



Gosford Musical Society

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

President's Message



Hello and Happy Easter. Hope you are all enjoying the change in the weather with this beautiful sunshine.

It's a huge "Congratulations" to everyone involved with **Evita**. What a huge success. Absolutely brilliant lighting on a simple set with a wonderful cast and great music. What more could we need. Well done.

However, in true GMS style, we move on and are now in rehearsal for **Bring It On** with the juniors and **Young Frankenstein** for the middle senior show. Both these productions should be fantastic – **Bring It On** being a more 'senior' junior show with the age lifted to 19 because of cast needs. If you loved **Spamalot** and **The Producers** (and what's not to love), then make sure you line up to buy tickets for **Young Frankenstein**. It's hilarious and as a YF nerd, I just can't wait.

I would like to let you know how hard your Committee is working. We are working on acquiring grant funding for No.18 The Studio over the road and also on funding to do a renovation of the wet areas (bathrooms and toilets) and kitchen. We are also having the roof fixed – we found so many leaks during all the recent heavy rain. And we are buying a new bubbler for The Shed. We are also working on upgrading our documentation with roles and responsibilities and governance – Code of Conduct and other policies.

Don't forget to save the date of 16 September for our 70th birthday celebrations. Look out for this logo in lots of places.

If you are interested in helping out please give me a call on 0428 691 010. The function will be held at the Central Coast Leagues Club as a sit down dinner – formal attire (black tie). GMS Costumes is offering discounts to those who would like to hire formal wear for the occasion. Rosie Ross has put it on social media and there is already a significant amount of interest. How exciting. Thanks Brenda Donnelly for keeping us on track with what has to be done.

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The Show Selection Committee has been working hard too – we are meeting again on 24 April to make the final cut of suggested shows for the 2018 program to present to the Committee for approval. There are some interesting options for 2018. Thanks to Darryl Davis for chairing that Committee and ensuring all the appropriate research is done.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who make GMS wheels turn. The volunteers in GMS Costumes (and Ina B), the sewing team in wardrobe, to the catering team and all the Tuesday “workers in The Shed”. Thanks to Daryl Kirkness for the hours he puts in to GMS. Thanks to the new properties team, who are sorting out the upstairs area. Thanks to Karen Snook for organising the dance classes on Tuesdays.

Where would we be without our volunteers?

Cheers 🎵
Ros English



GMS Costumes recently purchased a new ironing board which extends extra high to suit our taller volunteers. The ladies in the costume shop are clearly in love with the new purchase.

Young Frankenstein principal cast announced



July
+ August 2017

FRIDAY 28 JULY // 8pm
SATURDAY 29 JULY // 2pm
SUNDAY 30 JULY // 2pm
FRIDAY 4 AUGUST // 8pm
SATURDAY 5 AUGUST // 2pm, 8pm
SUNDAY 6 AUGUST // 2pm
FRIDAY 11 AUGUST // 8pm
SATURDAY 12 AUGUST // 2pm, 8pm

DIRECTOR Kerrie Rochford
MUSICAL DIRECTOR David Kimpton
CHOREOGRAPHER Lacey Lyons
PRODUCTION MANAGER Greg Quoy

GMS recently held auditions on 26th March to cast the principal roles for our next senior production, *Young Frankenstein* which will take to the stage in July 2017. Kerrie Rochford, the director for *Young Frankenstein* was thrilled with the level of talent displayed at the audition and together with her team Kerrie is delighted to announce the leads for *Young Frankenstein*.

PRINCIPAL CAST LIST

DR. FREDERICK FRANKENSTEIN Chris Gracia
THE MONSTER Dylan Crawford
IGOR Declan Dowling
INGA Evelyn Luck
ELIZABETH BENNING Sally Loughnan
FRAU BLUCHER Rose Cooper
INSPECTOR HANS KEMP Chris King
HAROLD THE HERMIT Darryl Davis
DR. VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN Geoffrey Buckland

Auditions for the ensemble will be held on Sunday 23rd April 2017 in the Mirror Room of Gosford Musical Society, Laycock Street, North Gosford 2250. For additional information please email the Production Team at yfgms2017@gmail.com for audition forms and audition/show information.

Note: Anyone who auditioned for a principal role and indicated that they would like to be considered for the ensemble will not be required to audition again on the 23rd April, but will be part of the selection process which will determine the final ensemble group.

Evita closes on a rainbow high



Gosford Musical Society has continued its solid start to 2017 with a fabulous production of *Evita*, achieving very strong attendance figures over its three-week season.

Gareth Davis, the director for *Evita* clearly assembled a very strong team of artists and performers around him. From the cast to the orchestra, the costumes to the choreography – everything was *en pointe*.

Kasey McKenzie delivered a powerful performance as the First Lady of Argentina, Eva Duarte Peron and brought tears to the eyes of many with her delicate handling of the heartbreaking song *You Must Love Me* and her final *Lament*.

Tyson Almond played the narrator Che and delivered excellent performances night after night in what is considered by many to be a vocally and physically demanding lead role.

Chris Martin brought a real sense of authority to his portrayal of President Juan Peron and impressed equally with his strong vocal talents.

Not to be outdone though were Gareth Isaac as the tango singer, Magaldi and Jessica King as Peron's Mistress. Whilst their roles in the show may have been brief, neither of them failed to dazzle our audiences with their respective songs, *On This Night of a Thousand Stars* and *Another Suitcase in Another Hall*.

For this particular musical theatre-lover however, the most inspiring thing to come out of this production was the art direction and set design. Stuart Smith was responsible for much of the work in this area, and the influences of Czech Scenographer, Josef Svoboda were clearly evident. Stuart worked very closely with David Rowe to construct a set that was largely static in nature and which required very little in the way of physical manoeuvring. The set was brought to life through the stunning use of lighting and projections to capture the mood of each scene. From the use of red, white and green lighting to capture Eva's tour of Italy for example, to her final walk towards the light as she was dying, the poetic use of lighting and projections was clearly visible for all to see, and it clearly showed the strong technical capabilities of Dean Harrington and the technical staff at Laycock Street Community Theatre.

This production of *Evita* was clearly spectacular and one which will be remembered for many years to come. A massive thank you and congratulations to all involved with this production.

Scott Goodacre

EVITA

PRODUCTION TEAM

- DIRECTOR** Gareth Davis
- MUSICAL DIRECTOR** Ben Ross
- CHOREOGRAPHER** Amanda Woodbine
- PRODUCTION MANAGER** Debbie Hind
- STAGE MANAGER** Jo-Anne Whitelaw
- COSTUME DESIGNER** Bev Barendse
- SET DESIGNER** Stuart Smith
- LIGHTING DESIGNER** Damian Rice
- SOUND DESIGN** Dean Harrington / Sandy Chapman





GMS Youngsters Participate in Gothic Theatre Workshop

The Shake & Stir Theatre Co. recently toured their production of Bram Stoker's Dracula to Laycock Street Community Theatre, and four young GMS members were kindly offered the opportunity to participate in a Gothic theatre workshop being run by Shake & Stir Theatre Co. on 29th March 2017. Tallulah Cobban, Sebastian Thornton-Walker, Rayelle Payne, and Quinn Carter were the lucky four youngsters who all took part in the workshop experience, and were all greatly inspired by the session. GMS would like to offer our thanks to Shake & Stir Theatre Co. and to Laycock Street Community Theatre for offering our youngsters this incredible opportunity to learn from one of the country's leading theatre companies.

GMS Honour Board Lunch

Gosford Musical Society recently held a celebratory Honour Board Lunch in the Mirror Room on Sunday 9th April 2017 to pay tribute to some very special members of our society, and to thank them for all of the work that they have put in at GMS over the years. The lunch was well attended and a good time was had by all. We offer our thanks to Sally Loughnan for these wonderful photographs taken on the day.



Free Beginner Dance Classes for GMS Members

On Tuesday 18th April 2017 a free dance class for all current GMS Members was held in the mirror room.

The class was organised and run by current GMS committee member Karen Snook, whose idea behind the class was to offer current GMS members the opportunity to upskill themselves and to improve their dance abilities for future shows. It is also just an extra benefit to becoming a member of GMS.

The classes are aimed at beginners or those who haven't danced in a while, and will continue on Tuesday evenings at 6pm in the Mirror Room and will be run by a number of different choreographers to keep classes fresh, and exciting.

Keep an eye on the GMS Facebook page each week for updates on future classes.



BRING IT ON

July 2017



The GMS Juniors are gearing up to deliver their second show of the year, which is the acrobatic fuelled, cheerleading extravaganza that is Bring It On.

Bring It On features a cast of very talented local performers including Georgina Hedges as Campbell, Katarina Pascuttini as Danielle, Addison Morley as Randall, Teaghan Thompson as Bridget, Harriet Woodrow as Kylar, Chelsea Pearson as Skylar, Savannah Duck as Eva, Lulu Quirk as Nautica and Sebastian Thornton-Walker as La Cienega.

Tickets are available now by telephoning the box office on (02) 4323 3233 or can be purchased [online](#)

TUESDAY 4 JULY // 2pm
WEDNESDAY 5 JULY // 2pm
THURSDAY 6 JULY // 10:30am, 7:30pm
FRIDAY 7 JULY // 2pm, 7:30pm
SATURDAY 8 JULY // 10:30am, 7:30pm

DIRECTOR Beck Johnston
MUSICAL DIRECTOR Mitchell Richards
CHOREOGRAPHERS Nicole Seggie
Taylor Van Veen

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

July
+ August 2017



The second senior show for the year will be Mel Brooks' hilarious musical comedy *Young Frankenstein*.

The principal cast has recently been chosen with Chris Gracia taking on the lead role of Dr. Frederick Frankenstein, and Evelyn Luck playing Inga.

Tickets are available now by telephoning the box office on (02) 4323 3233 or can be purchased [online](#)

FRIDAY 28 JULY // 8pm
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DIRECTOR Kerrie Rochford
MUSICAL DIRECTOR David Kimpton
CHOREOGRAPHER Lacey Lyons

CHICAGO

October + November 2017

INFORMATION NIGHT IS COMING

DIRECTOR Toni Williams

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Christopher Hochkins

CHOREOGRAPHER Karen Snook

PRODUCTION MANAGER Brenda Donnelly

To find out everything you need to know about being involved with this production, come along to our information night in the Mirror Room of Gosford Musical Society, just behind GMS Costumes on Henry Parry Drive, North Gosford on Friday 28th April 2017 at 7pm.

FRIDAY 28TH APRIL 2017, 7PM

An interview with Beck Johnston

Beck Johnston has been a longstanding member of Gosford Musical Society, and is currently directing the GMS Juniors in *Bring It On*, which takes to the stage in the July school holidays. We caught up with Beck recently to find out some of her favourite memories of GMS and how she is going with directing the upcoming production of *Bring It On*.

Tell us about your first show at GMS. What was it and what is your favourite memory of that show?

I worked back stage for *The Wizard of Oz* in 2000 when I was 13 years old. Since then I have been completely hooked. I have now been involved, in some way, in over 55 productions.

You have been involved with many GMS productions throughout the years, both on stage and behind the scenes. Which shows have been particularly memorable for you, and why?

Oh there are so many... I would have to say *Grease* was a massive highlight as it was my onstage debut with GMS. Nothing can beat the feeling of being out there on stage singing about "Mooning" to 400 people. Also, *The Producers* was a big turning point for me as I met friends who I honestly couldn't imagine life without. *Bring It On* has regained my passion for working with young people and our incredible Junior Society. Our seniors are going to be spoiled for choice in the next few years as these amazing young people grow through the senior productions.

***Bring It On* is also not the first show that you have directed, but have you learnt anything new or made any great discoveries through this experience?**

Working with young people is a totally different ball game and I mean this in the best way possible. They have this liveliness that sparks something inside of you. Putting on a show of any size can be a challenge but this cast of incredible young people make it all so worth it. I have discovered that having a vision needs to be completely flexible. So of the ideas our team had, which we thought were set in concrete, totally changed when we met the cast. I swear their minds are like Disneyland. You could just explore and create with them all day.

What can audiences expect when they come to see *Bring It On*?

Insane amounts of flipping, stunts and dancing, mind blowing vocals and lots and lots of laughs. This cast are the cream of the crop as far as talent goes. These young people can move and sing in ways I didn't know was possible. Being a Youth Production, there are some controversial characters and issues in the show and, although played out in a humorous way, I am proud that the cast and GMS have embraced this. They will have the audience leaving with smiles from ear to ear. I believe that this cast are going to wow Central Coast audiences as well as those from Sydney and Newcastle.

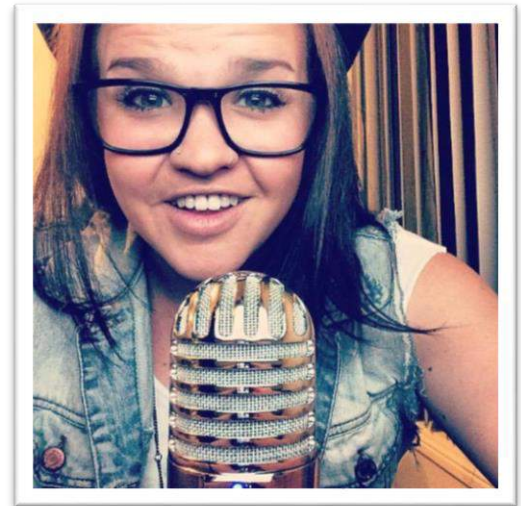
What has been the most challenging aspect about preparing *Bring It On*?

As *Bring It On* is a musical about Cheerleading which is a totally new concept to GMS and to the Laycock Stage we have really had to research and get some assistance to teach these young people how to be cheerleaders. Challenging may not be the best of words to use as our cast have picked up every move, every flip and every toss like professionals. My stomach drops every time I see them in the air. Yes that's right! Our cast fly! No harness! I must add a special thanks to Bree from Oxygen Allstars in Newcastle for her expertise and time teaching our cast and prod team how to cheerlead.

What is the best part about being a member of GMS?

Having a crazy extension to your family. We may all fight like cats and dogs but there is so much love, just like a real family. There's like 500 or something members of GMS and you don't see everyone all the time. You may have become friends 10 years ago and all of a sudden rekindle your friendship doing a show together.

Growing up in the Junior society, we all had like 10 mothers and now as a 30 year old I still have all my mothers looking out for me as well as stalking my Facebook or watching my every move and telling my actual mother everything lol. I honestly wouldn't have it any other way. I am also proud to say that half of our production team were Juniors themselves and are still here to pass down their knowledge and passion to our new members. On that note, I have to say that the team for *Bring It On* are so amazing, supportive and seriously know their stuff. Our Juniors are in great hands.



Quiz time

- Which member of the GMS Honour Board was the Choreographer for our 2014 production of *Crazy For You*?
 - Karen Snook
 - Carolyn McNamara
 - Lauren Miller
 - Emmakate De Henau
- In which musical would you find the characters Hope Harcourt, Reno Sweeney and Billy Crocker?
 - Anything Goes
 - Annie Get Your Gun
 - Oklahoma!
 - Guys and Dolls
- Julie Andrews won the Best Actress Oscar for her performance in which musical film?
 - The Sound of Music
 - Thoroughly Modern Millie
 - Mary Poppins
 - Victor / Victoria
- Which musical features the songs *Live in Living Color* and *Seven Wonders*?
 - Heathers
 - Rent
 - Catch Me If You Can
 - Legally Blonde
- Which member of the GMS Honour Board was the Musical Director for *Sweeney Todd* in 1996?
 - Andrew Swan
 - Simone Williams
 - Greg Derry
 - Mark Williams
- Tim Minchin wrote the music and lyrics for which popular musical?
 - Kinky Boots
 - Matilda
 - Billy Elliott
 - Strictly Ballroom



Geoff Buckland as Everett Baker, and Jade Draper as Polly Baker from *Crazy For You* (2014)

- Which former GMS member hosted the 2011 television series *The Renovators* on Channel 10?
 - Julia Morris
 - Lucy McIntosh
 - Jemma Rix
 - Brendan Moar
- What is the name of Elle Woods' dog in *Legally Blonde*?
 - Bruiser
 - Buster
 - Spot
 - Kennedy
- Which member of the GMS Honour Board was the Director of *Fiddler on the Roof* in 1994?
 - Darryl Davis
 - Leigh Collins
 - Terry Lay
 - Ian Hawkins
- In which city is *The Phantom of the Opera* set?
 - Vienna
 - Paris
 - London
 - Rome

Answers on Page 8



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Gosford Musical Society has big plans to celebrate our 70th anniversary with a fabulous night of entertainment at the Central Coast Leagues Club.

The event will be a black tie, formal, sit-down dinner. Ticket prices have not yet been confirmed but will be made available soon.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information

Recent GMS Member Achievements



Young Eli Gracia has received some exciting news recently, having successfully auditioned for the role of Michael in the professional pantomime *The Adventures of Peter Pan and Tinkerbell* (starring Todd McKenney). It will be staged at the State Theatre in Sydney from 7th-16th July 2017, and will also travel to Melbourne. Eli's grandmother, Sharon Dale is keen to gather a group of boo & hiss enthusiastic theatre lovers to travel to Sydney by bus to see the show. We don't yet know the dates when Eli will be performing but if you are interested in going along, please contact Sharon Dale directly through Facebook or e-mail: spd2251@hotmail.com.au

Further exciting news has also recently come in for one of our young violinists, Miranda Arrighi, who has performed with GMS in the orchestra for a number of our shows, including our most recent productions of *Evita* and *Wicked*. Miranda has been accepted to study a Masters in Orchestral Performance at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, Wales. Miranda has been interested in studying overseas for a while now, and chose to apply for this course because she has always been interested in orchestral playing, but also because she is interested in different approaches to music and she has always wanted to pursue a career in the arts. We wish Miranda well as she heads off to the UK in September to undertake this intense period of study over the next two years.



If you have any recent achievements or news that you would like to share with our members, please e-mail them to Scott Goodacre:

scott.goodacre.gms@gmail.com

Answers to the Quiz:

1D 2A 3C 4C 5D 6B 7D 8A 9B 10B

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 followed by a historical outline of the society and 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 Narelle at GMS Costumes on (02) 4324 1305



GMS Costumes

Did you know that GMS members are entitled to receive a 10% discount on all costume hires from GMS Costumes?

If you have a fancy dress party coming up, or if you are looking for a formal dress or suit to hire then why not pop in to the costume shop and see Narelle.

The costume shop is open Monday through Saturday. Telephone Narelle at GMS Costumes on (02) 4324 1305.

