



www.playerstheatre.org.au

Your Community Theatre



Merry Christmas

From

The Players

Theatre Inc



From the President's Desk

Hi all,

First up, it's with a particular sadness that I note the passing in recent weeks of two of the Players most influential members of the last few years. Gwen Reece-Hopton and James Hannah.

When I first joined the theatre, back in 1986, it was the two "Gwen's", Gwen Hopton and Gwen O'Dea, who first welcomed me to the theatre. Any trepidation I might have had at the prospect of joining a new company was immediately allayed by the warmth of their welcome.

In the 1970's and 80's Gwen was a significant presence at the Players ... actress, director, musical director and member of the committee. In all Gwen directed 6 shows for the Players and was musical director for 3. Gwen was also a vocal coach to many of our aspiring performers. Although ill health curtailed her involvement with the Players in recent years her contribution to the Players was immense.

James Hannah was one of the Icons of the Players theatre in more recent years and will go down in Player's history as one of our most influential and revered members. A consummate musician, showman and educator, James has directed and inspired many of our current crop of performers.

James joined in Players in 1994. Over the course of the next 12 years he was involved in 26 shows (8 as director, 5 as musical director and 7 as a performer). Not to mention other musical interludes and peripheral events.

As you are all aware, directing a musical is a physically and mentally taxing exercise, requiring a very broad skill set and the sheading of a great deal of blood, sweat and patience. I take my hat off to both Gwen and James that their resumes proclaim them "director of the musical" on so many occasions.

Moreover, James, between 1995 and 2003, in an amazing feat of dedication, stamina and sheer will-power, directed 8 musicals in 9 years (the year he had off he was musical director in one show and acted in two).

Paul (Bishop), our archivist, has put together a list of Players productions James and Gwen were involved with. The lists are published below and give some indication of the debt of gratitude that the Players owe these celebrated members of our company.

On a brighter note, Oliver rehearsals, play workshops, set construction and community activities have all recommenced in the last few weeks and we have a 2022 season signed and sealed to look forward to.

And so, with a slight skip in the step, all that is left to do is to wish you all a happy Christmas and a very enjoyable holiday season.
Cheers,

Lance



Gwen Hopton – Players Shows

DIRECTOR

1970 THE BOYFRIEND
1972 SALAD DAYS
1974 IOLANTHE
1976 WITH LOVE & LAUGHTER
1984 TREASURE ISLAND
1984 COOKIE LADY

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

1971 BYE BYE BIRDIE
1975 FRACTURED FAIRY TALES
1987 WHITE HORSE INN
2001 CINDERELLA MUS.

CAST/CREW

1972 OKLAHOMA
1973 CALL ME MADAM
1973 DEAR CHARLES
1974 THE PUPPET SHOW
1975 THE WIZARD OF OZ
1984 PIRATES OF PENZANCE
1985 PAJAMA GAME
1986 GREASE
1986 PASS THE BUTLER

James Hannah – Players Shows

DIRECTOR

1995 CABARET (MUSICAL)
1996 HELLO, DOLLY! (MUSICAL)
1997 OKLAHOMA (MUSICAL)
1998 BOY FRIEND, THE (MUSICAL)
2000 FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (MUSICAL)
2001 MERRY WIDOW, THE (MUSICAL)
2002 CAROUSEL (MUSICAL)
2003 ROBERT & ELIZABETH (MUSICAL)

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

1999 ANNIE (MUSICAL)
2004 OLIVER (MUSICAL)
2005 GUYS AND DOLLS (MUSICAL)
2005 MASQUERADE ON BROADWAY
2006 MY FAIR LADY (MUSICAL)

CAST/CREW

1994 BROADWAY TO BALLROOM (REVUE)
1994 RUMORS
1994 RELATIVELY SPEAKING
1995 HOLLYWOOD HOLIDAY
1995 WHAT THE BUTLER SAW
1996 LETTICE & LOVAGE

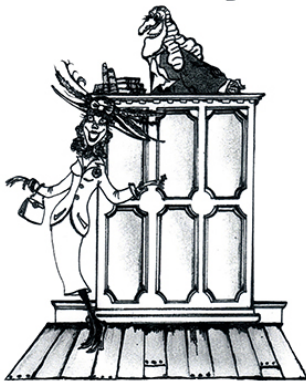
Put the dates in your Calendar

Don't miss our information session
or auditions for the 2nd show of the
2022 season



A riotous romp through **Gilbert & Sullivan** favourites
and

TRIAL BY JURY



Director: Jim Matsinos Musical Director: Robyn Ryan OAM

May 13th – 29th 2022

Friday & Saturday 8pm. Sunday 2pm.

Theatre Bookings

Online at www.playerstheatre.org.au

Via the Glasshouse 6581 8888

Or at the Box Office Cnr. Lord & Gordon St
1 hour prior to the show

Songs from
Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas
and the comic opera,
'Trial by Jury'.

Information Session
20th November
10am

Audition Day
4th December

For all the information and to book
an Audition click

[HERE](#)

Round & Round

Join us again on Facebook Live 4th
December for Christmas Trivia in the
Round
FUN TO BE HAD & PRIZES TO BE
WON!

DATE:
4th of December

TIME:
6.30PM

WHERE:
Facebook Live





Oliver!
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

Director
Daniel Parlevliet

Musical Director
Ben Simon

Choreographer
Sarah Askeil

Vocal Director
Shontelle Roberts

LIONEL BART'S OLIVER!

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS
BY LIONEL BART

February 25th - March 20th
2022
Fri. & Sat 8pm
Sun 2pm

Theatre Bookings
Online at www.playerstheatre.org.au
Via the Glasshouse 6581 8888
or at The Players Theatre Box Office
Cnr Lord & Gordon St
1 hour prior to the show

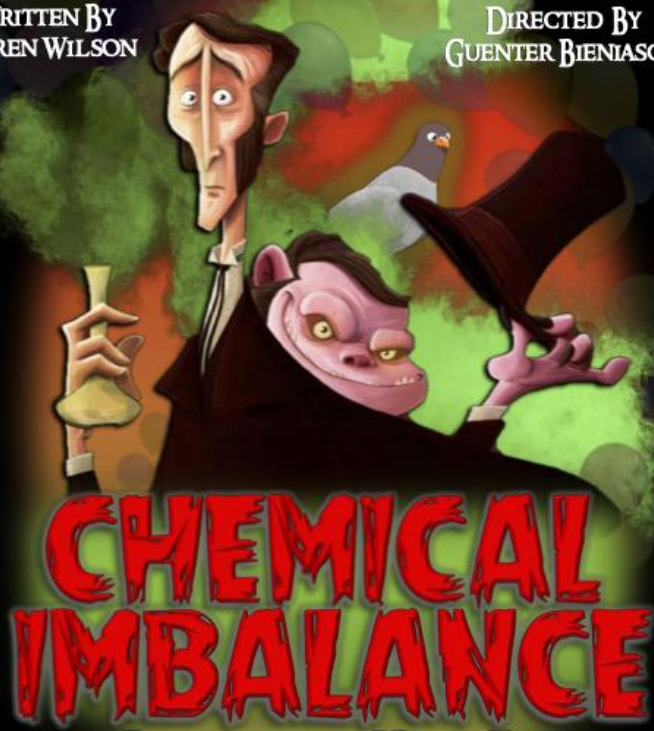
Season 2022



BY ARRANGEMENT WITH HAL LEONARD

WRITTEN BY
LAUREN WILSON

DIRECTED BY
GUENTER BIENIASCH



CHEMICAL IMBALANCE

A JEKYLL AND HYDE PLAY

AUGUST 12TH - AUGUST 28TH
2022

Friday and Saturday 8pm - Sunday 2pm

Theatre Bookings
Online at www.playerstheatre.org.au

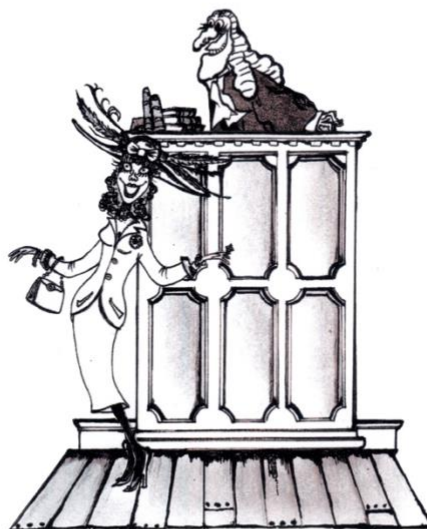
Via the Glasshouse 6581 8888 or at the Box Office Corner of Lord & Gordon Street 1 hour prior to show



A riotous romp through **Gilbert & Sullivan** favourites

and

TRIAL BY JURY



Director: Jim Matsinos Musical Director: Robyn Ryan OAM

May 13th - 29th 2022

Friday & Saturday 8pm. Sunday 2pm.

Theatre Bookings

Online at www.playerstheatre.org.au

Via the Glasshouse 6581 8888

Or at the Box Office Corner of Lord & Gordon St
1 hour prior to the show



Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.
Based on the New Line Cinema film by Written by Tim Herlihy

Director
Hamish Keddie

Music by Matthew Sklar Book by Chad Beguelin and Tim Herlihy Lyrics by Chad Beguelin

PARTY LIKE IT'S 1985!



The Musical Comedy

October 28th - November 20th 2022
Fri & Sat 8pm
Sun 2pm

Theatre Bookings
Online at www.playerstheatre.org.au
Via the Glasshouse 6581 8888
or at The Players Theatre Box Office
Cnr Lord & Gordon St
1 hour prior to the show

BASED ON THE HIT ADAM SANDLER FILM



Obituary

James Peter McKillop Hannah OAM 1933 - 2021

James Peter McKillop Hannah was born in the town of Hamilton, 12 miles from Glasgow in Scotland, on 10 March 1933. He studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music for three years before serving a two-year National Service period in the British Army.

After leaving the Army and University, James taught music in the London area for over twenty years. During these years he also regularly sang in the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus and the BBC Choral Society.

James arrived in Sydney in 1979 where, for the next 12 years, he was employed as the Director of Music at Sydney Grammar School. His next appointment was as Musical Director of the Macdonald College of the Arts where once again he conducted many choral and orchestral performances.

James became a Naturalized Australian citizen in Sydney in 1981.

In 1993, James moved to Port Macquarie. Since then he was tireless in his voluntary efforts to promote cultural development in the regional area of the lower Mid North Coast of NSW, particularly in the fields of music, voice and theatre.

While always taking on private singing students, James became actively involved with the Port Macquarie Players. During his eleven years with the Players he co-directed and was the Musical Director of twelve musical productions, including Cabaret, Oklahoma, Fiddler on the Roof, and My Fair Lady. He also appeared in a number of plays.

In 2005 James was appointed Honorary Conductor of Sinfonia Mid North Coast Inc. – “The Community Orchestra of the Mid North Coast”

When James first joined Sinfonia he brought with him not only great talent, experience, and expertise, but also a commitment to attracting and supporting young people to develop their talents and skills. To this end he initiated and annually co-sponsored the “James Hannah, Sinfonia Music Scholarship” which was awarded to one or two young people each year.

A personable, energetic, and generous man with a rich and colourful history, James willingly helped people out in many ways. He truly loved performing and was in great demand to entertain at community concerts and events .

For a number of years, he was the Honorary Conductor of the U3A “Laurieton Voices” Choir. This is a thirty plus strong community choir which perform four public concerts a year as a fund raiser for local community initiatives.

In 2015 James received an OAM *“For services to community music on the Mid North Coast”*.

James` partner of 36 years died late in 2012. James never married and had no children. Instead, he devoted vast amounts of his personal time to guiding and supporting young people, cultural groups and others, to achieve their musical and theatrical goals in a variety of ways. He was also highly regarded as an adept singing teacher who brought the best out of his students– several of whom have gone on to have successful careers in music and singing.

A keen Bridge player, James was a member of three Bridge Clubs in Port Macquarie.

James loved to travel and made many trips back to England to visit his family and friends. He also enjoyed cruising, dining with friends and never missed a season of the Australian Opera.

James Hannah was one of those “larger than life” people whose energy and positive personality lit up the room.

His legacy will be his contribution to the cultural development of the region, through his work with numerous organisations and also on an individual one-to-one basis.

A life well lived.





THE DAVIS FARM

Something magical
is happening this
December...

Stay tuned for
more information

OAPF Workshop

The Players Theatre Inc. is inviting you to attend its next One Act Play Workshop as part of its Workshop Program. Details are as follows:

PLAY: 'The Farmstay' by Bill Harrow

DATE/TIME: Sunday, 28th November 2021 at 10am

LOCATION: 34 Allen Johnston Close, Sancrox (Hamish and Kirsten's place)

WHAT TO BRING: Yourself

REQUIREMENTS: Must be a Players Theatre member. Must be double vaccinated (proof of vaccination status will be required)

[Register Here](#)



MERCHANDISE



Can be ordered via

Our Website: <https://www.playerstheatre.org.au/shop>

One Act Play Festival.

The Players Theatre Inc. is inviting submissions for the 2022 Wyong One Act Play Festival.

You are welcome to submit non-original and original works alike. However, original works will be heavily scrutinised to establish their suitability and may need to be workshopped as part of The Players Theatre Workshop Program before being considered.

CRITERIA/CONDITIONS:

- You will be allocated 60 minutes to bump in, do your play and bump out
 - You start with a blank stage
- Original works must already be written and ready to go
 - Original works will be treated as confidential and will not be shared outside the organisation. The Players Theatre Inc. recognise that original works are copyrighted to the original writer/owner
- All plays must be uploaded as part of this submission process
- You must have a prospective director prior to submission, a tentative production team and cast is recommended as there will be no information session or audition provided
- The Players Theatre Inc. keep all winnings
- The Players Theatre can be used for rehearsals but must be "booked in" to work around other productions and events
- The Players Theatre Inc. will cover productions costs such as costumes, small set pieces, etc.
- Cast and crew cannot claim any expenses such as accommodation, travel, etc.
- All persons must be double vaccinated to enter The Players Theatre building
 - Based on current rules and internal policy
 - These rules may change in the future according to public health orders at the time and/or as the management committee sees fit
 - The rules that Wyong Drama Group will follow at the time of the festival are currently unknown and may change
- Submissions close Midnight, Mon, 6th December 2021

[Click here to submit](#)

Archives

PROGRAMS WANTED

WE DO NOT HAVE ANY PROGRAMMES FROM THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTIONS.
IF YOU HAVE ONE OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO MAY HAVE ONE
PLEASE CONTACT THE PLAYERS THEATRE SECRETARY OR
THE ARCHIVES ASSISTANT PAUL BISHOP (0448 121212)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>
1958	WORM'S EYE VIEW
1959	ONE WILD OAT
1963	FIVE FINGER EXERCISE
1964	UNHAND ME SQUIRE
1974	SLEEPING BEAUTY (PANTOMIME)
1976	WELCOME HOME JACKO
1979	MY THREE ANGELS
1987	CAGEBIRDS
1987	GILT EDGED KNIFE
1987	SHOWROOM DUMMIES
1991	MURDER AT CHECKPOINT MANOR
1998	MY FAIR LADY (NOT 1989 OR 2006)
1999	KEY FOR TWO
2000	IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY
2001	CINDERELLA (NOT 2006)
2004	DICK WHITTINGTON & HIS MAGIC CAT
2011	KING ARTHUR (PANTOMIME)

PLAYERS THEATRE ARCHIVES – VIDEOS WANTED

WE DO NOT HAVE VIDEOS FROM THE FOLLOWING SHOWS.
IF YOU HAVE ANY THAT YOU COULD SHARE,
OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY THAT WE COULD COPY (VHS or DVD),
PLEASE CONTACT THE PLAYERS THEATRE SECRETARY
OR THE ARCHIVES CO-ORDINATOR PAUL BISHOP (0448 121212)

1996	THE CRUCIBLE	2009	ANNIE
1996	TOM JONES	2009	BRIGADOON
1996	HARVEY	2009	THE CEMETERY CLUB
1997	THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST	2009	HAYWIRE
1997	LIFE BEGINS AT FORTY	2010	THE BOY FROM OZ
1997	SEASON'S GREETINGS	2010	KISS ME KATE
1998	THE BOYFRIEND	2010	LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD
1998	MAN ALIVE	2010	THE REUNION
1999	ANNIE	2011	KING ARTHUR
1999	ON THE RAZZLE	2011	LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
1999	PLAZA SUITE	2011	A NIGHT IN COURT
2000	HABEAS CORPUS	2011	NUNSENSE I
2002	BRILLIANT LIES	2011	SUMMIT CONFERENCE
2002	OBJECTION OVERRULED	2011	SWEENEY TODD
2003	THE ODD COUPLE (FEMALE VERSION)	2012	JERRY'S GIRLS
2005	AGNES OF GOD	2012	PACIFIC HIGHWAY
2005	GUYS AND DOLLS	2013	BOEING BOEING
2005	THE KING AND I	2014	THE GINGERBREAD LADY
2005	MASQUERADE ON BROADWAY	2014	SOUTH PACIFIC
2005	MOVE OVER MRS MARKHAM	2015	ANYTHING GOES
2005	THE REAL THING	2015	QUARTET
2006	CALAMITY JANE	2016	ALLO ALLO
2006	CRIMES OF THE HEART	2016	THE ODD COUPLE
2007	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE	2017	INTO THE WOODS
2007	WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY	2017	JACK THE RIPPER
2007	STEPPING OUT	2017	PUSS IN BOOTS
2008	GARY'S HOUSE	2017	SHOWTIME CONCERT
2008	ALADDIN	2017	SPAMALOT
2008	HELLO DOLLY!	2017	VICAR OF DIBLEY 2
2008	LAST TANGO IN PORT MACQUARIE	2018	BYE BYE BIRDIE
2019	JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR	2018	CURTAINS
		2018	SHOWTIME CONCERT

PHOTOS WANTED

WE DO NOT HAVE PHOTOS FROM THE FOLLOWING SHOWS.
IF YOU HAVE ANY THAT YOU COULD SHARE,
OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY THAT WE COULD SCAN,
PLEASE CONTACT THE PLAYERS THEATRE SECRETARY
OR THE ARCHIVES CO-ORDINATOR PAUL BISHOP (0448 121212)

1990s

1993	BORED GAMES (MUS.)	LANCE THOMPSON
1995	CABARET (MUS.)	JAMES HANNAH
1996	THE CRUCIBLE	LANCE THOMPSON
1996	HELLO DOLLY (MUS.)	JAMES HANNAH
1997	OKLAHOMA (MUS.)	JAMES HANNAH
1998	THE BOYFRIEND (MUS.)	JAMES HANNAH

2000s

2000	HABEUS CORPUS	MARGARET COULON
2002	FAREWELL BRISBANE LADIES	PETER DRANSFIELD
2004	DICK WHITTINGTON (PANT.)	EILEEN KERR
2004	THE ODD COUPLE (FEMALE)	LANCE THOMPSON
2008	WIND IN THE WILLOWS (PANT)	EILEEN KERR

2010s

2012	JERRY'S GIRLS (MUS.)	SUE MORVAN
2013	THE BUTLER DID IT	LANCE THOMPSON
2017	SHOWTIME AT THE MOVIES	BARB SHERRIN
2018	SHOWTIME ONE NIGHT ONLY	BARB SHERRIN

ANY OTHER CAST OR CREW PHOTOS OF OTHER SHOWS WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU

2021 Committee

Executive

President - Lance Thompson

Legal and Planning

president@playerstheatre.org.au

1st Vice President – Daniel Parlevliet

Marketing Co-ordinator

1stvp@playerstheatre.org.au

2nd Vice President – Jenny Gould

Box Office Co-ordinator

2ndvp@playerstheatre.org.au

Secretary – Greg Frank

secretary@playerstheatre.org.au

Treasurer – Stuart Symons

treasurer@playerstheatre.org.au



General Committee

committee@playerstheatre.org.au

Back Of House Co-ordinator

Guenter Bieniasch

Technical Services Co-ordinator

Sarah Askill

Front Of House Co-ordinator

Amie Frank

Community Liaison Co-ordinator

Kirsten Keddle

Production Co-ordinator

Steve Harris

Member Services Co-ordinator

Paul Bishop



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The Players Theatre Inc