



# Gosford Musical Society

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

## President's Message



Hello and welcome to our last Newsflash for 2016. It has been a most exciting year and again a very successful one.

Our last show for the year was the fabulous **WICKED** and it's a huge thank you and congratulations to Nathan Dale and his team for the amazing production. We covered lots of new ground with the orchestra moving to the men's dressing room – quite a task for the technical crew of the Theatre. What an amazing job they did to ensure we

achieved the success we had. Thank you to every single person involved with the show.

The new Committee was appointed at the Annual General Meeting and thank you to those who attended to have your say and vote for those you feel will do GMS proud. There is again a lot of work to do and we are thrilled to be heading into 2017 with three new people: Karen Snook (25 years with us), Rosie Ross (nee Miklecic – who came through the juniors) and Scott Goodacre (3 years with us). Keep an eye on the website for the allocation of the portfolios. It will also be on Facebook.

The lovely Thayer Donaldson also presented the Committee with a cheque for \$1,200.00 from the Choir. What a fantastic asset Thayer is to GMS. She ensures the Choir is out there is the Community singing and bringing the GMS message to everyone. Many thanks Thayer and all in the Choir.

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*Gosford Musical Society would like to wish all our members and friends a safe and happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year.*

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Life members appointed this year are Toni Williams and Karen Johnston. Both incredibly deserving of the honour.

The unstoppable Colleen Bracher also presented yet another cheque for \$1,000.00 from the Minstrels. The Minstrels do an amazing job out in the Community at Nursing Homes, Clubs etc. and bring entertainment to all Central Coast patrons. If you would like to contact the Minstrels for a gig, or know someone who would like to join you can contact Colleen via the website [www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com.au](http://www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com.au).

Don't forget to get in touch if you are a previous GMS member who would like to hear from others or just give us the "goss" on where you are and what you are doing. [gosfordmusicalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:gosfordmusicalsociety@gmail.com)  
Look forward to it, thanks.

**Cheers 🎵 Ros**



GMS President Roslyn English with The Choir's Thayer Donaldson



GMS President Roslyn English with The Minstrels' Colleen Bracher



Life member Karen Johnston with GMS President Roslyn English



Life member Toni Williams



## New Committee Elected

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Gosford Musical Society held its Annual General Meeting in the Mirror Room of GMS. The meeting was well attended.

Congratulations to the following members who were elected to the committee for 2017:

- Roslyn English (President)
- Darryl Davis (Vice-President)
- Noel Borger (Vice-President)
- April Daley-Holmes (Secretary)
- Karen Johnston (Treasurer)
- Lauren Miller (Floor Member)
- Rosie Ross (Floor Member)
- Karen Snook (Floor Member)
- Scott Goodacre (Floor Member)
- Kevin Booth (Patron)

## WICKED closes amidst outstanding reviews

Gosford Musical Society has ended 2016 on a high with a flood of glowing reviews for its final production, *Wicked*.

*Wicked* closed on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to rapturous applause and a standing ovation. Jessica King shone brightly as the infamous Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba, and had an undeniable chemistry with her fellow lead, Kate Leslie who delighted audiences as Galinda.

Throughout the show's four week run the two leads were well supported by a strong support cast which included Benjamin Fraser as Madame Morrible, Geoff Hay as the infamous Wizard of Oz, Joe Kalou as Fiyero, Tim Page as Doctor Dillamond, Nat Barry Backhouse as Boq and Danielle Windsor as Nessarose.

Kasey McKenzie understudied the role of Elphaba throughout the show's four-week run performing brilliantly during her four shows.

The shows dancers performed to a very high caliber, expertly led by Co-Choreographer, Brodie Anderson. The ensemble were similarly very strong in supplying precise and powerful vocals to support the leads.

Gosford Musical Society's Vice-President, Darryl Davis was glowing in his review of the show, calling it "Sensational with a capital S".

"The stamina, flair and professionalism displayed by our talented leading ladies Jess and Kate were in my humble and biased opinion worthy of a stint on The Great White Way (Broadway!). All the onstage characters were mesmerising and each demonstrated their talents in this very tight production" said Darryl.

*Wicked* had the potential to be a risky move for Gosford Musical Society given its huge popularity amongst theatre-going audiences. The Director, Nathan Dale describes how "the weight of taking on such a show, especially at an amateur level was always going to be a challenge".

Nathan and his creative team however, which also included Musical Director, Andrew Sampford, Co-Coreographer, Marni Lemmon and Assistant Director, Todd Keys were all well-equipped to cope with the challenges of staging such an iconic show.



Jessica King as Elphaba, and Tim Page as Doctor Dillamond.

The end result was nothing short of incredible and proves once again that GMS has the goods to produce theatre which rivals the professional productions of Sydney and Melbourne.

Congratulations to the entire cast, crew and production team of *Wicked*.

### Did You Know?

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 Narelle at GMS Costumes on (02) 4324 1305

## Currently In Production

### **PETER PAN**

GMS Juniors is proud to present *Peter Pan* as the opening musical for 2017. This show is being expertly co-directed by two longstanding GMS members, Lauren Miller and Casey Scoines,. Bronwynne Anderson provides the musical direction and Kristy Kirkman provides the choreography in what will be an exciting show not to be missed.

We've included a few photos from rehearsals for you below and there is an interview with co-Director Casey Scoines on page 5.

The show opens for a strictly limited season from January 17-21, 2017. Tickets are available now by telephoning the box office on (02) 4323 3233 or can be purchased [online](#)

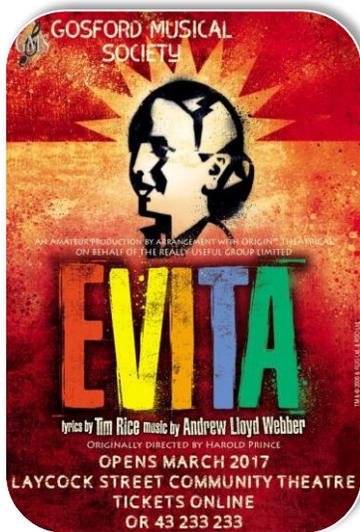


### **EVITA**

Rehearsals are also currently underway for the first senior production of 2017 which will be *Evita*. *Evita* takes to the stage from March 3-18, 2017. Gareth Davis returns to direct his second senior show at GMS following his successful turn as director for *Legally Blonde* in 2015. Ben Ross takes the reigns as the Musical Director and Amanda Woodbine is the Choreographer for this massive production.

*Evita* features a cast of very talented performers including Kasey McKenzie as Eva Peron, Tyson Almond as Che, Chris Martin as Juan Peron, Gareth Isaac as Migaldi and Jessica King as the Mistress.

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



## An interview with Casey Scoines

Casey Scoines has been a member of Gosford Musical Society for over 10 years. Audiences will of course remember her for her most recent on-stage performance playing the titular role in *Mary Poppins* in 2015.

2016 however has seen Casey step behind the scenes to co-direct the upcoming GMS Juniors' production of *Peter Pan*, together with good friend and fellow longtime GMS member, Lauren Miller.

We asked Casey a few questions to find out how rehearsals for *Peter Pan* have been progressing, and to find out Casey's favourite memories of GMS.



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

My first show was as a GMS junior in *Trouble in Pantoland*, where I played the role of 'Number One'. My favourite part of that experience was getting to know fellow juniors as I hadn't been a part of that community before.

### **Many of our members will of course recall your recent performance as *Mary Poppins*. What was it like taking on such a hugely iconic role?**

It was so flattering to have been trusted with such an important role as Mary. The whole experience was a mixture of hard work and reward coupled with enjoyment and pressure (put on myself to ensure I did a well enough job to allow audiences to be taken away with Mary). I felt so privileged to be able to embody Mary Poppins and go on that journey, she's a real character! The whole team involved in that show were unbelievably dedicated and unreal to work with that it made the process so much easier and sad to leave when it ended.

### **Of all the shows you have been involved with at GMS which one are you most proud to have been involved with?**

Obviously *Mary Poppins* was a one of a kind show experience to have been involved with. However, every show brings new and unique memories and people, which makes it hard to be proud of only one. It would be neglectful of me to not acknowledge the GMS juniors in getting me started with the society, and I can't praise them enough. I feel it's really important that they keep getting strong support, as these performers are what feeds into the adult society.

### **What can audiences expect when they come to see *Peter Pan*?**

They can expect a cast that is keen to work hard in taking them to Neverland and into the world of Pan, and a production team eager to bring the magic alive on stage.

### **What has been the most challenging aspect about preparing a show like *Peter Pan*?**

I think being unable to fly Peter has been hard, given it is such a special thing to see. So probably finding ways around that.

### **Have there been any cast or production team members in *Peter Pan* who have really gone above and beyond your expectations?**

The cast were all carefully selected and each member has worked hard to contribute to the show so it would be wrong to single out only one. This show has worked very well as a team but our Production Manager, Kerrie Rochford has been unreal from the very start so a huge shoutout to her in keeping this show running so smoothly.

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

I would have to say the friendships that have continued from when I first came to the society at 16 years old. I'm now nearing 27 and still keep in touch with a lot of people who I've come to know through the society.

## A look back at the Dwyer Pavilion

After the demise of the Valencia Theatre, the Dwyer Pavilion at the Gosford Showground became the new residence for productions of the Gosford Musical and Dramatic Society.

In June 1964, when the population of Gosford was 38,920, many members participated in the first Dwyer musical entitled *The Gondoliers* under the banner of the Gosford Orchestra and Choral Society. The following year GMS staged *Rio Rita* and henceforth our shows were presented at the Dwyer until 1976.



What facilities were available in this new venue? Very few. No stage, no seats, no dressing rooms and opposite a noisy railway – but it did have a “tin roof” that made life challenging for the sound techs! And yet, many quality shows were performed here that entertained thousands!

## Quiz time

- In which city is *The Phantom of the Opera* set?
  - Rome
  - Milan
  - Paris
  - Vienna
- In which city is the musical *Cabaret* set?
  - Berlin
  - Munich
  - Brussels
  - Vienna
- Which city is home to the Jewish inhabitants of *Fiddler on the Roof*?
  - Moscow
  - Warsaw
  - Anatevka
  - Odessa
- Which is the city of Sky Masterson, Sarah Brown and Nathan Detroit in *Guys & Dolls*?
  - New York City
  - Chicago
  - Detroit
  - Los Angeles
- In which city would you find Juan Peron, Eva Duarte and Agustin Magaldi?
  - Rio de Janeiro
  - Havana
  - Madrid
  - Buenos Aires

Answers:

1. C 2. A 3. C 4. A 5. D

### GMS Costumes

Operating since 1947, GMS Costumes has over 10,000 costumes available for hire including complete shows for schools, theatre groups and musical societies.

GMS also provides dressmaker, mending and alteration services. Just call into the GMS Costumes shop and we'll try and assist you. Very reasonable prices!

For further information, telephone Narelle on (02) 4324 1305

Now open Thursday evenings as well as Saturday mornings!

## Coming Soon



GMS Juniors is proud to present *Bring It On - The Musical* as the second GMS Juniors production for 2017. It will be directed by Beck Johnston.

If you are interested in auditioning for this show please come along to our information night on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm in the Don Craig Room of Laycock Street Theatre, North Gosford.