



January / February 2018

Welcome One and All to 2018

Another exciting year has kicked off with plenty happening already in the HAC. Even though almost two months have passed by, I wish all HAC members and their families a safe and prosperous 2018.

On 29 January 2018, rehearsals kicked off for "Joseph". With a cast of 66 (including two groups of 16 children who alternate performances), there have been many bodies strutting their stuff at HAC House. Rehearsals have been upbeat, fun & very sweaty (with Emily's awesome choreography on those hot summer days). The vocal work is sounding fantastic – thanks Jenny, Faye and Maddi. The off-stage crew have been working tirelessly on sets, props, music, costumes, media, graphic design and even a multimedia animated sequence. It is early days but all the signs are leading towards another great HAC production. Keep up the good work everyone.



A team of people is preparing a proposal for a production in October 2018. They are still working through all the requirements of the proposal before it is submitted to the committee for consideration. Hopefully, it is not too far away and we can announce our second production for the year.

On Saturday 17 February 2018, Colin, Gen, Jack, Jan, Don and Jan spent the morning cleaning and rearranging HAC House. Ken Warrick has finished the shelving in the storage container (thanks heaps Potiphar) so costumes and props have been gradually transferred into the container. The team filled a skip bin (provided by long time HAC sponsor Mick Morris from Wimmera Wastebusters Recycling) full of rubbish and unwanted items to clear extra space at HAC House. Thanks to the team for giving up their time for the benefit of HAC. It is very much appreciated.

The storage container is great but it sure gets hot in there. To quote Robin Williams, "It's hot. Damn hot! Real hot!" So much so that two white wall tyres on the Grease Lightning car exploded in the heat. They are totally shredded. Ken and Jack are working on a solution to get ventilation and airflow into the container to protect our treasured costume and set items. Thanks guys for all your TYRELESS work.

A reminder to everyone for upcoming shows that past HAC members are involved in. If you get the chance, please get yourself a ticket and support these wonderful people.

- March 2018 – Rebecca Wik has the lead role in Centerstage Geelong's production of "42nd Street".
- April 2018 – Samantha Prollius is in the ensemble for Ballarat Light Opera Company's production of "Spamalot".
- May 2018 – Alex Rathgeber continues his role of Tin Man in the professional Australian touring production of "the Wizard Of Oz" in Melbourne.

Performance art looks set to have another huge year again in 2018. Shane Podolski from the Horsham Town Hall said there was over 400 events booked in at the venue this year. That is huge and shows that things are thriving in the Wimmera.

Regards,

-Simon Dandy

Secretary's Scribbles



Well, HAC has dived right into 2018, with rehearsals of *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in full swing. When the whole cast is required at rehearsal there are over seventy people in our rehearsal space between cast and production team members. It is noisy, sometimes chaotic, requiring patience as some wait while others learn their parts, and the end result of what has been achieved at the end of rehearsal is always remarkable.

It has been a while since HAC has had to wrangle this many people for the majority of a show, with not many smaller/solo scenes in *Joseph*. We also have a double cast of children, to spread the load of ten shows. It has meant teaching of parts and choreography has needed to be dealt with in some different ways than we have previously. It has also been amazing to watch how the cast members are taking care of each other, and working hard to learn their parts, and do it with enthusiasm.

As our rehearsals continue to improve and to tighten, I have no doubt that the end result will be an incredibly bright, joyous and powerful show. With the cast putting in up to ten-and-a-half hours a week at rehearsal, plus the time they spend revising at home, the dedication it takes to put together a show like *Joseph* always blows me away. I am looking forward to watching things come together as we add in the elements of backstage, set, props and instrumentalists to create the rich and full picture it will be.

-Faye Johns

Joseph Update

'Well things are really moving along nicely with Joseph. The cast are in full swing learning all the songs and choreography and are doing a fantastic job.

Thanks to some generous theatre company's in Ballarat and Geelong we have been able to borrow many sets which has reduced the number of sets we have to make.

Same for costumes, we have borrowed some fantastic costumes which means we don't have to make as many.

The team can now focus on getting all of the singing, dancing and music right.

Tickets will be on sale from the 1 March for an early bird sale for 2 weeks this is a great chance to get tickets at a cheaper price for all shows.

We have already had so many sponsors come back on board and sponsor HAC again which is fantastic.

We are in need of some people to help backstage dressing cast and helping with make up so if you are interested then please let me know.

That's all for now,

-Luke Mitton
Executive Producer'



Horsham Arts Council proudly present

Joseph and the Amazing TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Early bird ticketing on sale
Thursday 1 March...

Friday 4 May - Saturday 19 May

All tickets \$28

Phone 03 5382 9555 or Visit horshamtownhall.com.au



Camp Curtain Call Opportunity

Hello Horsham Arts Council!

We are writing to inform you of a new Musical Theatre Holiday program happening in the April school holidays (April 2nd - 8th).

Camp Curtain Call is a new, fun, and vibrant theatre camp for kids in Australia aged 10-14. We conduct week-long, immersive retreats in Victoria and New South Wales focusing on Musical Theatre disciplines: singing, dancing and acting! We provide our campers with opportunities to workshop their performance skills and audition techniques with successful industry professionals, while gaining an appreciation for the production and technical world of the theatre! Our April 2018 Camp will be held in South Gippsland and run and taught by industry professionals (actors, dancers, producers, managers, directors and MORE) who all have professional theatre credits and working with children checks.

The Camp runs for seven days in an authorised and supervised camp environment where campers catch a bus to the country, sleep in dormitories and sing, act and dance all day! Every day of camp will be jam-packed with creative, hands-on learning experiences whilst working towards a final showcase where each camper will shine!

The Camp Directors, Josh and Dioni, have just finished working on *Matilda the Musical* and Dioni was also Children's Manager on *Billy Elliot The Musical* and has spent over ten years working as a Casting Associate in commercial musical theatre. Camp Curtain Call is wonderful for industry connections and advice while we focus on creating a unique, fulfilling week where campers do what they love with other like-minded kids. It will be something that they will never forget.

Please find attached a flyer with more info. We would like to kindly ask you to share this in your newsletters and with any of your performers, members and families that you think will benefit from this unique and amazing experience.

Thank you so much for your time. Feel free to contact us if you have any further questions! We hope to welcome some of your company as campers!

Josh and Dioni
Camp Curtain Call
www.campcurtaincall.com.au

HAC Performs at the HRCC Australia Day 2018 Celebrations

The HAC was proud to be asked to perform again at the HRCC Australia Day celebrations at the Horsham Soundshell. This year, talented, young performer Tamikah Petering represented the HAC, singing the national anthem (both verses, acapella) as well as a beautiful rendition of "I am Australian".

Whilst still very young, Tamikah has performed in three HAC productions including "What's New Pussycat?", "HAC's 50th Anniversary Spectacular" and "The Wedding Singer". She also sings with Lisa Thomas at the Horsham School of Music.



From all your friends at the HAC, thank you so much Tamikah for volunteering your time and talents for this important community event. It is very much appreciated by us all, along with the large community contingent who attended the day. We are lucky to have access to so much young talent coming through the ranks in the Wimmera.

-Simon Dandy

I Love The Nightlife

In January 2018, Samara & I attended a preview performance of "Priscilla Queen of the Desert The Musical" at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne. What a night it was!!!

The show is as glossy, tuneful and cheeky as remembered. The show returns to the Melbourne stage after ten years with additional nostalgia and affection for the impact and enjoyment of the musical's original 2006 production.

As well as boasting an utterly infectious score of perky pop songs, the return season brings back its wardrobe of incredibly lavish, eye-popping costumes. There were over 500 costume changes throughout the show which is amazing. The scene where they sing in Alice Springs is unbelievable to see. You have an idea of what is happening but you cannot work out how they did it. Incredible.

The producers have updated the set list with several Kylie songs introduced given Felicia's obsession with the singer. The staging is extraordinary. The bus (Priscilla herself) is a technological feat and fits so well into the smooth running of the show. It has been given added technology of a skin that is an LCD screen, allowing all manner of colours and images to be displayed.

Australian theatrical royalty, Tony Sheldon, returns to play Bernadette, the role he created here and played on Broadway and the West End in over 2,000 performance. Sheldon's finely-honed performance is an absolute joy. His comic timing is immaculate, and he can flip from a withering put down to raw compassion in the blink of an eyelash. Sheldon has shaped the role from the grittier portrayal in the movie to an endearing character of tender humanity, making the show all the richer. David Harris returns to Australia to play Tick/Mitzi, the role with the strongest and most emotional arc. In a role seemingly tailor made for his talents, Euan Doidge fully inhabits mischievous sprite Adam/Felicia, bringing an extra level of dazzle with his brilliant dance skills. Adam sets out to be annoying, and Doidge expertly balances the brash aspects of the character with a raw, endearing vulnerability. Robert Grubb captures the characterful warmth of everyman Bob. The vocal ability of the three Divas was incredible. They were often seen flying above the stage and did not miss a note in the big vocal numbers. Finally, the ensemble delivered high energy dancing and staggering vocals, supporting the title roles in every way.

Seeing live professional theatre is an inspiring experience. What they can achieve on the stage is jaw dropping and they continue to raise the bar. Of course, it helps having access to the best in the business (and a tonne of money of course). I would highly recommend the show – we left the theatre with huge smiles on our faces. Given the content, it may not be everyone's cup of tea. Purely from an enjoyment point of view, it is a show not to be missed.

They truly are FAAAABULOUS!!!!

-Simon Dandy



High School Musicals Announced

Exciting times are ahead with local schools announcing their upcoming productions for 2018.

- Horsham College will present "Happy Days the Musical".
- St Brigid's College will present "Disney's The Little Mermaid".
- Holy Trinity Lutheran College will present an adaptation of "The Lion King".

These productions will provide students with a fantastic opportunity to develop their skills in both on and off-stage roles. Many HAC members (and potential future HAC members) will be involved in these productions.

More details about these exciting productions will come in future editions of the newsletter.

Best wishes to everyone involved as they embark on the audition and rehearsal journey.

-Simon Dandy



Joel heads to the USA



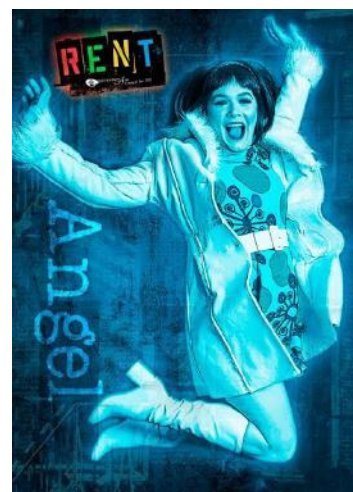
Huge congratulations go out to HAC member Joel Kimberley (aka George, and Angel), who will be heading to the USA this year as a school leader for Camp USA. He will be perfect for the role, and will have a life-changing experience. We wish you all the luck in the world. Stay safe, and have the time of your life.

Joel says: 'Recently, I have been placed as a Camp Counsellor in Pennsylvania at Summer Camp and Travel. Summit Camp is a performing arts sleepaway camp in the Poncono Mountains that serves youth and teens that have significant social challenges such as LD, HFA and ADHD. My term runs from 9 June 2018 until 20 August 2018.'

'I am beyond excited to start this amazing opportunity and to gain new experience and skills. I will be leading various activities such as dance classes, acting lessons, open mic sessions, etc. I will be working closely with many children of various ages, other Camp Counsellors and performing arts instructors.

'This incredibly opportunity will help me grow not only as a performer but as a person as well. I feel so honoured to be able to do this program through Camp America, and I know I will love it. I cannot wait to get started.'

-Simon Dandy



CURTAINS



A MURDER MYSTERY MUSICAL COMEDY

proudly presented by

Ararat Musical Comedy Society

INFORMATION NIGHT

Tuesday 30th Jan 2018, 7:30pm

Ararat 800 Primary School

Multi Purpose Room

(For info, ring Andrew 0439 811975)

Book your Audition there!

Congratulations

Exciting News

We are all so very excited to hear the news that Esther Fry and her husband Rob welcomed Violet Lauren Fry to the world on Sunday 25 February 2018. Both mum and bubba are doing well after a long, arduous labour.

Everyone involved with the HAC extend their love and congratulations to you and your family. You have been through a lot and deserve this blessing as much as anyone. Best wishes as you start the journey in life as an expanded family.



Wedded Bliss

On 24 February 2018, HAC member Emma Rissmann tied the knot with her long-time partner Lachy Robinson. As the photos show, Emma looked absolutely stunning (as would be expected). Lachy scrubbed up alright as well. Everyone involved with the HAC passes on their best wishes as you embark on the next stage of your lives together as a betrothed couple. Congratulations Mr & Mrs Robinson.

Brady to Rock The House in Geelong

HAC member and seasoned performer, Brady King, has landed the featured role of "Brit" in CenterStage Geelong's upcoming production of "We Will Rock You". Given his theatrical experience as well as playing in several bands for many years, it seems that this show would be made for him. Written by Queen and Ben Elton, this show is sure to be epic with huge numbers, shredding vocals and quality dancing.



"We Will Rock You" will hit the Playhouse Theatre stage in Geelong from 20 July 2018 to 4 August 2018. The theatre is under maintenance at present with the balcony level out of action. Tickets are on sale now with the equivalent of two of the 12 performances sold out already. Hopefully, as many HAC members as possible can make the journey down the highway to support your fellow HAC member.

Congratulations Brady on your wonderful achievement. You are perfect for the show and we cannot wait to see you rip the Geelong stage apart. Everyone at HAC is very proud of you.

-Simon Dandy

A Brief Update on the RM Concert

'We had another fantastic Richard Morris Memorial concert in November 2017. The concert featured a showcase of 2017's local performances. The organising committee was so pleased with how everything went and those involved had a fantastic time.

The same group are now on the lookout for 2018's performances to pull together this year's concert and look forward to seeing 2018's local talent.'

Congratulations to the recipient of the 2017 Richard Morris Memorial Concert scholarship Kessia Peterson, a talented local musician.

-Luke Mitton



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Maddi Ostapiw Vocal Studio is currently taking enrolments, including a discounted trial lesson to any past or present HAC member.



Contact Maddi on 0437 244 468 for more info.

HAC Life Members

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

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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**

This newsletter brought to you by,

Cherie Ladlow and Lynley Macdonald



MEMBERSHIP FORM 2018

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

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If you would like to pay your membership via Direct Deposit, details are:
BSB: 013-665 Account No: 3341 03608
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