

# UPSTAGED

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

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## WELCOME!

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year, it's a bit later than usual but we have been very busy!

Thank you to all those who have renewed your annual memberships already. As a reminder, memberships run per calendar year, and the very low cost of \$10 covers you whenever you volunteer in any capacity, keeps you in touch with social invitations, and of course ensures you get a copy of the newsletter. Your membership fees help pay our annual insurance, and keep us ticking over.

We are now well into the rehearsal period for 'Anything Goes', and after a long and arduous audition process, it's been nice to settle into rehearsals with the wonderful cast that has been assembled, and which includes some wonderful new-comers, as well as some returning old friends and some familiar faces.

You can read all about the show on page 5, and see the full cast list on page 6, along with a couple of rehearsal photos. There's also a poster on page 7 which you can print out and display prominently!

It was nice to see so many of our members at the Christmas party in December, and at the Theatre Fundraiser a couple of weeks ago. This event was a huge success, and if you missed it you can read all about it on page 4.

This edition of the newsletter includes a plea for help from the wardrobe mistress, Judi Williams. Do please get in touch if you can help with costumes in any way. There's always so much to be done, and as always, many hands make light work. I was so impressed with the number of people volunteering to usher for 'Hairspray', I could have filled a roster many times over, and we've had several volunteers to work backstage for this show already. Thank you to all of you.

That's all from me for this month - as ever all the latest photos and news will be on our Facebook page and website. Do spread the word about 'Anything Goes', and we look forward to seeing you all come and support the show.

**Di O'Ferrall - Secretary**



### WARDROBE ASSISTANT

We're looking for someone interested in costumes, who would be able to act as an assistant to the wardrobe mistress, Judi Williams.

Judi needs someone to help her with the storage, labelling and culling of costumes, so that the costume shed is easier to manage and access.

Ideally this would suit someone who is available during the day.

Please call Judi on 6652 1625

# UPSTAGED

## From the President

Hi all!

With an extra warm and special welcome thrown in for our new members. Each new show tends to bring new people into the fold, and it's great to see the Company grow and expand with all these lovely people!

Although a lot of us didn't really have a break over the holiday period, we're well and truly back in work mode now, with rehearsals well under way for "Anything Goes".

For myself, it's a wonderful opportunity to work with my first ever Director for CHMCC, Brian Fitz, alongside many of my old pals including Baz Reilly (Costumier to the stars!) and Judi Williams (A.D.), and also to team up again with Tim Egan (M.D.) and Kate Sevenoaks (Choreography). What a formidable team! Between us and the fabulous cast I believe we will have a Production that truly dazzles. I'm very excited!

As many of you would know, there was an Open Day at the theatre a couple of weekends ago. The aim was both to raise funds for much needed improvements to the theatre, and also to raise awareness of the diversity of activities provided by community groups.

CHMCC had a "homemade" stall, to which many of us contributed all manner of goodies, and we managed to raise \$600 for the cause, which I reckon is pretty bloody impressive! Thank you to the Committee and to those members and friends who contributed goods and who helped out on the day.

Although I don't have confirmation at the time of writing, I believe we raised around \$3,000 overall- quite a tidy sum! The day was extremely well received, and there is talk of making it an annual event.

If you missed out this year, make sure you put the date in your calendar for next year, when it will undoubtedly be bigger and better!

"That's all folks". On with the show!!

**Mauz**

**CHMCC President**



**Maureen Burgess**



# UPSTAGED



## Diary Dates

Upcoming events include:



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



The 7 Sopranos at Saraton Theatre,  
Sun 15 March 2015 3pm  
Saraton Theatre, 99 Prince St, Grafton

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  
JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE  
MAY 8TH - 31ST, 2015  
Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm  
Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2pm  
Bookings: 6652 9088  
or online: [www.jettytheatre.com](http://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 Harold Linsky & Pascal Green  
New book by Timothy Green & John Weidman. Originally produced by Lincoln Center Theatre, New York.

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# UPSTAGED

## Jetty Theatre Fundraiser

On February 8th, members of the community theatre groups under ACCTS assembled at the Jetty Theatre for a highly successful open day and fundraiser.

The aim was to raise awareness in the local community of the theatre and its community groups, and also to raise money for the Trust Fund, which is jointly administered by ACCTS and the Jetty Memorial Theatre, and used to fund improvements to the theatre for the benefit of the community and the user groups.

The CHMCC committee manned and supplied a home-made produce stall, from which we made almost \$600!

We had platters and platters of cakes and shortbread, including Laura Smith's date loaves which sold like, well, hot cakes. Just as supplies were running a little low, we were saved by Liz O'Sullivan, who thoughtfully brought us along a platter of red velvet cupcakes!



If it does become an annual event, it would be great to have more contributions from the membership so that the committee doesn't have to come up with all this stuff by themselves again.

Special thanks to everyone who baked, grew and made stuff for the stall: Pam & Russell Lane, Maureen Burgess, Judi Williams, Di O'Ferrall, Jenny Beatson, Shalla Thomas, Fay Castle, Laura Smith, Jo Uttley & Liz O'Sullivan.

Thanks also to Lewis Hackfath who helped man the stall for a while, and a huge thank you to Brooke Oakley, who volunteered as the photographer's assistant for the whole day!

We ended the day with an open rehearsal for 'Anything Goes', so it was a huge day for all involved!

Di

We had honey (Russell Lane), home made dukkah (Mauz), lemon curd (Di), gourmet salts (Jenny B), home grown produce, and a framed selection of some of Shalla's wonderful photos.

It was wonderful to see so many of our friends and members stop by and buy our wares. Thank you!

There were short performances running all day in the auditorium, with short films, dancers from the Eisteddfod, and a set from the Harbour Lights singers, amongst others.

CHATS had a bling bin and book and CD stalls, and there was photography, face painting and dress ups! The theatre even chipped in by selling off some of the old display posters.

All in all it was a great success, and raised about \$3,600, which will be put to good use in improving the facilities.

CHATS also laid on a sausage sizzle, and Rex Madigan and Marty Elliott reprised their double act from the Christmas Party in serving up some really tasty sausage sandwiches!





The whole story takes place on board ship, and begins prior to the sailing of the SS America bound for England, where a press reporter and photographer are taking photographs of the passengers for the Society section of the newspaper before the ship sails. Various passengers board and have their photo taken with the Captain (Russell Lane), and Purser (Di O’Ferrall).

Of particular interest to the press is Reno Sweeney, (the terrific Billie-Jo Boyden), renowned evangelist-turned-nightclub singer, with her ‘Angels’: Charity, Chastity, Purity, Grace, Faith, Joy, Patience, and a delicious cameo from Dee Tune as Virtue (the easy kind).



Liz O’Sullivan as Mrs Harcourt

Other passengers include Wall Street executive Elisha Whitney (Colin Wilkes), English gentleman Sir Evelyn Oakleigh (Paul McLeod), his fiancée, American debutante Hope Harcourt (Fiona Stiles), Hope’s mother, Mrs. Wadsworth Harcourt (Liz O’Sullivan), Bishop Henry Dobson (Brian Carter), and his two

Chinese converts, Ching and Ling (an amusing duo in Roland Butt & Ray Magri).

We meet our hero, Billy Crocker (Peter Hodges), as he comes aboard to drop off his boss Whitney’s passport. On board he runs into Reno, who is an old friend, and just as the last call for visitors to depart is made, Billy spots Hope, the girl with whom he spent nine hours in a carriage ride around Central Park, and who he has been trying to find ever since. "Are you sailing?" she asks. "You bet I'm sailing" is his reply. And so he does.

There is another celebrity sailing: Moonface Martin, a gambler and "Public Enemy No 13" (a welcome return for Michael Smith). He is hiding out on board disguised as a

Minister, accompanied by his moll, Bonnie (delightful triple-threat Amber Aspinall).

Billy wins Moonface's friendship by mistakenly identifying Bishop Henry Dobson as Moonface to the FBI. The innocent Bishop ends up in the ship's brig. Moonface shows his gratitude by giving Billy a ticket and passport for the trip in the name of Snake Eyes Johnson, "Public Enemy No 1", who had been warned against sailing.

The first evening Billy finds out that Hope is engaged to Sir Evelyn. The aristocrat’s lack of romance and sea legs give Billy an opportunity to be alone with Hope on deck all night. When he gets back to the room he and Moon are sharing the next morning, Billy realises that his boss, Whitney, is their neighbour. In a wonderfully comic turn from both Michael Smith and Colin Wilkes, Moon steals Whitney's glasses, so Whitney will not recognise Billy on board.

Moon finds out that the ship’s Purser is searching for Billy, who she thinks is the real Snake Eyes. In order to warn his new friend that he is in danger, Moonface admits to Billy that he is not a real clergyman and reveals his true identity. Billy decides to disguise himself as a sailor so that he can get close to Hope. He explains his predicament to Reno, and she offers to distract Sir Evelyn; there then ensues a hilarious scene where Reno tries her best to come on to the charming but completely oblivious Evelyn in order for Billy to catch them in the act and thus win Hope for himself.

Meanwhile Billy has to resort to a variety of amusing disguises in order to escape the Purser, but she finally catches up with ‘Snake Eyes’ and Moonface, but rather than throw them in the brig, the passengers celebrate the new celebrity they have discovered in “Public Enemy No 1”.

Sir Evelyn begins to fall in love with Reno. Billy has still not been able to win Hope, who convinces Billy to come clean. Moonface finally confesses he is an impostor, and the two finally end up in the ship's brig.

The two Chinese converts travelling with the real Bishop Dobson are also thrown into the brig for gambling. When Hope tells Billy of her mother's plans to have the Captain marry her and Sir Evelyn within hours, Billy realises he has to escape and stop the wedding.

He and Moonface trick the converts into exchanging clothes with them, and are released from jail disguised as the Chinamen. Billy arrives on deck just in time to prevent the marriage ceremony, and the show ends with love in the air for Hope and Billy, Reno and Sir Evelyn, Bonnie and Moonface, and Mrs. Harcourt and Mr. Whitney.

The only one who is the least bit disappointed is Moonface, who is no longer wanted by the F.B.I!

Tickets are on sale now!

# UPSTAGED

## Anything Goes Cast List

**Reno Sweeney**..... Billie-Jo Boyden  
**Billy Crocker** .....Peter Hodges  
**Hope Harcourt** .....Fiona Stiles  
**Moonface Martin** .....Michael Smith  
**Bonnie** .....Amber Aspinall  
**Mrs Harcourt**.....Liz O’Sullivan  
**Sir Evelyn Oakleigh** .....Paul McLeod  
**Elisha Whitney** .....Colin Wilkes  
**Captain Strong** .....Russell Lane  
**Purser** .....Di O’Ferrall  
**Bishop Henry Dobson** ..... Brian Carter  
**Ching** ..... Roland Butt  
**Ling** .....Ray Magri  
**Steward** .....Nick Price  
**Reporter** .....Russ Richardson  
**Cameraman** .....Lewis Hackfath

**Angels:**  
Donna Fairall  
Lyneah Boom  
Brooke Oakley  
Karlie Hackfath  
Zoe Spooner  
Rebecca Sutherland  
Angela Robinsen  
Dee Tune

**Sailors:**  
Eli Pappas  
Jamie Waqa  
Regan Arnold  
Lewis Hackfath

**Ensemble:**  
Lisa Bunch Triplett  
Fay Castle  
Gail Nelson  
Russ Richardson  
Brian Carter



Choreographer Kate Sevenoaks takes the Angels through their paces in Bonnie’s tap number “The Heaven Hop”

Front & centre is Amber Aspinall as Bonnie

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Directed by BRIAN FITZSIMMONS

Musical Direction by  
TIM EGAN & MAUREEN BURGESS

at the

JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE

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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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## Out of the Closet

As each show progresses we accumulate more and more costumes into our limited shed space. Whilst all are valuable we need to rationalize those costumes that can be easily obtained and those rarer items that are hard to find. Not always an easy juggling act.

The problem demands constant attention as costumes are pulled for the next production and the costumes from the last production are assessed and returned into storage. Obviously this requires someone to do the culling and sorting and this has become a problem.

Similarly for every new show we need to produce specific costumes to create the desired look and this requires someone with basic knowledge to sew, glue or pin costumes together. So in short I am looking for people who would be willing to come to the company shed and help me sort costumes or someone who thinks they would like to be involved in the production of costumes.

If you are such a “wonderful” person please contact me at home on 66 521625 and I can let you know what time we go to the shed (usually Tuesday morning), or let Baz our extraordinary costumier have your details.

You can contact Baz on 6652 1578.

I would love some help so please don't hesitate to call me.

Regards

**Judi**





# UPSTAGED

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