



**Horsham Arts
Council Committee
2017**

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President's Report

The Power of Team Work

As we enter the final rehearsal stage of *Annie*, I have been reflecting on HAC as an organisation. We have nearly 130 people in this production. That's a lot of people, all working towards the goal of creating the best possible production. What's more, it is all done voluntarily. It's remarkable when you think about it. We all have busy lives – work, sport, families, school, friends, socialising, children, the list goes on. Yet we all give of our time freely to come together for an experience that will last a lifetime.



I was reading an article in *Forbes* by Luis E Romero which had a great quote that I think sums up what teamwork is all about. Here it is ...

Teamwork is a challenge in and of itself. It requires that people manage their egos, develop humility, communicate effectively, resolve conflicts and, above all, commit to one another and to a common goal. Anyone who has worked on a team knows that the only way to do so successfully is by assessing oneself honestly and becoming the best person one can be. In this regard, not only does teamwork increase performance, it also promotes the development of better citizens and societies.

Absolutely. HAC is a massive group of people heavily dependent on strong teamwork for its success. Without teamwork, a show would not reach the stage.

The production road from auditions to the stage is a long, hard one. There are many ups and downs. There are challenges. However, each and every challenge is always overcome. Each obstacle is always beaten. Together, and I mean together, we create productions that every single person should be proud of. *Annie* is no exception. It is going to be an outstanding production that everyone involved in the HAC can be proud of.

I urge all of you to encourage your families and friends to come along to *Annie* to support everyone who has put so much effort into the production. If you get a chance, jump on to the HAC's Facebook page and leave a message of encouragement. It goes a long way.

On behalf of the Committee, best wishes to everyone involved for the performance season. I know I am a broken record, but each and every person has contributed to what will be a successful show, no matter how big or small their part in the production is. We could not be more proud of you. Chookas!!!

-Simon Dandy

Secretary's Scribbles

It's been a full-steam-ahead start to the year, and everyone has hit the ground running, or in my case, lurching from one commitment to another. I'm looking forward to the holidays. Rehearsals for *Annie* won't stop, however. The cast, band and crew are ceaseless in their quest to perfect their craft. It has been exciting to start running multiple scenes from *Annie* and to see the enjoyment of new cast members, the experience of long-time HAC members, and the hard work of all.



As we progress and improve as a cast for the Arts Council, so too does the Arts Council. For every activity or production that we run which involves people under the age of 18, all adult volunteers, whether on-stage or off, need a valid Working With Children Check. This is a requirement for what we do. I encourage anyone who has not got a WWCC to apply for one, and list HAC as one of your volunteer organisations. If you already have one, nominate us as a place you volunteer. This can be done online. All it takes is a passport size photo and filling out a form, which is free for a volunteer. Like many new requirements, it can seem both tedious and daunting at the start, but once we have a register, it will make updating and maintaining it so much easier. You, our volunteers, are what makes HAC the wonderful place it is. So, take that step and sign up for a card. It's not that hard.

-Faye Johns

Maddy McGenniken

There may have been a long time between drinks in terms of appearing in Horsham Arts Council productions, but Maddy McGenniken has always loved musicals, singing and dancing.

Maddy first appeared in the band for *The Secret Garden* in 2004, and on-stage as a maid in 2014's *What's New Pussycat?*. She loved Drama while at high school, and felt 'lucky' to be a lead in Horsham College's production of *Footloose* when she was in Year 12.



Maddy moved to Bendigo in 2016, and began working at St Kilian's Primary School as a Performing Arts Teacher. As part of this role, Maddy was had the opportunity to write and direct her own musical, based on the first Christmas. The one show was an absolute hit, and the students and parents loved it! This year Maddy will also be producing her first school musical called *Shakespeare Rocks!* as well as writing another Christmas musical.

Earlier this year, Maddy took on her first directing role for the Bendigo Theatre Company where she got to work with adults for a change. Maddy directed the first of ten short plays in the successful TenX10 shows, held at the end of March. This has given her back her taste for theatre; she will certainly be auditioning for *Legally Blonde*, which will be showing in October 2017 (put it in your diary!).

In between all of this, Maddy has finally returned to dancing, and is learning tap and jazz for the first time ever!

Maddy developed some very close friends in her time with HAC; she misses her HAC family, and is sure that, if she were still in town, she would have continued to be involved in the fantastic shows we have produced.

'I Think I'm Gonna Like It Here' – on stage

I've often heard it said that you should never work with children or animals – so the Annie team were in trouble from the outset – there are two dogs and nearly 20 children in the production! (Ask Brad Kirchner about his canine cast mate with the nervous bladder or check if the director had trouble finding children for a song when they were tied up playing together or writing 'warm fuzzies' in the foyer.)

On the other hand, I've seldom heard it said that you should never work with pretend gin, dead mice or ladies dancing in high heels, but these have also provided ample incident, intrigue and injury during preparations. (With the mouse plague in full swing, it has been important to check that the mouse being slipped into Miss Hannigan's saucer of gin was actually a prop and not a real one suffering death by poisoning.)

This risky business has provided plenty of laughs, and being on stage for a musical is even more fun than I remember from my last one, 30 years ago. If being able to write the term '30 years ago' when referring to myself wasn't enough to make me feel old, having my chiropractor tape a swollen ankle and tell me it is arthritis certainly was! (I definitely shouldn't have slipped out to the kitchen for a cuppa while the warm-ups were on that one Wednesday night!)

All this age defying fun is only possible because of the dedicated, hardworking and passionate Horsham Arts Council volunteers, giving their time and talent to complete a vast array of tasks.

I've had Lynley edit my biography, Belinda take my photo for the program, Faye collect my Working With Children Check, Lisa coach my singing, Emily direct me on stage, Celia teach me the dance routines, Sam and Tash costume me and Jodie plan hair and make-up.

Simon has had to send out countless emails to keep me informed of rehearsals, requirements and reminders. Colin is training up his backstage crew to move the wonderful sets while he and Gen have got props pouring in. (Even in my small role I need to handle a silver tray, tennis racquet, file of paperwork, glass of champagne and a Christmas present!)

Each person involved in Annie has a slightly different role, belonging to a small team within the bigger team. Playing the on-stage role of French maid 'Annette' I hang out mainly with the senior servants in the Warbuck's mansion, but I often watch the orphans rehearse, as one of them is my daughter. Ten year old Tiani is playing the role of 'Tessie'

In a situation beyond my wildest dreams, I will actually have the opportunity to appear on stage with the youngest of my three girls in the closing number of the production. Look out for our little hand clap, spin and final pose in 'A New Deal for Christmas'.

I honestly still cannot believe that I signed up for the audition and went through with it. In fact, I might get a little bit teary during the singing of 'Tomorrow' after our bows. Feel free to look away...or join me.

-Yolande Grosser (First time Horsham Arts Council Performer)

Annie



Kinky Boots Review

After debating whether I should see *Kinky Boots* on Broadway, or just wait to see it when I arrived back in Australia, my brother Dimitrios said, "Just go see it, you'll probably like it." Boy, was he right.

The hype of *Kinky Boots* hit Australia, and I thought I was the only one singing along to the soundtrack every day, but it seemed everybody I was talking to was just as obsessed as I was, and were hitting the highway to Melbourne to see this new musical.

Kinky Boots the musical comes from the 2005 British comedy-drama film based on a true story. The movie tells of a struggling British shoe factory's young, straight-laced owner, Charlie, who forms an unlikely partnership with Lola, a drag queen, to save the business. Harvey Fierstein wrote the book, and Cyndi Lauper wrote the music and lyrics for the show.

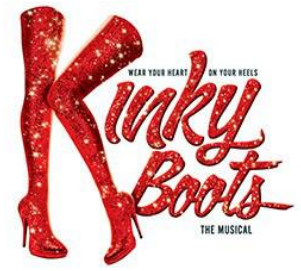
I attended one of the final Sunday matinees in Melbourne and fell even more in love. Watching this show on home soil, sharing the message to Australian audiences of 'be true to who you are and accept others for who they are' was touching. Hearing the applause as Lola strutted on-stage with her fellow queens doing backflips and executing choreography in six-inch heels was amazing!

Stand out scenes for me were 'Sex is in the Heel' where Lola and her girls first meet the factory workers. The song is sexy and playful and had great choreography. The intense dancing and flipping on conveyer belts and singing during 'Everybody Say Yeah' was astounding and matched, (and was possibly even better than) Broadway!

Callum Francis was beautiful in his ballad 'Hold Me in Your Heart' as was Toby Francis in 'Soul of a Man'.

All of this pieced together by a great finale full of dance, laughter and love from all on-stage. If you haven't heard of *Kinky Boots*, get yourself a copy of the soundtrack, and if you find yourself in Sydney in the near future, try and get a ticket!

-Loucas Vettos



Jan & Jan Costume Hire

Jan Janetzki & Jan Morris have been granted the exciting responsibility of looking after the HAC costumes.

They are going to go through the costume room & do a little culling, but nothing will be thrown out until members have the chance to take what they want.

They will open up to the public for hiring on each Thursday between 5pm & 7pm.



Jan & Jan will advertise soon & might have to have some help at times (holidays) but watch this space.

If there's anything you'd like to know, please call 0419726378

Fantastic Opportunity

When the majority of the *Annie* cast and crew bump out and hang up their NYC costumes at the end of May, twelve of the youngest members will already be getting fitted for Harvard Law School, jail or the beauty salon! These Horsham College students will be dressing up as their characters in their annual musical – *Legally Blonde Jr.*



Building on the success of 2016's sell out show *Hairspray*, the vision of College teacher and HAC director Emily Friedrichsen-Hay will again be harnessed to bring alive the fun-filled story about judging a book by its cover...or not.

Annie starlets Shanae Thomas and Lucinda Binney will be transformed into the love-struck law student Elle Woods and accused exercise queen Brooke Windom, while Liam Robertson and Oscar O'Brien will take on the challenge of the romantic lead Emmett Forrest and villainous Professor Callaghan.



Set construction is well underway, with parents welding under the direction of the College's woodwork expert William Hehir, and plans for decoration have begun, using the designs of art teacher Brittany King.

Julia Gasparini, Emma Naylor and Ella Ballinger have been cast as Elle Woods' best friends, and they will feel right at home with the three-part sets- similar to those built for the orphanage and Hooverville scenes in *Annie*.

Lily Risson, Jayden Robertson, Josie Thomas, Lily O'Brien and Lucia Lopez O'Donnell will also be 'Whipped into Shape' performing the 'Bend and Snap' in a range of roles that will build on their singing, dancing and acting experience.

With an extensive list of Horsham Arts Council adult members in leadership roles for the production, a collection of familiar young faces (pirates, fairies and Indians from *Peter Pan Jr*) will also appear on-stage at the Town Hall Theatre for three big shows from opening night on September 14th.

-Yolande Grosser (Legally Blonde Jr. Producer)



Dirt Music Festival

On Sunday, 2 April 2017, I had the pleasure of once again, offering our house as one of the seven venues for the 7th Annual Dirt Music festival in Rupanyup. Having performed at the festival many times before, both as part of a group and as a soloist, I looked forward to another great day, and I wasn't disappointed. The weather was prefect and the quality of the performers was amazing!

The opening act at our place was TB Whiteside, a singer-songwriter who describes his music as "well-matured, American oaked tunes". His songs were easy to relate to, with many of them referring to the Wimmera. It was a nice relaxed way to start the day. We were then treated to some country tunes from the '50s, '60s and '70s performed by Dave Sullivan, who drew a more mature audience to our venue.

Things fired up a bit more when the amazingly-talented Brodie Glen hit the verandah! Brodie has always been a great supporter of the Dirt Music festival and often brings along some equally talented friends. This year he had Stewart Denmead on drums, Hap Heyward on vocals, and locals Ray and Whitney Kingston helped out in various ways.

Another Dirt Music regular, Scott Fraser, stepped up with a Blues and Folk set followed by the multi-talented and very unique Jamie Horton. Jamie played all originals and with song titles such as 'There is a 7-Eleven on Mars', he was certainly very entertaining. The day at the Dunlop residence finished up with young local up-and-coming artist Ellen Huebner, who played guitar and sang beautifully for her first ever public performance.

More than eighteen other artists performed at venues throughout the day, including our very own Elle Adamson and her partner Ash Teasdale who wowed the crowd with their musical and singing prowess.

The day ended up with live band karaoke, as usual, at the Rup Pub, which really just involves a lot of the musicians from the day having a jam and inviting anyone who would like to sing to participate.

The Dirt Music Festival is a free annual event, with a relaxed atmosphere and some great entertainment. I would recommend it to anyone who would like to visit or perform.

-Jan Dunlop



Four Strings



Elle and Ash



Jamie Horton

Exciting News for HAC Members

Erin and Bryn Smith are expecting their second child in October 2017, a little brother or sister for Chelsea, 3. *Annie* is Erin's first production with HAC, and we are all thrilled by her exciting news.

James and Lauren Henwood, along with children Brady, 13, Charlotte, 8, and Asher, 1, are expecting a little bundle of joy in September 2017. James has been in several HAC productions since being a cast member in *What's New Pussycat?* in 2014.

Michael Peterson married his partner, Jody, in a lovely family celebration at Barangaroo Wines on 2 April 2017. Michael has been linked to HAC for years, and is playing bass in the orchestra for *Annie*.

Hayley Brennan married partner Matt Chaplin on April 1st. Hayley was involved with HAC's production of *Cats*, and has continued her passion for the performing arts in Ballarat.

Alison Welsby married partner Josh Rintoule on March 25th. Alison was involved in the HAC's production of *Grease*, and amazed the masses with her Charleston in *HAC's 50th Anniversary Spectacular*.

Lana Whiteside married partner Matty Whitmond in March. Lana has been involved with many shows throughout the years, and will no doubt be along to support her father Noel Whiteside when he takes to the stage as President Roosevelt in HAC's upcoming production of *Annie*.

Brian Harrison married partner Sophie in March. Brian can often be found traipsing about on stage in HAC productions, and Sophie is an asset backstage helping with hair and makeup for several shows.

The HAC family extends its best wishes to you all at this exciting time

Working With Children Checks (WWCC) Reminder

From 1 January 2017, the laws have changed regarding WWC checks which affects all businesses & organisations like ours. As a result of the changes, the Horsham Town Hall are making it mandatory for all hirers to provide a valid WWC check for all volunteers & members 18 years or above as part of the hire agreement.

Consequently, if you are going to be involved with a HAC production & you are at least 18 years old, you will need to provide us with a valid WWC check. If you are in a profession that requires you to already have a similar registration, then that will suffice.

Being a voluntary organisation, the good news is that the application is free. You just need to pay to get a photo done (similar to a passport photo).

Please refer to the link for an application - <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/>. When prompted, please make sure you note down that you are a volunteer with the Horsham Arts Council. This way, we are informed when the WWC check is completed & approved.

Our secretary Faye Johns will be collating a WWC check register that we will have to ensure is 100% accurate. This register will have to be provided to the Horsham Town Hall at the commencement of any future production. This may be a pain but it has to be done.

-Simon Dandy

Our Deepest Sympathy



HAC would like to acknowledge the passing of Wendy Grover, mother of Scott and mother-in-law of Jenny, on Saturday, 22 April. We extend our deepest sympathy to the entire Grover family, and offer our support in this difficult time.

HAC would like to acknowledge the passing of Mark Arthur Radford, father of Mark, on Thursday, April 27. We send our love to you and your family, and hope that we can support you as you have supported us throughout the years.



Maddi Ostapiw Vocal Studio is currently taking enrolments, and offering a discounted trial lesson to any past or present HAC member. Also offering vocal coaching sessions, if an audition or performance piece needs work.

Contact Maddi on 0437 244 468 for more information.



Become a Volunteer

Gain new skills, meet new people, have fun and be an extremely valued member of the new Horsham town Hall Team!

Horsham Town Hall are seeking volunteers to be part of the team at the new complex.

Full training will be provided for all volunteer roles and experienced staff will always be on hand to support volunteers. Potential roles include: ushering, gallery, front desk and box office.

Please note to participate in our volunteer program you must be at least 15 years of age. Volunteers aged 15-18 will be required to provide the consent of a parent or guardian.

HAVE A QUESTION?

Phone: 5382 9555

Email: boxoffice@hrc.vic.gov.au



Horsham Town Hall Supports

ANNIE

HORSHAM ARTS COUNCIL



The Horsham Arts Council is proud to present the timeless, classic family musical “Annie” in May 2017 at the Horsham Town Hall Theatre.

“Annie” is a classic musical that tells the tale of a spunky, depression-era orphan determined to find her parents, who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage, run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. The story takes Annie on a journey where she befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and finds a new family and home in billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary Grace Farrell and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

The Horsham Arts Council has a fantastic reputation of producing high quality shows for Wimmera audiences. Ticket prices are \$30 for adults & \$25 for children & concession. There is also a \$25 price for group bookings of eight or more people.

Bring the family along & enjoy a musical that has stood the test of time. Bet your bottom dollar that you will love it!!!!

Tickets available now through the Horsham Town Hall

Phone | 03 5382 9555



Event Information

DATE

**12 May 2017 -
21 May 2017**

TIME

**7.30pm | Friday 12 May (Opening Night)
1pm + 7.30pm | Saturday 13 May
1pm | Sunday 14 May
7.30pm | Thursday 18 May
7.30pm | Friday 19 May
1pm + 7.30pm | Saturday 20 May
1pm | Sunday 21 May (Final Show)**

VENUE

**Horsham Town Hall | Theatre
Phone | 03 5382 9555**



Horsham Arts Council Inc.
Proudly presents

RENT

OCT 27 - NOV 4, 2017

INFO SESSION

Sunday 28 May, 6.00pm
at HAC House 19 Hamilton Road Horsham

AUDITIONS

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 June
at HAC House 19 Hamilton Road Horsham
Call Debbie on 0429 407 931 to book your time
(must be 18 years +)

Book, Music and Lyrics by
Jonathan Larson

Musical Arrangements
Steve Skinner

Original Concept/Additional Lyrics
Billy Aronson

Music Supervision & Additional Arrangements
Tim Weil

Dramaturg
Lynn Thomson

RENT was originally produced in New York by New York Theatre Workshop and on Broadway by Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon and New York Theatre Workshop.
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia). All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AUGUST 2017

Online: www.horshamtownhall.com.au | Phone: 5382 9555 | Box Office: 71 Pynsent Street Horsham



Horsham Arts Council Inc.

PO Box 370

Horsham, VIC 3402

Hamilton Rd / Henty Hwy

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)

And the newest additions to the HAC Life Member honour roll

Ronnie Thomas (2016) Libby Brennan (2016)

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

All members welcome.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday the 14th of June.

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, Beau Ladlow and Lynley Macdonald



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