

# UPSTAGED

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

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## WELCOME!

We're just coming up to our busiest time of the year - what a busy couple of months we have in store!

Our first show of the year, 'Annie' opens on May 9th, and we're looking forward to an exciting and fun opening night, and hope that many of you will be there to share it with us. Take a look at some of the rehearsal photos on page 5 - it's a great cast and we're sure it's going to be a great show!

If you haven't seen it, the Jetty Theatre has a brand new website with a much-improved booking engine, so you can get online and book tickets at [www.jettytheatre.com/annie](http://www.jettytheatre.com/annie).

Clear your calendars for the social event of the year; this year's Gala Arts Event will be a traditional Aussie Bush Dance, with the well-known band Tallwood providing the music. It's on June 7th, the Saturday after 'Annie' closes, and yes, it's the Saturday of the long weekend - what better way to spend it than with a sausage sizzle and knees up? Full details on page 7, and a poster on page 8 tell you all you need to know. Tickets are on sale now! Feel free to put up the Annie poster as well as the Bush Dance poster and help spread the word.

And just in case you thought you were going to get a weekend off, think again, because the much- anticipated auditions for our next show, 'Hairspray' will be on the following Saturday, June 14th.

Take the time to read all the information provided by the directorial team on page 9, and the character and vocal range information on page 10 & 11. If you still have questions, visit our website and read the Audition FAQ page: [www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedy.com/audition-faqs](http://www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedy.com/audition-faqs). You can also keep in touch with the audition event on Facebook and on CHMCC's own Facebook page.

The information is there to help you be well prepared for your audition - use it.

I'm very excited to be sitting on the other side of the audition table this time, so I will see you there!

**Di O'Ferrall - Secretary**



### USHERS FOR ANNIE

If anyone else would like to volunteer, please send Judi and Di an email to [coffsharbourmcc@gmail.com](mailto:coffsharbourmcc@gmail.com)

### MUSICIANS

We'd particularly like to hear from anyone who could play sax or trombone for Annie. Contact Lyneah Boom on 0421 15636

### HELP TO BUMP IN

If you are willing and able to help lift and carry set pieces into the theatre and assist the set builders in putting it all together, please be at the sheds/theatre on Sunday May 4th at 9 am.

### PRIZE DONATIONS

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

# UPSTAGED

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings all from the Presidential Holiday Suite! Not being involved with our current production, and finding myself with a whole lot of free time on my hands, I have taken up Spontaneity as my new hobby.

I have been to Sydney to see La Boheme (very disappointing), to the Hunter Valley to see Dolly Parton, (who was absolutely AMAZING), moonlighted as a cucumber picker, been to Murwillumbah to see "Two Doors Down" (not a patch on the CHATS production of last year!), brunched and lunched with gay abandon, enjoyed "Nunsense" and "Quartet", and back to Sydney with Di to see the fabulous Bernadette Peters.

Yes I am missing everyone, but I'm also having a blast!

And I haven't been totally theatrically idle either! I have attended the ACCTS AGM on behalf of CHMCC, and was voted in as the Secretary, and I've also had a couple of pre- production meetings with Lisa Jonas and Laura Smith regarding "Hairspray". I am already very excited to whip the ensemble into line!

I am also helping Colin and the rest of the committee in planning our inaugural Bush Dance, to be held in June, and guaranteed to be a rollicking good time for everyone - members, families and friends.

Hope to see you all there!

**Mauz**



**CHMCC President, Maureen Burgess**

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY  
 invites you to the  
**GALA ARTS BUSH DANCE**  
 Featuring  
**TALLOWOOD**  
**BUSH BAND**  
 Saturday June 7th, 2014  
 6.00 pm  
 at  
 The Exhibition Hall - Coffs Harbour Showground  
 \$20 per head (\$50 family of 4, extra children \$5)  
 Includes sausage sizzle - BYO drinks & nibbles  
 Tickets available at Gourmand Ingredients Mon - Fri (cash/cheque only)  
 or online any time at [www.tripbooking.com/81796](http://www.tripbooking.com/81796)  
 for more information visit: [www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com](http://www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com)

# UPSTAGED



## Diary Dates

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company's  
**GALA ARTS BUSH DANCE**  
 featuring  
**TALLOWOOD**  
 Saturday June 7th, 6pm  
 The Exhibition Hall - Coffs Harbour Showgrounds  
 includes sausage sizzle, tea & coffee  
 BYO drinks & nibbles

Adult \$20  
  Family \$50  
  Extra child \$5

**Bush Dance Tickets :** [www.trybooking.com/81796](http://www.trybooking.com/81796)

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



Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company presents



Book by THOMAS MEEHAN    Music by CHARLES STROUSE    Lyrics by MARTIN CHARNIN

Director/Choreographer DONNA FAIRALL    Musical Director LYNEAH BOOM

**Jetty Memorial Theatre**  
**Friday May 9 — Sunday June 1**  
 Wednesdays at 7pm; Fridays at 7pm; Saturdays at 1pm and 7pm;  
 Sundays at 1pm  
 And Thursday May 29 at 7pm

Bookings **6652 8088** or online  
[www.jettytheatre.com/annie](http://www.jettytheatre.com/annie)

Tickets \$36, \$25 (conc), \$30 (Group 10+), \$75 (Family: 2 adults, 2 kids)  
**ALL WEDNESDAY TICKETS \$20**  
 \* Booking Fee Applies \*

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd Exclusive Agents for Music Theatre International (NY)

### AUDITIONS FOR HAIRSPRAY

**DATE:** Saturday June 14th

**VENUE:** Narranga Public School, Robin Street, Coffs Harbour

9 - 10 am – Registration

9 - 10 am - Dance Solo auditions – for Dance Ensemble only

10:15 am - Group Dance auditions – everyone must attend (it will be fun!)

11 am - Singing Auditions (Ensemble and Principals) & brief readings

**CALL BACKS:** Sunday June 15th, 10am, also at Narranga

Join the audition event on Facebook (search for CHMCC's Hairspray 2014)

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

and on page 9-11 of this newsletter

# UPSTAGED

## ANNIE

The buzz in the Annie cast is pretty exciting right now because we are very close to running the whole show!

I have been really impressed at the dedication of this cast and it is exciting to see development and improvement when people find their confidence in a role, their singing, their dancing or even an accent!

Some numbers that are already proving to be highlights are “Hard Knock Life”, “NYC”, “Easy Street” and “Why should I change a thing”, and those are just in Act One!

Our dog “Sandy” has been learning the ropes and the Annie’s have been learning hand signals to direct Sandy, as well as having way too much fun.

The orphans love singing and dancing (when they aren’t doing handstands, cartwheels or leaving a trail of popcorn) and have recently been given homework of getting on their hands and knees to scrub a shower or the kitchen floor.

Colin, Robyn, Jude and a heap of extra people have created some amazing costumes that are going to look fantastic on stage.

Jenny Beatson has been doing an amazing job as Production Manager with the programme, posters, flyers and advertising so keep your eyes open.

Shalla has taken some great photos and I can’t wait to see them in the programme.



**Annie Director, Donna Fairall**

The band have been at several rehearsals (although Lincoln took a short break from rehearsals to get married!!!) and the vocals are sounding great.

Frank, Kerry, Nev and Merv are busy building and painting the set and I always enjoy popping in for a visit and getting some hugs from my favourite fellas.

We have a wheelchair, (thanks Brett Touzel for the re-design), a Mona Lisa and our Ventriloquist Dummy has been found.

This is going to be a great show with fun and enjoyment for the whole family.

We open 9th May and have 20 performances. Make sure you get to see one of them!

**Donna**



# UPSTAGED



*The Director and her Orphans*



*Miss Hannigan just loves the girls in her charge!*  
Jennie Touzel & Amy Hancock



*Lily St Regis & Rooster Hannigan*  
Fiona Stiles & Peter Hodges



*Poor Orphans*  
Ginger, Isla, Grace, Ellie, Grace, Emily, Molly & Amy



*Daddy Warbucks with his secretary, Grace Farrell*  
Beckley Vincent & Emma Goddard



# Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company presents



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Book by  
**THOMAS MEEHAN**

Music by  
**CHARLES STROUSE**

Lyrics by  
**MARTIN CHARNIN**

Original Production directed by Martin Charmin  
Presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols

Irwin Meyer  
Alvin Nederlander Associates

Produced by  
Stephen R Freidman  
The John F Kennedy Centre for Performing Arts

Lewis Allen  
Icarus Productions

Director/Choreographer  
**DONNA FAIRALL**

Musical Director  
**LYNEAH BOOM**

## Jetty Memorial Theatre

**Friday May 9 — Sunday June 1**

Wednesdays at 7pm; Fridays at 7pm; Saturdays at 1pm and 7pm; Sundays at 1pm  
And Thursday May 29 at 7pm

Bookings **6652 8088** or online

[www.jettytheatre.com/annie](http://www.jettytheatre.com/annie)

Tickets \$26, \$23 (conc), \$20 (Group 10+), \$75 (Family: 2 adults, 2 kids)

**ALL WEDNESDAY TICKETS \$20**

\* Booking fees apply \*

Based on "Little Orphan Annie"  
By Permission of The Tribune Media Services Inc

Originally produced by the Goodspeed Opera House



"Annie" is proudly sponsored by Coffs Harbour City Council



# UPSTAGED

## GALA ARTS BUSH DANCE

This year's Gala Arts Event will be a Bush Dance!

Keep Saturday June 7th free for the social event of the year, a traditional Aussie Bush Dance with music from the well-known local bush band, Tallowood.

The venue is not exactly a wool shed but with the help of a few decorations and paintings by Brad Dillon, the Exhibition Hall at the Showgrounds will be transformed in no time!

There will be a sausage sizzle and tea and coffee provided - if you want anything else, feel free to bring it with you! You can also BYO alcohol to consume on the premises.

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

Turn up at 6 for drinks and sausage sizzle - be prepared to start dancing at 7. Dance instruction will be provided for the uninitiated!

Bring the family along - tickets prices are just \$20 each, but a family ticket can be purchased for \$50 and 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 are 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/81796](http://www.trybooking.com/81796).

There is a small booking fee for this service of 30c per ticket.

Turn up in your best country/western/bush dance finery! There will be prizes for the best dressed male and female, best dressed couple, best hat, etc, as well as lucky door prizes.

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 find your inner cowboy!



**Bush Dance Tickets :** [www.trybooking.com/81796](http://www.trybooking.com/81796)

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



*Prizes for the best-dressed!*

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY



invites you to the

## GALA ARTS BUSH DANCE

Featuring

# TALLOWOOD

## BUSH BAND

Saturday June 7th, 2014

6.00 pm

at

The Exhibition Hall - Coffs Harbour Showground

\$20 per head (\$50 family of 4, extra children \$5)

Includes sausage sizzle - BYO drinks & nibbles

Tickets available at Gourmand Ingredients Mon - Fri (cash/cheque only)  
or online any time at [www.trybooking.com/81796](http://www.trybooking.com/81796)

for more information visit: [www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com](http://www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com)



## UPSTAGED

# hairspray

A BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT

Hi everyone! The time has come to get fired up for Hairspray! We are already very excited about the auditions in June and can't wait to welcome you on board.

Really, if you love to sing and/or dance, this show will provide the best of playgrounds for Musical Theatre you can imagine. There are plenty of quirky and fun lead and supporting roles up for grabs and we made sure that every single cast member will receive their chance to shine. But don't worry, we are welcoming people of all skill levels - the main thing is that you have enthusiasm and are motivated, so that we can all enjoy the rehearsal process!

To all those talented dancers who don't like to sing on stage - listen up! You will get to show off your moves as part of our dance-only squad; that's right, no singing necessary. Of course all the singing enthusiasts are also well catered for as part of our principal cast or ensemble! Ensemble people - be prepared to take on several small roles during the show!

This production also represents a fantastic opportunity for CHMCC to encourage cultural diversity. This time around we especially invite performers of African, Aboriginal or Indian descent to audition, as we are in need of Soul!

So if you think you would be perfect to represent the "coloured" and "hip" inhabitants of Baltimore (or if you know anyone who can share his/her soulful voice and sleek moves with the Coffs Harbour audiences - please spread the news!), pick up your courage and join us for auditions - we really don't bite and would be more than happy to meet you! Overall, there will be plenty of Swinging 60s music, infectious dancing & plenty of fun times with our cast and production team, yay!

The auditions will include a quick dance audition for all roles, so make sure you arrive on time. Don't be scared though, it will be a very relaxed warm-up and group bonding ;)

You don't need to prepare anything, as you will learn some simple steps to put your own groove on. Only those who wish to audition for dance-only roles will have to prepare a solo dance number.

Please make sure you check our Facebook page or the CHMCC website for updates. We will also provide audition packages for those who are interested, which will contain songs of the show and some dialogue extracts you can use to get familiar with the characters (especially helpful for people who don't like to read cold and want to prepare).



**'Hairspray' Director & Assistant Director,  
Lisa Jonas & Laura Smith**

You can pre-register for auditions any time by filling out our audition form early (check Facebook/ website, or email us.)

We're on Facebook at 'CHMCC's Hairspray 2014'

We are also happy to announce that Tim Egan has joined our team as band leader, which will secure us a fantastic sound for the show!

Should you have any questions, call or email us directly on [hairspray2014chmcc@gmail.com](mailto:hairspray2014chmcc@gmail.com) and we'll get right back to you!

## Lisa and Laura

Watching the Hairspray movie by Adam Shankman (2007) can be great to get you familiar with the characters and the general spirit of the show. However, keep in mind that the film differs in many aspects from the stage production. If you would like to check out the two songs that are not in the movie, go to YouTube and do a search for "Mama, I'm a big girl now" and "The Big Dollhouse".

## UPSTAGED



Set in Baltimore in 1962, 'Hairspray' grabs the audience right away with possibly one of the best opening numbers in musical theatre: "Good Morning Baltimore", in which we meet our heroine, Tracy Turnblad, a pleasantly plump teenager with big hair and a bigger voice, who loves to dance, and dreams of being a star.

Tracy and her best friend Penny are big fans of 'The Corny Collins Show', a teenage dance TV show, but it's only for white kids; we are still in the days of segregation and the coloured kids get their own 'Negro Day' once a month.

The story is not just one more teenage romance, but has a serious message, as the kids demand an end to racial segregation and try to drag Baltimore, and their parents into the 60's. It's also a story any kid who has ever thought their parents were hopelessly old-fashioned can identify with!

There are also some fabulous roles for people who don't normally fall into the leading man/leading lady formula: girls who don't have to be skinny, boys who don't have to be white, men who don't have to be handsome, and a young girl with the biggest voice of them all!

Tracy's mother Edna is a large, shy woman who takes in laundry for a living and hasn't been out of the house since the 50's, but Tracy's dad Wilbur, who runs the local joke shop, loves her anyway. One of the most heart warming numbers in the show comes when mother and daughter get the full 60's makeover in "Welcome to the 60's".

Other characters include Penny's uptight mother, Prudy, who berates Penny for listening to "coloured music" and the teen star of the show, Amber, and her ambitious mother Velma. All three girls argue with their mothers in another rousing number: "Mama I'm a Big Girl Now".

Tracy's love interest is Link, a teenage heart-throb, and Tracy is already daydreaming about marrying him in the next of her big numbers, "I Can Hear the Bells".

When Tracy auditions for 'The Corny Collins Show', Velma and the 'nice white kids' who make up the show's regular dancers make fun of Tracy due to her weight, and when Tracy states that she's in favour of racial integration, they are horrified.

There is also a chorus of non-white kids, led by a boy with the unlikely name of Seaweed, who ends up falling in love with Penny. Other non-white roles include Seaweed's mother, the larger than life Maybelle, and his sister, Lil Inez, who was rejected at the auditions, despite being the best singer and dancer there.

The second act opens with the entire female cast in jail after a protest in favour of racial integration goes wrong. When Edna is released, Wilbur and Edna comfort each other, in a cute little duet (made extremely comical by the fact that Edna is usually played by a man in drag), "You're Timeless to Me".

When the kids are variously released, rescued or escape, they determine to sneak their coloured friends onto the set of the Corny Collins Show. After various shenanigans, the story ends with the entire cast on the set, Edna popping out of a giant hairspray can, and Tracy being crowned Miss Teenage Hairspray 1962, and a big ensemble number, "You Can't Stop the Beat", in a huge feel-good ending. Shouldn't be too hard, right??

The movie poster above will give you some idea of the characters, and the movie is just wonderful! (Yes, that is John Travolta in the blue outfit!)

Hairspray is a big, bold, brightly coloured feel-good show, with some great 60's music and big dance numbers. However, it is more than just tinsel, as it will hopefully make the audience, and indeed, everyone involved, think twice about how we accept people who are just that little bit different.

We hope we can encourage members of different ethnic backgrounds in our community to get involved, and start with a little racial integration of our own! If you, or someone you know is Aboriginal, or comes from one of our refugee communities, perhaps you could start talking to them about this show, and spread the word.

We're pretty excited about Hairspray!

# UPSTAGED

## HAIRSPRAY - Characters and Vocal Ranges

**Tracy Turnblad** - A "pleasantly plump" teenager, who dreams of fame and fights to racially integrate The Corny Collins Show. Enthusiastic, confident but with a naive, lovable personality. Females of all body sizes will be considered. Dancing required.

Vocal Range: Mezzo belter, G below middle C to E above C. Age: 14 - 20.

**Edna Turnblad** - Tracy's kind, plus-sized mother - this is a drag role. Edna runs a laundry business from her home, and shy and conscious of her weight, she hasn't been out in years. A loving housewife, sincere, not campy. Dance requirement (low difficulty).

Vocal range: Tenor: F below middle C to E above C. Age: 35 - 50. Could be played by a woman if necessary.

**Amber Von Tussle** - Spoiled mommy's girl, the resident princess of The Corny Collins Show. She has a mean streak and is willing to do anything to win the Miss Teenage Hairspray pageant. Dancing required.

Vocal range: Belt: middle C to F above C. Age: 15 - 20

**Velma Von Tussle** - A former beauty queen, Amber's scheming mother and producer of The Corny Collins Show. She wants to make sure Amber wins Miss Teenage Hairspray. Attractive, slim, but controlling, ambitious and ruthless. Dancing required.

Vocal range: Belt: G below middle C to E above C. Age: 30 - 50

**Penny Pingleton** - Tracy's slightly dorky best friend. A funny & likeable character, Penny falls for Seaweed. Dance requirement.

Vocal range: Belt: middle C to G above C. Age: 14 - 20

**Link Larkin** - A teenage heartthrob and one of The Corny Collins Show dancers, was dating Amber but falls for Tracy.

Vocal range: Baritone: E below middle C to G above middle C. Age: 18 - 22.

**Motormouth Maybelle** - The owner of a downtown record shop and the host of "Negro Day" on The Corny Collins Show, self-described as "big, blonde and beautiful". Seaweed and Little Inez's mother. Confident and inspiring mover for racial integration, a big voice with a strong but kind personality. Non-white ethnicity.

Vocal range: Alto: A below middle C to E above C. Age: 35 - 50

**Seaweed Stubbs** - A hip "Negro Day" dancer and the son of Motormouth Maybelle who falls in love with Penny. Cool, attractive, friendly and welcoming to all. Non-white ethnicity.

Vocal range: Tenor: G below middle C to B above middle C. Age: 15 - 21

**Wilbur Turnblad** - Tracy's quirky, loving father, he owns a joke shop and is still madly in love with his wife, Edna.

Vocal range: Baritone: G below C to E above middle C. Age: 40 - 55. Low difficulty dance requirement.

**Corny Collins** - The charming, slick and confident host of The Corny Collins Show, he's a local celebrity with sex appeal.

Vocal range: Tenor: D below middle C to above middle C. Age: 25-45, dance ability a big advantage.

**Little Inez** - Seaweed's younger sister, who tries to audition for The Corny Collins Show but is turned away because she is black. Needs to be a strong singer and dancer, a young talent with an eager and excited nature. Non-white ethnicity.

Vocal range: Belt: middle C to E above C. Age: 12 - 18

**Other female roles** - The Matron guarding The Big Dollhouse (45-60); the Gym Teacher (45-60); and Prudy Pingleton, Penny's overprotective and narrow-minded mother. Could be played by one or more actors.

Vocal Ranges: A below middle C to G above middle C.

**Other male roles** - Mr. Pinky (50-60), owner of Mr. Pinky's Hefty Hideaway; the Principal of Tracy's High School (40-50); and Mr. Spritzer (50-60), the President of Ultra Clutch Hairspray.

**Seaweed's friends** - Talented dancers and/or singers with a passionate and fun attitude. Non-white ethnicity.

2-3 females, 1-3 males, age range 16-20 (or look as though you could be). Any vocal range.

**The Dynamites/The Pinkets** - 3 -4 sassy singer/dancers, inspired by the Supremes. Tight harmony, soulful girl group singers.

Vocal Range: G below middle C to A above C. Non-white ethnicity, double as Seaweed's friends if necessary.

**The Corny Collins Dancers** - Talented dancers with a passionate and fun attitude. Singing not a necessary requirement, but welcomed. 1-2 males and 2-4 females, age range 16-20 (or look as though you could be). Any vocal range.

**Ensemble:** high school students, Baltimore residents, policemen, prison guards. Various ages and vocal ranges.

\* Ensemble roles may include speaking parts.

# UPSTAGED

## CHMCC 2013/14 COMMITTEE

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