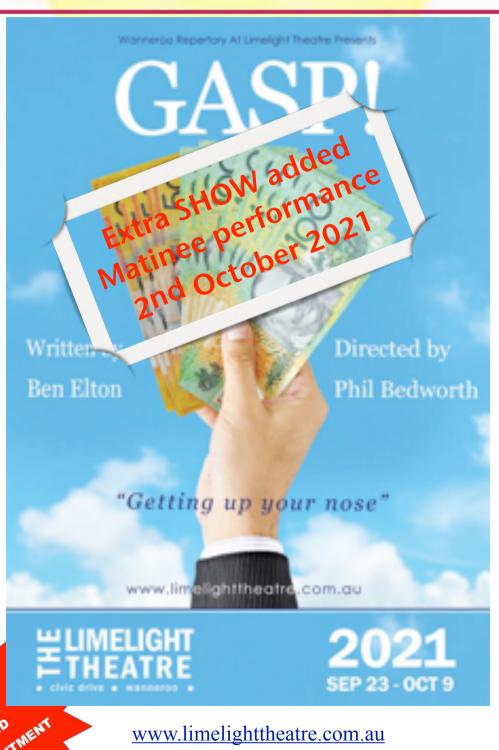




# Limelight Letter

Wanneroo Repertory Inc

August 2021



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Email: bookings@limelighttheatre.com.au

Bookings: 0499 954 016

# PRESIDENT'S SPOT

Hello Members & Friends -

So good to be back home again after 25 days re-exploring the Apple Isle.

Love Tasmania — even in the winter and thoroughly recommend it as a safe,

beautiful destination. However, if you're not fond of freezing temperatures,

better to go in summer!



Wanneroo Secondary College, who generously let us use their dance studio for rehearsals, are 'taking over' The Limelight Theatre until mid-August to showcase their Year 10 students' production of "Crazy for You". If you would like to see this and support these students, you will need to contact the school for bookings.

Our program for 2022 is announced in this newsletter and what a great year it will be! Lots of variety — comedy, drama, musicals — something for everyone — both members and audiences!

2021 may have had a staggered start, but the seasons so far have been very well received and with the premier of Ben Elton's "Gasp!" taking the stage in September followed by our first panto in many years "Jack and the Beanstalk", we should finish the year with a bang!

Your committee is always working hard to ensure the smooth running of the Club. We have been fortunate in receiving a grant from the State Government to help with some of the upgrades our ageing building needs, but budgeting for the future is not easy in these uncertain times. We have some expensive, but necessary work to be done and Mike Gibbs, our treasurer, has proposed a budget and plan for the Club to make the best of what funds we have. Fortunately, and if there are no more lock downs, we have 2 popular seasons to end this year and a full set of 6 shows for next year which will certainly help to swell the coffers!

I'd like to thank all of those who submitted their productions for 2022. I'm pleased to say that the reading committee had plenty to choose from and have put together an excellent program for next year. Thanks also to the reading committee and Helen Tudge who coordinated this group — not an easy task — but efficiently performed! And while I'm thanking our wonderful volunteers — I'd prefer not to name names as the chance of forgetting someone is always an issue — so much work goes on "behind the scenes" unnoticed by the membership in general but noticed and acknowledged by myself and the committee. Thank you ALL for the time and dedication you give — we would be lost without you,

See you at the theatre Shelley



## Action list from the last committee meeting:

- Ongoing replacement and improvements to equipment back-stage and in the fly- tower
- Ongoing discussions with "ProSound" for improved acoustic qualities in the auditorium
- Screening the "Rocky Horror Show" in mid October.



• Programme for 2022 season finalised



Following some very strong submissions this year, the Reading & Theatre Committee announce the 2022 Programme of Seasons as follows -

**The Woman who Cooked her Husband** (a black comedy / drama) Directed by Barry LeFort

Equally Divided (a drama) Directed by Gwen Browning

**Dusty** (a musical) Directed by Shelley McGinn

The Full Monty (a comedy) Directed by Phil Bedworth

Pack of Lies (a drama) Directed by Gordon Park

42nd Street (a musical) Directed by Drew Anthony

Final production dates still to be arranged.

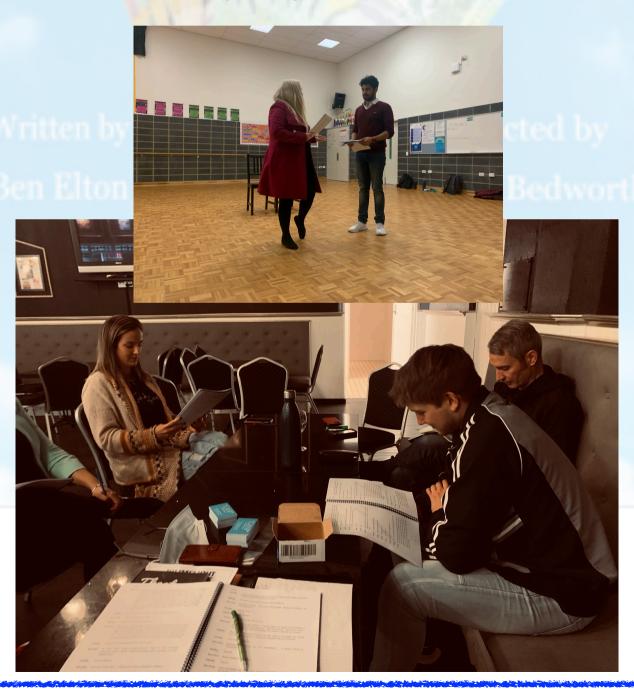
# "GASP!" - Update

After more than 9 months in the planning, 55 actors attending auditions over four days totalling 24 hours and a multitude of other tasks and actions – it is exciting that rehearsals have been underway since 13th July 2021.

Taking on the task twice per week with the spectre of lockdowns at any moment, the dedicated and talented cast have thrown themselves into what promises to be a hilarious, yet poignant, look at the world we inhabit. Even in these early stages, it is clear to see the amazing rollercoaster of emotions that the actors will take you on when you come to see this deliciously dark satire.

With more than four weeks before they go on sale, ticketing enquiries have been exceeding all usual expectations, don't delay booking your seats from 09:00hrs

Monday 23rd August ("Gasp!" Tickets).



## Wanneroo singing group promotes inclusion



Fraser Haxton, Hannah Stokes, My Supports disability support coordinator and volunteer Sharee Chitty, Catherine Campbell and Kristy Marsiglia.

People with disability are relishing the limelight offered through a free singing group in Wanneroo.

Volunteer Sharee Chitty runs weekly sessions at Limelight Theatre where dozens of participants gather to sing, dance, socialise and have a whole lot of fun.

Mrs Chitty, who works at My Supports as a disability support coordinator, said she was inspired to start the group a year ago by one of her clients, Fraser Haxton, when she was a support worker.

She said he was theatrical and loved to sing and dance, but there was nowhere he could do it for free during the day.

"People with disability often don't have a disposable income to be able to spend on classes each week, so I run this for free," she said.

"It has grown from three or four members to almost 30.

"It's wonderful; there is so much happiness in one little room.

"It's nice for them to be able to catch up with their friends.

"They have formed really beautiful friendships and they go off and have lunch together afterwards."

Mrs Chitty said Wanneroo Repertory Club allowed them to use the space for free, which meant participants did not need to pay membership fees.

She said each week they practiced a routine to Kesha's song This is me from The Greatest Showman soundtrack, which they hoped to perform to a bigger audience one day.

Support worker Tayler MacLeod said having social activities greatly helped clients, including those who were non-verbal.

"Without stuff like this, especially in winter, it doesn't give us a chance to catch up with friends," she said. "Without it, my clients have nothing to do."



Fraser Haxton of Alkimos and My Supports disability support coordinator Sharee Chitty sing for the crowd at Limelight Theatre in Wanneroo.

Participant Catherine Campbell said she enjoyed getting out of the house, meeting people and dancing."I dance a little bit at home as well," she said.

Support worker Maxine Price said one of the participants Kristy Marsiglia was a "pocket rocket" who got everyone up and dancing each week.

Mrs Price said the social aspect was great, helping participants connect with people, and they always left smiling.

"It's sometimes hard to find places to go," she said.

Mrs Chitty said participants had a range of intellectual and physical conditions, including autism and Down syndrome, although none hindered their ability to enjoy themselves.

"Everyone has different needs, but they all come and have a good time," she said. "They get to come in here and be unapologetically themselves; there's no iudgement.

"It's a capacity-building thing for them – they are building friendships; they are building social skills."

Support workers and relatives attend the sessions and become the audience for those keen to perform. Shirley Mills regularly attended to watch her granddaughter Hannah Stokes "having a ball". "She didn't used to; she had no social life as such," Mrs Mills said. "Now she is up all the time, dancing and singing. "Disabled people need something like this; they need stimulation and to meet people.

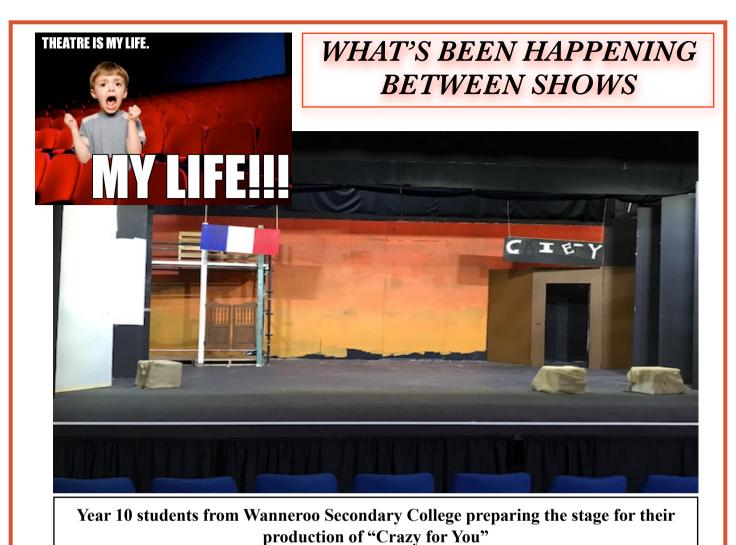
"The more activities that there are for disabled people, the better."

My Supports WA coach Megan Robinson said the agency looked for ways to integrate clients in their local communities so they could build relationships.

# **Lucy Jarvis**

#### Wanneroo Times

Credit: David Baylis/Community News



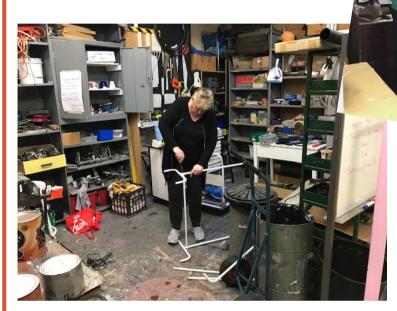
Always something to do, Vince and Richard hard at it

Performance dates: Monday the 9th, Wednesday the 11th and Friday the 13th

Some of our Volunteers taking a well earned break

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING
BETWEEN SHOWS

Joan, Julie and Julia getting their heads together.



Julie - showing off her skills in the workshop

#### **Is Community Theatre Important**

Why is it important to support the arts in your community? Looking at the big picture, does it make any difference if you attend a community theatre production?

The answer is yes.

Community theatre contributes, not only to the arts but to your community as a whole.

Community theatre allows aspiring actors and theatre hobbyists to come together and hone their craft. It creates a sense of accomplishment and developed a community spirit as cast and crew work towards a common goal. Whether the performers intend to fly off to an audition in the West End after the curtain falls or simply plan to go home to their families and day jobs, a community theatre production provides its cast and crew with a second family, a support system and a strong sense of pride in their contribution to the arts in the community.

But a local production does not only give back to those on stage, it also provides the community with the chance to come together to celebrate creativity and teamwork.

Author Unknown



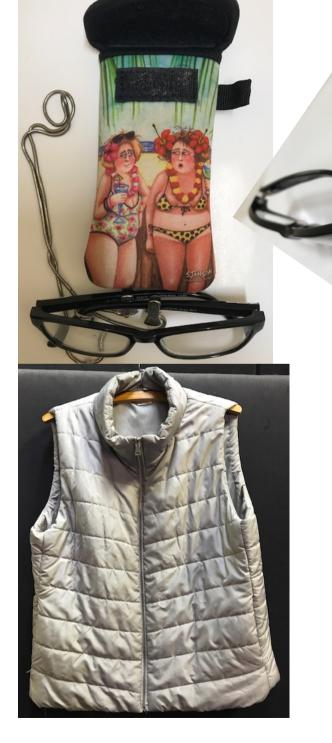
President always giving a helping hand







Please contact: <u>president@limelighttheatre.com.au</u>







### YOUR CURRENT COMMITTEE AND THEATRE MANAGERS

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT - Shelley McGinn (president@limelighttheatre.com.au)

VICE PRESIDENT - Karen Murray (vicepresident@limelighttheatre.com.au)

SECRETARY - Richard Tudge (secretary@limelighttheatre.com.au)

TREASURER - Mike Gibbs (accounts@limelighttheatre.com.au)

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Maintenance Manager - Julie Clark (maintenance@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Social Media - Kathleen Del Casale

Technical Manager - Paul King (sound@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Publicity & Marketing - Sandra Powell (publicity@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Volunteer Coordinator - RJ Smolders (frontofhouse@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Social Media - Ashlee Torrens

**Committee (Tech) - Gordon Park** 

#### **MANAGERS**

Bookings & Membership - Patrick McGinn (bookings@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Front of House - RJ Smolders (frontofhouse@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Wardrobe - Joan Braskic (wardrobe@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Props - Lorraine Jones (properties@limelighttheatre.com.au)

Newsletter - Ian Jones (newsletter@limelighttheatre.com.au)



#### FOR BOOKINGS

Phone - 0499 954 016 (Mon, Wed & Fri 9 –12) Or Email:

Or Email: bookings@limelighttheatre.com.au www.limelighttheatre.com.au

