack Janetzki to manage the project. He has done an amazing job. We now have a foyer, tiered seating in the rehearsal space, and renovated toilets and bathrooms. We have also removed two skip bins full of rubbish from the building which has provided additional storage space and a cleaner working environment.

The committee would like to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed their time voluntarily to assist in the renovation work at HAC House. There has been countless man hours over many years.

Whilst there is still work remaining to finalise the renovations, we now have a space that we can all be proud of for many years to come.

Horsham Arts Council Inc.

PO Box 370
Horsham 3402



19 Hamilton Rd/Henty Hwy

info@horshamartscouncil.com

or

www.horshamartscouncil.com

The HAC is active in producing an exceptionally high standard of musical theatre on an annual basis as well as small scale comedy or drama productions. Consisting entirely of volunteers. The HAC has a proud tradition for 50 years. To become a member of the HAC, please contact our secretary Faye Johns via email or visit our website and download a form.

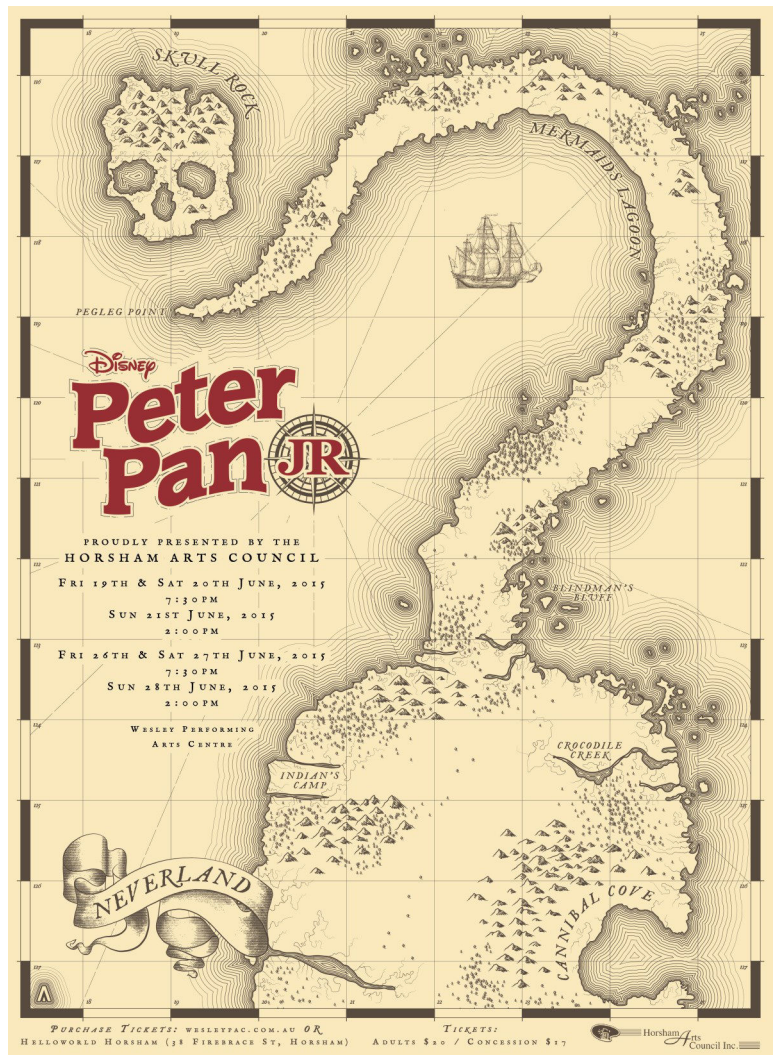
Disney's Peter Pan Jr

The HAC is extremely excited to present "Disney's Peter Pan Jr" at the Wesley Performing Arts Centre in June 2015. There will be six performances as follows;

Friday 19 June @ 7.30pm
Saturday 20 June @ 7.30pm
Sunday 21 June @ 2pm
Friday 26 June @ 7.30pm
Saturday 27 June @ 7.30pm
Sunday 28 June @ 2pm

The production has been in full swing since February 2015. Rehearsals have been held each Sunday at Up Tempo, the Horsham Music Academy, Wesley performing Arts Centre and HAC House due to the renovations taking place.

The cast consists of 9 to 17 year olds exclusively. They have been under the expert eyes of Larissa Riddell (director), Luke Mitton (assistant director), Amy Anselmi (choreographer) and Lisa Thomas (vocal director).



It's times like these when you realise how we are surrounded by a team of volunteers who come together to build and paint sets, create and source props, prepare costumes, design posters, the list goes on. I am in awe of what we can all create together working towards a common vision. Very inspiring indeed.



Make sure you fly in to "Never land" to support the talents of this amazing young cast and crew. Do not leave it to the last minute to buy your tickets as they are selling fast.

Be there or you'll be forced to walk the plank!!!!!!

- Simon Dandy -

“Scenes from a Newsreel: Ten Glimpses of Modern Life”

The HAC was proud to present the “world premiere” of “Scenes From a Newsreel: Ten Glimpses of Modern Life” in March 2015 at the Wesley Performing Arts Centre. The cast played to four appreciative and vocal audiences. Director and writer of this original series of short plays, James Garrett, was thrilled with the reception it received. The feedback from audience members suggested that they enjoyed the variety of theatre genres presented, and they liked the format of several short plays linked together by the final dramatic vignette, which was performed in the style of ‘readers theatre’.



Interestingly, the drama and intrigue was not restricted to the stage. When the stage manager, Colin Kreymborg, and his backstage crew turned up for the start of the second weekend, they were mystified to find fellow crew member Lynley Macdonald’s chair sitting in the middle of the stage. They remembered carefully packing it away in the green room after the first weekend. They pondered several possible explanations, and were astonished to discover that country singer, Adam Brand, had appropriated Lynley’s chair for use as a guitar stand during his show the previous night! At least now

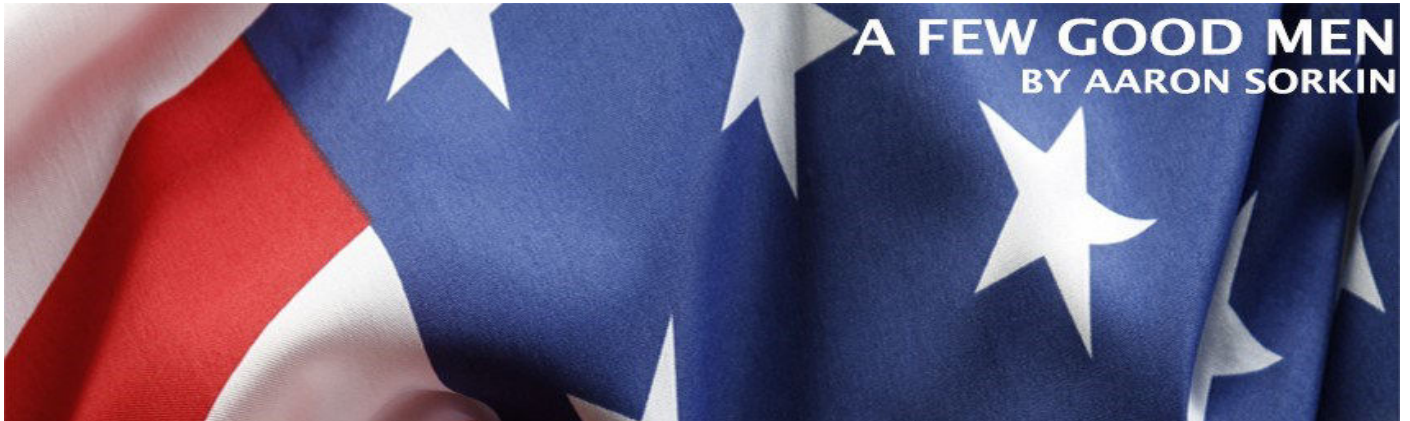
Lynley can say she’s had a brush with fame.

Some new methods of marketing were utilised for this show. The postcards proved a very popular addition and a Facebook page gathered 140 followers and reached over 5,000 people overall. The other marketing coup was to have the show poster displayed on the electronic sign outside the Telstra shop during the run-up to opening night.



- Amy Anselmi -

Geelong Repertory Company's
"A Few Good Men"



On ANZAC day, I was privileged to attend Geelong Repertory Company's production of "A Few Good Men". The play is what the classic movie was based on starring Jack Nicholson, Demi Moore and Tom Cruise.

I was nervous beforehand as the movie is one of my favorites and I was worried that the play would not do it justice. I was wrong. The show was brilliantly acted. They did not try to copy those amazing actors—they put their own spin on it. The show was a real-life example of "less is more". The sets consisted of two desks, a judge's table & three doors for exits. That's it. An extremely clever lighting plot created the rest of the illusion.

The play was brilliantly directed from start to finish. The pace did not let up and the actors were simply amazing. It was also much wittier than the movie was with laughs throughout to compliment the high intensity of the dramatic scenes. The theatre was an intimate setting (much like Wesley Performing Arts Centre) and made for the perfect venue.

"I want the truth—YOU CAN'T HANDLE THE TRUTH!!!!!!!"

- Simon Dandy -



Have you ever been confused or lost your sense of direction???

Just ask Colin Kreymborg & Nick Wilson who patiently waited at Morrow's office for over an hour for Simon Dandy to turn up for an important sponsor meeting.

How could one get SO lost between War-racknabeal & Horsham??? Very amusing!!!!!!

Lighting Workshop with Keith Bradshaw

On Saturday 30 May 2015, the HAC held a lighting workshop at the Wesley Performing Arts Centre.

The workshop was conducted by Keith Bradshaw, an ex-member of the HAC who has so far had an incredible career which has taken him around the world.

It was a fantastic day and very enlightening. It was great to hear of the career that Keith has had and what he has done. He is someone that everyone in the HAC should be justifiably proud of.

Some of the key learnings to come out of the workshop were as follows;

1. We all got a new appreciation for how expensive some of the lights are.
2. The importance of colour with lighting and how different colours mixed together will affect the look, including the sets, costumes, skin, etc.
3. Lights do not have to be used at full tilt. Many groups fall into that trap. Keith illustrated this really well.
4. The different types of lights & how they can be used.
5. The vital importance of including the lighting designer and operator early in the process if we want great results. Keith's comment was "you cannot expect the lighting man to move heaven & earth at the last minute".



HAC 50th Anniversary Coffee Table Book



As mentioned in our last newsletter the committee is preparing a coffee table book to document that past 50 years of the HAC.

You may have seen our articles in the Wimmera Mail Times and The Weekly Advertiser reaching out to the wider HAC family for photos, old programs, documents, flyers, anything of value relating to the HAC that you think we could use.

We have had a great response from the community and have collected some great information that we can use. However, it is not too late to submit some more information to us that you may have. Remember, you may just have that diamond in the rough that everyone would love to see.

We are currently still in our collation of information phase. We are sorting through old programs, photos and interviewing key figures of the HAC family, past and present.

In relation to photos, it would be great if you could attempt to identify the people in the photos where you can. This will help us out significantly.

This project is a huge undertaking. We were thrilled to be successful in obtaining a community grant from the HAC to the value of \$5,000 to assist in the production of the book. This will be used to engage Simone Dalton, a respected journalist with many years of experience, to assist in the collation and production of the book. This will ensure that the book is produced with a professional touch.

Please do not hesitate to contact Simon Dandy (0404 092 407), Don Mitchell (0411 044 861) or Jack Janetzki (0418 555 706) if you require further information or have anything to share with us.

Let's make this happen!!!!!!

Condolences

The committee & members of the HAC family wish to express their deepest condolences to Libby Brennan and her family on the recent passing of Libby's mother. Our thoughts and prayers were and are with you all during what must be a very difficult time.

May she rest in peace forevermore.

— HAC BABY NEWS —

Wayne and Casey Kosch (nee Cook) welcomed a beautiful little girl Charlie Adele born March 18th, 6lb 11oz.



— WEDDING BELLS ARE RINGING —

Congratulations to Stephen Graetz & Kylie and Cadence Smith (nee Ingeme) & Scott (below) on their recent weddings. The HAC family wish them every happiness for a bright and prosperous future together

Stephen Graetz and Kylie were married on April 18th, at the Horsham Lutheran Church in and beautiful intimate ceremony, surrounded by loved ones, both family and friends. Stephen and Kylie held their reception at Salingers Cafe in Great Western., which is a beautiful venue.

On Saturday April 11, Scott and Cadence were married at Valley Lodges in Halls Gap. Fellow HAC members Larissa Riddell and Stacey Brennan were part of the ceremony with Larissa acting in her capacity as celebrant and doing and amazing job, and a nervous Stacey singing for the beautiful Cadence walking down the aisle, and sounding divine. Cadence looked beautiful (as she always does), but the happiness and joy of marrying her best friend shone through. The speeches were . lovely and emotional speech Scott had for his beautiful new wife was gorgeous. What a fabulous day.



The Lion King

When the first notes to the iconic 'Circle of Life' break into being, we were immediately aware that the commitment to bringing the Lion King to life by the Melbourne cast had succeeded. The rich full sound of both the cast and the orchestra was uplifting and the as the animals headed to the stage from all entrances, we were swept away into the world being created before us. Paul, Owen, Heath, Kathleen and I made the trip down to see 'The Lion King' during the Easter holidays. We were all very excited to see 'The Lion King' as the children were too young the last time this musical toured, and the music is often played in our house.



From the puppets in all their various forms to the puppet masters/performers, the characters were bold and painted in bright colours, both literally and figuratively. There were many forms of puppetry used, from the elephant puppet that required four people to manage it, to shadow puppetry, flights of birds balanced on heads, to my favourite, the cheetah, whose design and the talent of the puppeteer was most feline in movement. The drop down Lion faces of Mufasa and Scar, snapping down when the characters were enraged were also particularly clever, allowing the audience to be fully engaged with the performers face but still having use of the puppeteering side of the character.

The cast of 'The Lion King' were all vocally strong, with a range of experience, from the debutant adult Simba, whose commitment and enthusiasm was clear to see, to the experienced Scar, who was enjoyably evil. There were many cast members that have had a long running relationship with the musical, having performed in other incarnations of the show on the international stage. The character that stood out for me the most was Rafiki. From the bold and fearless character, who also sang some of my favourite parts of the show with an incredible sound, she owned the stage whenever she was on it. She is the wise fool and the sage. The moments she created, along with the opening of the second act 'One by One' had those indelibly gut grabbing African sounds that are slightly raw and incredibly powerful to me.

Owen, Heath and Kathleen all loved Zazu, Timon and Pumbaa, who were cheerful, colourful and very funny as the comic relief. All were strong vocalists and physical comics who often roused the audience to laughter.

The technical aspects of special effects and lighting were impressive and seamless and the orchestra was stunning. All in all we found this reincarnation of 'The Lion King' a wonderful night out.

If you want to judge if 'The Lion King' the musical is as engaging as the original movie to children of all ages, then the absolute engagement of my children through the whole show, followed by the insistence of playing the soundtrack all the way home in the car, should provide a resounding yes.

Miss Saigon – Ballarat

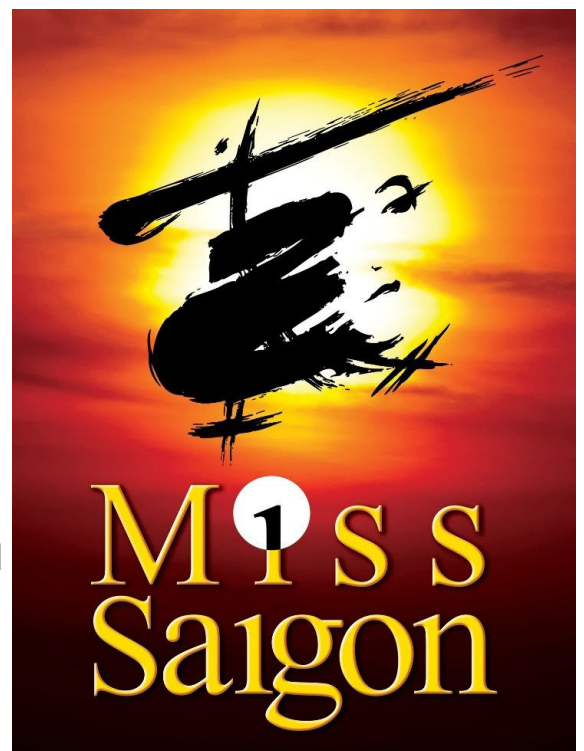
On Saturday May 16th, 13 members of the Horsham Arts Council travelled to Ballarat to watch BLOCs performance of Miss Saigon, which tells the tale of a doomed romance between a Vietnamese girl and an American soldier, a story that Les Miserables creators Alain Boubil and Claude-Michel Schonberg adapted from Peirre Loti's novel Madam Chrysantheme which was used as the basis for Puccini's Madame Butterfly as well.

With a sweeping story line, lyrics and music there is a lot a cast and crew has to encompass to bring this story to life., which is exactly what Ballarat Light Opera Company achieved. From the intense and energetic the 'Heat is on in Saigon' the cast fully committed themselves to stepping into the seedy and slightly desperate world of Miss Saigon. The lead characters of Kim, Chris, John and Ellen were all performed with great vocal strength and conviction. In particular Kim's soared throughout her performance, a superb effort given how much stage time and song this character requires. A character which stood out for me was the character of the Engineer performed by Steve Armati. The character itself is well written and eye-catching, created to bring some light to the tragedy that is Miss Saigon, and all credit to Steve, he imbued the Engineer with many levels of dark humour, carrying the audience with him, whether he exuded dark malice or cheerful narcissism.

The chorus were fantastic keystones to the overarching story, with the chorus numbers being powerful both vocally and visually. The orchestra created a lush and full sound underpinned and enhanced the overall performance. One of the most memorable moments of BLOCs Miss Saigon is the opening of the second act with the male chorus and John performing 'Bui-Doi', the strength and emotion was awesome.

Much credit must go to the director, technical design and crew for creating a fantastic set for a technically challenging show. The helicopter scene at the embassy was a credit to their work and ingenuity and together with the choreography given to the performers during the struggle to break through the embassy gates, created another of my favourite moments in the show.

We were all so proud to see HAC members Erin Boutcher and Chris Versteegen, onstage as part of the cast of Miss Saigon. It was wonderful to sit back and watch this wonderful show, knowing that there were so many talented performers in it. It was all in all a lovely day.





**MEMBERSHIP FORM
2015**

Membership year of Horsham Arts Council Inc. extends from 1st January to 31st December.

Join now and support performing arts in the Wimmera and keep in touch with what is happening throughout the year through our newsletter.

Membership fees:
\$50 for a single
\$100 for a family

Name:		
Home Address:		
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Mobile:		
Email:		
I am happy to receive my newsletter by email	Yes	No

Please complete and return with your payment to:
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If you would like to pay your membership via Direct Deposit, details are:
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