



June 2016

Horsham Arts Council

Committee 2016

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Presidents Report

The engines are roaring at the HAC as we move full steam ahead into "The Wedding Singer" set to hit the stage in October/November 2016. Libby Brennan & her team have assembled a fantastic cast after a thorough audition process. It is great to see so many new faces to the HAC as well as a few who have returned after time away.

The audition process leads to disappointment for some who do not receive an on-stage role. It is fair to say that all of us involved with theatre have experienced this at some stage. This also applies to employment & sport. Sure, it does hurt. However, the audition process is extremely rigorous with many discussions & opinions given as to the make-up of the cast. So many factors are debated about so many people.

Like anything in life, there are two ways to take it – you can give up & walk away from theatre altogether or you can get back on the horse, dust yourself off & put plans in place (ie. singing, dancing or acting lessons) to improve your chances of being successful in the future. Every audition is an experience. It takes courage to stand in front of an audition panel by yourself & perform. Many others would not dream of doing it. I was so thrilled to see three young ladies attend the first cast & crew get together. All three were unsuccessful in receiving an on-stage role yet they were the first to put their hands up to assist the production in any way they can. What's more, they came with a smile on their faces. What an amazing example for others to follow.

In other news, the HAC was excited to receive a grant from the Horsham Sports & Community Club for \$1,500 to purchase tools & equipment to be used for set & prop construction. Ken Warrick, Jack Janetzki & Don Mitchell are currently undertaking an audit of our current resources. This will be invaluable to our creative team as we often rely on others to provide tools. Now, we should be able to have our own whenever we need them. Thanks to Glenn Carroll & the HSCC for their support. In the past two years, we have received funding totalling \$4,000 which has been fantastic for the HAC.

During June, a working bee was held to paint the floor black in the rehearsal space at HAC House. The result is amazing & really gives the area a fresh new "theatre" look. A huge thank you to those who gave of their time freely to assist with this process, including Don Mitchell who painted the dimensions of the new Horsham Town Hall theatre on the floor.

- Simon Dandy

The Committee needs your support on Social Media

The committee have set a goal to reach at least 500 "likes" by 30 November 2016. Currently, we have 415 page likes. So this means we have to increase our "likes" by 20.5%. That is a large increase – but an achievable one!!!!

Start recommending our page to your family, friends & colleagues.

Obviously, the more "likes" we get, the more reach we will have & the more potential HAC members could eventuate. This will broaden our HAC community.

Let's make it happen & achieve this very attainable goal!!!!



Secretary's Scribbles



Another busy couple of months have flown by, with plans in full swing for our end of year performance of 'The Wedding Singer'. It has been exciting to see so many new and old faces show up for auditions, a great signal that we are continuing to grow and evolve. It is also entering the time of year in the next few months where many of our past, present, and future HAC members will be taking the stage in various forms of the performing arts. There will be dance concerts from our wonderful dance schools, primary and secondary school musicals, calisthenics performances, Wakakirri, Eisteddfods and music concerts. Each one is an invaluable performance opportunity and a chance for the community to enjoy and support the young talent that abound in the Wimmera area. If you get the chance in next few months to see any of these upcoming performances, please do so. You will have a wonderful afternoon or evening out and be thoroughly entertained. Music is the rhythm, art is the passion and life is the subject. So let's enjoy taking the opportunity to see the rhythm and the passion of life. Til next time.

- Faye Johns

The Wedding Singer



"The weeks seem to be flying by faster than the 80's themselves!

The production team has been busy getting things kicked off for the production process. We held auditions at the end of May/start of June and have a massive turnout auditioning over 50 people. Following that we conducted some dance and acting call-backs and finally announced the cast on 12 June, as scheduled.

The production team would like to congratulate everyone who made it into the cast we truly do believe that we have chosen a stellar group of people!

Our director has been meeting with the Sets, Sound, Lighting, Costumes and Props teams to discuss creative ideas and get the ball rolling for those departments. We are now in a position for the various team leaders to begin works in their respective areas.

The Producers have been busy getting things organised for Advertising, Program design and Sponsorship with all being well and truly started.

Once we get our sponsors signed up we encourage members of HAC to support the businesses that are supporting us. We go out to get their support and it would be great if we returned that. We will be displaying in the newsletter our supporting businesses and their sponsorship as they come in. There have been many businesses approached for sponsorship but if you know anyone who would like to be involved as a sponsor please get in touch with us.

I can safely say that if we keep the current pace of things we will have one very organised and well prepared show.

There was a Cast and Crew meet on Sunday 26 June and it was great to see everyone mixing and getting to know each other, a read through of the script highlighted just how funny this show is going to be and what we can look forward to for cast interactions, and with rehearsals kicking off on the 27 June its going to be lots of fun.

Let the good times and hard work continue!

Luke Mitton & Jan Morris—Producers, The Wedding Singer"



Performance Dates

Friday 28 October 2016, 8.00pm
Saturday 29 October 2016, 2.00pm
Saturday 29 October 2016, 8.00pm
Sunday 30 October 2016, 2.00pm
Thursday 3 November 2016, 8.00pm
Friday 4 November 2016, 8.00pm
Saturday 5 November 2016, 2.00pm
Saturday 5 November 2016, 8.00pm





Matilda Review

At 7.00 am in the morning, on Wednesday May 25th, there were over 100 primary school children and nearly 50 adults waiting to board the bus in the school car park. So began the mammoth day long trek down and back to Melbourne to see Tim Minchin's musical 'Matilda'. From the 'Find-a-Word' frame around the stage with letters of all different sizes, the children were entranced with everything about the show. All the pre-show time was spent looking for iconic words from the show like 'maggots'. The opening scene with the children singing 'Miracle' during Matilda's birth, had the

children engaged with the strong performances from the young cast, and laughing at the outrageous character of Mrs Wormwood, who was more concerned with missing her ballroom dancing competition than the arrival of her daughter.



It is a testament to the quality of the material that Roald Dahl has written and Tim Minchin has adapted for stage, that although all the children had been travelling since the beginning of the day, they remained engaged and focussed throughout 'Matilda'.

The sets were relatively simple and very clever. The library, moving in and out from different points side stage created great depth visually. This and the classroom scenes were had the most set required, although the classroom still had that very minimalistic feel to it. Most other scenes were set with only one or two pieces. A highlight set wise was the giant swings flown in for 'When I Grow Up'. This scene was a magical mixture, of wonderful

music, great sets, clever choreography and strong performances. The set changes were smooth, often beginning to occur during the end of the scene. Cast were used to bring on sets and which worked quite well.

The cast of 'Matilda' were all very strong. The children's favourite other than Matilda herself as the hero of the show, was the deliciously nasty Miss Trunchbull. 'A bit scary, but very funny' was the general consensus of any child asked. The actor in the role of Miss Trunchbull relished his performance and had great chemistry with Miss Honey and all the children. 'Matilda' does not pull back on the nastiness of the character of Miss Trunchbull Dahl created in his novel, and the audience appreciated it, scary bits and all. When the final show down begins between the children and Miss Trunchbull, the combination of the effects and performances, had the children jumping in their seats with the unexpectedness of it, yet this was also one of their favourite scenes, along with the scene where Miss Trunchbull ends up with a 'newt in her knickers'.



All the supporting leads and adult ensemble (who played the older children at the school) were strong performers. The Wormwoods provided the comic relief and the brightness to contrast the darker schoolroom scenes with Trunchbull. The role of the librarian, filled by the actress who performed Rafiki in 'The Lion King' was engaging and larger than life. However the standouts for me were Matilda and the young cast who were her onstage classmates. They were a little shaky in the first few bars of the opening of the show, but after that they never looked back. It is the first professional show that I have seen where the children are required to carry the backbone of the show – and carry it they do. Even in 'Annie' or 'Oliver', where the lead is also a young performer, the supporting children are not on stage for long periods of time. Not only is the young performer who is Matilda required to be on stage for the majority of the show, and sings several solos, her young supporting cast are onstage also for much of the show. Their vocals were strong, characterisations accurate and constant. Their performance of 'Revolting Children' was also a highlight.

The lighting was relatively simple but very effective, relying on cool and dark washes to create the oppressive classroom, and warm bright colours for the Wormwoods home, and softer colours for the library. The lighting was designed to enhance and support the work that was going on stage, and it did so very effectively, using special effects, quick changes and spots only when necessary. The music and lyrics of Tim Minchin are very clever, and brought to life by a tight and talented band.

I would recommend taking the chance to see 'Matilda' if you get the chance. It is a show that will be enjoyed by the whole family. As one child put it at the end, 'It was funny, scary, but totally worth it.'



Local Productions

There are many students in the show who are members of HAC as is the director- Emily Friedrichsen-Hay.

The production is Hairspray – Junior. This musical is a family-friendly version of the popular 2007 film which in turn was an adaptation of the 2002 Broadway musical. The director, HC teacher Ms Emily Friedrichsen-Hay, also directed last year's very successful production of 'Robin Hood'.

It comprises a cast of 76 very talented and hardworking years 7 to 12 students along with some VET Dance students from St Brigid's and Murtoa Colleges who study the subject at Horsham College. There are also a number of students making up the crew working behind the scenes.

It will run at the Horsham Town Hall on Thursday 11th, Friday 12th and Saturday 13th August, at 7.30pm.

Set in 1960s Baltimore, USA, with 60s-style music, dancing, and fashion, it tells the story of chubby, vivacious dance-crazy teenager, Tracy Turnblad, who against the odds, achieves her dream of winning a spot on the young talent variety TV program, "The Corny Collins Show". Along with some friends she uses her newfound celebrity status to challenge the show's segregation policy.

Tickets are available now along with more information by going onto the website: 'Horsham Town Hall Upcoming Events'.

2016 Wimmera Eisteddfod

The annual Wimmera Eisteddfod is set to be held at the Wesley Performing Arts Centre from Friday 9 September 2016 to Sunday 11 September 2016.

The event showcases the musical and vocal talents of performers of all ages (from school students through to adults) from across the Wimmera and beyond. Whilst the schedule is not finalised yet, the vocal section is usually held on Saturday morning and afternoon.

The HAC is proud to again sponsor the most promising vocalist which is a perpetual award that commenced in 2014. Past winners include Sofia Laursen Habel & Liam Robertson – two performers who have fantastic futures in front of them.

I would encourage any HAC member wanting to participate in the Eisteddfod to have a go. It is a chance to perform & obtain constructive feedback from an independent adjudicator. An enrolment form can be obtained from any singing teacher in the region or directly from the organising committee (margaret@horsham-midcity.com.au). All entries must be submitted by Friday 22 July 2016.

Best wishes to the organising committee for what is sure to be another successful event. It is great that such an event continues to be available to performers in the Wimmera & it is vital that they receive our support.

Notice Board:

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

WIMMERA ROADWAYS

VR2294134



Mid-Year Concert

We had many current and past members of HAC who performed in the Mid Year Concert of the "The Dancer's Zone". Run by HAC life member Lynne McKenzie, this spectacular show had many talented local dancers.



An Introduction to Don Mitchell.



G'day folks, you may have seen this old bloke poking around from time to time, maybe painting sets, or picking things up, trying to look important, or just getting in the way! So I thought I should explain where I come from; theatre-wise that is! I don't try & give advice, that may intrude on what your director is telling you, & you might feel what would I know anyway! I do know sometimes it is better to keep your trap shut.

I joined the Horsham Arts Council, when it was only a body devised to organise, an Arts Festival, & to co-ordinate the activities of the Horsham Theatre Group, the Horsham Dramatic Society, the Horsham Music Club, & the Horsham Orchestra. Eventually, in 1965 these organisations combined forces & finances & their constitutions to make a new Horsham Arts Council, which we are members of now.

I managed to be the 3rd President; see the honour board in the foyer & have been on the committee 'til about the time of the "Boy Friend", for which I virtually became what we now know as the

Producer with Dawn Deale as the Director. Sets & costume design, was my contribution too.

Around this time the Wimmera Musician's Club was formed & a folk band called "the Shades of Trooper's Creek" started up, & I went playing music for Concerts & bush dances, had a great time for quite a long time, with a change to a big band to the all-male "O'Toole Brothers", whilst, having twin girls, to add to 4 boys, the twins incidentally sing every bit as well as their mother....when they get the opportunity.

Looking back over the theatre years of my life the start actually was in 1960 as Albert the boot boy in "the Sport of Kings" as a member of the Horsham Dramatic Society, no lines, but a lot of scurrying about the stage & I was hooked! Overall involvement in about 26 shows, in parts, & stage sets construction & painting. There were lead roles in, "the King & I" (as the king), Luther Billis, (the 1st South Pacific) Captain Mclean, (Teahouse of the August Moon), Stanley Kowalski, (a Streetcar named Desire), Tony Grimsdyke, (Doctor in the House), Bill Sykes, (the 1st Oliver), Calamity Jane, (Wild Bill Hickock), lots of things for the boyfriend, as well as lots of other things.

Oh I forgot, "Love Rides the Rails" in 1966, producer/ director, a musical melodrama.

About the time of the Muso's Club, I decided to have a go at film & TV, I worked as an "extra" for a few years, gradually getting "known" by directors, like Simon Wincer, & George Millar, then surprise...

(More on our mate Don Mitchell in next month's newsletter)



Alex is a new face in Horsham after making the big move from Ballarat to teach at Haven Primary School earlier this year. Alex has been dancing for as long as she can remember and began teaching

during her high school years. She has taught a range of dance styles at Ballarat Dance Works including Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, acrobatics and Music Theatre and is also the choreographer for the Ballarat national and state level gymnasts.

Alex's passion for music theatre began when she preformed in her first ever school musical, Bugsy Malone. Since then her love for the stage has grown and she has performed in many shows for BLOC Music Theatre including Singin' in the Rain, The Boy From Oz, Anything Goes, Chicago and most recently Miss Saigon.



Alex is very excited to be involved with the Horsham Arts Council and can not wait to get started on The Wedding Singer!

Congratulations to Kessia Peterson

HAC member Kessia Peterson will participate in a collaborative storytelling project through the Arts Centre Melbourne. Kessia is in year 11 at the Horsham College & was one of nine Victorian students selected to compose for the project "Stories in the Wall: Bush Tales". Kessia will work with nine sound designers as part of the project. She will head to Melbourne soon to start work on the creation of a soundtrack for a play written by primary students. The completed project will be on display on the internet as well as the Arts Centre Melbourne during September.

Kessia is a very talented performer. She can dance. She takes singing lesson with Lisa Thomas at the Horsham School of Music. She plays guitar, piano & other instruments. She writes her own music. There is not much she cannot do. What's more, she is only Year 11. She has a bright future ahead. It is so exciting & pleasing for everyone involved with the HAC to see a fellow HAC member achieving great results within the arts industry.



Congratulations & best wishes Kessia for the project from everyone in your HAC family. We are all behind you & will be watching closely to see how the project evolves.

Voices of the Wimmera



"Voices of Wimmera is choir established for people who vulnerable or marginalised through their circumstances, they will benefit from joining a supportive community. The wonderful opportunity to be hear and valued for their input can be a wonderful experience for them and can extend to many other areas of their life. Self-esteem and confidence will improve so much that you will see complete transformation in some of those involved."

Mr Pietruschka (pictured on the left) encourages anyone interested in joining to call him on 0412522989, email info@voicesofwimmera.org.au or visit www.voicesofwimmera.org.au.

FAREWELL HETA

Exchange Student/Actor, Heta

By the time this newsletter is out, Horsham East Rotary club exchange student will be winging her way back to her native Finland.

HAC members involved with the 59th spectacular will remember Heta, as they cheery, quiet girl in the part of Liesel in the "Sound of Music" sequences,

Heta says she will remember these times with HAC, as a highlight of her 12 months in Australia. HAC caretaker, & Horsham East Rotarian, Don Mitchell, says that Heta will be an excellent ambassador for Australia, & for HAC, wherever she travels. She will be remembered fondly by her Rotary hosts, & welcomed back at any time....Cheers.



Wishing our dedicated secretary Faye Johns a very happy birthday for June 2nd.



"The arts can help students become tenacious, team-oriented problem solvers who are confident and able to think creatively."

U.S. Secretary of Education
Arne Duncan



Cast

Robbie Hart - Brady King

Sammy - Beau Ladlow

George - Joel Kimberly

Julia Sullivan - Stacey Brennan

Holly - Belinda Elliot

Linda - Esther Fry

Glen Guglia - Jamie Thomas

Rose - Kirsty Horton

Angie - Jenny Grover

David Fonda - Simon Dandy

Harold Fonda - Tom Pickering

Debbie Fonda - Elle Adamson

The Priest - Max Pietruschka

Crystal - Sally Venn

Mookie - Luke Mitton

Tiffany - Amanda Wilson

Donnie - Noel Whiteside

Donatella McDonough - Sophie Koschmann

Shane McDonough - Simon Dandy

First Waiter - Loucas Vettos

Second Waiter - Taylor Anderson

Bad Haircut Guy - Liam Robertson

Sideburns Lady - Shona Finn

Loser Guy - Leon Burns

Large Lady - Alex Ford

Sales Clerk - Faye Johns

Glen's Secretary - Paige Schmidt

Junior Secretary - Brittany Bates

Second Suit - Loucas Vettos

Ricky - Luke Mitton

Bum - Taylor Anderson

Agent - Paige Schmidt

Billy Idol Impersonator - Noel Whiteside

Cyndi Lauper Impersonator - Alana Finn

Crocodile Dundee Impersonator - Leon Burns

Tina Turner Impersonator - Lacey Rudolph

Nancy Reagan Impersonator - Natasha Eilola

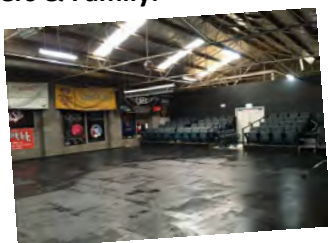
Ronald Reagan Impersonator - Max Pietruschka

Ensemble - Celia Fairley, Sophie Trudel, Oscar O'Brien, Alayna Toporyisek, Rebecca Baker, Natasha Wilson, Charlee Harberger, Alison Butler, Graeme King, Emma Griffin & Greta Wood.

Pit Singers - Emily Freidrickson, Alex Ford, Samantha Prolius & Jess Wilson.

The HAC shed rehearsal space is looking pretty slick these days thanks to the hard work of our volunteers!

Special thanks to Don Mitchell, Jan Morris, Libby Brennan, Stacey Brennan, Peter Brennan, Belinda Elliot, Adam Moar, Luke Mitton, Brady King, Kirsty Horton, Debbie Boutcher, Simon Dandy, Racheal Krahe, Marni Saunders, Jodie Saunders & Family.



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.

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Horsham Vic, 3400

E-mail: info@horshamartscouncil.com

Web: www.horshamartscouncil.com

WHY NOT BECOME A MEMBER OF HAC.....

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 is on the 13th of July, 2016

Newsletter Team

Please forward any information for future newsletters to the team via 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, Mikahl Peters and Beau Ladlow



Horsham *Arts*
Council Inc

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2016

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:		
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