



March 2016

## Newsletter Highlights

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- Show reviews

## Horsham Arts Council

### Committee 2016

#### President

Simon Dandy

#### Vice President

Jan Morris

#### Treasurer

Colin Kreymborg

#### Secretary

Faye Johns

#### Properties

Don Mitchell

#### General Committee

Samantha Prollius

Jack Janetzki

Don Mitchell

Ken Warrick

Luke Mitton

Jessica Wilson

Stacey Brennan

## President's Message



The feedback continues to come in thick & fast from within the community regarding the "HAC's 50th Anniversary Spectacular".

So many stories of people being stopped in shops, in the street, at functions saying how good it was. It is awesome that we have had such an impact within the community.

On this front, I was thrilled to receive a letter from the Member for Lowan, Ms Emma Kealy, expressing how good the show was. She even stood up in Victorian State parliament & mentioned the show & the 50th anniversary of the HAC. How cool is that – we are officially in Hansard!!!! Go to our Facebook page or website for an extract of the official Hansard records. I sincerely thank Emma for her support of the HAC & her attendance at the production.

The committee has put in place an "action item" list. This documents what we want to achieve this year & by when. The committee is only 12 people. If you are passionate, driven & would be willing to volunteer some time, I would encourage you to help us achieve our goals. Everyone has skills & abilities that can contribute to a better HAC. Please contact any committee member for this list to see what you can do.

At the top of this list is to run another production. At the end of the day, this is why we exist. We need anyone interested in producing or directing a show to provide the committee with a proposal. Any committee member would be more than willing to assist you with the proposal process.

If you have not already done so, please become a financial member of the HAC. Our treasurer, Colin Kreymborg, is ready & willing to process your membership. It would be great if all members from the 2015 year became a member for 2016 plus some more. We will always welcome new members to our HAC family.

- *Simon Dandy*

## Secretary's Scribbles



I hope that this finds you well and that you are starting to catch up on some well deserved rest and family time! Although, if you are like me, life just keeps rolling on to the next thing.

It has been great to see that the cast are making the most of opportunities to catch up and keep in touch. We are now tying up the last loose ends after the 50th Anniversary Spectacular, and as a committee we are looking forward to seeing what the next step is.

For those of you who are online, you will notice that there are some changes going on with our digital presence, both with the website and with our Facebook presence. We have been running a HAC group on Facebook for the past few years, but have decided to run our public Facebook presence through a page in the future. There are notices on our HAC Group page that it will be closing down in the coming months, so please, if you are a member of the group, head on over to the 'HAC – Horsham Arts Council' page and Like it! In the future this will be where all of our public information will be disseminated.

Also, take the time to check out the revamped website at [www.horshamartscouncil.com](http://www.horshamartscouncil.com). Belinda Elliot, along with the help of Luke Mitton, have updated both the look and the content of our webpage and it looks fantastic. Both are going to be a great way of keeping up with what is going on with HAC.

Until next time... – *Faye Johns*

## Journey'ed Up



On the 5th March we "Journey"ed up the road to Ballarat to see Rock of Ages, put on by the Ballarat Lyric Theatre Inc. Having seen it a few times in Melbourne I knew that the music and story line and was very excited to see how Lyric put their own spin on it. With bourbon and cokes on stage with the band before the show started, the audience was in for a treat.

The music and the band were fantastic with songs including 'Don't Stop Believing' by *Journey*, 'Hit Me With Your Best Shot' by *Pat Benatar* and 'Can't Fight This Feeling' by REO Speedwagon. It was an 80's glamour rock flashback! We were tapping our toes and singing along the whole way through.

Unfortunately, the acting let the show down slightly, lacking a bit of chemistry between the leads and others on stage. But it was still a very entertaining night. The energy on stage was undeniable with high

-energy choreography and brilliant lighting and pyrotechnics. All in all a great show to go and see for an enjoyable night out at the theatre. – *Stacey Brennan*

## Message from the Horsham Town Hall

Take a bow HAC members!

The Horsham Town Hall has now been open for just over two months, and what a couple of months it has been. We have seen over 10,000 people come through the venue, sold out nine performances and engaged over 5,000 new audiences to the world of performing arts. A high percentage of this success was credited to HAC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spectacular, and from all of us at the Town Hall, we congratulate you on an incredible production, spectacular cast and great crew behind the scenes. We heard so many times "haven't we such amazing talent in our community".

What's happened since? We presented as part of our 2016 Season, Jonathon Biggin's **Australia Day** Thursday 17 March. The country town of Coriole was getting ready for Australia Day – a time to crack open a frothy, stick a snag on the barbie and celebrate what it means to be a true blue Aussie. This fun night of comedy and drama saw the return of full scale dramatic productions upon our new stage.

Sunday March 20, Promac's Production of **The Mikado** took its final bow as they said farewell to one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most loved musicals. We fastened our rickshaw and joined Yum Yum, KoKo, Pooh Bah, Nanki Poo and Katisha for a fun night for Wesley. And, Art is... walked with Dinosaurs on Friday & Saturday 18-19 March.

Coming up, Ross Noble will Brain Dump at the Town Hall on Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, check out our website for a list of our upcoming events in April, including Circus Oz on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of April!

Horsham Regional Art Gallery continues to showcase the permanent collection with the exhibition "Smiling when I Wake" "The Pulse of our Land" and Album Leaves: The Mack Jost Collection. Horsham Regional Art Gallery is the leading regional gallery that celebrates Australian contemporary photographers. The gallery is open Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 11.30am – 4.30pm & Sunday 1pm – 4.30pm

Hope you all had a safe and wonderful Easter and we look forward to seeing you soon!

- *Horsham Town Hall*

## Notice Board:

### MATILDA THE MUSICAL

Story by Roald Dahl and Music by Tim Minchin  
Princess Theatre  
Saturday 16th April, 2016 - 2.00pm Matinee

### SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Starring Andy Garcia,  
Saturday 14th May 2.00pm Matinee  
Her Majestys Theatre, Melb

### THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Starring Cameron Daddo, Marina Prior & Lorraine Bayly  
Saturday 4th June, 2.00pm Matinee, Regent Theatre

### WE WILL ROCK YOU

Musical by Queen & Ben Elton Saturday 10th  
September 2016 1.00pm Matinee

PH 5381 1548 | Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

3 KING DRIVE, HORSHAM

[wimmeraroadways@bigpond.com](mailto:wimmeraroadways@bigpond.com)



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## HRCC Australia Day 2016 Celebrations

The HAC was proud to be asked to perform at the HRCC Australia Day celebrations held at the Horsham Soundshell.

Representing the HAC were two talented young performers Liam Robertson and Karla Creasey. They performed the national anthem (both verses & acapella mind you) as well as "We Are Australian". They both did an incredible job and received rapturous applause from the large community audience in attendance.

The HAC sincerely thanks Liam and Karla for volunteering their time and talents.

They did us all very proud on a very important occasion.

- *Simon Dandy*





## Review of “Mary Poppins”

In January 2016, I was lucky enough to see an amazing production of “Mary Poppins” performed by Footlight Productions in the Playhouse Theatre in Geelong. It was made all the more special by seeing my father, Howard Dandy, and niece Elyssa Jeffreys, performing in the ensemble.

The audience were simply swept along by the colour, the spectacle, the music and precision of what was a magical stage production. The staging of the production was incredible. Producer, Peter Wills, told me that they partnered with Ballarat to build the extensive sets. The sets built in Ballarat were transported to Geelong. Following the final performance, they were loaded on trucks and returned to Ballarat for their upcoming production. This is a fantastic example of efficiency, cost minimisation and partnership between two theatre groups. It simply makes sense and it should happen more often.

Every aspect of the performance was amazing. The singing, the dancing, the staging, the lighting, the sets, the special effects, the flying. So much work must have gone in to the production both on and off stage. A highlight for me was the amazing tap number performed by “Bert” and his fellow chimney sweeps for the well know classic “Step In Time”. To see that many blokes dancing their hearts out to such a high standard – well, we could have been in any professional theater around the world.

The casting of the show was inspired, with talented, believable characters in every role behind leads that were positively outstanding. Kate Hanley performed the title role of “Mary Pop pins” and owned role completely. She dominated every scene from her first surprise appearance. She managed to simultaneously project airs of mystery, authority and inner stillness with little touches of magic, such was her stage aura. “Bert” was played by Ash Bronca. He played the role with a rare mix of innocence, knowledge and Mary-awe. Both sang beautifully, while Ash added an invigorating energy with his acrobatic dance moves. Other supporting roles and the ensemble each played their parts so well to bring this timeless classic to life before our eyes.

In the scenes where Mary flew across the stage, it gave you a weird feeling. Your conscious self knew she was attached to harnesses and cables. However, it was done so well, you just sat back and forgot about it and thought she was really flying. From the look on my daughter’s face, she certainly thought she was.

To steal a line from the show, this production of “Mary Poppins” was “practically perfect” in every way!!!.

BLOC Music Theatre in Ballarat will perform “Mary Poppins” from 5 May 2016 to 15 May 2016 in Her Majesty’s Theatre. Do yourself a favour and get along to see what is sure to be a fantastic production.

*- Simon Dandy*

## Where are they now?

**Amelia Pridgeon** was a cast member in the Horsham Arts Councils 2008 smash hit production of ‘Cats’.

I was always focussed on pursuing a career in the area of music, and musical theatre. After ‘Cats’ I moved to Melbourne when I was accepted into a musical theatre course, which I was very excited about. Unfortunately, part of the way through her course, I suffered an injury which meant that I was unable to complete the course. This meant that I had to reassess how to achieve my goals and aims to continue on in music, and decided to seek out a producer. During this time, I also began writing my own music and, once I found a producer doing artist development, who I found through Star Now, recording my music for an EP. Star Now is a website that you can create a profile on, list a job and search for auditions etcetera in the performing arts, both on and off stage.


As you know it can be challenging as a musician and performer to make a living from performing alone, especially when you are starting out and trying to break into the industry and get regular gigs. It is hard work, even when you love it, and the only way to improve is to get out there and gig whenever you can. So during this time I also taught at a local primary school and ran the choir, which meant I was able to practise my craft in a different way and hopefully pass my love of music on to others. In 2015 I moved to Mildura, and since moving I have started an acoustic duo called ‘Nuevo’. We are currently a cover band, who performs top 40 chart toppers as well as classic. We are working hard to get our name out there and perform whenever we can. We perform at weddings, engagements, parties and private functions. We are starting to write our own original music as a duo and our goal is to get signed to a label. We have a Facebook page which we use to also try to improve our public profile as social media is increasingly an important tool in marketing yourself as a musician.



<https://www.facebook.com/Nuevoacoustic/>


*- Amelia Pridgeon*

## Kudos from Emma Kealy



EXTRACT FROM  
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

**HANSARD**



**Ms KEALY  
Lowan**


**MEMBERS STATEMENTS**  
*Horsham Arts Council*

*Wednesday, 10 February 2016*

18/16

*Dear Simon,  
Fantastic production!  
Well done to all.  
Best wishes.  
Emma K.*

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ph 03 5382 0097 Horsham ph 03 5571 9600 Hamilton  
EmmaKealyForLowan @EmmaKealyNats



*for Regional Victoria*

### MEMBERS STATEMENTS

Wednesday, 10 February 2016

ASSEMBLY

#### Horsham Arts Council

**Ms KEALY** — I recently attended the Horsham Arts Council's 50th anniversary spectacular. This production was not only a fabulous tribute to the fine history of the success of the council over the years but also an amazing showcase of the stellar talent of our local people. I congratulate all involved with the Horsham Arts Council over the years for helping to achieve its outstanding reputation, and chookas for all future productions.

**Thank you Emma Kealy!**

## A few familiar faces kicking around together



## HAC 50th Anniversary Book!



What better way to celebrate HAC's 50th Anniversary than by having a memorable book full of timeless memories.

The HAC Committee have already put a great deal of work into this creation, and it is almost complete! All we need is some more contributions from members past and present... Anything that will highlight the development of HAC, past performances, stars of shows, photos and even those stories that not many others would know.

Please contact one of your friendly committee members to find out how you can contribute.

Once complete this will be a wonderful keepsake, treasured gift and essential addition to any personal library.

**Horsham Arts Council Inc.**

**PO Box 370**

**Horsham, VIC 3402**

**Hamilton Rd / Henty Hwy**

**Horsham Vic, 3400**

**E-mail: [info@horshamartscouncil.com](mailto:info@horshamartscouncil.com)**

**Web: [www.horshamartscouncil.com](http://www.horshamartscouncil.com)**

**The Horsham Arts Council 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 Horsham Arts Council has a proud tradition of theatre for over 50 years.**

**To become a member of the HAC please contact our secretary Faye via email to receive a membership form, you can also visit our website to download a form, or simply complete the form attached to the monthly newsletter.**

### **HAC Life Members**

Ritchie Hobbs* (1972)	Shirley Mewett (1993)	Ken Bradshaw (2002)	Debbie Boutcher (2010)
Ron Shepherd* (1976)	Avis Denholm (1999)	Dawn Deale (2005)	Gary (Jack) Janetzki (2010)
Colin Mills (1987)	Jan Morris (2001)	Laurie Deale* (2005)	Lynne McKenzie (2010)
Barbara Mills (1987)	Richard Morris* (2001)	Stuart Johns (2007)	Don Mitchell (2012)
Ona Whiteside* (1993)	Gerry Nicholls (2001)	Sandy Wills (2007)	Jenny Rafter (2012)

**HAC Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of every month**

**All members welcome.**

**Next meeting 13th April, 2016**

### **Newsletter Team**

**Please forward any information for future newsletters to the team via [ladlow@internode.on.net](mailto:ladlow@internode.on.net)**

**or message Cherie Ladlow on 0458 747 236**

**Until next time...**

**Peace out! From your friendly neighbourhood newsletter team**

**Cherie Ladlow, Louise Netherway and Beau Ladlow**



Horsham Arts  
Council Inc

## MEMBERSHIP FORM 2016

Membership year of Horsham Arts Council Inc. extends from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> 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:		
Postal Address:		
Phone:		
Mobile:		
Email:		
I am happy to receive my newsletter by email	Yes	No

Please complete and return with your payment to:  
HAC Membership  
PO Box 370  
Horsham, VIC 3402

If you would like to pay your membership via Direct Deposit, details are:  
BSB: 013-665 Account No: 3341 03608  
Please put your SURNAME as the reference