



Playlovers Inc.
Hackett Hall, Draper Street, Floreat
www.playlovers.org.au

Stages

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #1—January-May 2018

SIDE *by* SIDE *by Sondheim*

"Side by Side by Sondheim" will be performed at the Limelight Theatre in Wanneroo (19, 20, 21 & 26, 27, 28 & 29th July & 2, 3 & 4 August - possibly subject to minor changes). Auditions will be held at the WA Academy of Performing Arts. All auditionees MUST perform at least a verse and chorus of a Stephen Sondheim song. Please bring a backing track or your own accompanist. There are only six roles available so only very strong singers (18+) who are proficient in singing complex harmonies should apply. Ability to read music would be a huge advantage and if you are able to play an instrument, even better! Please message Gillian Binks (Director) ASAP to book a time slot. The MD is Shaun Davis, SM is Bronwyn Hammond, lighting designer is Jake Anderson and sound designer is Daniel Toomath. If you are interested contact Gillian Binks on our Playlovers Facebook Page

Playlovers secures theatre for future generations

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Presidents Report

2018 AGM



Welcome to all our Playlovers members.

2017 was a year of turmoil and resilience.

Hackett Hall

I met Mark Burns and on his advice we exercised our right as per our lease to seek mediation. We met with Nedlands Council CEO and other council staff. We had received 2 Breach of Lease Notices.

With no success from this, we continued the process with the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT). At the SAT Hearings, the Council Engineer, under pressure from the mediator and our engineer conceded he had been incorrect in his assessment of the dangerous state of the building. There were also key concessions made by the council's electrician. This resulted in a win to Playlovers and our keys were returned in mid-August.

However, there were conditions. Works determined by SAT and additional works decided by the council were to be completed in 60 days.

Since then there have been continual meetings and inspections:

- Council inspected Hackett Hall.

- Meeting request with Deputy Mayor, Bill Hassell.

- Met with new Councillor, Cilla De Lacy, who championed our cause.

- Met with the council CEO and Manager of Strategy.

- Met with Council Buildings Manager, Assets Lease Officer and Environmental Health Officer and given further things to do.

I also sent a letter outlining our current situation to the new Minister for the Arts and Culture, Local Government and Heritage, Mr David Templeman. Our wonderful Patron, Kay Hallahan, and I attended a meeting with the Minister's Director General, Mr Duncan Ord, and two of his key policy advisers. The outcome of this meeting was that they were going to request that the City of Nedlands attend a meeting with them at Dumas House to explain their actions and treatment of a community group.

A request was made by the council for me to provide an outline of all professional reports gained during the 60 day SAT and Council works program (reports that they already have) along with an outline of what future works we intend to carry out at Hackett Hall

The Council sent in an architect and pest control firm to review the hall and provide a list of costings for the building to bring it to an appropriate level of renovation for community use. What this means' I'm not sure! We are still waiting on an outline of this inspection, but have been told it revealed an asbestos issue and the Council has closed off this section of the hall until further notice.

While we are closer than this time last year, we are still a fair way off using the hall for performances again.

A massive thank you to Mark Burns for getting us to this point.

Thank you also to Mr Dion Voss whose report on the structural integrity of Hackett Hall helped thwart the council's move to have the building condemned.

Thank you Mark Nicholson for providing a financial report to council.

Thank you engineer, Graham Cook, for providing plans and supporting documentation for the stage extension.

Season 1

Other Desert Cities (Barry Park and Cast) – Great result at Finleys. Thanks to the Old Mill for their support in allowing us to use their venue

Season 2

The Jungle Book (Sarah Christener and Cast) – Great performances from young souls. Thank you to Camelot and Harbour Theatre

End of an era

David Young is retiring from the Playlovers Committee.

One of the longest serving committee members, he has put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into this club and for that we will forever be thankful. David has served many positions on our committee, in fact there's probably not a position he hasn't filled in his time at here. He has performed in many plays, musicals and one acts. One Christmas Show I fondly remember performing with David to rapturous laughter in a 'Lord of the Dance meets Swan Lake' act, wearing tutus and swans! David was also the king of the cameo!

When David wasn't on the stage, he was invariably somewhere behind the scenes and he was the rock behind one of Perth's most talented costume designers, Terry McAuley. He also made outstanding contributions to community theatre as a member of the ITA. And if you were invited to one of David and Terry's parties, you knew that you were in for a great night.

David Young, without doubt, has been the life and soul of this club.

Thank you David for the dedication you have given to Playlovers over many years, the support you have given so many and for being such a good bloke! Your service to the club will be sorely missed.

Others to Thank

Lee Hemsley for introducing me to Mark Burns.

Members for maintaining your support.

Your committee for their tireless efforts over the year to maintain a Playlovers footprint on the community theatre scene.

2018 Goals!!

Side By Side by Sondheim

Repair the Theatre for grand opening in 2020



The War is Over!



Hello members

Well it's been a long time between newsletters but it definitely doesn't mean that things aren't happening OR that Playlovers has ceased to exist. Your committee is busily trying to source venues in order for us to maintain a theatrical footprint in 2018. On the horizon is a production of "Side By Side By Sondheim" directed by Gill Binks and musical direction by Sean Davis. Wan-neroo Repertory has very kindly offered us the use of their venue for a July / August season. The audition notice for this season can be found within this newsletter. If you know anyone who may be interested in auditioning please pass on the information.

On the Hackett Hall front we have been forced to play the waiting game with the City of Nedlands. Earlier this year they sent in an Architect to prepare a report on the state of Hackett Hall. We then waited 6 weeks for this report! There were no surprises in this report considering that it is a 60 year old building. The estimate to bring this 60 year old building up to speed was \$2,000,000. Our stance is that this building requires maintenance NOT an upgrade!

Back in January our Club Patron and I met the Director General and the Key Policy Advisers for the Minister of Local Government, Heritage and the Arts to make them aware of our situation and to seek their advice. While no guarantees were made they did express their support for us in our battle and assured us that they would look into this further.

In April, Mark Burns and I were summoned to a meeting with the council and in particular the CEO, Greg Trevaskis. Considering the Architects Report and a subsequent document received from the council in late March we expected to be walking into a 'Ding Dong' battle for Hackett Hall where all gloves would off! In the end it was anything but a battle. To cut a long story short, we have been given an indefinite timeframe to complete a list of works at Hackett Hall of the maintenance variety. This list consists of works to the roof, electrical checks, plumbing inspections, safety equipment inspections and a new emergency exit from the courtyard to name a few. Once all these items have been completed the council have guaranteed that they will sign off on Playlovers gaining full use of Hackett Hall. Our intention is to have all these items completed in time for a January / February 2019 season launch. The other good news from this meeting was the council's agreement that the building could be used for another 15 – 20 years and that they'd look at spending a significant amount of money to, in the CEO's words, "make the place look nice". We intend on holding them to their word!!

So things are the most positive that they have been for a long time. Please continue to support the club in our endeavours to maintain an existence at Hackett Hall. You can do this by coming to see our shows in 2018 and getting the word out in the community that Playlovers is well and truly alive and kicking!





43rd Robert Finley Awards 2017



Playlovers' Awards

On Sunday 17th December, The Independent Theatre Association held the 43rd Robert Finley Awards at the State Theatre Centre.

Playlovers had nominations in a number of categories despite our limited seasons. These were:

- Best Director of a Play (Barry Park,),
- Best Actress in a Play (both Sally Barendse and Cate Jennings),
- Best Supporting Actress in a Play (Chandra Wyatt),
- The Brenda Stanley Award for Best Costumes in a Play, and
- The David Crewes Award for Best Set in a Play.

All nominations came from *Other Desert Cities*



On the night, there was only one winner from the above ; The David Crewes Award for Best Set in a Play.

However, *Other Desert Cities* was placed 3rd in the award for Best Play and *Jungle Book* was given an Adjudicator's Certificate :

“For characterization and puppetry skills – Charlie Young , *Jungle Book*, Playlovers ”

Charlie played Kaa, the snake.



Other awards of interest, long-time Playlovers Member, John Woolrych won for

“Lighting: *That Face*: – Stirling , John Woolrych”

and an Adjudicator's certificate that has absolutely no connection with Playlovers, but which tickled my fancy

“Best Dead Body , – Dominic Masterson – Out of Order, Darlington Theatre Players ”

Full list of awards and certificates can be found at

www.ita.org.au/2017/12/the-robert-finley-awards-2017-results/

Playlovers AGM 2018

The Playlovers AGM was held Sunday 11th February in the Scout Hall adjacent to Hackett Hall - the latter was still unavailable to us.

It was brief and to the point, with reports from the Treasurer and the President. The report from President Alex McLennan can be seen later in this issue. All positions were then vacated and Kimberley Shaw presided over the election of the new committee. No position was contested, and the composition of the committee for 2018 is as follows:

President	Alex McLennan	Committee:	Jan Budden
Vice-President	Alide Chaney		Meg Considine
Secretary	Gaye Harvey		Bronwyn Hammond
Treasurer	Marie Corrigan		Janelle Hammond
			Ewen Malcolm
			David Nelson
			Geoff Robinson
			Daniel Toomath

After the formal proceedings closed, we had the presentation of a limited number of Plover Awards. Because we only had 2 productions in 2017 and they were so different, it did not seem appropriate to have all the usual categories. The Awards are listed below.

Supper was served after the meeting. Thanks to Bronwyn Hammond and her assistants for organizing this.

Finally, I have been Newsletter Editor since 2012 and have enjoyed it immensely but the time has come to pass this responsibility on. The new editor is Geoff Robinson, who is sharing this issue and will be able to approach the task with fresh eyes and enthusiasm.

Gaye Harvey

Plover Awards 2017

Encouragement award:	for learning Hindi in <i>Jungle Book</i>	Matty Gordon
Innovation award:	for staging of <i>Jungle Book</i>	Sarah Christiner
Set design	Barry Park	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>
Best Stage Manager	Kiri Siva	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>
Best Newcomer	Jamie Buttery	<i>Jungle Book</i>
Best Supporting Actor	Steven Hounslow	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>
Best Supporting Actress	Chandra Wyatt	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>
Best Actor	Dean McAskil	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>
Best Actress	Sally Barendse and Cate Jennings	<i>Other Desert Cities</i>

Mark Burns was **Playlover of the Year** for his invaluable efforts against the Nedlands City Council

Seasons for 2018

Although we have secured Hackett Hall for the future, there are a number of alterations & refurbishing that need to be done to bring the building up to standards. We have now been without a permanent performance venue for more than a year. Despite this, in 2017 we have managed 2 very successful seasons at other locations. We have Side By Side being performed at the Limelight Theatre in July/August and we fully intend to present at least 1 more again this year. At this stage we have nothing confirmed., but submissions are very welcome.

Please continue with your support of our efforts. It is much appreciated.

And watch this space!

What's On Elsewhere

Limelight Theatre Wanneroo

Fairy Tale of Sorts

June 29-30 July 1, 4-7

Directed by John Grimshaw

Stirling Players

It's A Wonderful Life

July 6 –21

Directed by Caryn McLean

Old Mill Theatre

Last Cab To Darwin

June 22-July 7

Directed by Trevor Dhu

Harbour Theatre

GODSPELL

20th July - 29th July

Director: Jodie Innes

Melville Theatre Company

Urinetown

July 6,7, 12,13,14,15, 19,20,21

Garrick Theatre

Beyond a Joke

July 19-August 4

Directed by Andrew Watson



Does anyone Remember

A few familiar faces!
Johnny Walker Golf Classic
&
Jesus Christ Super Star
The Year
2003



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Next Committee Meeting

Monday 4th June 2018
7:00pm



PLAYLOVERS WEBSITE: www.playlovers.org.au



PLAY-

LOVERS INFORMATION EMAIL: info@playlovers.org.au



www.facebook.com/PlayloversWA

COMMITTEE 2018

President	Alex McLennan	0438 937 078
Vice-President	Alide Chaney	0403 367 047
Secretary	Gaye Harvey	9446 9834
Treasurer	Marie Corrigan	0414 529 736
Committee Members:	Jan Budden	0403 820 770
	Bronwyn Hammond	9447 0945
	Janelle Hammond	0423 847 383
	Ewen Malcolm	9284 9785
	David Nelson	0400 079 014
	Geoff Robinson	0414 348 968
	Daniel Toomath	0455 923 650
	Meg Considine	0400 207 933