



# Horsham Arts Council Inc.

July/August 2020

It's hard to believe that another two months have passed and unfortunately not much has changed; if anything we have taken a step backwards in our fight against COVID-19. While I am forever grateful to be safe in in our wonderful community, I am really feeling the effects of the isolation even more so this time around.



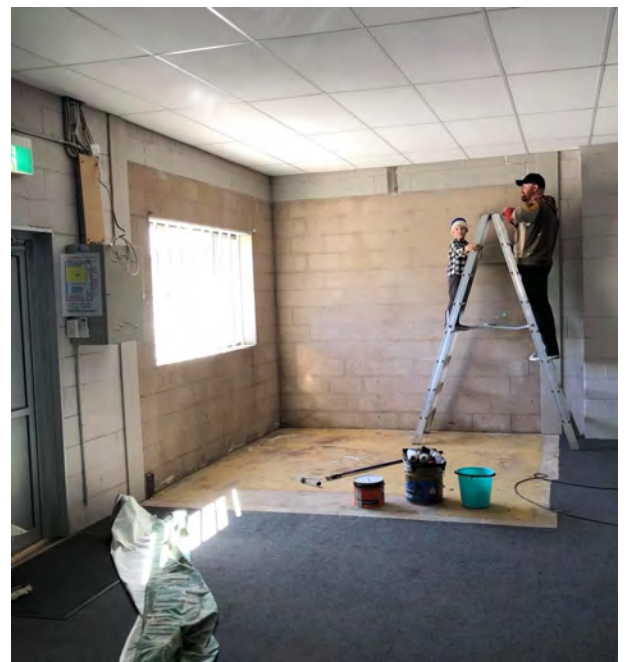
Personally, one thing stands out the most is that I miss performing! This last seven months have been the longest break I have ever taken from the stage and it hurts. It's not just about the spotlight (although that is nice!), it is about the people that we share the journey with from rehearsals to tech to the performances. Our HAC shows are about the community that we create along the way, and I miss our community.



We stand with our creative amateur companies who are also feeling the effects of 2020, and we share the sadness for shows that will not resurface or that have no immediate future. Here at the Horsham Arts Council we are moving into the time where we would usually be reviewing show proposals and looking forward to planning our October 2021 season. One thing is clear, it is impossible to plan into the future at this time, especially during a lockdown and a statewide state of disaster. As it stands, the HAC Committee has made the decision to put on hold all future planning of productions: we are not accepting any show proposals until further notice. While we look forward to the day when we will create again, there is no logical way that we can move forward and think about our future in this current climate. It is heartbreaking to say the least.

While we move along with the remodeling of our foyer space, which is looking fabulous by the way, we look forward to being able to welcome people back to our home and enjoy the space, the people and the experiences once again. A huge thank you to Jack "The King" Janetzki for heading the team on the foyer renovation. You have made sure that the wheels keep turning on this project and we all appreciate the work you do.

Until then, sing a song, dance, be dramatic but above all stay safe!  
Jess x



## Secretary's scribbles

-Faye Johns



I write to you from round 2 of Stage 3 restrictions. We are on the merry-go-round of trying to flatten the curve once more in Victoria. We have had some rain since I last wrote, which is great for our farming community and makes it much cosier to snuggle in by the fire while I work and the kids do their schooling. A shout out to everyone who is at home, working, supervising, and if you're like me, blasting out the tunes, many of them being show tunes (surprise surprise) and achieving far less than you intended, but still ploughing ahead. Props too, to those who are deemed essential workers and who are out and about in our community, working and coming into contact with a multitude of people every day. As a community our lives have altered incredibly, but it's wonderful to see that the majority of the time everyone is supporting one another and adapting as we get through this.

We are still very much uncertain what life will look like even into next year. It seems highly likely that 'COVID normal' will still potentially look vastly different to what we have been used to. How this will affect us as an arts community is also still very much in flux. The committee is aware this means we will have to be flexible and react quickly to any changing circumstances. While it is disheartening in some ways, please be assured we as a committee are continuing to work on what the future of HAC performances may look like.

We have also continued to proceed with the works at HAC house, with the foyer now in the process of having new ceiling and flooring put down to finish the renovations. Once this is done, there will be a reworking of how the space is used to make the functionality of the area more flexible. It is exciting to think that the finished product will hopefully be able to be used for more comfort and flexibility as a reception area as well as a rehearsal space for vocals, choreography and bands/orchestra and a meeting place when needed. Being more easily multi-functional will be a great asset to our space.

Plans are proceeding to collate and correctly archive our many hard copy scripts and scores. We have some antique paperwork and it will be great to have work done to have it more securely stored.

We are exploring avenues for grants and looking at what opportunities lie ahead for the HAC family in the next 12 months; we are working hard on this.

It is hard - and if you are like myself, and I dare say a great number of our committee and community, it can be a force of will to maintain positivity and future focus. We miss you and we miss each other. This too shall pass, as our favourite little red-headed orphan said, 'The sun will come out tomorrow ... you're only a day away'. If you are struggling please reach out to someone. We want you to feel supported and cared for, even in these anxious and difficult times. If you're doing ok, reach out to those around you and check in. Let's keep space for each other and make sure we get through this together. There are many different places where you can access help if you don't feel able to reach out to loved ones. Local services can also be accessed through your GP and there are also independent counsellors, and Headspace is a wonderful local service for our young people.

#lifeline #beyondblue #headspace #kidshelpline  
<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/mental-health>



Trivia time! While we can't get together to hold a trivia night, we can still have the trivia – with prizes! Email your answers to [lynleymac@hotmail.com](mailto:lynleymac@hotmail.com). First correct entry wins a prize. See the answers next newsletter.

1. From which musical does the song 'Big Spender' come?
2. *Kiss Me Kate* is a musical version of which Shakespeare play?
3. Which 1950 Billy Wilder film became an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical?
4. In which Japanese city is *Madame Butterfly* set?
5. With whom did Princess Diana dance to a Billy Joel record on the stage at the Royal Opera House in 1986?
6. The play *The Matchmaker* formed the basis for which musical?
7. Which witty British playwright wrote *Hay Fever*?
8. In the musical *Oliver*, who was Bill Sikes' mistress?
9. Which Victor Hugo novel is one of London's longest running musicals?
10. In which town or city is Royal Shakespeare Company based?
11. What phrase is used in theatre to describe lines improvised by an actor?
12. What is the title of the musical set amidst the Bollywood film industry, which opened at the Apollo Victoria in May this Year?
13. What word is used to describe a theatre that is closed?
14. In which West End musical did Michael Ball sing 'Love Changes Everything'?
15. What superstitious alternative to wishing someone good luck is used in the theatre?



# Flashback to HAC's 2014 production of *What's New Pussycat?*



Producers: Jan Morris, Libby Brennan

Director: Debbie Boutcher

Assistant Director: Sandy Will

Vocal Director: Faye Johns

Mentor to Vocal Director: Lisa Thomas

Artistic Advisor: Erin Boutcher

Choreographer: Loucas Vettos

Stage Manager: Vicki Thomas

Assistant Stage Manager: Stacey Brennan

Sound Design: Ronnie Thomas



Lighting Design: Marty Lieschke

Set Design & Construction: Don Mitchell

Costume Design: Samantha Prollius

Advertising & Marketing: Simon Dandy

Program & Photography: Belinda Elliott

Properties: Gen Kreymborg, Colin Kreymborg

Front of House: John Nevill



antique  
souvenirs  
mementos  
objects  
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memories  
remembered  
items  
**Memorabilia**  
vintage  
merchandise  
recollections  
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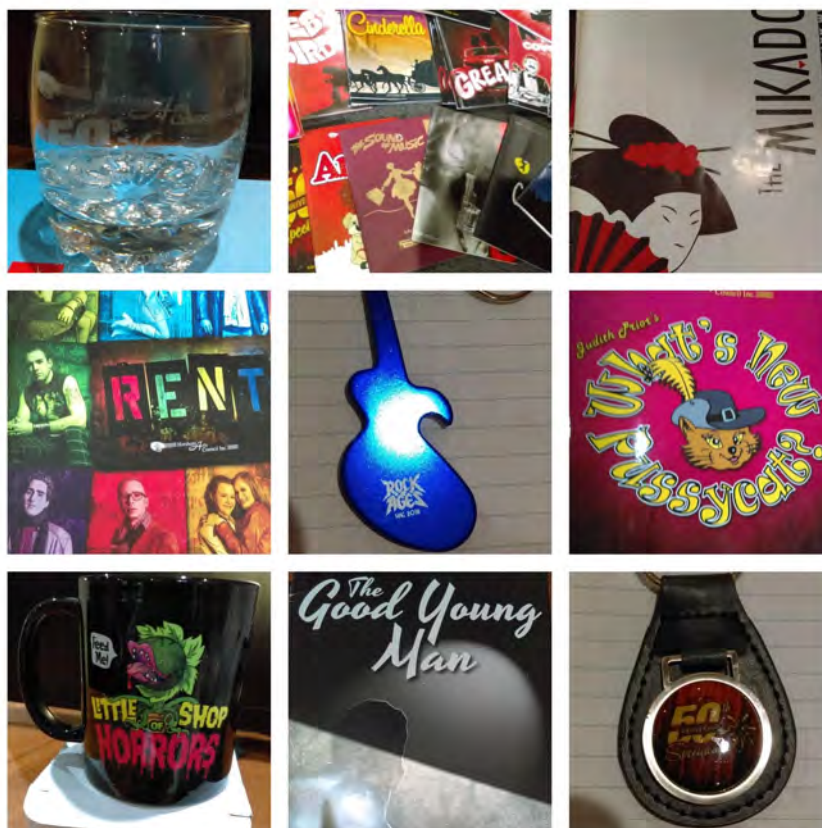
## Memorabilia

HAC has available a variety of programs and other memorabilia (including glasses and keyrings) from past shows. If you would like more information about what's available, please email Lynley at [lynleymac@hotmail.com](mailto:lynleymac@hotmail.com) or contact her on 0427823752.

We have programs from (in no particular order):

<i>Godspell</i> (1997 & 2012)	<i>The Good Young Man</i>	<i>Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat</i> (2018 & 1998)
<i>What's New Pussycat?</i>	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	<i>Kindly Keep it Covered</i>
<i>Grease</i>	<i>Mame</i>	<i>The Sound of Music</i>
<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	<i>Anything Goes</i>	<i>The Wedding Singer</i>
<i>Pirates of Penzance</i>	<i>Chicago</i>	<i>Cats</i>
<i>The Secret Garden</i>	<i>The Mikado</i>	<i>Oliver!</i>
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	<i>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spectacular</i>	<i>Bye Bye Birdie</i>
<i>Annie</i>	<i>Cinderella</i>	<i>Rent</i>
<i>Don't Dress for Dinner</i>	other ... please ask if we have what you're looking for.	

There are a very limited number of items available for some productions, so it's first in best dressed. Programs are available for a gold coin donation; other memorabilia for a slightly larger donation.





# Les Miserables

S	T	O	E	N	J	O	L	R	A	S	A	S	R
N	E	C	A	N	D	L	E	S	T	I	C	K	S
H	P	E	S	I	M	A	S	E	L	N	E	R	N
O	O	S	C	O	S	E	T	T	E	D	E	R	A
P	N	U	E	G	N	J	A	V	E	R	T	I	D
E	I	I	S	E	S	A	T	H	G	I	F	T	A
U	N	R	J	E	A	N	V	A	L	J	E	A	N
E	E	A	M	N	N	N	E	J	N	J	H	K	M
R	F	M	O	N	E	D	A	Y	M	O	R	E	A
E	H	N	N	E	E	V	O	L	U	V	R	I	E
T	T	H	N	D	A	E	R	B	L	A	C	K	R
C	A	L	T	F	R	A	N	C	E	D	P	E	D
E	E	E	E	N	I	T	N	A	F	A	I	R	Y
R	D	T	H	E	N	A	R	D	I	E	R	E	H

ONE DAY MORE  
 FRANCE  
 RED  
 FIGHT  
 HOPE  
 BLACK  
 MARIUS  
 JAVERT  
 THENARDIER  
 LES AMIS  
 JEAN VALJEAN  
 EPONINE  
 ENJOLRAS  
 BREAD  
 COSETTE  
 DEATH  
 DREAM  
 CANDLESTICKS  
 FANTINE  
 LOVE

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/13337/>

## **Creative in Lockdown: How we always seem to find a way...**

COVID-19 and various levels of restrictions have put a stop to many things that we love doing. And what we are still able to do looks very different to what we are used to. Like many other industries, the performing arts has had to close down much of what it does and adapt quickly to retain what it can. We have had many people start to perform online, as a way to uplift themselves and others, to continue to practise their craft, and as they have gotten more proficient with the technology which is fast adapting to demand, even paid performances.

In our local community, there are HAC members who work in the arts who have adapted how they teach and work to allow them to pursue their careers and provide their students with the opportunity to continue their development, an opportunity which is invaluable in these socially distanced times when people have not been able to perform, play sport, rehearse, see family and friends and all other manner of restrictions.

The Dancers Zone teachers moved all their classes online, with their teachers continuing to choreograph dances for their students and post them into the individual online groups set up. They post weekly with continuing progress on their dances. While not the same as being in the studio and working side by side, it has allowed them to provide the opportunity for their students to continue to learn and progress in something they love.

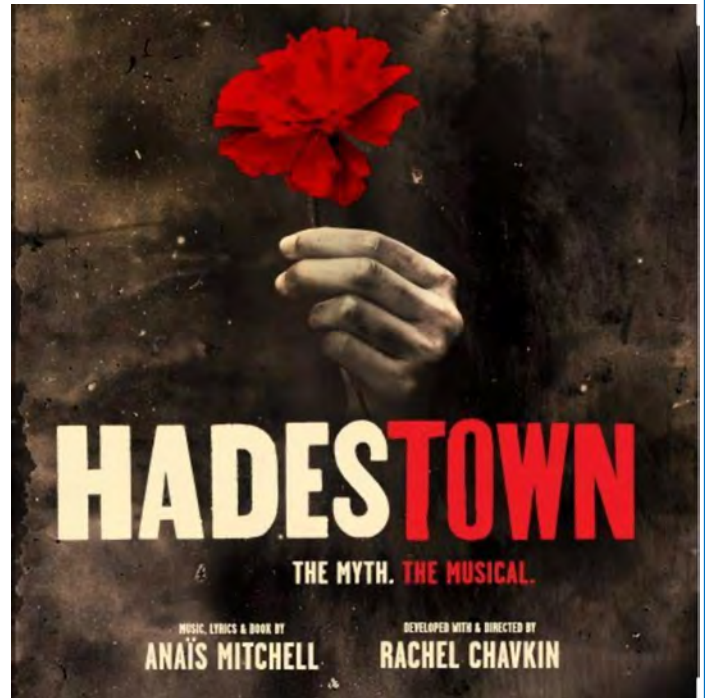
Horsham School of Music's Lisa Thomas also moved her vocal lessons to an online format. With zoom lessons being scheduled over a much more compressed time frame, it requires her students to be warmed up and ready to go by the time the lessons started during the first lockdown. By focussing on one song per lesson, it allowed Lisa to work with her students very specifically. Second time around, Lisa has moved to group Zoom lessons, with the eye towards preparing for a student concert, dependent on what the next few months look like. She knows that many of her students are missing so many performance opportunities and wants to provide them with an opportunity to do so if it can be done safely within the new 'normal'.

Maddi Ostapiw, proprietor of Maddi Ostapiw Vocal Studio, kept her full load of all the students who wished to continue vocal lessons online. Using Facetime and encouraging the use of headphones allowed a reasonable clarity, although at times it is dependent on internet quality as to how smoothly things run. One-on-one has allowed her to maintain the individual focus she wants in her lessons, and Maddi has spent a lot of time focusing on technique. It has been a hugely challenging time for all of our wonderful teachers working in the arts. Flexibility, patience, and the ability to adapt quickly to whatever this year has thrown at them has been a must. With some frustration with internet and technology, these teachers and their students have forged ahead to work together to continue to create art through 2020. We may have to do it differently, but we are still creating.

## ***Hadestown* album review**

*Hadestown* is the creation of indie singer/songwriter Anais Mitchell. It was first recorded as a concept album in 2006, which gained popularity and traction, and in 2016 it opened off-Broadway, followed by a Broadway premiere in 2019. Each of these incarnations has a cast album available. Some of the time I have spent in lockdown has been listening to some new cast albums of shows I haven't heard before and once of them was the Broadway OST of *Hadestown*.

Like *Les Miserables*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Hamilton*, and many other shows, *Hadestown* is a show in which the story is fully sung. The bonus of this soundtrack is that it is the recording of the complete show without anything being left out. This means, that for me, listening to the album without having seen the staged show, I could follow the story seamlessly, which made the whole listening experience so much more enjoyable. Even with *Les Miserables*, one of my favourite shows, unless you have the full symphonic recording, cast recordings are edited, with parts removed for the sake of brevity.



*Hadestown* is drawn from two well-known tales of Greek mythology, that of the dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and the story of King Hades and his wife Persephone. As one reviewer wrote, *Hadestown* 'pits industry against nature, doubt against fear and fear against love'. The first song 'Road to Hell' immediately drags you into the world of *Hadestown*, with a jazz/blues feel and just a touch of gospel. The character of Hermes also acts as a narrator and walks listeners through the plot of the story you are going to hear. The first few songs introduce all the characters and we the listeners meet them where they are at. From dreamy Orpheus, to the determined Eurydice, to Persephone, disenchanted with Hades and the six-month deal she must be in the world before returning to Hades and the underworld for the next six months. Joined by the muses as part of a Greek Chorus, the characters all fall into archetypes, as Greek characters do, with the music and lyrics supporting these character developments beautifully.

Eurydice, while falling for Orpheus, decides to join Hades in the underworld rather than face hunger and insecurity above ground. Orpheus heads off on a daring rescue to try and bring her safely back. Persephone and Hades revisit their relationship and feelings for each other, and the story then follows the original myths through to their conclusions.

Throughout this journey, the music is a beautiful blend of jazz and classical Broadway, with hints of gospel, blues and even some modern folk and pop. It may seem like a lot of style, but they all weave together beautifully. There are recurring motifs musically that wind through the album which help tie the story together. The music is gorgeous, but never distracts from the vocals and the story those vocals are telling, which makes the whole album easy to listen to and understand.

*Hadestown* is quite different to a lot of the new shows and cast albums that are doing the rounds at the moment. I really enjoyed both the storyline and how it presents on the album, the musical styles and the energy of the cast that translates into the album. I would highly recommend that you have a listen to the album and let it take you through the beautiful story that is *Hadestown*

~ Faye Johns



# Wesley Performing Arts Centre to be brought back to life

An exciting new project has begun on the 100-year-old building housing the Wesley Performing Arts Centre (WPAC).

The “Performing Arts Services Demand Assessment Study” was conducted in 2018. Passion for the WPAC was abundantly clear as a significant cultural asset for the Wimmera community.



Rectification and upgrade works have commenced with the formation of the WPAC Redevelopment Project Control Group (PCG) comprising members from the HRCC and the WPAC committee. This collaboration will seek the appropriate advice and implement remediation works that are required before an emergency order can be lifted.

The PCG is working to establish a full scope and cost of the works, and to establish realistic timelines to enable specifications for each job to go out to tender, be evaluated and then awarded to the appropriate contractor.

This upgrade will see the venue safely re-opening to the public and, once again, be a favourite with local and visiting performers. It will also be a venue for ceremonies, funerals, weddings and community events because of its intimacy, acoustics, and central location.

The WPAC committee confirmed that proceeds from the sale of the Horsham Music Academy in December 2019 have been committed to the WPAC upgrade works.



The PCG envisages that the WPAC will re-open in 2021. Updates will be provided to the community throughout the project.

It has been a long road, but there is a “spot” light at the end of the tunnel. The WPAC will once again become an integral part of the performing arts and cultural scene within the Wimmera community.

~ Simon Dandy

## HAC House foyer renovations



Jack Janetzki and his team have made huge inroads in to the remodelling of the foyer of HAC House. What was once Ken's bedroom ... err the office ... is no more. The office was emptied during a working bee between stage 3 restrictions, and since then the walls have been removed, ceiling repaired, and floor carpeted to match.

The foyer has been used for vocal and dance rehearsals, band and orchestra rehearsals, cast and crew photos, as a welcoming space during auditions, and as a general gathering space. We look forward to the seeing the end result of the renovations, and the possible extended uses the opening up of this space will provide. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the work.



## Committee Meetings during Covid Restrictions

Are you wondering how your Committee meets when meeting together is ~~banned~~? Thanks to the magic of technology, we meet online, via Zoom, where we can still look at each other's faces ... or a black screen if we're feeling a little camera shy... but that wouldn't be like us, now, would it ...?

Committee meetings still happen at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in joining us and seeing what happens, or would like to contribute to discussions, let us know and we can make sure you get the link to the online meeting.

Keep an eye on for the next edition of this publication ... we may show you a little snapshot ....



Me: don't piss me off I will sing musicals at you

Them: haha don't you mean showtunes? You can't sing a WHOLE musical at me

Me: I know what I said



The newsletter team would love your feedback. If you've loved something you've read, or would like to suggest an item / article / interview etc for inclusion in a future edition, please let us know.

[lynleymac@hotmail.com](mailto:lynleymac@hotmail.com)



## Executive Committee

### President

Jessica Wilson

### Secretary

Faye Johns

### Vice President

Ken Warrick

### Treasurer

Colin Kreymborg

## General Committee

Debbie Boutcher

Lynley Macdonald

Simon Dandy

Nick Wilson

Jack Janetzki

Loucas Vettos

Belinda Elliot

Maddi Ostapiw



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



## FOR COTUME HIRE PLEASE CALL:

Jan Janetzki 0457 820 162

The HAC costume room will be  
open on **Thursdays**  
**from 4.30pm - 6.30pm**  
for people wishing to hire  
costumes.



## HAC Life Members

Ritchie Hobbs* (1972)	Shirley Mewett (1993)	Ken Bradshaw (2002)	Debbie Boutcher (2010)	Ronnie Thomas (2016)
Ron Shepherd* (1976)	Avis Denholm (1999)	Dawn Deale (2005)	Gary (Jack) Janetzki (2010)	Libby Brennan (2016)
Colin Mills (1987)	Jan Morris (2001)	Laurie Deale* (2005)	Lynne McKenzie (2010)	Jessica Wilson (2019)
Barbara Mills (1987)	Richard Morris* (2001)	Stuart Johns (2007)	Don Mitchell (2012)	Simon Dandy (2019)
Ona Whiteside* (1993)	Gerry Nicholls (2001)	Sandy Wills (2007)	Jenny Rafter (2012)	

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

They are currently being held online. All members are welcome to attend.

Next meeting is 7:30pm, 9.09.2020

Please forward any information for future newsletters to

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

Fare thee well

From your friendly neighbourhood newsletter team.

**Lynley Macdonald, Natasha Kuchel & Simon Dandy**



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

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. Keep in touch with what is happening throughout the year through our newsletter.

### Membership fees:

Family - \$120

Family membership consists of two adults and any children under 18

Adults - \$60

Student under 18 years of age - \$40

Associate Membership - \$10 per show season

<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Home Address:</b>		
<b>Postal Address:</b>		
<b>Phone:</b>		
<b>Email:</b>		
<b>Paid Via:</b>	<b>Direct Deposit</b>	<b>Cash</b>
<i>It is a requirement of all HAC members over the age of 18 to have a current working with children check. Members must nominate HAC as a volunteer organisation on their registration via the WWCC website.</i>		Working With Children or VIT Number:

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

Or

Email completed form to [info@horshamartscouncil.com](mailto:info@horshamartscouncil.com)

**Direct Deposit Details: Horsham Arts Council**

**BSB: 013665 Account Number: 334103608**

Please put "last name membership" as the reference *Example: "smith membership"*