

LET'S CHAT

Welcome to your CHATS newsletter



President's Chat

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Hello CHATS Community,
I would like to start this off by saying how truly honoured I am to be your president. Last year I was able to make a brief return to performing (after taking some time away to raise my babies) when I was asked to participate in our last production "Radio Days". It was like returning home, and I'd like to say a massive well done to EVERYONE who managed to get that show up and running in the limited time we had. A special mention and extra thanks to Leonie and Sharon for being the main driving force behind that.

This year I am looking forward to working with our members and our brand new committee. We have an enthusiastic and talented group of people who have put their hands up to help coordinate our company this year. I am looking forward to working with them to take CHATS to the next level.

This is already happening with our current production, *Jane Eyre*. I'm really keen to see what our director, Emma Watson, does with her current adaptation. I was very impressed with her last production (*Loves Labours Won*). She is a director who is passionate about her work and her source material. The cast she has assembled are just as talented and are bringing joy and amazing energy to this show. Not a week goes by that I haven't heard how much fun the cast is having and as we all know, this indicates that we will have an awesome show. I am very much looking forward to seeing this one.

In our middle slot is William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Now I personally don't know too much about this play, but from what I'm hearing the story is a fantastical tale involving magic and monsters, with some real moments of human drama mixed in. Our talented co directors, Emily and Talon, seem to be devoted fans of this story and eager to bring it to life. CHATS have a long tradition of putting on good Shakespeare, and I have no doubt that this will proudly stand alongside past productions.

And at the end of the year, we will be staging *It Runs in the Family*. For those of you who don't know, this is a classic British farce written by Ray Cooney. Full of door-slamming comedy set at a frantic pace, this one is going to make you laugh so hard that your belly hurts. So, for all you comedians, or wanna-be comedians (or you just think that you're funny) keep a look out for this one.

I would also like to take the time to remember CHATS Life Member Merv Allport. Part of the 'Shed Boys' he was a valued part of the construction team. His years with us and all his time and effort put into set construction, helping with bump ins and bump outs and generally positive attitude are greatly appreciated.

Vale Merv; thank you for all you did for us. It is people like you behind the scenes that make us performers look good.

I have never sat in a President's chair before but I am eager and determined to fulfill my duties to the best of my abilities. I have a love for theatre whether I am on stage, backstage, front of house or in the audience, to me the theatre has always been a place of magic. So cheers to 2026, let's put the mistakes and divisions of the past behind us, embrace the future and make some damn good theatre together.

Chookas

Courtney Bannon





L-R Peggy Dwyer, Ken McClenahan, Anne McClenahan, Courtney Bannon, Chantel Gibb-Thorn, Marcus Nevin, Beckley Vincent, Emily Branster, Bhodi Gibb-Thorn



Our Commitment

Your CHATS Committee is buzzing with enthusiasm as we prepare a lineup of top-notch productions in 2026 designed to entertain, surprise, and elevate your theatre experience.

With passion and pride, we're working to lift CHATS to new heights with both our members and our audiences so we can shine even brighter across the Coffs Harbour community.

We will be working hard on your behalf to grow CHATS reputation and standing in the wider Coffs Harbour community.

Your CHATS Committee 2026

President
Courtney Bannon

Vice-President
Marcus Nevin

Treasurer
Bhodi Gibb-Thorn

Secretary
Chantel Gibb-Thorn

Assistant Secretary
Peggy Dwyer

Committee Member
Emily Branster

Committee Member
Beckley Vincent

Committee Member
Anne McClenahan

Website & Newsletters
Ken McClenahan



Show dates : March 27 - April 5



Book Now !

Come and see this timeless classic starring the amazing talents of Fiona Stiles as Jane Eyre and Marcus Nevin as Rochester.

Live Theatre Inc. and CHATs Productions Inc. present

CAST - JANE EYRE

JANE
FIONA STILES
 ENSEMBLE
 LEONIE BRINGOLF
 EMILY BROCKETT-BRANSTER
 NICOLAS CHESHER
 SHEENA CHUNG
 CHANTEL GIBB-THORN
 MARCUS DANIEL NEVIN
 OWEN PARTRIDGE
 FARLEY HYLAND-TAYLOR
 BRENDA SMITH

Jetty Theatre
 27 Mar-5Apr

**From the Director of Jane Eyre,
 Emma Watson**

This March, the stage of the Jetty Theatre will be transformed into the windswept world of Jane Eyre, Charlotte Brontë’s timeless story of resilience, love and self-discovery.

Running from 27 March to 5 April, this new adaptation reimagines the beloved classic as an act of remembering — where past and present intertwine, and identity is shaped not only by what we endure, but by what we choose to become. At its heart, Jane Eyre is a story of courage: a young woman determined to define herself in a world that repeatedly asks her to be smaller.

Brought to life by a passionate local cast and creative team, this production honours the romance and gothic mystery audiences adore, while offering an intimate, contemporary lens on Brontë’s enduring themes of independence, integrity and belonging.

Join us at the Jetty Theatre for a powerful run of live storytelling — a love story, a ghost story, and above all, a story of becoming.



The
Tempest

Show dates : July 24 - August 2



Audition Info

**Saturday April 11, 2026 - Email Expression of interest
to chatsthetempest@gmail.com**

Audition packs available soon

More audition details soon - see our Website page or
Facebook for the latest info.

The Tempest

On the rim of the world lies an island stitched from wind and memory, where spirits drift like echoes and the sea itself keeps watch. Here a weary sorcerer clutches his fading power, summoning storms to guard a past he cannot release.

In this dreamlike reimagining of *The Tempest*, Shakespeare's tale unfolds as living myth: silk that moves like water, voices that shimmer like spells, and shadows that remember every trespass.

When shipwrecked sailors stagger onto its shores, the island awakens - ancient, restless and hungry for truth. As Prospero's magic unravels, love and vengeance entwine, and mercy becomes the rarest enchantment of all.

Step inside and let the island choose what you become!



Show dates : October 16 - 25



CHATS PRODUCTIONS INC. presents the hilarious farce...

It Runs In The Family

Directed by Steve North

Running from
October 16-25
at Jetty Theatre

**An infectious
comedy by
Ray Cooney**

It Runs In The Family

If you are a leading surgeon in London's most prestigious hospital, delivering the "Lecture of the Year" to two hundred of the world's leading neurologists, the last thing you want is a mistress from 18 years ago arriving unexpectedly.

Just as Dr Mortimore is preparing for his big moment, Jane Tate, a former nurse and long-forgotten romantic fling, turns up and drops a bombshell: that their brief affair produced a child, now 18, who is currently in the hospital looking for his father.

Dr Mortimore, desperate to protect his reputation, tries to hide the truth. But in true Cooney fashion, every outrageous lie spawns three more, and the situation spirals into a whirlwind of mistaken identities, slamming doors, and frantic improvisation.

Typical madcap complications ensue, involving faithful friend, Dr. Bonney, a police sergeant, Dr. Mortimore's wife, a severe hospital matron, Dr. Bonney's mother and a patient who makes the most of being dragged into the whole maelstrom.

There are 12 wonderful roles in this madcap farce

Auditions Sunday June 23 - stay tuned

Upcoming Events

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company



Showing May 8th - 31st at Jetty
Memorial Theatre

Criterion Theatre

The Enchanted Bookshop
Dates: 7 - 10 May 2026 Criterion Theatre, Grafton



More CHATS events coming soon!

Keep in touch via our new website

<https://www.chats.org.au/>



CHATS Membership

Now is the time to renew your 2026 membership

Benefits of being a member

Your membership helps support our CHATS productions, performers, and community events throughout the year.

Stay connected socially via our website, Facebook and newsletters.

Widen your social circle and make new friends who have similar interests!

Get involved with CHATS onstage, helping backstage or ushering.

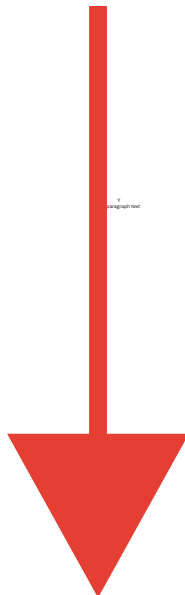
Join us today and be part of our vibrant theatre community!

Would you like to join our CHATS Shows Ushers list?

You get to see the show free of charge as a thank you!

To join, please contact the Secretary at info@chats.org.au

Membership form on next page



2026 Membership

Name: _____

Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email Address : _____ @ _____
 (for receipt of newsletters and updates):

Mobile Phone: _____

Working With Children Check number : _____ DOB: _____

I am applying to

- become a member of CHATS Productions Inc.*
- renew my membership of CHATS Productions Inc.*

In the event of my **admission/renewal** * I agree to be bound by the Objectives, Code of Conduct and By-Laws, including the Member Protection Policy.

Signature: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____

(*Parent/Guardian signature is required if applicant is under 18 years – **Junior** membership)

I do / do not agree * to give permission for my child to be photographed for publicity purposes.

- Subscription type: Junior (\$8.00) Concession/Senior (\$10.00)
 Adult (\$15.00) Family (\$25.00)

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Direct Debit - Bank Transfer/ Cash

[Your newsletter will be sent to you by email.](#)

<p>Pay by Internet Bank Transfer to: Payment sent via Bank Transfer</p> <p>BSB: 650 000 (Newcastle Permanent) <input type="checkbox"/> Tick Box</p> <p>Account Name: CHATS Productions Inc</p> <p>Account No.: 544171000</p> <p>Add the Reference: member + 'Your Name' eg: <i>member Kevin Smith</i> Then EMAIL the details of your payment to CHATS secretary at info@chats.org.au</p>	<p>Mailing Address: The Treasurer CHATS Productions Inc. PO Box 111 Coffs Harbour NSW 2450</p> <hr/> <p>You can bring this form to any CHATS event or meeting.</p>
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Your name, address and email address will be entered into a CHATS database for the purpose of mailing newsletters and other updates and information relevant to the running of the organisation or its activities.

Your information is **NOT** given to any outside organisation or used for any other purpose.

I do / do not agree * to have my details included on the CHATS database as described above.