

UPSTAGED

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

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WELCOME!

Welcome to the last newsletter before 'Anything Goes' opens! This is such a busy time for us, as we have our current show opening in just four weeks, followed closely by auditions for the next show, and planning for the Gala Arts Extravaganza under way! Just four weeks out, and the cast of 'Anything Goes' are entering the boot camp phase, with intensive dance and music rehearsals at Julie Ross Dance Studio, with the wonderful Kate Sevenoaks teaching the choreography. Mauz as usual has been working hard with the vocals, and we're looking forward to seeing co-MD, Tim Egan and the band join us at rehearsals - we've heard good things! You can see what we've been up to with some rehearsal photos on page 5.

We can also announce that 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' auditions will be held over the June long weekend - that's the weekend after 'Anything Goes' closes. Audition for kids will be on Saturday 6th, with auditions for adults on Sunday 7th. Full details of times, venue etc are in the Presidents report on page 2, and again in Diary Dates on page 3.

You can read more about the production on page 9 & 10, with full character and vocal range information on page 11. If you still have questions, visit our website and read the Audition FAQ page: www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedy.com/audition-faqs. A bit nearer the time there will also be an audition event on Facebook.

And now, drum roll please! We're excited to be able to announce the Gala Arts Swing Dance! We will be holding the dance at the Showgrounds again, but this time we will be dancing along to music from the big band era with the fantastic Big Big Boogie Band! Full details are on page 7, and a poster on page 8, so put the date, Saturday August 1st in your diaries. Feel free to put up a poster or share on Facebook!

Thank you to all those who have renewed their memberships, and to those who have volunteered to usher or work backstage. Don't forget you'll need to join or renew to usher or backstage for insurance purposes. If you'd like to volunteer, see the notices under 'Help Wanted' on this page. That's all from me! See you opening night!

Di O'Ferrall - Secretary



USHERS FOR ANYTHING GOES

If anyone else would like to volunteer, please send FOH Manager Jenny Beatson an email to jennybeatson@hotmail.com

BACKSTAGE VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to work backstage, please send Stage Manager Pam Lane an email to pam.lane@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au

PRIZE DONATIONS

If you or anyone you know has connections with a local business who would be willing to donate prizes for the Swing Dance raffle, please get in touch.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello lovely people (and the unlovely ones too)!

As usual, theatrical pursuits are keeping many of us fairly busy. "Anything Goes" has just a few short weeks of rehearsals left, and is ship-shaping up to be another fabulous production.

I'm very much looking forward to having the band and the cast together for the first time next week. Having worked with both lots separately, I can only imagine the heights we'll reach combining the two! This show has got it all - great script, wonderful music, lots of sequins, dancing...it will be amazing!

As you will see elsewhere in the newsletter, we are also in pre-production mode for "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang".

Some of us hard working committee members will be going on a research trip to Sydney next month to have a look at an amateur production down there...well someone's gotta do it!

I am so excited at being given the opportunity to direct one of my all time favourites. Yes, I know it's corny, but I unashamedly don't care! Auditions will be held on the June long weekend, and I'm hoping for a big turnout. This will be fun!

We are also planning for our Annual Gala Extravaganza, and this year, we've decided on a Swing Dance with the Coffs Big Big Boogie Band, who are totally awesome! Please come, and bring your friends and families! It's great to be able to socialize outside of productions.

That's it from me, see you at the theatre!

Mauz



CHMCC President, Maureen Burgess

AUDITIONS FOR CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

FOR CHILDREN: Saturday June 6th
(June long weekend)

FOR ADULTS: Sunday June 7th

VENUE: Jetty High School, main hall

TIME: 9.30am - Registration

10 am - Auditions start

CALL BACKS: Monday June 8th, 10am,
also at Jetty High

Full info at

[www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com/
auditions](http://www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com/auditions)

and on page 9-11 of this newsletter

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Diary Dates



Mum's the Word - Weds 8th - Sunday 19th April
Jetty Memorial Theatre

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY PRESENTS

ANYTHING GOES

Music & Lyrics by COLE PONTE
Directed by BRIAN HITSIMMONS

Musical Direction by
TIM EGAN & MAUHEEN BUNGESS

at the
JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE
MAY 8TH - 31ST, 2015

Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm
Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2pm

Bookings: 6652 8088
or online: www.jettytheatre.com

Tickets \$26, concessions \$23 (Booking fees apply)
All Wednesday performances \$20

Original book by P.G. Wodehouse & Guy Bolton; new book by Howard Zandvoort & Stuart Cross
New book by Timothy Cressie & John Wildman. Originally produced by Lincoln Center Theatre, New York

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Coffs Harbour City Council

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Full info at
www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com/auditions
and on page 9-11 of this newsletter

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company
invites you to the
GALA ARTS
SWING DANCE

Featuring
THE BIG-BIG BOOGIE BAND

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
BOURMAND INGREDIENTS
MON-FRI
OR ONLINE AT
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/HLNK

\$28 PER HEAD
INCLUDES
SAUSAGE SIZZLE,
TEA & COFFEE
(BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES)

SAT AUGUST 1ST
6.30 PM
THE EXHIBITION HALL
COFFS HARBOUR
SHOWGROUNDS

\$28

For more information, visit www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com

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ANYTHING GOES

Directing major musicals is certainly quite a challenge. 'Anything Goes' is far from being an exception, especially given the rather 'skimpy' script we had to start with.

From this starting point we had to create a show which pulled all the stops out if it was to succeed. This has meant pushing the cast to unusual levels of skill and energy in each of the areas of acting, singing and movement.

Cole Porter's brilliant music and lyrics have made it a full-on labour of love.

'Anything Goes' is shaping up to be a smashing success.

Anything Goes Director, Brian Fitzsimmons



The cast of 'Anything Goes'

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Reno Sweeney & Sir Evelyn Oakleigh
Billie-Jo Dukes & Paul McLeod



All the nice girls love a sailor!
Amber Aspinall as Bonnie



Reno's Angels
Karlie Hackfath, Donna Fairall, Lyneah Boom, Angela Robinsen, Lauren McInerney & Dee Tune

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY PRESENTS

★ ANYTHING ★ GOES ★

Music & Lyrics by COLE PORTER

Directed by BRIAN FITZSIMMONS

Musical Direction by
TIM EGAN & MAUREEN BURGESS

at the

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Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm

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Bookings: 6652 8088

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Proudly supported by
Coffs Harbour City Council



Original book by P.G. Wodehouse & Guy Bolton; new book by Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse
New book by Timothy Crouse & John Weidman. Originally produced by Lincoln Centre Theatre, New York



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GALA ARTS SWING DANCE

The Gala Arts event for 2015 will be a 1940's style Swing Dance, featuring the biggest of big bands: The Big-Big Boogie Band!

Last year's Bush Dance at the Showgrounds was so much fun that we thought we'd do pretty much the same thing again, but this time we'll be dancing to the music of the 1940s big band era. This is an excuse to wear your best vintage finery, and we know that several of our members need no excuse to do the vintage thing!

Included in the ticket price is a sausage sizzle and tea & coffee - if you want anything else, feel free to bring it with you! You can also BYO alcohol to consume on the premises. The sausage sizzle will start at 6.30, with the band starting at 7.

There is ample parking at the Showgrounds, right in front of the Exhibition Hall.

Tickets are just \$20 each, with family tickets available for \$50, which includes two adults and two children (under 16). Additional child tickets are available at \$5. Please note all children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Tickets will be available from Gourmand Ingredients in town (Harbour Drive), from Monday to Friday. Please note they can only accept cash or cheques, which should be made payable to Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company.

You can also book online, pay by credit card and print your tickets at home by going to www.trybooking.com/HLNK.

There is a small booking fee for this service of 30c per ticket. Tickets will be on sale later this month - we will let you know as soon as they're available.

Please book ahead to assist us with planning catering. There will be tickets available on the door, but if you haven't booked, be prepared to either bring your own food, or wait until everyone else has been served.

Get your tickets now and get ready to be "In the Mood!"



Swing Dance Tickets : www.trybooking.com/HLNK

Also available at Gourmand Ingredients Mon - Fri
(cash/cheque only)



The Big-Big Boogie Band, at a recent gig at the Coffs Hotel. Notice 'Hairspray' & 'Anything Goes' MD, Tim Egan back row centre. The band also includes former members (Tom Madden, front centre), several 'Hairspray' & 'Anything Goes' band members, and the amazing vocals of Chrissy Simpson (top left). You really don't want to miss this event!

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company
invites you to the

GALA ARTS

SWING DANCE

Featuring

**THE BIG-BIG
BOOGIE BAND**

 **SAT AUGUST 1ST
6.30 PM**

**THE EXHIBITION HALL
COFFS HARBOUR
SHOWGROUNDS**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Fairytales, Myths, Legends, Magic and Mystery, from Homer (The Odyssey, not The Simpsons), The Arabian Nights, through The Brothers Grimm, Tolkien and beyond, these have been my stalwarts and constant companions from my earliest discoveries of the wonder of reading, right throughout my life. As a shy, bookish child, they were my escape to faraway worlds full of adventure, and excitement.

In my childhood, TV's (for those fortunate to own one!) were in black and white, you had to raise yourself from the lounge to turn them on and off and to change the channel, videos/CD's, ipods, ipads, mobile phones, all non existent, computers existed only in the realms of science fiction and tablets were something you took for a headache!

A trip to the cinema was a rare and special treat. And that was where I first fell in love with Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

I remember the joy at seeing the Potts' Windmill house with its crazy interior and wacky breakfast making machine, I loved Grandpa Potts and his "trips to India", Truly in her beautiful clothes and fancy car, was terrified by the Childcatcher, shouting out loud to Jeremy and Jemima not to be fooled into leaving the Toymaker's cottage, and of course, the star herself, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. I had the soundtrack on vinyl, playing it until it was just a series of scratches and blips.

Well, you can only imagine how excited I was when I was told that the rights for the live version were available. I didn't pause for thought (a lifelong condition!), just said "yes PLEASE!".

Never, in a million, trillion years did I really believe it would happen. But it did. And I'm not sure exactly how, but I'm determined to do this amazing, enchanting story justice, with a local cast, in our little theatre.

Obviously I'll be looking for people who can sing and act, but mostly, I want people who want to have fun. People with personality and enthusiasm, love of entertaining and capacity for extreme silliness. I have decided to make several roles non gender specific, but be guaranteed (warned!), everyone will be kept very busy!

I have no lofty ambitions to "high art", "motivation" or "subtext", I want to create two and a half hours of pure, unadulterated escapism, that the very young to the very ancient will enjoy in equal measure, and I welcome everyone who would like to join me on this rollercoaster, to come and audition.



Chitty Chitty Director, Maureen Burgess

Although the emphasis is on fun, please also consider that it will be a lot of hard work and commitment.

For those with a multitude of extra-curricular activities (adults and children), I would require that you make this production your number one priority for the duration of the rehearsal period, and I don't say this lightly.

Please think about this BEFORE auditioning. There will be 3 rehearsals per week (two evening, one weekend), and although not everyone will be called to each one, you must be available if required.

I make every effort to only call people I need, and I like to work them to the bone! (Kind of kidding).

Can't wait to start making Magic!

Mauz

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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - So What's it About?

Surprisingly enough, there are still some people who have never seen the MGM movie based on Ian Fleming's book, and even fewer people who have seen it on stage. So what's it about?

The story is set in the early 1900's, and it's central characters are the widowed Caractacus Potts, an eccentric, not so successful inventor, his two children, Jeremy and Jemima, and his father, the equally eccentric Grandpa Potts, all living in genteel poverty in a windmill.

The children fall in love with an old racing car, now languishing in a nearby junkyard, and convince their father to save it from the scrapheap and restore it to its former glory.

Unbeknownst to them, Baron Bomburst from Vulgaria, also wants to get his hands on the car, and is aided and abetted by the magnificently evil, child hating Baroness Bomburst and his two sinister henchmen Boris and Goran.

Meanwhile, the Potts family encounter the deliciously named Truly Scrumptious, the suffragette daughter of wealthy Lord Scrumptious, owner of the Scrumptious Sweet Factory, and once the car, now known as Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, has been restored by Caractacus, the children invite her to join them in a picnic by the seaside.

Little do they know that Chitty is no ordinary car, but possesses magical powers that will sail them across the sea and propel them through the air, all the way to Vulgaria, on a quest to save Grandpa Potts who, having been mistaken for his son, has been kidnapped, brought before the Baron and Baroness, and given 24 hours to convert the Baron's ancient car into one with float/fly features.



Once in Vulgaria, the children are captured by the villainous Child-catcher, and Caractacus and Truly team up with the good hearted Toymaker, staging an elaborate birthday surprise for the Baron, culminating in freedom for all!

Vulgarians rejoice, Grandpa joins Boris and Goran in a hot air balloon adventure to Alaska, Truly and Caractacus declare their love for one another, and all break into song! (Actually this happens throughout the show at random times!)

Auditions will be held on the June long weekend, (see page 3 for details), and a full character breakdown can be found on the next page.

As always, there will be full information about the auditions on our website.

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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - Characters and Vocal Ranges

CARACTACUS POTTS: An eccentric English inventor, a loving father and son. His inventions and children are his life.

Male, Not age specific but must look 35+

Range: A3 - G5

TRULY SCRUMPTIOUS: Daughter of the famous candy maker, Lord Scrumptious. Strong and independent, but gentle. Falls in love with Caractacus.

Female, Not age specific but should look 25+

Range: A3 - E5

JEMIMA POTTS: Caractacus's daughter. She is an adventurous, loving girl with a vivid imagination. Female, 8-13 yrs

Range: C4 - E5

JEREMY POTTS: Caractacus's son. An adventurous but sweet boy with a vivid imagination. Male, 8-13 yrs

Range: C4 - E5

GRANDPA POTTS: Caractacus Potts' father, a war hero who loves to tell old war stories to Jeremy and Jemima.

Male, Not age specific, should look over 55

Range: C4 - E5

BARON BOMBURST: Tyrannical ruler of Vulgaria and a lover of toys. A man-child, he is very immature, needy, and whiney.

Male, Not age specific, should look 40+

Range: E4 - E5

BARONESS BOMBURST: Tyrannical and dramatic, hates children. Female, Not age specific, should look 40+

Range: G3 - G5

THE CHILD-CATCHER: Sinister and wheedling, determined to keep Vulgaria child-free. Not age or gender specific.

Could also be in ensemble

THE TOYMAKER: With all children outlawed in Vulgaria, this toy-making genius makes toys only for the child-like

Baron. Smart but frightened. Not age or gender specific

Range: C4 - E5

BORIS & GORAN: Vulgarian spies. Not very bright. Not gender or age specific

Range: C4 - G5 (Boris) D4 - G5 (Goran)

LORD SCRUMPTIOUS: Owner of the Scrumptious Sweet Factory. Extremely busy and self-important.

Male, Must look 55+. Could also be in Ensemble

Many featured roles: Miss Phillips (Receptionist Sweet Factory), Coggins (Junkman), Sid & Violet (fairground couple)

Ensemble (including children): Children, Morris Men (and women), Soldiers, Inventors, Vulgarians, English Crowd

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