



JUST CHATTING

CHATS Productions Inc

Mar / Apr 2021

Hello from the new Committee!

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REX MADIGAN—PRESIDENT

Rex has been involved with CHATS Productions since 2010 and has enjoyed the role of President since 2013. He was also the President for Red Cliffs Players for six years.

His theatre career started in 1978, with Jesus Christ Superstar and he has been addicted to the theatre ever since, acting and directing. A few plays he originally performed in, like Toad of Toad Hall (1980) and Death of a Salesman (1986) he has now had the privilege of directing in 2015 and 2018, some thirty years later!

Rex is also often a Backstage Manager or Set builder for both CHATS & CHMCC.



DAVE TUNE—TREASURER

Dave has been involved in amateur theatre since he was seventeen. He has acted, sung, produced, managed, directed, designed, and supported community theatre in multiple companies across two states.

In Coffs Harbour he has been on stage in five musicals and four plays, has directed three shows, designed sets, worked backstage, run sound and lighting desks, run the box office and front of house as well as producing a number of shows.

Dave is currently on the committees for both CHATS (as treasurer) and CHMCC and has a particular interest in organising training and performance opportunities for young people in all aspects of local theatre.



DONNA FAIRALL—SECRETARY

Donna has been involved with both CHATS and CHMCC since 2010, acting, singing, dancing, choreographing, directing as well as serving on both committees. She loves exploring all areas of performing, especially encouraging and developing skills within young people.

She originally started as a dance teacher and ran her own studio on the Central Coast, and then tried her hand at directing and choreographing shows at the same time. Her personal favourites include Beauty and the Beast, Annie, Mary Poppins and Shrek the Musical.



KAIYAI DOENAU—VICE PRESIDENT

At the age of 5, Kaiyai started Ballroom, completing 13 years of lessons, snagging many competition wins all around the Eastern Coast of Australia, plus many years training in tap, jazz, ballet and Bollywood. He has also performed in local theatre for over a decade now. Some favourites include Enjolras (Les Miserables), Boq (Wicked), Seaweed (Hairspray) and Lewis (Cosi).

Kaiyai is also excited to see the arts grow in Coffs especially after the pandemic. He is thrilled to be making his directing debut for CHATS this year with Jack and his Amazing Multicoloured Beanstalk!





CHANTEL THORN

This is Chantel's third year on CHATS Committee and is so excited to continue working with, and for you all, to help make CHATS the best it can be. She is passionate about helping everyone get more involved with our local theatre and helping others to reach their performance goals!

Chantel has performed in a few shows over the years from all different local groups but is happy to call CHATS her home because of our shared passion for giving every person the opportunity to do incredible things.

Her inbox is always open for people with questions, concerns, or ideas for our community and she is excited to see what is brought to the table over the next year!



LILY TASKER

Lily did her first show through The Coffs Harbour Amateur Theatre Society back in 2019 and has a great passion for the hard work that goes into putting on a fantastic show. Needless to say, she is very happy to be on the committee for the third year running, working with such driven and talented people, to further her skills and knowledge.

She is very excited to help with our wonderful shows this year and hopefully see new talent thrive through CHATS. It truly is set to be a thoroughly fantastic year and Lily hopes you're on board for the ride.



SHARON TOMLINSON

Sharon started with CHATS when her daughter Bethany was part of Chatters. She was part of the Spring on Stage committee with Shirley Barnett for a couple of years, and has been involved in at least 22 of Chats shows, either back stage or as a Stage Manager. Most of her contribution has been in making props and staging. At the moment she looks after the Props shed and represents CHATS working in the dressing shed. Some of her most challenging shows, were the 2 outdoor shows in Botanical gardens, Ready River and a Mid Summers Night Dream. A memorable moment in another show was the accidental nude scene in Gone to Bali. She has shared many great times with many great people through the years.



EMILY BROCKETT-BRANSTER

Emily has been involved with the Jetty Memorial Theatre since 2016 in various CHATS shows, playing Phoebe in 'Toad of Toad Hall' in 2018 and Snow White in 'Jaq and the Green Pork' in 2019. She also performed in All Entertainment's 'It's a Wonderful Life' in 2020 as Mary/Violet and as Nettie in GYT's 'Mimiga' in 2016.

Emily is delighted to join the CHATS Committee for the first time.



MARCUS NEVIN

Marcus Daniel Nevin has been doing theatre since 2013 with Belinda Lemair's Young Actor Studio. He has performed in Alice in Wonderland, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and the Egg Files. Lately, he seems to be playing characters twice his age, in Toad of Toad Hall (The Judge), Lords and Ladies (King Verence) and South Pacific (Commander Harbison). He recently played Richard Hannay in 39 Steps.

Marcus is joining the Committee for the first time.

President's Chat

Dear members,

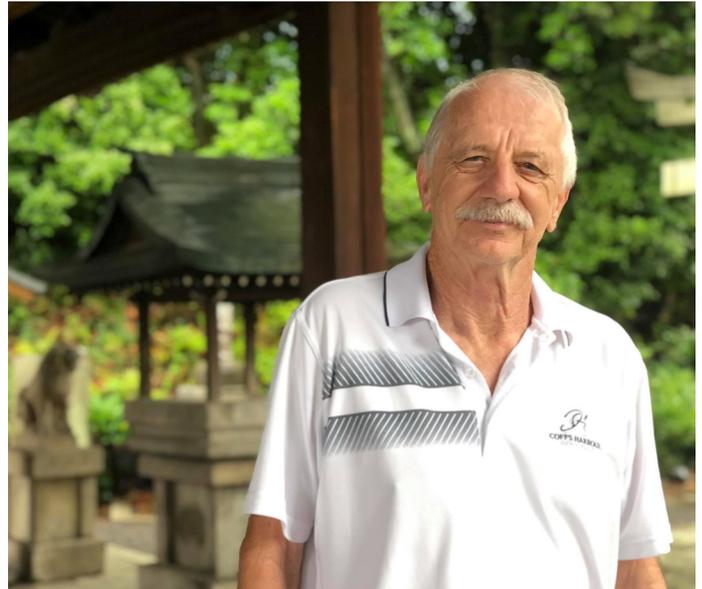
Welcome to a new CHATS year. We have some new faces on committee this year, Sharon Tomlinson who has been our props lady forever, and also excited to have a couple of relatively new comers Marcus Nevin and Emily Brockett-Branster.

On a sad note, Monday the 15th of March we will say goodbye to CHATS matriarch Shirley Barnett. Shirley has been the backbone of CHATS for over 20 years. She has been actor, secretary, president and directed over 20 shows, written plays, and been mentor to a myriad of up and coming actors in the Coffs region. Shirley also founded with John Miller, "Mix it Up" which brought to the stage a whole lot of people that otherwise would not have the chance to shine. Mix it Up has now evolved into Mix Tub Theatre, that shows disability is not a disability and will be a legacy to Shirley that will live well into the future. So please come to the Jetty Theatre at 11 am on March 15 to say a farewell to Shirley.

(RSVP) Rex Madigan 0421 756 618

After sitting on our hands for a year because of Covid, "Steel Magnolias" is just about ready to go on stage. Opening night Friday the 19th of March, and director Donna Fairall has been working hard with a brilliant cast of 6 ladies, to bring this wonderful play to the stage. I have seen some of the rehearsals and am in awe of how well they are doing.

David Tune is also working to come up with an audition date for "In Bed With The Bishops". This is a bright comedy by a new Melbourne playwright, and fits perfectly with CHATS charter to produce not only new works, but new Australian works. Having watched a play reading of this play I know audiences are going to love it.



I would love you all to go to the Coffs Council have your say page and show support for the Jetty Theatre expansion program. The idea is to develop the land next to the theatre to create a full stage size rehearsal space, that includes extra toilets, service the existing theatre, a bigger bar and separate coffee area, and new set building/costume storage area which will compliment Coffs community theatre groups. This plan is nothing to do with a new entertainment centre, but will enhance the theatre experience of both community and touring shows at the existing Jetty Theatre. The new rehearsal space will be available for other community groups to use as well.

I would like to wish CHMCC good luck with their production of "Into The Woods" that will hit the stage in May. The director Tim Gibbs and cast are working to once again entertain Coffs Harbour audiences.

For both "Steel Magnolias" and "Into the Woods" tickets, book at the Jetty Theatre web site or call 6648 4930.

Regards

Rex Madigan
President



Donna Fairall
DIRECTOR

Steel Magnolias

With only one week left of Steel Magnolias rehearsals, things are getting very exciting!

Our rehearsals have been a rollercoaster of emotions and many times we have had tears in our eyes or quite frankly, running down our faces from laughter, or just simply beautiful and moving scenes.

These girls have worked so hard and their dedication has been inspiring.

A big thanks to Sharon and Ann for costume alterations and bringing in props we can rehearse with.

Tickets are on sale through the Jetty Theatre so tell your friends, share our posts on facebook and spread the word.

This is the first CHATS show to hit the stage in over a year!

<https://www.jettytheatre.com/steel-magnolias/>

THE CAST

Emily Brockett-Branster as Shelby

Laura Smith as M'Lynn

Jenny Garratt as Truvy

Emily Cooper as Annelle

Virginia Craze as Clairee

Mel Winkler as Ouiser



9th — 18th
July, 2021

Directed by
David Tune

CHATS
PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS



In Bed with the BISHOPS

A hilarious new play
by
Rob Selzer

In Bed With The Bishops Auditions

Auditions for this new Australian comedy will take place on the weekend of 10 and 11 April, at a time and place to be advised. The play will open on Friday 9 July and close on Sunday 18 July.

There are four roles in the show

DR. JACK GLASS, Forty-ish. A Psychiatrist specialising in couple's therapy. Playful but scares easily. Jack is a non-practicing Jew who discovered he was gay and is now divorced as a result.

BETTY BISHOP, Thirty. Blond. Attractive. Impeccable manners. Ruthless. Betty has her own TV show called Betty Perfect, which covers etiquette and acceptable behaviour and has a huge following, she is an influencer and uses that to her advantage. Everything in her life needs to be perfect, which is why she wants to have a baby.

BARRY BISHOP, Thirty. Handsome. Dumb as a box of hammers but likable. The son of a successful stock broking family, he works in the family firm. Barry is almost a trophy husband who yearns for a simpler life than he currently has.

ZELDA, Old. Looks like Golda Mier, talks like her too. Zelda is Jack's professional supervisor, a very experienced Psychiatrist who's job it is to oversee and guide his work, she is something of a confidant for Jack. Zelda is a practicing Jew who knows Jack's past and present situation.

The show moves quickly with snappy dialogue and twists and turns in the plot and unfolds as Jack relates his experiences with the Bishops to Zelda, switching from the present in Zelda's office to the events he is describing happening in the past in Jack's office.

The story moves forward to the present in Jack's office and the situation gets even more complicated.

Character requirements

Jack, not overtly gay, has a professional manner that is somewhat light, attempts to engage his clients with humour.

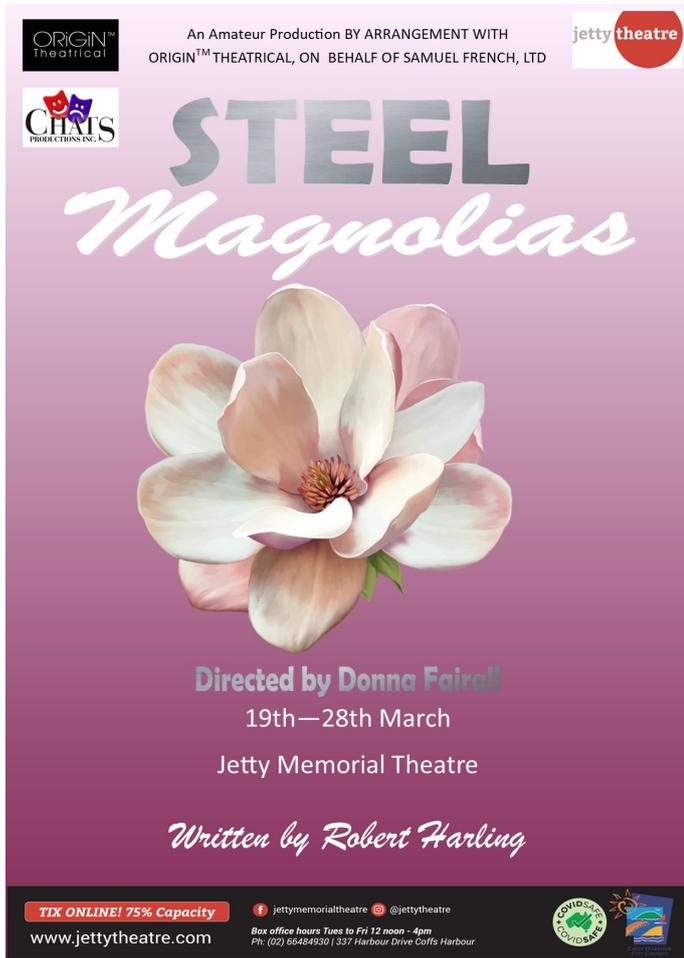
Betty, confident, manipulative, attractive, always in charge of the situation, has a somewhat superior attitude to everyone around her.

Barry, easy going, not very bright, good physical specimen, out of his depth in his working life and secretly wanting something different.

Zelda, very Jewish, sharp mind but sometimes distracted when hearing Jack's story, uses wry sarcasm to make her points and to get Jack to think things through.

Auditions will entail reading sections of the play and interacting with the other characters, to receive an audition pack including character sides (sections of script used for the audition) email info@chats.org.au indicating your interest and which character you would like to audition for.

UPCOMING SHOWS!



ORIGIN™
Theatrical

An Amateur Production BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL, ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD

jetty theatre

CHATS
PRODUCTIONS INC.

STEEL *Magnolias*



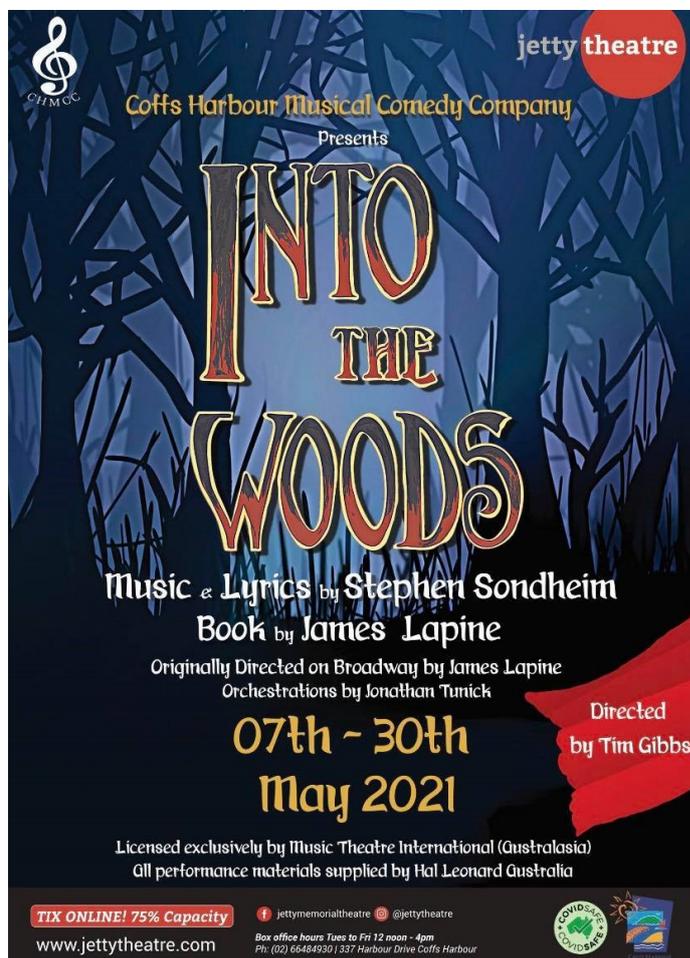
Directed by Donna Fairall
19th—28th March
Jetty Memorial Theatre

Written by Robert Harling

TIX ONLINE! 75% Capacity | [jettytheatretickets](#) | [@jettytheatre](#)

Box office hours Tues to Fri 12 noon - 4pm
Ph: (02) 66484930 | 337 Harbour Drive Coffs Harbour





jetty theatre

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company
Presents

INTO THE WOODS

Music & Lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**
Book by **James Lapine**

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

**07th - 30th
May 2021**

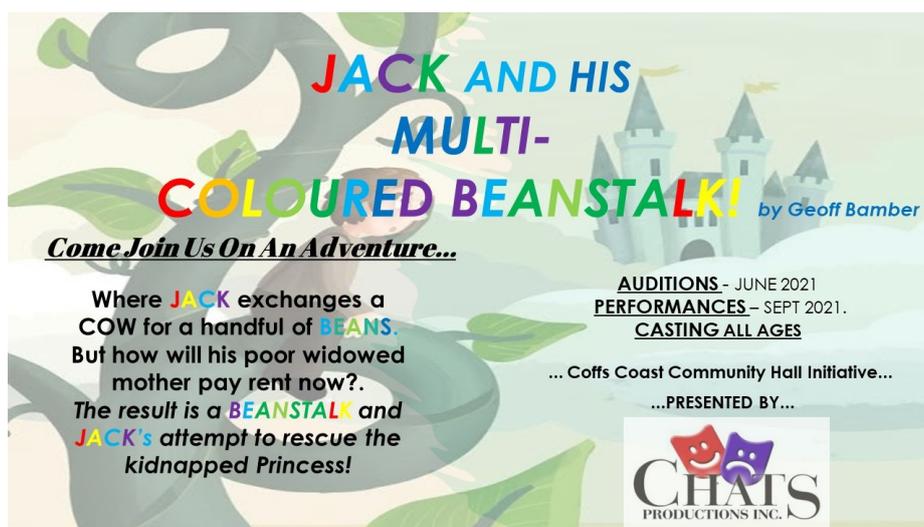
Directed by Tim Gibbs

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australia)
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

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JACK AND HIS MULTI- COLOURED BEANSTALK!

by Geoff Bamber

Come Join Us On An Adventure...

Where **JACK** exchanges a **COW** for a handful of **BEANS**.
But how will his poor widowed mother pay rent now?
The result is a **BEANSTALK** and **JACK's** attempt to rescue the kidnapped Princess!

AUDITIONS - JUNE 2021
PERFORMANCES - SEPT 2021.
CASTING ALL AGES

... Coffs Coast Community Hall Initiative...
...PRESENTED BY...



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