



Newsflash! Gosford Musical Society Newsletter

A friendly and family oriented society of performers and theatre lovers just like you

SEPTEMBER 2015

President's message



Well here we are heading into our last show for the year and congratulating all involved in our previous four shows on a wonderful year to date. Best of luck to all those doing their HSC – I'm sure you will all be successful and achieve the opportunity to move forward in your lives on a path of your own choosing.

Our thoughts have been with **Di Rumsey** who recently suffered the passing of her father.

Congratulations to **Chris Hilderbrande** who was recently married in Fiji. Chris has been around GMS for many years and we wish him and his new wife lots of love and happiness for the future.

The following is a letter which the Committee received in **January of 2011**. It relates to the first really bad lot of flooding in Queensland. The letter is from **Aaron Carey** who was at the time, one of our GMS juniors who had been in many shows. He expressed his concern at the damage caused in Queensland. As a result of the letter GMS made a donation to Ipswich Musical Society who suffered considerable damage to their scenery, sets and costumes. They were extremely grateful for the assistance we provided.

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Dear Mrs English

I am very disturbed by the destruction caused by the Queensland floods.

I would love to help them, and my idea is that all the proceeds from the Beauty and the Beast show are donated to this cause.

If you like my idea can you please ask the G.M.S committee if this is possible, I know all the other kids in the show would like to help the flood victims too.

Yours Faithfully
Aaron Carey

Congratulations to **Casey Thompson** (currently masquerading as Mary Poppins). Casey's fiancé Jared popped the question with an amazing engagement ring recently. How exciting for everyone.

Casey has been in four junior shows - *Pantoland*, *Peter Pan*, *Jungle Book*, and *High School Musical* and senior shows including *Shout!*, *Oklahoma*, *Anything Goes*, and *Grease*. She was Assistant Director in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

Best wishes Casey from all of us.



GMS recently held a Special Meeting of members to ratify the updated GMS Constitution. Thanks to those members who took the time and interest to attend the meeting. The new Constitution was ratified with one amendment. Thanks to **Steve Higham** and his team for all this hard work. The new Constitution should be published on the GMS website shortly.

The GMS Handbook is currently being revised and updated. It is expected to be completed prior to the Annual General Meeting (17 November 2015). Again, it's thanks to Steve Higham and his team for the hard work and research to ensure compliance of our governance and documentation.



Hmmm, who is this lying down on the job? Funny way to read your lines Steve!!

It is unfortunate that *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* has been withdrawn from availability. So we are now seeking a replacement show for the middle of next year. We will have news of this shortly. I can also confirm that I have applied for the rights for *Wicked* and we are expecting to hear any day now. This is to be the last show for 2016.

Cheers 🎵 Ros

Show time



Mary Poppins – “Something is brewin’ and about to begin’! The hard working production team led by Director **Chris King** and the amazing cast are almost ready to take flight and land on stage at the Laycock Street Community Theatre.

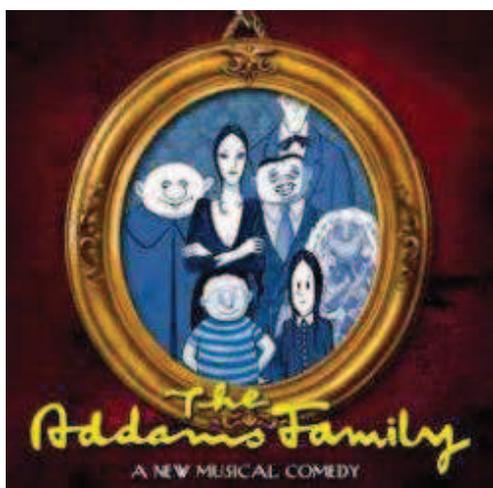
The show opens in less than a month on 23 October with tickets to the opening and closing nights almost sold out so don’t hesitate to get your tickets to this supercalifragilisticexpialidocious show!

The show runs from 23 October to 14 November 2015 and is bound to ‘sweep’ you off your feet!

The Little Mermaid – Director **Jess King** and her production team report that all is going well and is on track to deliver the first GMS Juniors show for 2016.

A full list of this very talented cast is available on the GMS website.

Tickets are already on sale with the show running from 9 to 16 January 2016 – so if you want to get ‘under the sea, darlin’ it’s better down where it’s wetter’ then make sure you take the plunge and buy your tickets to this great show.



The Addams Family – congratulations to **Daryl Kirkness** and his talented production team for being selected to direct and deliver this creepy and kooky musical.

The information night will be held on Thursday 8 October 2015 in the Don Craig room of the Laycock Street Community Theatre.

Auditions will be held on 2 and 4 November 2015. Keep an eye on the GMS website for further information.

Society news



Congratulations to Callum Hobson

Wow – Society News doesn't get much bigger than this! Congratulations to GMS' own **Callum Hobson** (Michael Banks in the upcoming GMS production of *Mary Poppins* in October and November 2015). Callum recently announced that he was successful in being selected to play Gavroche in the professional production of *Les Miserables* currently playing in Sydney. He had his first night on stage on Friday 25 September.

Callum will also be touring with the show in Brisbane and may even be part of the tour of Asia. What a star!

Director's for first two 2016 shows

The GMS Committee held a Director's night in August for *The Little Mermaid* and *The Addams Family*.

Congratulations to **Jessica King** who will be directing *The Little Mermaid* and to **Daryl Kirkness** who will be directing *The Addams Family*. Both look like being great shows not to be missed!

Updated GMS Constitution Adopted

A Special Meeting of Members was held on Tuesday 22 September 2015 in the mirror room. A Special Resolution to adopt the updated Constitution was passed at the meeting. See page 5 of this newsletter for information on the changes to the GMS Constitution.

Psst – got something to say or tell us?

If you have any news, stories or ideas for the GMS newsletter, please send us an email at: gmsnewsflash@gmail.com



Name the shows that feature the following songs:

1. Big Spender
2. As Long as He Needs Me
3. Luck Be a Lady
4. Little Girls
5. Tomorrow Belongs to Me
6. I Get a Kick Out of You

Now for the hard ones!

7. Corner of the Sky
8. Giants in the Sky
9. Knight of the Woeful Countenance
10. Madam Guillotine

(Answers on the last page)

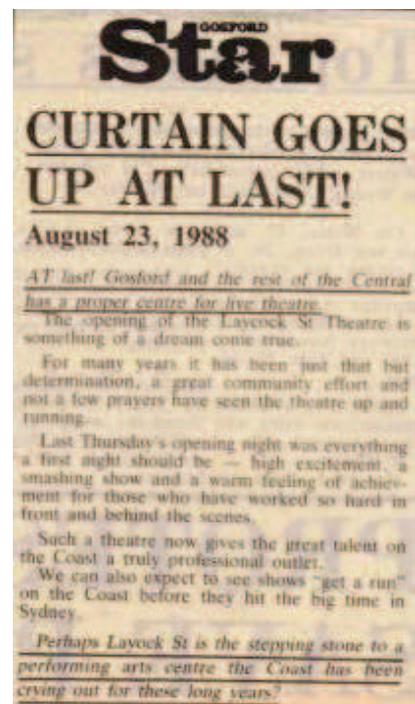
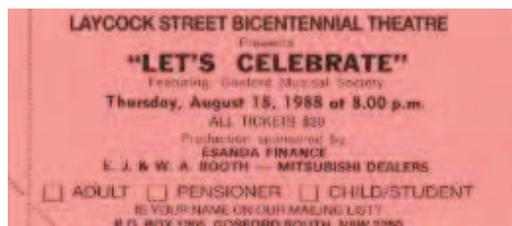
A blast from the past

The Building of the Laycock Street Community Theatre

From *The Visual History of GMS* by resident historian Darryl Davis

The creation of a local theatre in Gosford was one of the main goals of the historic **1947 Gosford Musical & Dramatic Society**. GMS was a long-time advocate and driving force in the building of *Laycock Street Bicentennial Community Theatre* which opened on 1 September 1988.

The first production in the theatre was the GMS **Let's Celebrate** which featured a cast of over 100 onstage performers as well as our own orchestra in its new home, "the pit".



Did you know? *Hints, tips and things you should know to be part of a GMS show*

New GMS Constitution - GMS has an updated Constitution. The main changes to the Constitution are:

- ❖ Clarifies that membership is due on 1 January and is valid until 31 December
- ❖ Two open meetings of the Committee will be held each year where Members can place items on the agenda for discussion. An open meeting will take place immediately following the AGM (i.e. on the same night as the AGM) and a mid-year meeting will be held in June or July.
- ❖ Business conducted at an AGM will be restricted to confirming the minutes of the previous AGM; receive reports on society activities over the year; elect office bearers; and receive a financial report. There will be no general business conducted at the AGM – this will occur at the open meeting following the AGM.
- ❖ Outlines that a person ceases to be a member of the Society if the person fails to pay the membership fee within 1 month of the fee being due (previously this was within 3 months of the fee being due).



Getting to know you – Ken Hind GMS Vice President and Life Member

Each newsletter we will profile a GMS Committee member or Society member so you get to know them just that little bit better

Number of years with GMS

I have been with GMS since 2001 when my youngest (Jess) was cast in her first show “**Les Mis**”.

Committee role and portfolios

Portfolios are: Stage Management Liaison, LCST Technical Liaison, GMS Programs (including obtaining approvals for marketing material and programs from license holders of works we perform).

A summary of the key shows you have been part of (onstage or offstage)

My only role with GMS on stage was in **Shout!** My line was very difficult to remember, after many trying nights at rehearsals (I was also the ASM) I finally got it right! The line was “CUT” (in a very loud voice as I was not mic’d).

I have been involved backstage in over 40 shows many as Stage Manager but have covered all areas of backstage and pre-production roles. The one that I enjoyed the most (mainly because of the very professional cast and all of the special effects that we used) was **CATS**, although every show holds some special memories (it’s just a shame that I can’t remember most of them!!)

What is your favourite musical and why?

As I said above it would have to be **CATS**, not only because GMS performed it but it was one of the few shows I had seen in Sydney prior to getting involved in GMS.

Musical you would love to see GMS do and why?

Les Miserables. I would love to see this done again given the improvement in our ability to give these big shows justice. I’m not taking away from the staging done previously as this was fantastic but I think in today’s environment we could do it even better.

Three things people may not know about you

I have been involved in three other volunteer organisations prior to getting involved with GMS. First as a volunteer bush fire brigade member for about five years finishing up as Deputy Captain, second as a patrolling member of Ocean Beach Surf Lifesaving Club and third as a member (as well as Life Member and President) of the Gosford City Hockey Club where I played several years in 1st Grade.

I know I was only asked for three but as a young boy was also a member of the Central Coast swimming squad competing at state trials and held the ACT backstroke record for my age (13 years and under) up until about 20 years ago...

Best thing about being part of GMS

The life-long friends that you make.

Want to join the GMS Minstrels?

The GMS Minstrels are looking for new members. If you enjoy singing, moving and the company of like-minded members then the Minstrels are for you! If you are interested please email gosfordmusicalsociety@gmail.com

GMS tours

Did you know that GMS holds regular tours of the Shed, GMS Costumes and Laycock Street Community Theatre for interested members of the community?

The tour includes a welcome at GMS Costumes, a guided tour of wardrobe, props, the sewing room, the shed and a backstage tour of the theatre. The tour starts at 10am and concludes at about 12 noon when Devonshire tea is served! The cost of the tour is \$10 per person.

To enquire about taking a tour, please call Lesli or Narelle at GMS Costumes on 4324 1305

Trousers too long?

Are you in need of a dressmaker for mending or alterations? Just call into the GMS Costumes shop and we'll try and assist you. Very reasonable prices! For further information, call Lesli or Narelle on 4324 1305



The Quiz answers

1. Sweet Charity
2. Oliver
3. Guys & Dolls
4. Annie
5. Cabaret
6. Anything Goes

The hard ones:

7. Pippin
8. Into the Woods
9. Man of La Mancha
10. The Scarlet Pimpernel