

UPSTAGED

COFFS HARBOUR MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY

- Welcome.....p1
- From the President.....p2
- Diary Dates.....p3
- Beauty & the Beast.....p4



- Young Frankenstein.....p5
- Young Frankenstein Cast List.....p6
- The Secret Garden.....p7
- Musomatch.....p8
- Contact Details.....p9

WELCOME!

We can now officially say we've 'done' Disney! And what a show it was! The curtain fell on a sold-out audience, lots of happy theatre goers, and many little girls who were thrilled to have their photo taken with Belle. Thanks are due to the ever-patient Fiona Stiles who gave her time to so many children at the end of each performance.

Thanks also to everyone who came to see the show, and to the many people who helped with costumes, back stage and Front of House - we couldn't have done it without you!

A special mention also for the wonderful orchestra, "Team Band", namely Peter Kaukiainen, Maureen Burgess, Nerida Lee, Chris Gooley, Bruce McDougall, and Ursula Cooper, who handled the complex score with verve and aplomb!

No sooner was one show closed than planning began for the next. As we have an April slot at the theatre next year instead of the usual May, we have had to get the wheels rolling almost immediately, with publicity already starting, and auditions being held the weekend after the last performance of Beauty and the Beast. It was quite a reasonable turnout, given that it was so soon, with interest from many new young people, and lots of different people getting a chance to shine. See page 6 for the full cast list.

We can confirm that our production of 'Young Frankenstein' will be an Australian premiere! Being only 6 years old, the show has never been performed in Australia before, and we will be the first!



With auditions over, and casting finalised, we're into the Christmas season! The Jetty Theatre is throwing an end-of-season Christmas party, and all the community groups and their members are invited! It's on Thursday December 20th, 6pm at the theatre.

There is also a chance to be involved with the Carols by Candlelight this year, on Saturday December 22nd,

with the music being led by Peter K and Mauz - who else?! Several of our members are involved in the choir, and we hope to see many familiar faces in the crowd. See Diary Dates on page 3 for details of both these events.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, old and new, a very happy Christmas.

Di O'Ferrall - Secretary



Musicians

Please send us an email to coffisharbourmcc@gmail.com if you would like to play in the band for Young Frankenstein.

Sewing

Please also let us know if you would like to volunteer to help with costuming for Young Frankenstein.

Gala Arts Ball

Please call Colin Wilkes on 6651 3676 if you would like to get involved with organising the 2013 Ball, which will be held sometime in May next year, after Young Frankenstein closes.

UPSTAGED

Wow, this time last year I was a young, sprightly 49 year old, full of hope and joy and wide eyed wonderment at all the myriad possibilities of my life ahead, and now....well just look at me! If my friends could see me now they would surely in chorus proclaim, where have all the good times gone? Where is the lily that once bloomed so brightly?

What a year it's been, starting off not so well in having to replace "A Chorus Line" with "Sweet Charity". But one of the strengths of this company is its ability to really band together when necessary, and we certainly did that with Charity, producing a thoroughly entertaining show that brought back some of our past members (in particular Cath Beynon), and also some fantastic new talent into the fold.

We again put on our Arts Ball, and although it was tinged with sadness due to the loss of Denise Knight's father only days before, we still managed to put on a wonderful evening of dance and music. Keep an eye out for this years extravaganza, pencilled in for late May '13.

We also mourned the loss of several of our theatre family this past year; Mary Snowball, Bill Woods (a gentleman and much loved supporter of community theatre), both Rosie and Brian Gooley and the irrepressible Chrissy McNichol. Many tears shed, but many, many happy memories left as their legacy.

In the greater theatrical community, through ACCTS, we seem to have finally made some major breakthroughs with Council in respect of the running of the Jetty Memorial Theatre. We have an extremely hard working and amenable person at the helm in Dave Brammah, and some of the rights that we fought long and hard for, and which had been steadily taken from us, are finally being returned, in a large part due to Dave's common sense and desire to encourage community theatre to flourish.

What can I say about "Beauty and the Beast"? Where to start? Although I cringe just to be thinking it, let alone writing it, what a journey! The costumes, the acting, the sets, the music, the camaraderie, the audience reaction to every performance, the total commitment from everyone involved. The whole event was a truly magical experience, and one that will live with all of us for many years to come. Congratulations to Donna Fairall (what a Directorial debut!), and to everyone involved in this incredible adventure. Boy, wouldn't you hate to be the Director to follow that?.....

Ha ha, yes it's me, I am that fool. As most of you would know, casting for the AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE of "Young Frankenstein" is pretty much finalised, and I am absolutely thrilled and excited. And let's face it, also terrified. As those who attended the auditions and callbacks or who are familiar with the "story" would know, it is totally, ridiculously, pants wetting hilarious, but there are also a crazy number of extremely challenging musical numbers and a few little dance numbers also. Getting this together will require relentless rehearsals, sweaty, hard work, total commitment, patience, and hard work, did I mention that?

I seem to have cast 10 more than I had originally intended (woopsies!), and will need some serious help with costumes. Colin has offered to be my consultant, but he is too busy (and he needs a break!) to help with the sewing, so PLEASE, if you have any sewing skills, even basic ones, or know anyone that might be able to help, get in touch. I need to make a start on them tomorrow, if not sooner.

Well I think that's 2012 in a very tiny nutshell. To the directors, Chris Gooley, Judi Williams, myself, Dave Tune (assistant on SC), Donna Fairall, and to each and every one involved in our 2012 season, THANK YOU, a thousand times thank you.



CHMCC President, Maureen Burgess

And now we forge ahead with 2013 with our two very diverse productions, "Young Frankenstein", directed by myself (Russell Lane assisting), and "The Secret Garden", directed by Dave Tune, (Dee Tune assisting).

To all CHMCC members, families and friends, I wish you every happiness in the holiday (there's a misnomer!) period, and look very much forward to the next year's offerings!

Loving regards,

Mauz

Now let me think....we did Sweet Charity, and then.....that's right, there was a little fairy tale....

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Diary Dates

Upcoming events include a Christmas concert at the Jetty Theatre, the Theatre's Christmas party, and Carols by Candlelight, led this year by Peter Kaukiainen.

Our sister company, CHATS Productions, will be holding auditions for David Williamsons' "Brilliant Lies" at the Mud Hut Sunday 16th Dec 1.30pm.

Coffs Harbour Arts Council will be presenting a Christmas concert at the Jetty Memorial Theatre
Saturday 15th Dec at 7.30pm and Sunday 16th at 2.30pm.
The first half of the event will be a Christmas Variety show featuring some of our members, amongst others, followed by Carols by the North Coast Performing Arts Association and brass band.



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Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Well if we do say so ourselves - what a fabulous show it was!

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it such a success - to the musicians, the cast, the backstage and technical crew, front of house, sewers, set builders, painters....the list is endless! And of course, thank you to the Director, Donna Fairall, for putting her heart and soul into the show for many months, and still being her sunny self at the end of it all!

It takes many many people and many months to put a show together, especially one as big as Beauty and the Beast, and we are fortunate to have so many members who will put their hands up to help whenever we ask. Thanks also to the many parents who drove their children to endless rehearsals, and still sewed costumes and came to more than one performance!

I'd especially like to thank some people without whom it would be very difficult to commit to such a huge undertaking - all the husbands, wives, partners, children and parents of those in the cast, who put up with our endless absences and occasional crankiness! We quite literally couldn't do it without your love and support at home. So to all of you - thank you.

The Disney Proposal



Jo Hay & David Anderson, who got engaged on stage with a little help from their theatre friends.

There are too many photos to include in this newsletter as it makes the file too large for email. Visit the website to see more wonderful photos from the show:
www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com



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April 12th - May 5th 2013

IT'S ALIVE!

From the creators of the record-breaking Broadway sensation 'The Producers', comes this monster new musical comedy!

A wickedly inspired re-imagining of the Frankenstein legend based on Mel Brooks' classic comedy film from the 1970's, the story follows the young Dr. Frankenstein, (that's Fronkensteen!), as he first rejects, and then embraces his grandfather's legacy.

Together with his oddly-shaped and endearing manservant, Igor, his curvaceous lab assistant Inga, and in spite of his incredibly self-obsessed madcap fiancée Elizabeth, Frankenstein succeeds in creating a monster -- but not without scary and quite often hilarious complications!

The script is hilarious, in typical Mel Brooks irreverent style, and the score is musically and vocally rich, with a recognisable Broadway sound. It's comedically, and musically ambitious, and features some memorable musical numbers, such as "The Transylvania Mania," "He Vas My Boyfriend" and "Puttin' On The Ritz,".

This show features some memorable characters, but also gives the ensemble a chance to show their strength, being involved in sixteen musical numbers, and also provides an opportunity for some different members of the company to shine in principal roles.

We promise you a thoroughly entertaining, belly-laughing, musically rich experience!

Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan, Music and lyrics by Mel Brooks. By permission of Hal Leonard Australia

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Young Frankenstein - Cast List

PRINCIPALS

Dr. Frederick Frankenstein	Ainsley Corbett
Igor.....	Peter Hodges
Frau Blucher	Di O'Ferrall
Inga	Rebecca Riches
Elizabeth Benning	Lauren Wright
The Creature.....	Dave Tune
Inspector Kemp/The Hermit	James Hall
Ziggy, the Village Idiot	Phillip Ranieri

ENSEMBLE

Casey Woodhouse, Dee Tune, Fay Castle, Gemila Burgess, Danielle Bienefelt, Liz O'Sullivan, Billie-Jean Campbell, Laraine Crossland, Isabella Addison, Lisa Triplett, Jessica Young, Sara Smith, Brenda Smith, Brian Carter, Jamie Waqa, Geoffrey Brand, Jacob Moye, Eli Pappas, Kodi Graham, Toby Wood, Paul Smith Jnr, Ben Pritchard

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The Secret Garden

November 8th - December 1st, 2013

This enchanting classic of children's literature is brought to life as a musical by composer Lucy Simon and the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Marsha Norman. The show premiered in London in 1991, and won 3 Tony awards, including one for the 11 year old Daisy Eagan as Mary Lennox.

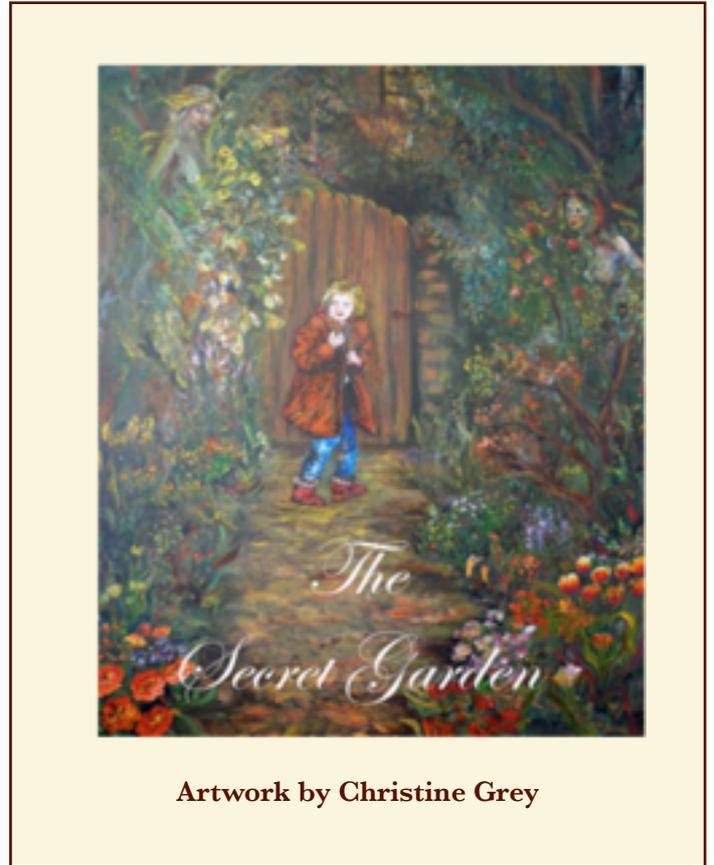
Orphaned in India, 11 year old Mary arrives in Yorkshire as the ward of her strange, embittered uncle, who still longs for his long-dead wife.

The huge empty house has a sad history, and holds a secret. Ghosts from Mary's past wander the halls and gardens, and many of the initial haunting melodies are sung by these spirits, or dreamers.

Left largely alone, except for the company of Martha, a warm-hearted Yorkshire housemaid, Mary turns to the garden and grounds, making friends with the gardener, and a strange boy, Dickon, who can charm all manner of birds and creatures, shows her how to bring life to the neglected garden.

When Mary meets her invalid cousin Colin, the children, both motherless, are a comfort to each other and become firm friends. Mary introduces Colin to Dickon, and the secret garden, and the children learn how to love and laugh again.

The awakening of the garden in Spring is seen alongside the new life Mary brings to both Colin and his father, changing their lives forever, and bringing them together in the touching finale.



Artwork by Christine Grey



David Tune, Director,
The Secret Garden

Report from The Secret Garden

Well, Donna has set the bar very high for first time Directors, with Beauty and the Beast being a magnificent show. The pressure is on, and the nascent production team for The Secret Garden have been working away at lots of different areas of planning for the show.

As you can see we now have our own original artwork (from local artist and performer Christine Gray), and much thought has been going into set design concepts as well as costume solutions.

With Young Frankenstein now cast and under way, the pressure is on to be ready to go with an information evening and auditions (not to mention some promotional work) as soon as practicable after its final performance.

In the meantime, if you have any queries about The Secret Garden, would like to hear some of the songs, see some of the score or just want to talk about the show, please feel free to ask either Dee or myself via email, facebook, phone or anytime you see us.

David Tune



New musician's website for the Australian music community

FOR musicians that have tried without success to find band members, local facilities, lessons, venues and more, a new Australia wide website, launched from Coffs Harbour could be just what they've been looking for. Conceived by Nick Townsend – a muso himself – after a long and fruitless search for like-minded musicians, the new site brings together musicians of any age, genre and skill level in one centralised space.

www.musomatch.com.au provides a simple, streamlined and easy-to-use online directory of people who play and teach music or provide services to musicians and the music industry.

Launched from Coffs Harbour last month, as a concept 'start up' website, it's attracting members locally and growing to expand Australia-wide. Nick says when fully populated, the site will be able to offer a myriad of services to the local music industry, bringing together small communities nationally on one site.

"It is free to register, open to kids and adults alike, where members can search to find like-minded people who are interested in forming or joining bands, collaborating or just networking," he said.

"All genres will be catered for, from classical to folk, jazz to rock, punk to metal and everything in between. Whether you're a novice seeking some contacts to form a group or an experienced muso looking for a band member or just looking around, you're certain to make some valuable contacts via Musomatch."

Along with musicians and performers, Musomatch will soon list rehearsal spaces, recording studios, music teachers, music stores and venues. The site will also promote special music-related offers and events, and includes a classified section for instrument sales and purchase.

"The website has been well received and already is building valuable connections, and as the site is freely available on the Internet, it is expected that the user base will grow through word of mouth throughout the Mid North Coast area and eventually nationally, providing all users, performers and advertisers with an ever-expanding base of contacts. It's a very exciting venture" said Nick.

"There are other websites that do some of these things, but Musomatch aims to be focussed solely on musician connections and services, being the No 1 site to go to for all Musos."

"Sign up - Log in and Plug into the Muso network for Australia" is the catch line.

Nick is inviting all local and national music-related businesses to support the initiative through advertising on the site, providing a win-win situation where advertisers directly reach their targeted audience quickly, cheaply, efficiently and with maximum impact.

For information, email info@musomatch.com.au or visit the site and use the contact form provided.



Contact Details

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company, PO Box 1466, Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450

Email the whole committee at coffsharbourmcc@gmail.com.

Contact details for individual committee members are listed below.

You can also contact us via our website:

www.coffsharbourmusicalcomedycompany.com.



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