

# In the LIMELIGHT

Wanneroo Repertory  
**NEWSLETTER**  
NOVEMBER  
2017  
**THE LIMELIGHT  
THEATRE**  
• civic drive • wanneroo •



Hello everyone,

I was delighted to have enjoyed "Pygmalion" at our theatre – what a beautiful set – such elegance everywhere! Congratulations to Robert Usaraga for the set design and construction, to Polly Waugh for the set dressing and to all who assisted in any way to make this a great space for actors to strut their stuff. The actors were all excellent; a master stroke of casting. It was great to see Owen Phillips back in the fold after many years away, delightful to feature a new member Emily Botje, in the role of Eliza Doolittle, and I'd like to make special mention of Andrew Govey, who stepped into the role of Mr Doolittle at the eleventh hour, and what a lovely cameo it was! This was Jacob Turner's first play as director. Bravo, young man, you have a lot to be proud of!

You will recall I had a bit of a rant last month about volunteers and how we tend to presume someone will always step up. Thank you to those who responded – you were few, but your willingness to help out was greatly appreciated.

There have been a few changes to the committee as people try to juggle life and all its commitments. So I'd like to welcome Mike Gibbs back to the committee, this time in the role of Treasurer and also Richard Tudge, who has been a member for many years; he is taking on the role of secretary. Thank you gentlemen, it's good to know these important roles are in efficient and safe hands. We've also had one new member join the Tuesday Task Force but there's room for more!

Another change in personnel is that Nick Thomas will be taking over the website updates and such – thank you Nick, and also thank you to Catherine who did such great job for the past 6 months.

Our final production for the year, "The Wedding Singer", is in full rehearsal swing and is looking forward to showing us all what was good about the 80's! From the snippets of rehearsal that I have seen, we are in for a treat of talent and fun.

See you at the theatre!

*Shelley*

## PRESENTING

### *The Wanneroo Rep 2018 Season!*

- 19 - 21*  
*Jan*  
**A PRINCESS DREAM**  
GLASS SLIPPER PRODUCTIONS IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH WANNEROO REP
- 8 - 17*  
*Mar*  
**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**  
DIRECTED BY KATHLEEN DEL CASALE
- 3 - 12*  
*May*  
**THE LADY KILLERS**  
DIRECTED BY SUSAN VINCENT
- 5 - 14*  
*Jul*  
**A FAIRY TALE OF SORTS**  
DIRECTED BY JOHN GRIMSHAW
- 23 Jul -*  
*4 Aug*  
**A HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**  
WOODVALE SECONDARY COLLEGE
- 12 - 25*  
*Aug*  
**SHREK**  
WANNEROO SECONDARY COLLEGE
- 27 Sep -*  
*13 Oct*  
**ROMEO & JULIET**  
DIRECTED BY PETER CLARKE
- 22 Nov -*  
*8 Dec*  
**SONGS FOR THE SHOWS**  
DIRECTED BY ALEISHA ARCHER, AMY SALES &  
KIMBERLEY HILL

*Tickets on sale soon!*

## Announcement!



A special General Meeting to adopt the Club's new constitution will be held on Monday 4th December at 7.30pm at the theatre. It is essential that we have a quorum for this meeting, so please attend if you can. The constitution then has to be ratified by the Department of Commerce.

We hope you can make it!

# SPOTLIGHT ON *Jen Edwards*

*Each month we like to spotlight one of the members of the Limelight Theatre community. This month, meet Jen Edwards, Member of Many Hats - committee member, performer, choreographer, poster designer and now co-director of the final show of the year, 'The Wedding Singer'!*

Originally from the UK, Jen moved to Perth in 2009 after meeting her now husband Daniel whilst travelling South East Asia. She found him under a waterfall in Thailand and he convinced her never to go back to Blighty again! They now have three wonderful kids - Cooper (6), Georgia (4) and Billy (1) and all run hectic lives. Jen runs her own graphic design business 'Chick & Egg' (which designs all of the Limelight season posters) and also last year launched herself as a face painter under the name 'Wonderland Arts'. Jen's ability to be a part of the committee and shows at the Limelight Theatre is down to Daniel and his acceptance that he is a theatre widower (and single parent) for a large amount of the time!

Jen has been on stage since she was 3 when she played a bunny in Alice In Wonderland and her tail fell off. 'The audience laughed and that was it, I was smitten!' says Jen. The following thirty-something years have been filled with pantomimes and musicals, plays and recitals where Jen has enjoyed many memorable roles such as Nora in 'A Dolls House', Miss Mona in 'The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas', Mrs Lovett in 'Sweeney Todd', Jackie in 'My Mother Said I Never Should' and Red Riding Hood in 'Into The Woods'. Jen studied Theatre at university in London and following graduation toured the UK and Ireland as a professional actress for two years in 'Macbeth' and 'Accidental Death of An Anarchist'. Jen is honoured to say that she has performed in the West End, in two showcase musicals at The London Palladium and Her Majesty's Theatre London.

In 2009 Jen played Michelle in "Allo 'Allo' at the The Regal Theatre and there met some members of Wanneroo Rep (Bob & Sue Mainwaring, Alan Brock, Ros Guye, Colleen Hopkins). 'They talked about this theatre in Wanneroo where they had the luxury of 5 week long, on stage rehearsals and a multitude of facilities at their fingertips and I was intrigued,' says Jen. 'Being new to Perth, I first had to find out where Wanneroo was then rocked up to audition for the next Wanneroo Rep musical. I was fortunate to land a role which has become my all-time favourite, the forgetful, country singing, ventriloquist Sister Mary Amnesia in 'Nunsense!' Amnesia won Jen nominations for Best Actress Finley awards twice and Best Actress in a Musical awards at Limelight.

At Limelight, Jen's most notable roles include Sister Mary



Amnesia in 'Nunsense!' (2009) and 'Nunsense II The Second Coming' (2014), Julia in 'Kindly Keep It Covered' (2010) & Reno Sweeney in 'Anything Goes' (2014). In 2015 Jen directed and produced 'Snoopy The Musical', a sweet musical for children of all ages. 'I had the pleasure of working with an inspiring team of amazing individuals who brought to life some memorable characters from my childhood,' says Jen. 'The musical was "small but perfectly formed" in my opinion, and we happily received recognition from The Finleys and several Limelight awards including Best Set'.

Jen became a committee member this year, and amongst her achievements she has introduced the EFTPOS machine to the venue! She also previously initiated the installation of a high-profile projector. She has also designed and produced the posters and programmes for each show since 2015 and strives to maintain a smart, effective marketing presence for each show.

Yet another role that Jen is currently fulfilling at the Limelight is that of co-director of 'The Wedding Singer', the final production for 2017. 'I 'inherited' the director's chair (or should we say two-seater couch) for 'The Wedding Singer' and I am excited to bring such an upbeat musical to the stage, top full of 80s kitsch and retro cliché!' says Jen. 'We have a cast of over 30 extraordinarily talented performers who are working tirelessly, many who are newcomers to the Limelight stage and some who return after a long sabbatical! It is great to welcome so many boys to our stage too, all of who are fabulously talented and hard working.'

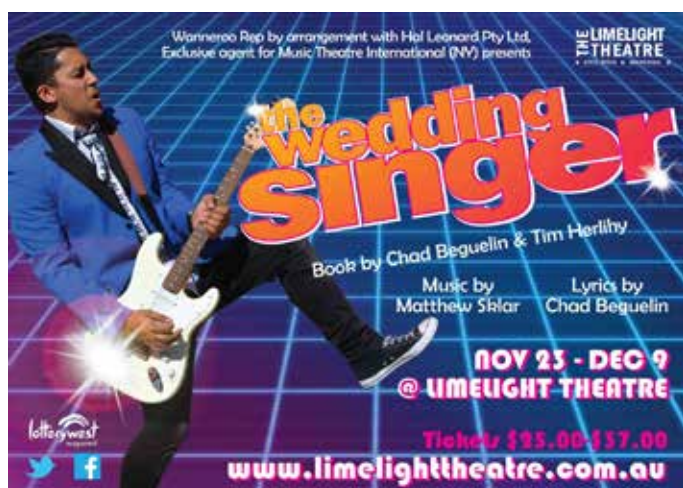
Jen feels that 'The Wedding Singer' crew is second to none. 'Maddy Innes heads a band of funky musicians who flocked to play for her. Maddy's calm, intelligent approach to her first musical direction role has earned her respect and admiration,' explains Jen. 'Our stage manager, the highly-organised Elinor King, brings her knowledge of professional theatre to her role and keeps us all in touch. It was Elinor's idea to put on 'The Wedding Singer' and her input in this production is fundamental, especially when dealing with 80's references!' [this newsletter editor can vouch for Elinor's love of 80s references]. 'We have welcomed many new volunteers to Limelight, in the form of new seamstresses, back stage crew and set builders. This show has forged a partnership also with The Men's Shed in Wangara as they bring set pieces to life. People have flocked to work with us and for that I am very thankful.'



'Primarily though I am grateful to be working alongside David Nelson, my friend, a stalwart of the theatre. David has an abundance of theatrical experience and he shares my artistic vision. He is paramount to this production and keeps my feet on the ground when I dream up crazy ideas!'

Directing always comes with challenges and a large-scale musical like 'The Wedding Singer' brings many challenges. 'The rehearsal period is long and often takes its toll on the company in the form of sickness and other commitments, but it is necessary to produce a tight, confident performance,' says Jen. 'The logistics of producing many sets and remaining within budget is no mean feat, as we start to build I will no doubt be challenged by new obstacles! The hardest challenge though is finding that effective family-work-theatre balance and although I am constantly riddled with mum-guilt and often wish I could wave a magic wand and claw back another 12 hours in each day, I will strive to produce an excellent production and have you all partying like it's 1985!'

**Make sure you get your tickets to 'The Wedding Singer'! Information on dates and how to purchase are on the last page of the newsletter.**

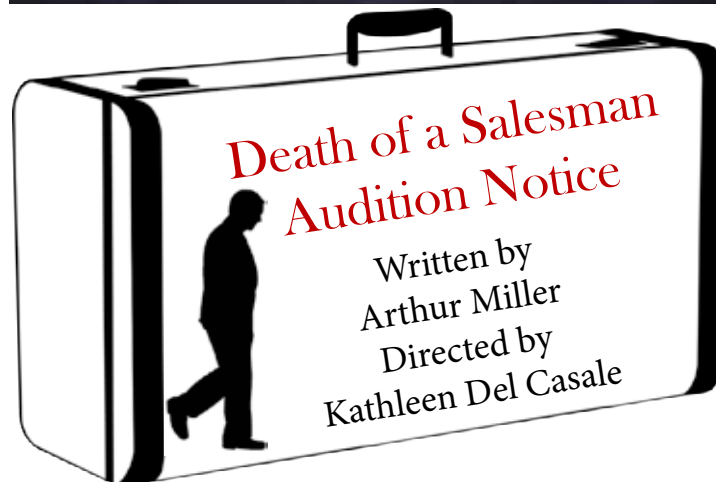


## The Wedding Singer

It's 1985, and rock star wannabe, Robbie Hart, is New Jersey's favorite wedding singer. He's the life of the party until his own fiancée leaves him at the altar. Shot through the heart, Robbie makes every wedding as disastrous as his own. Enter Julia, a winsome waitress who wins his affection. As luck would have it, Julia is about to be married to a Wall Street shark, and, unless Robbie can pull off the performance of a decade, the girl of his dreams will be gone forever.

Based on the hit movie, this musical will take you back to a time where the hair was big, the clothes were bright and the music was pumping. It's sure to be a great night at the theatre!

Dates and ticket information can be found on the back page of the newsletter.



**Audition Date: Saturday 13th & 14th January 2018**

**Performance Dates: 8th - 17th March 2018**

To book an audition, contact:

[deathofasalesman@hotmail.com](mailto:deathofasalesman@hotmail.com)

### Synopsis:

Willy Loman has been a traveling salesman all his life. Although Willy has worked hard, his family has always lived on the edge of poverty, while he has constantly told himself and his family that his deserved 'big break' is just around the corner. The play consists of events in the present moment mixed up with events from the past, seamlessly weaving together, all leading up to a pinnacle moment in the existence of Willy Loman, a moment where he realises his own failure.

**Willy Loman (60 y/o):** Travelling salesman with high aspirations that have failed.

**Linda Loman (55-60 y/o):** Willy's devoted wife.

**Biff Loman (30-35 y/o):** Eldest son, a failure in his father's eyes.

**Happy Loman (25-35 y/o):** Younger brother to Biff. A womanizer who idealises his father..

**Uncle Ben (60-65 y/o):** Willy's older brother. A successful businessman.

**Charley (60-65 y/o):** Loman's next-door-neighbour and father of Bernard. Friend to Willy.

**Bernard (25-30 y/o):** Charley's only son. Intelligent but lacks general personality.

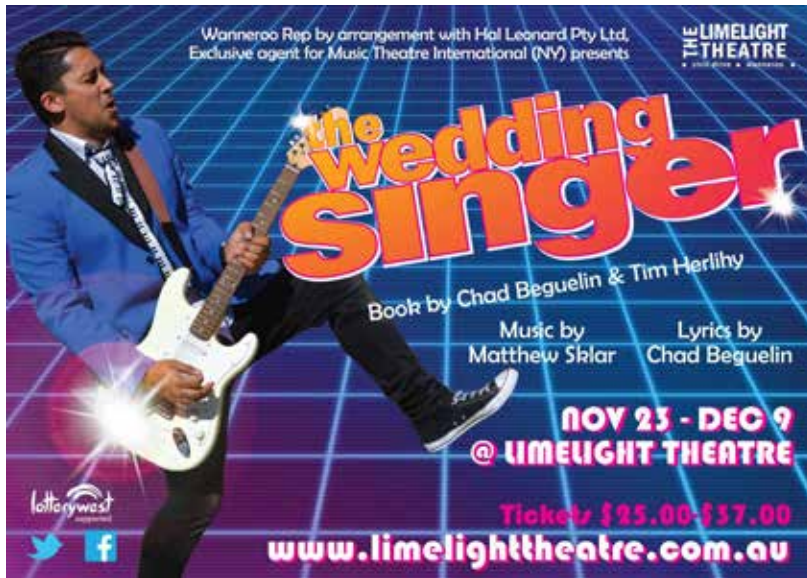
**Howard Wagner (30-40 y/o):** Son of Frank Wagner, Willy's former boss. Howard has taken over his late father's position. A hardcore businessman.

**Stanley (25-50 y/o):** A waiter at the restaurant.

**The Woman (30-49 y/o):** Willy's former lover with whom he had an ongoing affair with in Boston. She appears only in Willy's memories.

**Letta and Miss Forsythe (25-35 y/o):** Two woman who meet Biff and Happy at a restaurant, most likely prostitutes.

BOOK NOW FOR...



## THE WEDDING SINGER

Book online: [www.limelighttheatre.com.au](http://www.limelighttheatre.com.au)

Book by telephone: 0409 984 016  
(Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon)

November 23rd, 24th, 25th and 30th, **8.00pm**

December 1st, 2nd, **8.00pm**

December 3rd, **2.00pm** matinee  
(with afternoon tea)\*

December 7th, 8th and 9th, **8.00pm**

\*Afternoon tea included at Sunday matinee for extra \$5.

If undelivered return to:

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WANNEROO WA 6946

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