

# UPSTAGED

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

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## WELCOME!

Only another month until Hairspray opens! The buzz around town is fantastic and ticket sales are going really well. You will now start to see some publicity photos in both Focus and the Advocate, but you can get a sneak peek at some rehearsal photos on page 5. Thanks to Shalla Thomas for the photos. You can also print out the poster on page 6 and stick it up somewhere!

As always, we rely on our volunteer ushers and stagehands to help things go smoothly, so if you can lend a hand, please respond to the call outs sent by email, or take a look under the 'Help Wanted' sign on the right. Thank you to the many people who have already volunteered!

I'd also like to let you all know that we will be holding a Strategic Planning Meeting on Saturday October 18th. 'What is that?' you may well ask - well it's an opportunity for you to have a say in the short and long term planning for our company as we put some plans and objectives in place. Please do consider coming along and getting involved - we would love to hear what you think. Full details on page 8.

And now for the exciting news - our 2015 Season!

We've got a nice mix of old and new in our two shows for 2015. We'll be kicking off the season with Cole Porter's 'Anything Goes', to be directed by Brian Fitzsimmons, and winding it up with the fantasmagorical 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', to be directed by Madame President, Maureen Burgess. Take a look at the synopses and other details on page 7 and start making your plans! There are roles for all ages in both shows, and of course there are roles for children in Chitty Bang Bang.

I would also like to give a shameless plug to the terrific Neil Simon farce, 'Rumors' which CHATS will be presenting at the Jetty Theatre from October 8th. Directed by the very capable Emilia Guthrie, this is a very funny play, and one I guarantee you will enjoy. It also features some of our own members, including Dave & Dee Tune, and myself! It's only on until the 19th so get your tickets organised before you miss out.

On another note, our best wishes go to our intrepid set designer, Frank Lilley, who has been unwell lately, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We would also like to recognise the contribution of a member of long-standing, Ron Collingridge, who passed away recently. Many of our members turned out to farewell Ron at his funeral, and we thank you for that.

Hope to see many of you at 'Rumors', followed by 'Hairspray', and we hope that many of you will want to come along and contribute something to the Strategic Planning Meeting.

**Di O'Ferrall - Secretary**



### *Ushers for Hairspray*

If you would like to help with ushering for Hairspray, please email FOH Managers Di & Judi at [coffsharbourmcc@gmail.com](mailto:coffsharbourmcc@gmail.com)

### *Stagehands for Hairspray*

If you would like to help backstage for Hairspray, please email Pam Lane at [pam.lane@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pam.lane@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au)

Thanks everyone,  
we look forward to hearing from you.

# UPSTAGED

## From the President

Joyful greetings all!

Weather is warming up, daylight savings is finally back, and all is well in Love and Theatre!

Firstly, a huge congratulations to Sue Dickinson and Bootlace Productions for clocking up 30 years in Community Theatre. The celebratory retrospective showcase brought back many fond memories for me, and was one of the most enjoyable evenings I have spent at the theatre for some time.

I'm also expecting to enjoy CHATS upcoming production of Neil Simon's outrageous farce "Rumours", featuring our most venerable Di O'Ferrall alongside a top notch ensemble cast. Hope you all get along to see this production, support our fellow thespians, and have a jolly good laugh.

Aside from all this gadding about, rehearsals at Hairspray Central have been getting more intense as opening night rapidly approaches. This has been an extremely challenging production for the cast, who have not only had to master some very tricky vocal harmonies, but also have a huge amount of demanding chorey to learn. I'm particularly impressed by all our "newbies", who I'm pretty sure had no idea what they were letting themselves in for when they innocently turned up to auditions!

I can't wait to see them on stage with all their exuberance and happy dispositions. This is such a fun and uplifting production, and tickets are selling very quickly, so make sure you book them soon because you definitely won't want to miss out!

And finally, our Season for 2015 has been officially announced! Our first production will be the classic Cole Porter's d'lightful "Anything Goes", Directed by Brian Fitzsimmons (1982's "Sweet Charity" and "My Fair Lady"), and for this time next year, "CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG" directed by myself. Sorry for using the shouting letters, but I'm just a little bit excited!

**CHMCC President  
Maureen Burgess**



If you are interested in being involved in either or both of these shows in any capacity, please drop us a line. Both productions are on a grandish scale, and any help is always appreciated.

Hope to see you all at the Theatre!

Yours in Theatrical Pursuits,

**Mauz**

# UPSTAGED



## Diary Dates

Upcoming events include:

CHATS PRODUCTIONS INC.  
By arrangement with ORIGIN Theatrical Pty Ltd  
PRESENTS

# RUMORS

A farce by Neil Simon  
Directed by Emilio Guthrie  
8 - 19 October 2014

8PM - Oct 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18 2PM - Oct 12, 19  
Adults \$25 Conc/Stud \$22 + Booking Fee Groups 10 + \$22  
Sun Oct 12, Wed Oct 15 - all tix \$20

At the Jetty Memorial Theatre  
Bookings: 6652 8088 Box Office Open 12-4pm Tues-Fri  
www.jettytheatre.com.au

Advocate

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company presents

# hairspray

A BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT

Book by Mark Thomas O'Donnell  
Music by Marc Shelton  
Lyrics by Scott Wittman  
Book by Marc Shelton  
Lyrics by Scott Wittman

Based on the New Line Cinema film directed by John Waters  
Proudly sponsored by Coffs Harbour City Council

**Jetty Memorial Theatre**  
Friday November 7 to Sunday November 30  
Wednesdays & Fridays 7:30pm  
Saturdays 2pm & 7:30pm, Sundays 2pm  
Bookings 6652 8088 or online  
www.jettytheatre.com

Tickets \$26, \$23 (conc), \$20 (Group 10+), \$15 Family 2 adults, 2 kids  
ALL WEDNESDAY TICKETS \$20  
\*Booking Fee applies to all tickets

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, Exclusive Agent for Multi-Theatre International Pty

**CHMCC Strategic Plan Meeting**

**Saturday October 18th**  
2pm

**Bowls Room, Club Coffs on West High**

All members are encouraged to come along and take part in a discussion to establish long and short term goals for our company.  
All contributions welcomed

Facilitated by an external facilitator

# SIN SEX & THE CIA

By Michael Parker & Susan Parker  
Directed by Ruth Stuart

**Venues & Dates**

**BONNAYVILLE THEATRE**  
Sat 1 October at 7.30pm  
Sat 2 October at 1.30pm  
Sat 3 October at 7.30pm

**NAMBUCA ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE**  
Fri 11 October at 7.30pm  
Sat 12 October at 1.30pm  
Sat 13 October at 7.30pm

**Ticket Outlets**

THEATRE SEAT: NAMBUCA ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE  
NAMBUCA SEAT: NAMBUCA ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE  
NAMBUCA SEAT: NAMBUCA ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Bookings also available at the door!

**Adults \$20 Concession \$15**

Values Performance art is only one of the things at Nambuca Arts Centre. See us regularly. Bookings: 6652 8088



# UPSTAGED

## hairspray

• A BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT •



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

Hello again everyone!

It's been a hectic few months since auditions and with less than a month until opening night it's getting even busier!

As I write this we are looking down the barrel of a busy 4 weeks of fine tuning including the much anticipated "Boot Camp". This involves 2 weekends of intensive workshops to flesh out the bones of the show and refine the great work our cast has done so far.

Our amazing director has constantly shuffled and re-shuffled schedules to take into account the flu that affected just about every cast member at one time or another but also to ensure that nobody was called to rehearse that didn't need to be, and that our rehearsal time was used to the best effect – we sometimes had 4 groups going at once in the Jetty High School hall – no mean feat with the problematic acoustics!

The ride so far has been an entertaining one – the show is simply hilarious and our gorgeous cast are bringing it alive; we've often been left holding our sides and wiping away tears of laughter during rehearsals. The show does have a serious side though; we've had some beautiful poignant moments and I've certainly been reduced to tears more than once – sometimes just because I am so proud of the hardworking cast and production team.

Some of the songs have been pretty special to learn – all of us know how laborious those hours of breaking down the score and learning our parts can be.

Huge shout out to Mauz who has borne the lion's share of this hard work with her quirky humour, grace and only occasional Tourettes.

Tim Egan has been joining in at rehearsals and I'm chuffed to have someone with such an impressive performance background in orchestra, big bands and musical theatre leading our band and queuing the cast during the run. Between Mauz and Tim all the black dots in the libretto make sense & sound great!

As you know, we've got old faces and new, but every one of them will amaze and entertain you. Come to think of it, some of the old faces may surprise you...

The joy of being involved in a show for me is being part of a cast community which lasts beyond the show itself. We've made new friendships and strengthened old – there's a lot of love and respect; which is definitely a good thing as its going to be a tight squeeze in the green room!

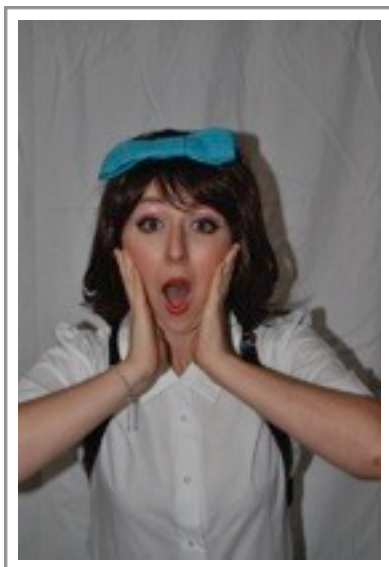
To all our theatre community – we are really looking forward to giving you an amazing show. Be sure to book your tickets now (sales are going great guns already), join our public Facebook page & share it, sign up for the FOH roster and give me a wave in the bio box when you come and see the show!

**Laura**

# UPSTAGED

## hairspray

• A BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT •



Katie Goddard as Tracy Turnblad



Fiona Stiles and EJ Ford as Amber and Velma van Tussle



Billie-Jean Campbell as Maybelle



Paul Smith, Dylan Ashton & Katie Goddard as the Turnblads



Asha Khamis & Kaiyai Doenau as L'il Inez and Seaweed





Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company presents

# hairspray

● A BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT ●

Book by  
Mark Thomas  
O'Donnell Meehan

Music by  
Marc  
Shaiman

Lyrics by  
Scott Marc  
Wittman Shaiman

Based on the New Line Cinema film directed by John Waters

Proudly sponsored by Coffs Harbour City Council



**Jetty  
Memorial  
Theatre**

**Friday November 7  
to Sunday November 30**

Wednesdays & Fridays 7:30pm,  
Saturdays 2pm & 7:30pm, Sundays 2pm

**Bookings 6652 8088  
or online**

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



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

**ALL WEDNESDAY TICKETS \$20**

\*Booking Fee applies to all tickets



Directed by  
*Lisa Jonas*  
Musical direction by  
*Maureen Burgess  
& Tim Egan*  
Choreography by  
*Kate Sevenoaks*

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, Exclusive Agent for Music Theatre International NY

## 2015 Season Announcement

We're excited to announce our season for next year !



### Anything Goes

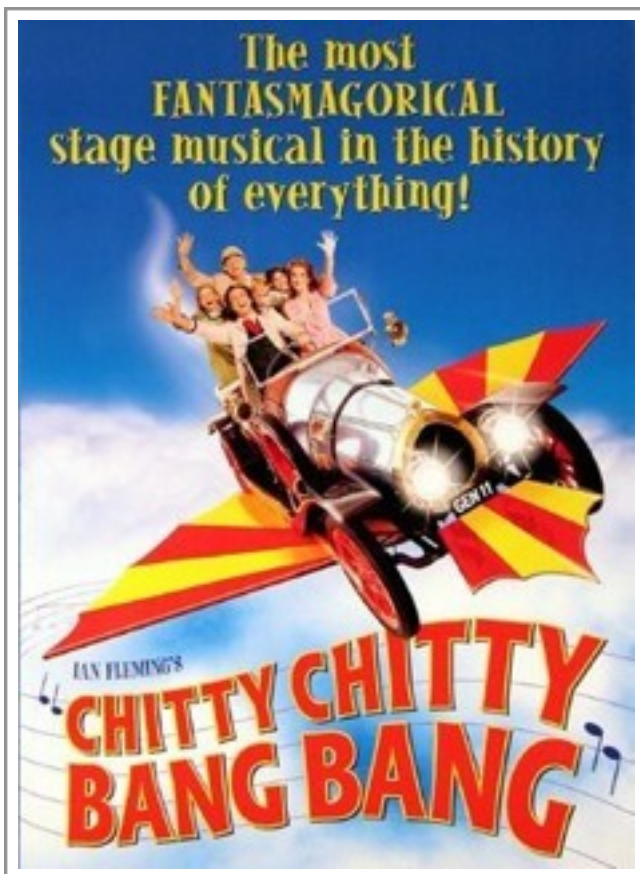
Our first show of the year, in May, will be the fabulous Cole Porter musical, 'Anything Goes', featuring some of his best-loved musical numbers, such as 'You're the Top', 'I get a Kick out of You', and 'Blow Gabriel Blow'.

The show is set entirely on board an ocean liner, where nightclub singer/evangelist Reno Sweeney is en route from New York to England. Her pal Billy Crocker has stowed away to be near his love, Hope Harcourt, but Hope is engaged to the wealthy Lord Evelyn Oakleigh.

A series of madcap romantic entanglements ensue, featuring mistaken identities, disguises, and farcical situations.

'Anything Goes' will be directed by Brian Fitzsimmons.

Auditions will be held in December 2014 or January 2015.



### Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Our second show, for November 2015 is none other than the well-loved family favourite, 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', the story of an eccentric inventor, Caractacus Potts, who, with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima, sets about restoring an old race car from a scrap heap.

Soon, they discover the car has magical properties including the ability to fly. However, trouble occurs when the evil Baron Bomburst desires the magic car for himself. The musical features all the songs you love from the movie, such as 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'Toot Sweets' and 'Truly Scrumptious', but also several new songs written for the stage show.

'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' will be directed by Maureen Burgess, with auditions to be held around June or July of 2015.



# UPSTAGED

## Strategic Plan Meeting

### **CHMCC Strategic Plan Meeting**

Saturday October 18th

2pm

Bowls Room, Club Coffs on West High

All members are encouraged to come along and take part in a discussion to establish long and short term goals for our company.

Please come along and join in the discussion.

We would love to have the participation and contribution of as many members as possible.

There will be an opportunity for some socialising in the bar afterwards!

Facilitated by an external facilitator

## 2014 Stagecraft Conference

In September, Shalla Thomas and I attended the Association of Community Theatre's Stagecraft Conference at NIDA in Sydney.

We attended the Association's AGM, and the key note address by Australia's biggest producer of professional musicals, John Frost. One of his most notable comments was 'never be afraid to lose money!'. Thanks John, we'll bear that in mind!

Between us, we also attended workshops on musical theatre auditions, with Wayne Scott-Kermonde, stage movement and choreography with Nancy Hayes, and copyright and licensing seminars with representatives from Origin Theatrical, Hal Leonard and other licensing agents.

We also attended seminars on OH & S in the theatre, working with children with a representative from the State Office for the Children's Guardian, social media and marketing, and costuming, featuring representatives from Gosford Musical Society and a tour of NIDA third year students' work.

Other workshops we attended included comedy and improvisation, and directing a musical.

As part of the conference, we also attended a dinner, with entertainment provided by Miranda Musical Society.

All in all, it was a most valuable and enjoyable experience.

The conference is held every two years, and the company is happy to sponsor members to go and gain valuable new skills, in technical areas such as lighting, and set/prop design and construction. Let us know if you're interested.

**Di O'Ferrall**



# UPSTAGED

## CHMCC 2013/14 COMMITTEE

### President

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Contact the whole committee by  
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## CONTACT US

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**Website:** [coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com](http://coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com)

**Facebook:** Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company