



Welcome to our new website!

We're thrilled to welcome you to the brand-new online home for

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company!

Things are looking a little different around here, and we've also got some shiny new email addresses – so please make sure to update your contacts (see next page).

As with any new stage, we're still learning our cues and getting used to the new setup behind the scenes.

Thanks for bearing with us while we find our rhythm! Take a look around, make yourself at home, and don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything.

See you at the theatre!

CHMCC

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

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New Emails

President: president@chmcc.org.au

Vice President: vicepresident@chmcc.org.au

Treasurer: treasurer@chmcc.org.au

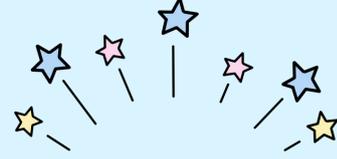
Secretary: secretary@chmcc.org.au

General: info@chmcc.org.au

President Report

Hello again, theatre friends! It's been a while since our last newsletter, but trust me - we haven't been sitting idle backstage. CHMCC has had quite the year already, and there's plenty more drama (the good kind) to come.

Curtain Up on Committee News!



August brought our Annual General Meeting, and while the cast of characters behind the scenes hasn't changed too much, we've got a couple of new stars in the wings! Your trusty Executive Office Bearers are staying on for another season - that's me as President, Ainsley Corbett as Vice President, Fiona Shaw as Secretary and Jann Golding continuing as Treasurer.

We're thrilled to welcome back Courtney Bannon, Jacinta Bentley, Loz Dalton and Tome Madden to the committee. And please give a warm CHMCC welcome to our newest recruits: Owen Partridge and Bec Twidale! We're excited to have them join our merry band of theatre mischief-makers. A huge thankyou to Tom Fry, who has stepped back from committee duties "for the moment, not forever". We'll miss his energy at meetings but look forward to seeing him around the theatre.

Spamalot Storms the Jetty Stage!



May saw Monty Python's Spamalot gallop (complete with coconuts) into the Jetty Theatre, led by none other than Ainsley Corbett. It was a wild ride of French taunts, flying cows and a quest for the Holy Grail. The cast mixed fresh face and seasoned regulars, and - in true community theatre style - Ainsley even jumped in to cover three roles during the run! Talk about commitment!

Dancing, Masks, and a Return to Glamour!



We dusted off our gowns and tuxes (well suits mostly but Troy Rogers did us proud with his tails) for the return of the CHMCC Gala Ball on August 9th! This year's Masquerade Ball was a glittering success, with theatre folk and members of the public alike joining in for a night of music, dancing, and all-around fabulousness. We're hoping this marks the triumphant return of an annual tradition - hats (and masks) off to the Social Committee for pulling off such a magical evening.

A Royal Vist: Queenie Comes to Town!



On August 17th, CHMCC had the absolute pleasure of hosting Queenie Van De Zandt for a full - day workshop. With her decades of professional experience, Queenie brought a treasure trove of tips, tales, and talent to share. Sixteen lucky performers soaked up her wisdom - and a few even got the chance to sing for her! If you missed out, don't worry - we're already dreaming up a return visit.



The Quest for Our Own Stage!

One big theme this year is our dream of a home to call our own. After seeing what the Port Macquarie Players enjoy in their own theatre space, it's hard not to imagine what we could do with a place like that.

While we don't yet have a CHMCC Fairy Godmother (or a Lotto win), we're making a start. Image: no more a scrambling for rehearsal spaces, more tech time, and finally being able to rehearsal on the actual set before tech week madness begins.

It's a big vision - but we think it's time to get serious. With structured sponsorships, new faces, and a renewed sense of purpose, we're laying the groundwork for something incredible. Call it our own "Holy Grail" or "Heartbreak Hotel" - either way, we're dreaming big. And we hope you'll join us on the journey.

Thanks for being part of the community. Whether you're on stage, backstage or in the audience - you are CHMCC. Let's keep the spotlight shinning bright into 2025 and beyond!

President
Dee Tune



AGM RESULTS



2025-2026 Committee



President: Dee Tune

Vice-President: Ainsley Corbett

Treasurer: Jann Golding

Secretary: Fiona Shaw

General Committee: Bec Twidale, Courtney Bannon, Jacinta Bentley, Loz Dalton, Owen Partridge, Thomas Madden



WHAM Awards Info

Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company (CHMCC) is proud to announce the introduction of three new awards to be presented at the conclusion of every production.

We are honoured to have received family blessing to honour the extraordinary contributions of Cate Walsh, James Hall, and Ben McLean - three cherished members of our theatre family whose lives and legacies continue to inspire us.

These new awards are designed not only to celebrate excellence within our productions but to uphold and honour the unique qualities these individuals brought to our stage and our community. They represent a meaningful tribute to those who left us far too soon, ensuring their spirits remain an integral part of our theatrical journey.

The Cate Walsh Exceptional Contribution to the Production Award

This award recognises an individual whose behind-the-scenes contributions have been vital to the success of a production. Cate's unwavering dedication to every aspect of theatre reminds us that the magic audiences see on stage is built on countless hours of selfless work backstage. Whether through costuming, props, set building, or quiet support, this award celebrates those whose devotion echoes Cate's own generous spirit.

The James Hall Director's Choice Award

Presented at the discretion of the director, this award honours an individual—on or off stage—who has made an outstanding impact on the production. James's passion for theatre, his artistic integrity, and his drive for excellence helped shape many memorable shows. This award gives each director the opportunity to recognise a contribution that has truly elevated the work.

The Ben McLean Best Character Development Award

This award celebrates an actor who has shown remarkable growth, commitment, and depth in their portrayal of a character. Ben's desire to always be better, thoughtful approach to his roles, genuine love for storytelling and true larrikinism left a lasting mark on all who saw him perform. This award aims to honour that same dedication and authenticity in our performers.

Introducing the Grand WHaM Award

All recipients of the above awards throughout the year will be eligible for a special annual honour: the Grand WHaM Award, to be presented at the CHMCC Christmas Party. Named using the initials of Walsh, Hall, and McLean, this ultimate recognition will be awarded to the individual whose contribution most significantly reflects the passion, excellence, and spirit that Cate, James, and Ben brought to the Coffs Coast theatre community.

A Lasting Tribute

These awards are more than accolades - they are a celebration of lives that deeply impacted our community. They remind us of Cate's boundless generosity, James's visionary creativity, and Ben's heartfelt performances. Through these honours, we ensure that their legacy continues to inspire future generations of CHMCC performers, crew, and creatives.

A small selection panel, including the director and members of the production team, will oversee the process to ensure each award remains true to its purpose.

Through this initiative, CHMCC reaffirms its commitment to not only producing excellent theatre but also fostering a loving, supportive, and passionate community - just as Cate, James, and Ben did in their time with us.

Editors Comment: It is fitting that this new tradition starts with Monty Pythons: Spamalot under the direction of Ainsley Corbett, as we are sure Cate, James and Ben would have had their hand in this production one way or another!!

WHAM Awards

Spamalot Show:

***The Cate Walsh Exceptional Contribution
to the Production Award:***

Tiara Salmon



***The James Hall Director's
Choice Award:***

Kenadee Lacey



***The Ben McLean Best Character
Development Award:***

Harry Watts





And with a final “Ni!” the curtain closes on our glorious quest for the Holy Grail. It’s hard to believe our journey with Spamalot is over.

To our incredible cast, you brought the absurd, witty world of Monty Python to life with boundless energy and perfect comedic timing. Your hard work, dedication, and passion were evident in every scene, song, and dance. It was a true pleasure to see you all grow into your hilarious characters, and I’m so proud of what we accomplished together.

To the fantastic crew, your tireless efforts behind the scenes were the real magic that made this show happen. From the flawless set changes and beautiful costumes to the perfectly timed sound cues and brilliant lightning, you are the unsung heroes of this production. Thankyou for your professionalism, creativity, and commitment.

And finally, to our audiences, thankyou for coming on this ridiculous journey with us. Your laughter, applause, and enthusiasm fueled us every night. We hope we provided you with a much needed dose of joy and silliness.

Putting on this show has been an absolute blast, filled with unforgettable moments and friendships. I’m so grateful to have shared this experience with such a talented group of people.

Now, go forth, brave knights and fair maidens, and remeber always: “Always look on the bright side of life!” Cheerio!

Director:
Ainsley Corbett





Always look on the bright side of Life

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical

Progress Update:

Rehearsals are in full swing, and I couldn't be prouder of how much our talented cast and dedicated production team have achieved already. From the very first read-through, there's been an incredible buzz in the room, and that energy has only grown as we've dived deeper into the show.

We've been working hard on blocking, vocals, and choreography, and I'm delighted to share that most of the show is already mapped out. Blocking is what I like to call the "pencil lines on an artwork" - a framework that gives us shape and flow. Each week we're adding colour, texture, and detail, as cast members explore their characters and bring fresh ideas to the table. Some of my favourite moments so far have come from spontaneous collaboration, with little touches that make scenes sparkle and feel alive.

Our choreography team, led by the wonderful Amy Murdock with support from Lindsay Golding, has completed all of the major routines, and the cast has thrown themselves into every number with enthusiasm. Songs and dances that once felt brand new and now bursting with confidence and character. Watching this growth in just a few weeks has been inspiring.

Behind the scenes, our production team is working tirelessly to bring Elle Woods' world to life. Vanessa Privitera has created stunning artwork for our posters and t-shirts, ensuring a vibrant and cohesive look for the show. Loz Dalton has been sourcing and preparing an ever-expanding list of props, keeping everything organised and true to the vision. Costumes are well underway, with cast members enjoying the chance to find pieces that reflect their characters' personalities while

ensuring comfort on stage, and we are thrilled to have Jacinta join the team to coordinate our social media, sharing our journey and building excitement in the community.

Jann Golding and I also had the privilege of attending a Directors' Course at NIDA earlier this year. It was a wonderful opportunity to refine our skills, and we've already brought many of the ideas and techniques back into rehearsals, adding new depth and polish to the process.

With lighting, set, and sound design soon to be layered in, Legally Blonde is shaping up to be a spectacular production full of humour, heart, and high-energy fun. We can't wait to share it with you when we open on November 7th, running until November 30th.

Tickets are already on sale - and they're selling fast! Don't miss your chance to see Elle Woods take the stage.

Director - Fiona Shaw

Book Now: [TICKETS HERE](#)



Social Events Roundup

Masquerade Gala Ball:

Saturday 9th August - Jetty Beach House

What an unforgettable evening of mystery, elegance and celebration! Guests stepped into a world of glamour with formal attire and dazzling masks, enjoyed a delicious three-coursed dinner, and danced the night away to the sensational Big Big Boogie Band. The photobooth captured countless memories, while the silent auction and raffle added to the excitement.

We're deeply grateful to our sponsors and donors who helped bring this night to life:

Anaconda Stores, Blush Makeup and Beauty Studio, Denny's Bags and Baskets, Lyss Photography, Jetty Beach House and Dylan, Coffs Event Centre and Manda, Oppy Entertainment, Once Upon a Cupcake, JazBe Events and CHMCC.

"What a spectacular night at the CHMCC Masquerade Gala Ball! Huge cheers to the incredible Social team for crafting an unforgettable, festive extravaganza!" (Message we received).

From heartfelt thanks to laughter on the dancefloor, the Gala Ball proved once again that community, creativity, and celebration go hand in hand.

Queenie Van De Zandt- Advanced Audition Workshop:



Saturday 17th August

Local performers had the extraordinary opportunity to learn from Queenie Van De Zandt, Australia's leading audition technique teacher. In a full-day intensive, participants explored the art of auditioning, with Queenie sharing invaluable insider knowledge - both her successes and failures - with honesty and generosity.

With her trademark warmth, humour, and expertise, Queenie empowered attendees with tools to take their auditions to the next level. As participants summed it up:

“Day-long audition workshop with one of my heroines.”

“Queenie shared everything - no holds barred. Fecking legend IMHO and a damn nice person.”

We're thrilled to have facilitated this professional development opportunity and look forward to welcoming Queenie back to Coffs in the future!

Thankyou to everyone who supported, attended, or contributed to these events. Together, we're building not just productions - but a vibrant, connected, and thriving theatre community.



CHMCC MASQUERADE GALA

Ball



CHMCC MASQUERADE GALA

Ball



2025 Upcoming Social Events!

Get ready, Coffs! CHMCC and CHATS Productions are bringing the good vibes all year long with a line-up of fun, themed events additional to our fantastic line up of productions.

Whether you love dressing up, dancing the night away, or just having a laugh with friends, there's something for everyone.

Up Next: Halloween Boo-ling Night!

Get your costumes ready - it's time for a spook-tacular night out with the CHMCC family!

Date: Friday 24th October
Time: From 6:30pm
Place: Coff Harbour iPlay



\$35 - Includes 2 games of bowling and pizza.

\$10 - Pizza only option

Drinks and extra meals available for purchase at the venue.

Come dressed for a spooky good time - prizes for the best costumes, laughs, guaranteed, and plenty of pins to knock down!

Don't miss this frightfully fun night to relax, connect, and celebrate together outside the rehearsal room.

Save the Date!

Mark you calendars for a festive night of cheer and celebration!

Date: Saturday 6th December
Place: The Plantation Hotel



It's the CHMCC and CHATS Christmas Party!

A chance to gather, relax and celebrate another amazing year together. Full details coming soon-keep an eye on our socials for updates!

Sponsorship Prospectus

CHMCC are reaching out to share an exciting opportunity for any business to partner with the Coffs Harbour Musical Comedy Company (CHMCC), one of the longest-running arts associations in the Coffs Coast Region.

As a Not-for-Profit charitable organisation run entirely by dedicated volunteers, CHMCC is committed to enriching our community through the arts. All funds raised are reinvested into the company, ensuring that we continue to provide engaging and entertaining productions for our audiences. As of 2024, we are proud to announce that we have become a registered charity, allowing us to further our mission and increase our impact.

We invite your business to consider becoming a sponsor or advertiser with CHMCC. Your support will not only aid in the sustainability of our community theatre but also provide your business with valuable exposure. All donations and sponsorships are tax-deductible, and we will happily provide a tax receipt for your records.

We have developed a comprehensive prospectus that outlines the various sponsorship and advertising options available, as well as the benefits we can offer in return, including:

- Brand visibility through our promotional materials and event programs.
- Recognition on our website and social media platforms.
- Opportunities for direct engagement with our audiences during performances.

In addition, we are also looking for a sponsor for our production T-shirts. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your business leading up to and during our productions, while demonstrating your commitment to supporting the arts in our community.

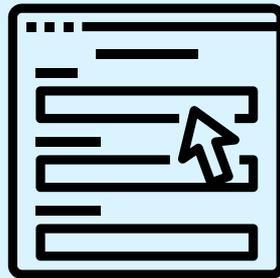
We would love to discuss how we can work together and appreciate any support you can offer. This is an opportunity to promote your business while contributing to a vital community cultural institution.

Please feel free to contact us to learn more about our sponsorship options.

Membership

[Membership form link](#)

Don't forget to become a 2025 financial member! Your membership helps support our productions, performers, and community events throughout the year. Stay connected, get involved, and enjoy exclusive member perks — renew or sign up today!



Interested in directing a show for CHMCC in 2026?

We'd love to hear from you! For more information or to express your interest, please get in touch with us at info@chmcc.org.au

The
Magic
OF
THEATRE



Upcoming shows



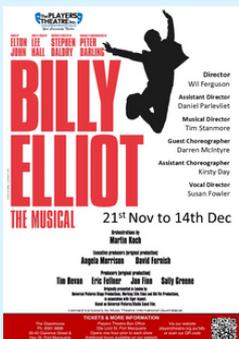
CHATS Production Inc
Radio Daze Days
Dates: 2 – 25 October 2025
Coffs Harbour Jetty Memorial Theatre



Tamba Theatre Company
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
Dates: 17 - 26 October 2025
Coffs Harbour Jetty Memorial Theatre



Naidu Theatre Company
Threads
Dates: 16 – 25 January 2026
Coffs Harbour Regional Conservatorium



Port Macquarie's The Players Theatre
Billy Elliot
Dates: 21 – 14 Nov/Dec
The Players Theatre, Port Macquarie



Expressions of Interest

Industry Professional

Development &

Opportunities



EOI form link

CHMCC is seeking feedback from our community and members to help shape future professional learning and development opportunities.

We're not just talking about onstage skills! We want to hear from those interested in all aspects of theatre—whether it's stagecraft, backstage roles, the bio box, costuming, sheds, front of house, or anything in between.

Let us know what areas you're keen to learn more about or develop skills in by filling out our short Expression of Interest form.

Your input will help us design workshops and opportunities that reflect the interests and needs of our incredible community.