



Gosford Musical Society

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

President's Message



Winter is finally over but I do marvel at how warm it has been. Nevertheless, I'm sure we will all be glad to see the end of the sickness which has caused some interruptions to rehearsals over the last couple of months. I wish all of those who have suffered whatever has been your illness, a speedy recovery.

Bring It On dazzled everyone didn't it? GMS continues to produce amazing shows and with the wealth of talent we have, it is not surprising. Congratulations to Beck and the team of *Bring It On* – everyone worked really hard to achieve what had to be done with the lifts and the gymnastics work involved. Rehearsals had to be relocated on many occasions and I would like to thank the families and friends of the cast for taking the time to travel to different venues when necessary. Just shows what determination to succeed can do. Thank you and well done everyone.

Congratulations to everyone involved with *Young Frankenstein*. What a funny, rude, politically incorrect show – but such a good experience not only for everyone involved in the show but for those lucky Central Coast patrons who enjoyed our performances. Well done everyone.

Here's a lovely story – one of the Tuesday sewing ladies (Gay) has a friend who is blind and she brought him along to "see" *Young Frankenstein* – her friend loved it so much that I arranged for some tickets for him to come back; he got seats in the front row and he was over the moon. He especially enjoyed getting even more of the rude jokes, loved the hermit scene and knew everything that was going on with the hot soup and noodles etc. He clapped along to the music and was totally amazed at how much fun it was. He wants to come to all our shows from now on. We will have to watch seats A15 and A16 in future.

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It is not easy to choose our shows as we all know and every now and then we have to do something a little out of the ordinary. I couldn't be happier with the end result of *Young Frankenstein*. The people who are new to GMS have certainly enjoyed a hilarious introduction to our wonderful family and I look forward to seeing every one of them back again in another show in the future.

Rosie Ross and her team are in the middle of auditions for *HONK!* as I write this and I wish her all the best – if information night attendance is any indication, there will be lots of talent to choose from. *HONK!* is our next junior show opening in January 2018.

Chicago is well into rehearsals – having started early, which has been a great advantage to the production team and cast. Again, rehearsals have had to be elsewhere until the mirror room became available again after *Young Frankenstein* moved into the theatre and I wish to acknowledge the generous opportunity Options Theatre Company has provided us by giving us access to their space. It's certainly heartwarming when Community groups work together the way we all do.

Happy birthday to GMS Costumes. On 12th August - the shop celebrated ten years in the new premises. Thanks to Chris King who arranged for SeaFM to do some publicity and come along so we could get the promotional pictures. The staff (and a couple of volunteers) dressed up and had fun and a wonderful morning. Well done to Narelle and the team for continuing the success of GMS Costumes.

We are still awaiting the result of our grant applications. I will keep you posted.

16th September is only a month away so be sure to get your tickets for our 70 year celebration evening. Hop on line to www.trybooking.com, look for GMS 70th celebration event and you will be able to select your table to book. If you have trouble on line or need information contact either Lesli Normet (0412 119 250), Karen Johnston (0402 975 180) or Ros English (0428 691 010) for assistance. There will be entertainment to ensure your enjoyment so don't hesitate – hop on line and book yourself a table – tables of 10 or you can join with others if you wish. Don't forget that GMS Costumes is offering 50% discounts on formal wear hire.

We have recently re-negotiated a new Agreement with Laycock Street Community Theatre and it has been signed off with Council. Thanks to Chris King and Phil Cantillon from Council for their continued support and willingness to work with GMS as a major partner. The agreement is for another three-year term till 30th June 2020.

Thank you to all those volunteers who continue to make GMS the successful organisation it is.

We had a visit yesterday from the Minister for Arts, the Honourable Don Harwin MLC, and Adam Crouch (Member for Terrigal) and his staff. Adam attends all our shows and was very happy to show the Minister around our premises. Thanks to Daryl Kirkness, Chris King and Phil Cantillon for taking the Minister and guests on a tour of the premises. I wasn't aware of the intended visit so was in my old work clothes ready to assist in tidying up the Shed. I walked them through our mirror room and wardrobe area. I didn't even have lipstick on!! But I could still speak enough to talk about our hopes for building new badly needed rehearsal space over the road at Studio 18. Adam's staff are amazed at the fact that everything we do is done by people who are volunteers.

Cheers 🎵
Ros English



Young Frankenstein closes with rave reviews



"The whole show made me laugh and cry for all the right reasons" - Alan Moore.

"Young Frankenstein, absolutely first class. West end performances from everyone." - Pamela Brown.

"What a fantastic show, thoroughly enjoyed it, very funny." - Sandra Simmonds.

"Just saw the production of Young Frankenstein and it has to be one of the best shows I have seen." - Kim Rowley.

These are just a handful of the many glowing reviews flooding in for the GMS production of *Young Frankenstein* which closed on 12 August 2017.

Young Frankenstein is a comedy musical from Mel Brooks, the genius behind other comedy shows including *The Producers* and *Blazing Saddles*. It was always bound to provide a laugh to our audiences, but the expert touches which director Kerrie Rochford applied to this show, took it to another level, ensuring that our audiences were treated with nothing less than world-class performances.

The choice to produce *Young Frankenstein* also served as a good compliment to the other senior shows being produced by GMS in 2017 namely *Evita* and *Chicago*. Putting on *Young Frankenstein* ensured that we have a programme of shows which is varied in genres and size, and which also served to ensure that we are delivering on our endeavours to bring new shows to the Central Coast that have not been seen here before. GMS will seek to maintain this balance of shows into the future.

Local theatre critic, Jillian Logan summed up the show beautifully by stating that it was "bold, bawdy fun" and highlighted the magical touches of the orchestra, lighting, and costume design. She also made notable mentions of the casting and in particular highlighted Chris Gracia's "boundless, impish energy" and Dylan Crawford's "endearing" portrayal of the Monster. Logan however heaped special praise on Declan Dowling for providing "the show's life force" as Igor with his "vocal prowess" and "strong physical comedy".

It was certainly an excellent production, and everyone involved should be proud of what they have achieved. Well done Team!



Bring It On closes to rapturous applause!



The GMS Juniors have raised the bar even higher with their latest musical production of *Bring It On*, playing to sold out audiences and rapturous applause throughout its one week run in early July.

The show had everything you could want in a musical including powerhouse vocals, excellent dancing, wonderful costumes, laughter and even a few tears.

Director Beck Johnston assembled a stellar cast who all trained ridiculously hard over several months to learn an array of acrobatic tricks and stunts which elevated this show to an unprecedented level.

Special mention must be made of Georgina Hedges who performed in the lead role of Campbell, and who travelled up from Sydney to take on this role. Georgina's voice was sublime, and we were very proud to have her join the GMS family for this production.

Beck Johnston would also like to pay special thanks to Bree and the team at Oxygen Allstars for preparing the kids to undertake all their acrobatic tricks safely and effectively.

HONK! Cast Announcement

It was with great delight that Rosie Ross and her creative team recently announced the cast for the upcoming GMS Junior production of *Honk!*

The auditions were highly competitive with over 100 youngsters trying their best to win a spot in the *Honk!* cast. There was an overwhelming level of talent displayed at auditions, and the team battled till well after midnight trying to select the right cast

Honk! features a cast of talented youngsters, and will take to the stage in January 2018.

Congratulations to all involved.



UGLY JOSEPH ARRUA	PENNY AYNSLEE WYND	FLOOR MANAGER LIAM BARBELER	FROGLET/GOOSE SOPHIE GOODWIN
IDA RAYELLE PAYNE	GRACE TAYLAH THEAKSTONE	BARNACLES/FROGLET/GOOSE LULU QUIRK	FROGLET/GOOSE AMELIA MORGAN
CAT TOM KELLY	MOTHER SWAN BREE CROSSWELL	PRICFOOT/BOYS VOICE/ FROGLET/GOOSE CALLUM BEGGS	FEMALE SOLOIST MIRANDA MICHAELOWSKI
DRAKE FINN GOUGH	MAGGIE PIE MIA CROSS	SNOWY/FROGLET/GOOSE SYBELLA MCKAY	FEMALE SOLOIST JESSICA NADER
MAUREEN RHIANNON COX	BILLY (YOUNG) JOHN SUMMERELL	FROGLET/GOOSE/DANCING SWAN RYLEIGH BEGGS	ENSEMBLE/DANCING SWAN MARLEE CARTER
HENRIETTA/GIRLS VOICE ALANA BROADLEY	BILLY (TEEN) FINN ALEXANDER	FROGLET/GOOSE ASHLYN BEGGS	ENSEMBLE LUIS ESTEBAN
TURKEY SAM LUXFORD	FLUFF (YOUNG) MATILDA WHITWELL	FROGLET/GOOSE GEORJA WADDINGTON	ENSEMBLE GLORI PEMBROKE
GREYLAG/FARMERS VOICE TYNAN FULLER	FLUFF (TEEN) ABBEY GRACIA	FROGLET/GOOSE PIPPA WADDINGTON	ENSEMBLE SAM ZOVIC
DOT SCOTIA EMMETT	BEAKY (YOUNG) SARAH HARRINGTON	FROGLET/GOOSE CHARLY WADDINGTON	ENSEMBLE SAMUEL CAREY
BULLFROG/FATHER SWAN SEBASTIAN THORNTON- WALKER	BEAKY (TEEN) BIRONTE MILLS	FROGLET/GOOSE AMELIA SHACKLETON	ENSEMBLE EMILY WEST
QUEENIE ALLEGRA HALL	DOWNY (YOUNG) ISLA GOUGH	FROGLET/GOOSE ISABELLA GOODWIN	ENSEMBLE CLAUDIA PHILLIPS
LOWBUTT QUINN CARTER	DOWNY (TEEN) AMY ROBINSON		ENSEMBLE RUBY FISCHER

Thank you to everyone who auditioned for **HONK!** with Gosford Musical Society. For those who were unsuccessful this time, we encourage you to keep auditioning for future shows - we were so impressed with the calibre of performers and it made our job very difficult.

To those who were successful, you will receive information shortly regarding our first rehearsal. Thank you from the **HONK!** Production Team.



An Interview with Toni Williams

You have been a longstanding member of GMS for many years now, and in 2016 you were awarded Life Membership to GMS. What was it like to receive that award?

When Ros started to read out the description of the nominee it was about half way into her speech that I realized she was talking about me. I started to get emotional as I was so honoured and proud to be receiving Life Membership. I was a blubbering mess in my acceptance speech, lol. I absolutely love my GMS family so I couldn't feel more honoured to receive Life Membership.

Do you still remember your first show at GMS, and have you got a favourite memory from that show?

My first show at GMS was in 1984 I was 14 years old and I played Annie in *Annie*. I absolutely loved the show and couldn't believe how friendly and welcoming everybody was. My favourite memory of *Annie* was more about the beautiful life long friendship I made with my Daddy Warbucks – Alf Taylor xxxx

Of all the shows that you have performed in at GMS throughout the years which one is the most memorable for you and why?

A very memorable show for me I must say was *A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum* in 1989. This is the show I met Mark Williams, my darling husband, who I have been married to for 26 years this year xxx

Were there any particular shows that you weren't involved with but wish you had been?

I have been in over 40 shows with GMS, I would say the most frustrating time I had, was when I was 35 weeks pregnant in *La Cage aux Folles* and I was too pregnant to go on stage. Luckily enough I was still a part of the show and I was a pit singer.

You are currently directing our upcoming production of *Chicago*, and of course the last time GMS produced *Chicago*, back in 2002, you played the role of Velma Kelly. What made you want to step into the Director's shoes this time around?

I decided to wear a different hat and direct *Chicago* this time instead of playing Velma Kelly as I did 15 years ago, because lets face it, I'm now too old and unfit to play Velma again haha. Jokes aside the role of Velma needs to be played by an extremely fit and energetic female (which I have chosen the perfect person for Velma). *Chicago* is a show I am very passionate about and I am thoroughly enjoying directing it.

What will be different about this production of *Chicago* to the one our members may have seen back in 2002?

I don't want to give too much away to any members coming to see our production of *Chicago* in October/November this year and who may have seen it 15 years ago. But I will say, we have been blessed with a cast of very strong dancers, actors & singers.

What have you discovered or learnt along the way while directing *Chicago*?

The biggest thing about the role of a Director is its not just blocking a few scenes. A director needs to be super organised and keep an eye on the whole overview of how the show is progressing, the dance numbers, music, costumes, sets, props, sort out lighting with scenes etc, plan all rehearsal schedules, work on characters etc.

Lastly, what do you consider to be the best part about being a member of Gosford Musical Society?

The best part about being a GMS member is the wonderful life-long friendships I have made and getting to perform along side these friends, making amazing memories.

CHICAGO

Set in the 1920's, Chicago follows the story of Roxie Hart, a wannabe star performer, who is made to stand trial for the murder of her lover, Fred Casely. Whilst in prison awaiting her trial, Roxie meets her hero, the infamous nightclub performer Velma Kelly who is similarly set to stand trial for the double murder of her husband, Charlie and her sister, Veronica. Roxie and Velma share the same greedy lawyer, Billy Flynn and the tensions between them boil over as they fight for their respective shares of the spotlight.

Chicago is a sexy, timeless musical. A definite crowd pleaser. Tickets on sale now. [Click here](#) to purchase your tickets.

October + November 2017

DIRECTOR Toni Williams

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Christopher Hochkins

CHOREOGRAPHER Karen Snook

HONK!

Honk is the musical version of Hans Christian Anderson's The Ugly Duckling. It proved to be a very popular show the last time GMS produced this show.

Rosie Ross steps up to direct her first Junior show with GMS, and has assembled a strong production team around her which includes Ben Ross as Musical Director and Emmakate de Henau as Choreographer.

The show has recently been cast. Check out the cast list on page 4.

Tickets are not on sale yet, but stay tuned for further information.

January 2018

DIRECTOR Rosie Ross

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Ben Ross

CHOREOGRAPHER Emmakate de Henau

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?

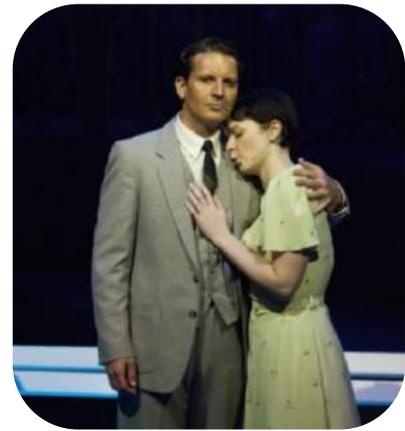
The tour includes a welcome at GMS Costumes followed by a historical outline of the society and a guided tour of wardrobe, props, the sewing room, the shed and a backstage tour of the theatre. The tour starts at 10am and concludes at about 12 noon when Devonshire tea is served! The cost of the tour is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

To enquire about taking a tour, please call Narelle at GMS Costumes on (02) 4324 1305



Quiz time

- "Getting to Know You" is a song featured in which musical?
 - The Producers
 - West Side Story
 - The Pirates of Penzance
 - The King and I
- Which musical features the characters Roger, Joanne, Mimi and Mark?
 - Rent
 - Legally Blonde
 - The Sound of Music
 - Hamilton
- Who wrote the music for Aida, The Musical?
 - Elton John
 - Tim Minchin
 - Andrew Lloyd-Webber
 - Stephen Sondheim
- In which musical would you hear the lyrics "The trumpets of Carthage resound, hear Romans now and tremble"?
 - The Phantom of the Opera
 - Les Miserables
 - Cats
 - Aida
- Link Larkin, Penny Pingleton and Velma Von Tussle are characters in which stage musical?
 - Catch Me If You Can
 - Crazy For You
 - Guys and Dolls
 - Hairspray
- Which city is the setting for The Sound of Music?
 - Vienna
 - Salzburg
 - Berlin
 - Hamburg



Shane Emmett as Captain Von Trapp, and Josephine Gleeson as Maria from *The Sound of Music* (2013)

- Which musical did Matthew Broderick win a Tony award for Best Leading Actor in a Musical?
 - The Producers
 - Young Frankenstein
 - The Music Man
 - How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
- When was Chicago last performed at GMS?
 - 2002
 - 2003
 - 2004
 - 2005
- Tim Minchin was the composer and lyricist for which musical?
 - Hamilton
 - Matilda
 - Kinky Boots
 - Strictly Ballroom
- Which musical features the songs "Home", "A Change in Me" and "Something There"?
 - Strictly Ballroom
 - Beauty and the Beast
 - Cats
 - Mack and Mabel

Answers on Page 8

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.



Recent GMS Member Achievements



The GMS Choir recently combined with the Tempo Terrific Band and performed at the Everglades Country Club, Woy Woy on 13th August 2017.

The choir perform here every year and the proceeds of the performances are donated back to GMS.

It looks like much fun was had by all.

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:

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



70 years

*of Musical Theatre
on the Central Coast*

Saturday 16 September 2017

Where: Central Coast Leagues Club Parkview Room

Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Cost: \$60.00 per ticket

Dress: Black Tie Formal

Tickets: Available online at www.trybooking.com.au

Event name: GMS 70th Celebration

or follow the link on www.gosfordmusicalsociety.com.au or

Contact Lesli Normet 0412119250, Ros English 0428691010

Karen Johnston 0402975180

Bubbly and canapés on arrival with a three course dinner to follow. Bar service will be available to purchase drinks throughout the night. Entertainment and dancing until 12 midnight.

GMS Costumes Member offer:

A special offer of 50% discount is being offered on presentation of membership card to GMS Costumes for formal wear hire.

RSVP by ticket purchase by Monday 4th September.

GMS 70th Anniversary Celebrations

Have you purchased your tickets yet for our upcoming dinner on 16th September 2017?

Make sure you jump online to www.trybooking.com.au and reserve your ticket, as this will be an evening of great entertainment and much celebration. An event not to be missed.