



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'

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.

Web page- <http://www.lyrictheatre.net.au/>

Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/LyricLeongatha>



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	Position 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		



Kerrie Giles
President



Neil Warren
Vice President



Mike Street
Treasurer



Bernadette Grainger
Secretary



Anne Martin



Amy Smith



Julie Curtis



Kathy Pegler



Sandy Rippingale



Marg Tattersall

Joanna Boast photo
not available



Peter Western

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

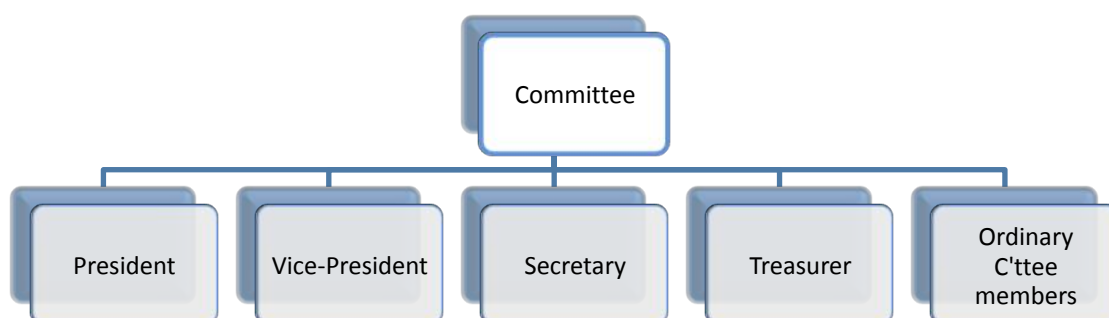
Diamond

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 deductible.



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 Bogg's 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 our 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.



Boggs is Back AGM Preview

SECTION 3

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

Effectiveness

Y=Yes, Achieved N=Not Achieved

Goal	Measure	Nov/2015- Nov /2016	Nov /2016- Nov /2017	Nov /2017- Nov /2018
Present live theatre in our district and beyond	Performance season of a major musical	Y	Y	Y
	Performance season of a play	Y	Y	Y
	Performance in at least one, one-act play festival	Y	N	N
Achieve recognition for a high standard of performance	Newspaper reviews:			
	-The Star	Y	Y	Y
	-Sentinel Times	Y	Y	Y
	-Theatre Craft	Y/N	Y/N	Y
	-GAT Judges +ve overall	Y	Y	Y
	-Guild Judges +ve overall	Y	Y/N	Y/N
Maintain a strong financial position	End of Year balance in recurrent account	≥\$30000 Y	≥\$31000Y	≥\$32000
	Term deposit reserve fund	≥\$15000 Y	≥\$20000Y	≥\$25000
Facilitate improvements to Mesley Hall	Stage 2 seating purchased	Y	Y	Y
	Fit out seat storage space	Y	Y	Y
	Provide enhanced ambience			
	-carpeting for floor	Y	Y	Y
	-wall curtaining	Y	Y	Y
Promote community management of Mesley Hall	Upgrade spot towers	N	Y	Y
	Attend Steering C'ttee meetings	Y	Y	Y
	Develop concept plan for stage and backstage redevelopment	Y	Y	Y
	Facilitate new management structure	N	In progress	In progress

Efficiency

Y=Yes, Achieved

N=Not Achieved

Goal	Measure	11/2015-11/2016	11/2016-11/2017	11/2017-11/2018
Revise all production role statements to ensure efficient procedures	Partial completion	Y	Y	Y
	Full completion	N	N	N
	New Production Protocols implemented for each show	N	Y	Y
Strengthen community ties	Maintain sponsorship levels in-line with cpi	≥\$4000 Y	≥\$4050Y	≥\$4100
	Maintain support of other community organisations through asset hire/loan	Y	Y	Y
	Sponsor a young person to attend a theatre workshop	Y	Y	Y
Maintain currency of website and Facebook	Regularly update	Y	Y	Y
Improve production facilities at the 'Lyric Studio'	Develop proposals and seek funding for facilities such as: -colour photocopy to suit A3 scripts and advertising posters -improved toilet facilities -all weather driveway	N	N	Y
Improve set construction facilities at the 'Lyric Playhouse'	Develop proposals and seek funding for facilities such as: -roofing repairs -hot water replacement -electrical repairs	Y	Y	Y
	Stock-take assets stored as stage props	N	N	N
Improve public profile of Lyric Theatre	-presentation of formal annual report	Y	Y	Y
	-signage at town entries	N	N	N
	-signage at Watsons Rd buildings	N	N	N

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	Adkins Family	Indigo Aurora	Geraldine Archibald	G & J Boast
B & B Beach	Olivia Bott	Annabelle Birt	Barker Family	Charli Burns
Burgess Family	Burgess Family	Boucher Family	G & G Beresford	D & K Baggallay
Crimp Family	Louise Colwill	Sophie Clarkson	Collins Family	Taya Cameron
Carlson Family	Cooper Family	J & J Curtis	Sophie Cuttriss	Adrian Darakai
Teagan Denbrok	Beth Drury	Michelle Dal Masetto	Cecily De Gooyer	Glenys Day
Peg Elliott	Eva Family	Barb Fleming	Grace Farmer	Foster Family
Fox Family	Kerrie Giles	Gale Family	Grant & Nanette Gale	Jessica Geyer
Bruce Grainger	Bernadette Grainger	Geary Family	Amelia Gromotka	Guy Family
Kate Geary	Tim Gesell	Jo Howell	Ann Hemming	Leanne Horn
Heffer Family	Daniel Hodges	Raelene Hodges	Hancock Family	G & R Heide
Shirley Holland	Michael Hogan	Kate Jackson	Pallas Jackman-Riches	Talia Janssen
Ruby & Violet Johnson	Johnston Family	Remy Jans	Sophie Kreutzberger	Kuhne Family
Bella Kent	Cayli Lane	Lockhart Family	Terry Lay	Scott Lawrence
Melinda Licciardi	S & R Lindsay	Daniel Lawry	Alison McIntyre	Colin Mitchell
L & R Muranty	Jaive McEwan	A & L Martin	Murray-White Family	Leah Mark
John Molden	Kerryn Moren	Kyla McKenzie	Peter McAlpine	Peg McAlpine
Dan Moldrich	Jordan McFarlane	Murray Maclean	Todd Miller	Nicholas Family
Kylie & Ella Osborne	O'Connor Family	Aoife O'Connell	Osborne Family	Rebecca Pryor
Dani Paulson	Katharine Pegler	Daryl Pease	Margaret Pegler	Lisa Pellin
Kerry Pritchard	Margaret Rees	Sandy Rippingale	Emilee Rowe	Hannah Richards
Georgia Reich	Richmond Family	Jo Street	Mike Street	Smith Family
Nikki Stockdale	Stephan Family	Shan Stevens	Seuren Family	Juliette Sibly
Aerin Sutherland	Stoops Family	Jayne & Eleanor Scott	Alex Swan	Kiarna Smith
Noel Stringer	Glenda Smith	B & S Stephens	Strini Family	David Tattersall
Margaret Tattersall	Tudor Family	Trease Family	Melita Tough	Sue Thompson
Laura Vivian	Van Der Walt Family	John Watson	Neil Warren	John Watsford
Wines Family	Lillyca White	Emily Wightman	Maya Williams	P & W Western
Hannah Watson	Jemimah Watson	Billy Wilson	Hadassah Wanstall	

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.

Leongatha Lyric Theatre Inc. PO Box 236 Leongatha 3953	www.lyrictheatre.net.au admin@lyrictheatre.net.au	www.facebook.com/LyricLeongatha
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