



JUST CHATTING

CHATS Productions Inc

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What's New?

Exciting news for some young actors in the area! With the HSC underway and the drama exams already completed, two local actors are very happy to be nominated for OnStage!

Mitchell Hodges (Toad of Toad Hall, 2018) and Amy Hancock (Legally Blonde Jr, 2017 and Romeo & Juliet, 2020) are both

very excited with their early HSC results.

Matthew Dorahy (Legally Blonde Jr, 2017 and Heathers, 2019) is thrilled to be accepted into Brent Street Musical Theatre 2021.

These actors have had many years training with the likes of Belinda Lemair (Young Actors Studio), Jade Naidu (Naidu Per-

forming Arts), performed in shows with both CHATS and Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company and many other opportunities to grow and develop their craft. All that work is now paying off.

Congratulations!!

Make way for the next generation!



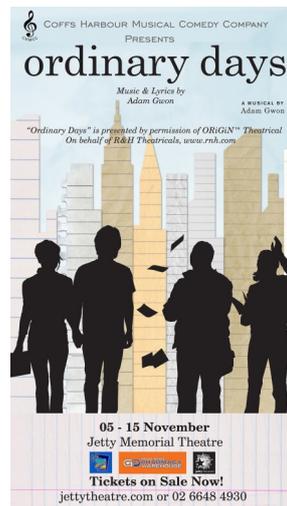
Upcoming Shows

FINALLY there will be something to see at the theatre! Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company has 2 great shows coming up!

Ordinary Days is a 4 person musical set in New York. Directed by Peter Hodges.
5th-15th November

Back To The Theatre is a fun variety style concert featuring approx 20 local performers. Directed by John Greene.
20th-29th November

Tickets are limited for both shows due to social distancing regulations.



President's Chat

Greetings to all,

After some hard thinking we have had to cancel *Romeo & Juliet*. Unfortunately because it didn't go on as scheduled in April, there were many cast changes and when one of the leads got overloaded because of HSC exams we had no choice but to cancel.

I believe this was no fault of any individual but must be laid squarely at the door of Covid 19. Without Covid the show would have gone on in April and been brilliant.

I will take this opportunity to thank Director Beckley, A. D. Lily, and Production Manager Bethany for all the extra hard work that wasn't envisaged at the start of this production. The whole cast have been wonderful and I thank each and every one of you for doing your best to make this play a reality. I must also thank Sharon and my fellow set builders for what was great costuming and scenery that never saw the stage.

Ok now to the future! We don't have time to dwell on what might have been, we have the rest of 2020 and 2021 to consider and plan for.

2 Air FM radio station has contacted CHATS with a plan to run some radio plays and we are currently looking for suitable scripts. If you know of any please contact myself or Dave. This could be a great training ground for any budding voice actors out there.

CHATS has set its 2021 program and anything will be better than 2020, the year that wasn't.

We will start in March with an American Classic, "*Steel Magnolias*" and this will be directed by Donna Fairall. This will be the first time Donna has directed for CHATS. She has had plenty of experience directing for CHMCC, as well as being a brilliant choreographer. We wish Donna our best on her debut for CHATS. Auditions for *Steel Magnolias* will be held at the Guide Hall in Harbour Drive on November 14 at 1pm.

The July spot will be "*In Bed With the Bishops*", directed by Dave Tune. This is a very funny new play by Melbourne based playwright Rob Selzer.

The October slot is to be "*The Importance of Being Earnest*" by Oscar Wilde, and this will be directed by myself.

We are also going to have a go at a Pantomime which we would like to tour around the community halls in the region and this would be directed by Kaiyai Doenau.

CHATS is hosting this years combined Xmas brunch, on Sunday the 13th of December at 10am. We are dedicating this year to Lou and will be unveiling a plaque in her memory.

I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to two of our theatre community. Frank Lilley has been building and designing sets for CHATS and CHMCC for many years. We will miss your expertise and eye for



detail mate, and the shed will be a different place without you. Frank is moving back to Victoria with his partner Terri.

Pat Slattery is also on the move after many years involvement in community theatre. Pat has directed for both CHATS and CHMCC, as well as putting on many of her own plays and musicals. Pat also has tread the boards as an accomplished actress. Pat, all in community theatre wish you well in your move to Gosford. We will all miss you and your incredible talent.

Lastly congratulations to Peter Hodges on his appointment as President of Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company and congratulations to the newly elected committee. I wish you well for the upcoming year.

That's all from me for now, let us hope we can make this Radio thing work and end 2020 on a high.

Regards,

Rex Madigan

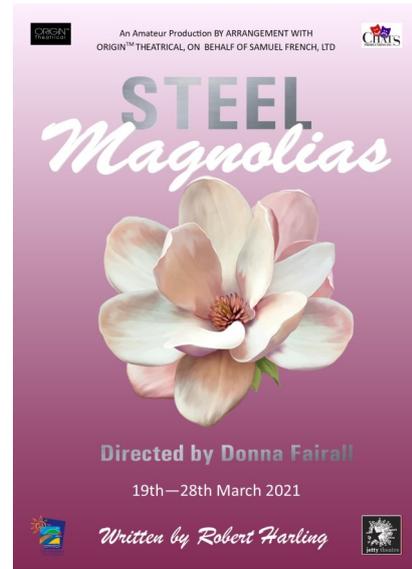
PRESIDENT

Steel Magnolias AUDITIONS

**Saturday 14th November
@ 1pm
Guide Hall on Harbour Dr
Coffs Harbour**

There are 6 female roles in this play, ranging from 20–70 years in appearance. Southern accent is required.

Performances are 19-28 March.
Directed by Donna Fairall.



Cast Requirements

Truvy Jones:35-50

Annelle Dupuy
Desoto: 20-30

Clairee Belcher:
55-70

Shelby Eatenton
Latcherie :20-30

M'Lynn Eatenton:
40-50

Ouiser Boudreaux:
55-70

Actual age is
irrelevant, as long
as you can PLAY
the required age

Truvy Jones

Truvy is in her late thirties and owns a hair salon, which is the setting for the play. She is quite the gossip, and loves to be in everyone's personal affairs. Her two sons are Louie, who attends Louisiana State University, and Poot, who is to work with her cousin in Baltimore. She is married to a man named Spud Jones who she describes as a "lazy old man." Truvy treats Annelle as a daughter, even though they are not related. She also loves listening to other people's romantic experiences.

Annelle Dupuy-Desoto

Annelle is young, between eighteen and twenty-five. She is new in town, and seeks out a job as a hair stylist at Truvy's salon and a room in a boarding house due to her lack of money. Annelle is a shy, private, and creative individual. She is kind and gracious towards the women she meets in the beauty salon.

Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie

Shelby, mid-twenties, is the daughter of M'Lynn Eatenton. At the start of the play, she is about to get married to Jackson Latcherie. She has diabetes, but does not want her medical background to define her nor does she want to rely on others. She is a pediatric nurse and she wants to have children. However, it is not recommended for her to have children because of her medical conditions. She wants to have a very romantic and peaceful marriage instead of the hectic relationship that her parents have.

Ouiser Boudreaux

Ouiser is an older woman in her late fifties to early sixties, often described as "bitter" or "annoyed." The things she values the most are her dog Rhett and her property. She is constantly arguing with M'Lynn's husband Drum over property, but does have a deep and genuine concern for Shelby and her health. Even though she speaks poorly to the other women sometimes, she still considers them her closest companions. She has been married twice and has children.

M'Lynn Eatenton

M'Lynn is the mother of Shelby. She also has two sons named Tommy and Jonathan, Shelby's brothers. She is around 40 years old. She is also the wife of Drum Eatenton, whom she believes is "crazy." She is the administrator of the Mental Guidance Center. Her main priority is her daughter Shelby; she takes great care of her daughter, almost to the point of becoming overprotective. On the surface, she appears strong and collected, but deep down she is fragile.

Clairee Belcher

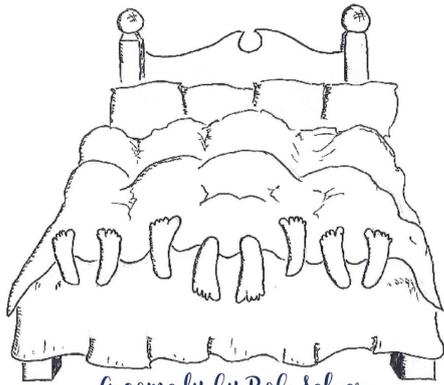
Clairee is the mayor's widow and the owner of the local radio station. She is older, around her late fifties. She is known for her "smart mouth" and "sweet tooth." She often puts herself down, but tends to remain playful whenever a serious topic arises. She is the only woman in the play without children, but she maintains close ties with her relatives.

In Bed With The Bishops

**9th – 18th
July, 2021**

**Directed by
David Tune**

In Bed With The Bishops



A comedy by Rob Selzer

Written by Rob Selzer (Professor of Psychiatry at Monash Uni) this fast-paced comedy features four players and switches from the present to the past and back again.

Betty and Barry Bishop are a power couple, he works as a senior broker in the family stock broking business, and she has a popular and influential lifestyle TV show called 'Betty Perfect' that has a huge following.

Everything in their life is 'perfect', and now Betty has decided they need a baby to make it all complete.

The problem is, they can't seem to conceive, and Betty's physician has referred them to Dr. Jack Glass, a Psychiatrist specialising in couples counselling.

The story unfolds as Jack talks to Zelda, his very experienced professional supervisor, about how his interactions with the Bishops over time have led to a very sticky situation. The play uses flashback scenes of Jack working with the Bishops to tell the tale, and as Jack relates the details to Zelda, we come to the present day, and then things get complicated.

The play has only been performed on a couple of occasions, generating extremely positive audience feedback, and offers a chance for CHATS to work with the playwright in polishing and presenting a cracking new Australian comedy.

The Importance Of Being Earnest

A trivial comedy for serious people, was first performed at The St James Theatre in London in 1895. It is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain, fictitious personae to escape burdensome social obligations.

Earnest is probably the wittiest of Oscar Wilde's works. The audience will be amused by the snappy repartee from start to finish.

A cast of 8-9 required.

**15th – 24th
October, 2021**

**Directed by
Rex Madigan**

