2018 ANNUAL REPORT

2018 Major Production ‘Annie’
Our mission
‘We will promote and facilitate community theatre in Leongatha and more widely through South Gippsland and beyond.’

Our vision
‘To enrich the cultural life of our audiences through presentation of the highest quality community theatre.’

Our History and Our Hopes
We were founded by Mrs Lyn Carr. Lyn was a music teacher and singer at the time. Having experience in both amateur and professional productions Lyn set about recruiting a small group of dedicated thespians. The first production, the operetta ‘Trial By Jury’, was performed in the newly opened Mesley Hall, Leongatha in July 1965. That first production played to an estimated audience of 1200 over a three-night season. An initial bank balance of $25 had grown to $280 by the year’s end. The charitable ethos of Lyric Theatre was founded in these early years when it was decided to donate $100 to the Leongatha Rotary Club in aid of the Elderly Citizens Project.

Productions in a variety of venues have continued in every year since our founding. Lyric Youth Theatre was very active over the period of 1974 to 2004. The role of a facilitator/director remains open in the hope we can re-establish the group.

From very modest beginnings, our productions have grown in complexity and cost. Our ability to present the quality that audiences now expect has its roots in the enthusiasm, dedication and good management of the many volunteers over the years.

Assets have gradually been built up so that set construction, stage properties and electrical equipment are now based in the Lyric Playhouse in Watsons Rd, Leongatha. An extensive wardrobe and costume manufacture are based in the Lyric Studio also in Watsons Rd. The Eagger Studio provides rehearsal space. A works program to improve facilities is currently underway.

Assets are also located in Mesley Hall, Leongatha.

Over the years, hopes have been raised and then dashed in our quest for a dedicated performing arts centre to serve the district. However our relationship with Mesley Hall, the former Leongatha High School and the Leongatha Secondary College has continued to the present day. In the last 12 months we have further progressed in our desire for a Community Use Agreement for Mesley Hall. The details in the document being prepared are dependent on the completion of an initial costing of the rebuild of the Mesley Hall stage and supporting infrastructure. Arts Consultant Rob Gebert completed the Business Case for the re-development of Mesley Hall early in 2018. Subsequently the South Gippsland Shire Council has approved funding for an architect to be engaged to submit a concept design and cost plan. It is expected this work should be completed by May 2019. Further funding will then be needed to enable full architectural drawings to be made. We remain grateful for the co-operation of the Leongatha Secondary College and the South Gippsland Shire Council in this regard.

A detailed history of Leongatha Lyric Theatre has been written by David Tattersall. Copies of ‘The Roar of the Greasepaint’ are on the shelves of local branches of the West Gippsland Regional Library. This volume was updated in 2015 as ‘Fifty Years of Theatre’.
July Production of ‘Annie’
SECTION 1
AN OVERVIEW OF LYRIC

ABOUT US

In 2015 we celebrated our 50th anniversary with a Costume Exhibition, Book Launch of our history and Concert in the Leongatha Memorial Hall, Leongatha. We have provided high quality performances to the wider South Gippsland community for an extended period. Productions have included large cast musicals, plays of all genres, melodramas, pantomimes, touring one act plays and touring theatre restaurant shows. We have an active Play Reading Group and members regularly participate in One Act Play Festivals.

Our company is affiliated with the Victorian Drama League, The Music Theatre Guild of Victoria and Gippsland Associated Theatres Inc. We have been the recipients of many Awards from all affiliated associations in addition to Community Awards for productions.

As an organization we are very much a part of our rural community and are proud of our ability to offer high quality theatre throughout South Gippsland and beyond. Where possible, we support charitable causes through nominated performance ticket sales.

We also act as a vehicle enabling local people to be involved in theatre, and have given opportunity for many hundreds of people to work with the company both on and off stage. Although currently in recess, the Young Lyric Program has previously provided great enjoyment for younger members of our community. The Geoff Perrett Rising Star Award is an annual recognition of an under 21-year-old member's commitment and potential.

We are listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations and have registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission as a Charity (Advancing Culture). Donations to our Public Fund are tax deductible.


Cast and Production Team of ‘California Suite’
Chris Gale and Julie Strini ‘Visitors from New York’

Hadassah Wanstall and Murray Maclean ‘Visitors from London’

Bruce Grainger, Kate Jackson and a sleeping Evy Nye ‘Visitors from Philadelphia’

Alison McIntyre, Laurie Martin, Laura Muranty, Mike Street ‘Visitors from Chicago’

March Production of ‘California Suite’
Traverse stage for “Death and the Maiden”

Melita Tough, David Baggalay, Todd Miller ‘Death and the Maiden’
OUR PEOPLE

2018 Committee
Kerrie Giles  
President, Publicity Co-ordinator, Sponsorship
Neil Warren  
Vice President, Asset Hire, Set Construction, OH & S
Bernadette Grainger  
Secretary
Michael Street  
Treasurer, Grant applications, Playgroup, Try-booking
Peter Western  
Playhouse Manager, OH & S, Mesley Hall project
Joanna Boast  
Lighting Assistant, minutes secretary
Amy Smith  
Ticket Secretary & Social, House-keeping
Anne Martin  
Social
Julie Curtis  
Social
Margaret Tattersall  
Archives, Website
Kathy Pegler  
Social, GAT representative
Sandy Rippingale  
Costumes & Social

Appointed members
Garry Boast  
Lighting Tech.
David Tattersall  
Newsletter & Facebook, GAT Judge

Life members
Bill Gleeson (dec)  
Pat Coates (dec)  
Robyn Moore (dec)  
Alison McIntyre
Norma McDonald  
David Tattersall  
Daryl Pease  
Peter McAlpine
Harry Arnold (dec)  
Kim Harrison  
Neil Warren  
Barbara Fleming
Colin Mitchell  
Peg Elliott  
Glenys Day  
Peg McAlpine
Mary Eagger (dec)  
Richard Pegler (dec)  
Glenda Smith  
Jan Stewart (dec)
John Watsford  
Ron Eagger (dec)  
John Watson  
Marg Tattersall
Heather Drury (dec)  
Jo Howell  

OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS AND DONORS

GOLD
Evans Petroleum
Mountain View Retirement Village Leongatha
Paint Place Leongatha

SILVER
Leongatha RSL
Birch Ross & Barlow Lawyers Leongatha
Samantha’s Odd Jobs Leongatha
Panthers Mensland Leongatha and Wonthaggi
Moo’s at Meeniyan restaurant and café
Hi Tech Connections Leongatha
The Lisa Pellin Dancers Leongatha
Leongatha Motors Holden and Subaru
Viridian Financial Group
Nextra Leongatha Newsagency
Leongatha Rotary Club
Leongatha Travel and Cruise
Melina Bath MLC

Diamond

Bronze
Alex Scott & Staff Leongatha
Nagel’s Amcal Pharmacy Leongatha
Stockdale & Leggo Real Estate Leongatha & Mirboo North
Choices Flooring
STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission ABN 33 451 872 038 and is listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations. Donations to our Public Fund are tax deductable.

The committee manages Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. according to our registered constitution. Committee members and ordinary members accept responsibility for a number of administrative roles. These are assigned on an annual basis and typically include responsibilities such as: Publicity, Social Media, Fundraising, Artistic design, Wardrobe manager, Ticketing, Archives, Website, Newsletter, Arts Network representative, Hire manager, GAT representative, GAT judge, Social Committee, Playhouse manager, OH&S, Sponsorship and Play Reading Group representative.

The committee will nominate a Director for each production. The Director in conjunction with the committee will form an artistic production team. This will vary according to the size and type of production. For a musical we typically nominate a Choreographer, Vocal Director, Musical Director and Costume and Set Designer. This team is typically supported by a Production Manager, Set Construction Manager, Costume Manager, Stage Manager, Hair and Makeup Designer, Lighting Designer, Sound Designer, Properties Manager, Front of House Manager, Dressing Manager, Publicity and Sponsorship Manager and Photographer. For a play, a director's assistant may be appointed. A supporting team will be appointed.

Our Public Fund, linked with our listing on the Register of Cultural Organisations, is managed by a nominated committee that meets as required. This committee consists of our President and Treasurer and three ‘Persons of Responsibility’ (who have a degree of responsibility to the general community). The community representatives are Mr Don Perrett, Mr Murray Maclean and Cr Meg Edwards.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT
I am honoured to deliver the 2018 President’s Report for Leongatha Lyric Theatre.
Lyric Theatre has enjoyed a very successful and busy 12 months and has plans ahead for many exciting projects.

This time last year, with the initiative of Brad Beach, we relaunched Lyric’s much loved Bogg’s Family Cabaret, titled The Boggs are Back. This travelling all singing, all dancing troupe reignited the Bogg’s tradition and is about to begin its’ 2018 tour of duty at a hall near you. Chookas to this very talented team.

Our 2017 AGM was very well attended and we were afterwards entertained with excerpts from the forthcoming Bogg’s Show. We were delighted to honour Olivia Winchcombe with the Geoff Perrett rising Star Award. Olivia continued her success by winning the GAT Most Outstanding Female Youth Award in December.

The Kids Adventure Theatre Project, devised by Sue Lindsay and Jo Street, performed Androcles and the Lion to over 1500 local primary school children. As a follow on, Sue is directing Go Away Mr Worrythoughts for a 2018 season.

The 2017 GAT Awards confirmed out commitment to young people, awarding Jaive McEwan and Olivia Winchcombe, Youth Awards for their performances in Hairspray. Hairspray director, Louise Adkins was awarded the Most Outstanding Costume Design Award. Ronald Edward Pepper was awarded the GAT Alby Fisher Creativity in Design Prize and he also received a VDL adjudicator’s certificate for his artwork in Our Country’s Good.

In February we held a very informative Theatre Workshop for the Cast of ANNIE. All involved praised Lyric for providing them with this opportunity to develop their theatre skills. Thank you to Kevin and Lisa Blair for conducting this workshop.

Neil Simon’s California Suite opened on March 6th. This light hearted comedy was very well received and the four directors are to be applauded. Thank you to Peter McAlpine, Bernadette Grainger, Daniel Lawrie and Sue Lindsay.

ANNIE brought joy to Lyric in July and we celebrated a sold out season. The audiences were ecstatic and said that “this was one of Lyric’s best.” Bravo! Thank you to Kerryn Lockhart, Lisa Pellin, Daniel Moldrich, Colin Mitchell and the enormous Lyric team who worked their fingers to the bone. You all deserve to be proud of your efforts.

With barely time to catch our breath, September arrived and audiences were treated to a top notch drama, Death and the Maiden. This critically acclaimed production showcased director David Tattersall’s vision and all involved are to be congratulated.

And just so that none of us become bored, auditions for Young Frankenstein will be held next weekend.

This year, Peter Western’s dream to redevelop Mesley Hall moved a step closer with a South Gippsland Shire Community Grant. This was used to appoint Rob Gebert, an Arts Management and Project Consultant to analyse our proposal. A further $25,000 has been allocated to finance the stage 2 planning. Peter will discuss this in detail. Thanks to South Gippsland Shire.

Shortly after last year’s AGM, we mourned the passing of Heather Drury. Heather’s thirteen years of service in the Lyric Wardrobe was acknowledged with Life Membership. In May this year we were
saddened by the passing of Jack Cummins. Jack was a foundation Lyric member who played an integral role in setting up our structure and how we operate today.

Finally I would like to thank our generous sponsors for donating so wholeheartedly every year and a huge thank you to the Committee and other loyal members and supporters for enthusiastically working towards our goals.

May 2019 be filled with magic, dreams and good madness. Thank you.

Kerrie Giles – LLT President.

TREASURERS’S REPORT
Available on request by members.

Ashley Geary, recipient of the 2018 Geoff Perrett Rising Star Award, with Dianne Lindhard (representing Don and Chris Perrett) and Kerrie Giles.
Laurie Martin, Billy Wilson, Jo Street, Evy Nye and Lachie Moore in the primary school’s touring show, ‘Androcles and the Lion’.

The Kids’ Adventure Theatre Project is directed by Sue Lindsay and was presented free in local schools in 2017.
### SECTION 3

Goals and Strategies November 2015-November 2018: Key Performance Indicators

**Effectiveness**

Y=Yes, Achieved  
N=Not Achieved

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<td>Present live theatre in our district and beyond</td>
<td>Performance season of a major musical</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performance season of a play</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Performance in at least one, one-act play festival</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>Achieve recognition for a high standard of performance</td>
<td>Newspaper reviews:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>-The Star</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-Sentinel Times</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-Theatrecraft</td>
<td>Y/N</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-GAT Judges +ve overall</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y/N</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-Guild Judges +ve overall</td>
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<td>End of Year balance in recurrent account</td>
<td>≥$30000</td>
<td>≥$31000</td>
<td>≥$32000</td>
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<td>Term deposit reserve fund</td>
<td>≥$15000</td>
<td>≥$20000</td>
<td>≥$25000</td>
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<td>Maintain a strong financial position</td>
<td>Stage 2 seating purchased</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Fit out seat storage space</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide enhanced ambience</td>
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<td>-carpeting for floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-wall curtaining</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Upgrade spot towers</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Facilitate improvements to Mesley Hall</td>
<td>Attend Steering C’ttee meetings</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Develop concept plan for stage and backstage</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>redevelopment</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Facilitate new management structure</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>In progress</td>
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### Efficiency

*Y*=Yes, Achieved    *N*=Not Achieved

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<tr>
<td>Revise all production role statements to ensure efficient procedures</td>
<td>Partial completion</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full completion</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Production Protocols implemented for each show</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthen community ties</td>
<td>Maintain sponsorship levels in-line with cpi</td>
<td>≥$4000</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>≥$4050</td>
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<td>Maintain support of other community organisations through asset hire/loan</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Sponsor a young person to attend a theatre workshop</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Maintain currency of website and Facebook</td>
<td>Regularly update</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Improve production facilities at the ‘Lyric Studio’</td>
<td>Develop proposals and seek funding for facilities such as:</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-colour photocopy to suit A3 scripts and advertising posters</td>
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<td>-improved toilet facilities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-all weather driveway</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve set construction facilities at the ‘Lyric Playhouse’</td>
<td>Develop proposals and seek funding for facilities such as:</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-roofing repairs</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>-hot water replacement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-electrical repairs</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stock-take assets stored as stage props</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve public profile of Lyric Theatre</td>
<td>-presentation of formal annual report</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-signage at town entries</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-signage at Watsons Rd buildings</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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</table>
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

Donors
Thank you to the many people and organisations who given support through sponsorship, donations and raffle prizes.

Grants and funding
We are extremely grateful for assistance we have received over the years to maintain and improve our assets and to be able to offer improved facilities at Mesley Hall for our audience. We acknowledge grants in recent years from:
South Gippsland Shire Council
Anonymous Philanthropic donor
Angior Family Trust
Commonwealth Government Stronger Communities Program
Leongatha RSL
Leongatha Rotary Club
Leongatha Rock and Roll Club
Department of Justice Community Safety Fund

Financial Members (including Life Members) as at November 4, 2018

Addicoat Family
Addkins Family
Indigo Aurora
Geraldine Archibald
G & J Boast

B & B Beach
Olivia Bott
Annabelle Birt
Charli Burns

Burgess Family
Burgess Family
Boucher Family
G & K Baggallay

Crimp Family
Louise Colwill
Sophie Clarkson
Taya Cameron

Carlson Family
Cooper Family
J & J Curtis
Adrian Darakai

Teagan Denbrook
Beth Drury
Michelle Dal Masetto
Glensys Day

Peg Elliott
Eva Family
Barb Fleming
Foster Family

Fox Family
Kerrie Giles
Gale Family
Jessica Geyer

Bruce Grainger
Bernadette Grainger
George Family
Guy Family

Kate Geary
Tim Gesell
Jo Howell
Leanne Horn

Heffer Family
Daniel Hodges
Raelene Hodges
G & R Heide

Shirley Holland
Michael Hogan
Kate Jackson
Talja Janssen

Ruby & Violet Johnson
Johnston Family
Remy Jans
Kuhne Family

Bella Kent
Casly Lane
Lockhart Family
Scott Lawrence

Melinda Lucchiardi
S & R Lindsay
Daniel Lawry
Colin Mitchell

L & R Muranty
Jaive McEwan
A & L Martin
Leah Mark

John Molden
Kerryn Moren
Kyla McKenzie
Peg McAlpine

Dan Moldrich
Jordan McFarlane
Murray Maclean
Nicholas Family

Kylie & Ella Osborne
O’Connor Family
Aoife O’Connell
Rebecca Pryor

Dani Paulson
Katharine Pegler
Daryl Pease
Lisa Pellin

Kerry Pritchard
Margaret Rees
Sandy Rippingale
Hannah Richards

Georgia Reich
Richmond Family
Jo Street
Smith Family

Nikki Stockdale
Stephan Family
Shan Stevens
Juliette Sibby

Aerin Sutherland
Stoops Family
Jayne & Eleanor Scott
Kianna Smith

Noel Stringer
Glenda Smith
B & S Stephens
David Tattersall

Margaret Tattersall
Tudor Family
Trease Family
Sue Thompson

Laura Vivian
Van Der Walt Family
John Watson
John Watsford

Wines Family
Lillyca White
Emily Wightman
Maya Williams

Hannah Watson
Jemimah Watson
Billy Wilson
P & W Western
HOW YOU CAN HELP

BECOME A MEMBER
Contact us to arrange to become a financial member. An annual subscription is payable.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER
A free monthly newsletter can be emailed to you on request.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME
Not everyone is an actor! If you’re enthusiastic, hardworking and would love to be involved with a community theatre group, there are many diverse volunteering opportunities with Leongatha Lyric Theatre. Here are a few of the areas where you could be involved.

Technical Production
Many technical areas have to come together to bring off a successful production, and they all need enthusiastic people. They include: design (set, sound, lights); set construction (painting, carpentering, or being a general handy person); operating (lights and sound); stage management; general crewing during the season; bumping in and out of the theatre.

Props
Depending on the production, this can involve finding furniture or other items, creating special props from scratch, repairing or painting materials. It’s a great job for inventive, resourceful people. Sometimes a Props person may also be a crew member or assistant stage manager, and responsible for the properties during the running of the show.

Costumes
We are always looking for people who can design, make and repair costumes. We also have a large costume store, and would welcome people interested in maintaining it.

Front of House
If you enjoy dealing with customers, why not consider helping with Front of House during our productions? There’s work in the Box Office, in the bar, selling programmes, and ushering.

General Administration
At various stages of the year, we need people who can help with mail-outs and other one-off administrative tasks.

Publicity
Do you have an interest in publicising productions? Do you have contacts that might be useful in promoting a production? Can you help with poster distribution? Do you have graphic design, drawing or photographic skills? Would you like to design a poster or a banner? There are numerous ways in which volunteers can contribute to publicity and marketing.

Catering
We always have an opening night supper for our productions. Are you a genius at producing tasty finger food on a small budget?

Fundraising and Sponsorship
If you have skills and contacts that could help our fundraising and sponsorship efforts, we’d love to talk to you.

MAKE A DONATION
Donations to our Public Fund are tax deductible. See our website for details.

LEAVE A BEQUEST
Please contact our treasurer if you would like to establish a permanent bequest.

JOIN OUR PLAY GROUP
Members meet monthly for a play reading. Join us for a social gathering.

BECOME A SPONSOR
We have a range of sponsorship packages to suit. Contact us to promote your business.