

Official Newsletter
of
THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY



*Fostering an outlet for creative youth and community,
while seeking to produce vibrant, quality entertainment
that enriches, engages and educates.*

The SPOTLIGHTER
SEPTEMBER 2019



The Spotlight Theatrical Company
proudly presents

KELLY

RATED M+
Over 15

By Matthew Ryan

Directed by Cilla Scott

BASEMENT THEATRE

20 SEPTEMBER – 5 OCTOBER 2019

Book Now – 07 5539 4255 or spotlighttheatre.com.au



Spotlight Theatre is a foundation
member of the Gold Coast
Theatre Alliance.



KELLY
20 Sep - 5 Oct
BOOK NOW
07 5539 4255
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

The Kelly Brothers
Brad Kendrick as Ned Kelly
Mitchell Walsh as Dan Kelly
and Nathan French



ABOUT THE PLAY

Reviews:

"Kelly is a beautifully conceived character drama ... Ryan's stupefyingly good script is poignant and to-the-point ... Kelly is a subtle, smart imagining of Ned Kelly's last night alive, charged with unfulfilled potential and torturous regret, and deeply moving to the bitter end."

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

"Ryan's depiction of Ned injects more humour and wit into his character than I have ever previously seen ... Shines a spotlight on the relationship between the brothers in a way we've not seen before in the history of Australian storytelling ... A stunning, exalting and truly authentic piece of theatre."

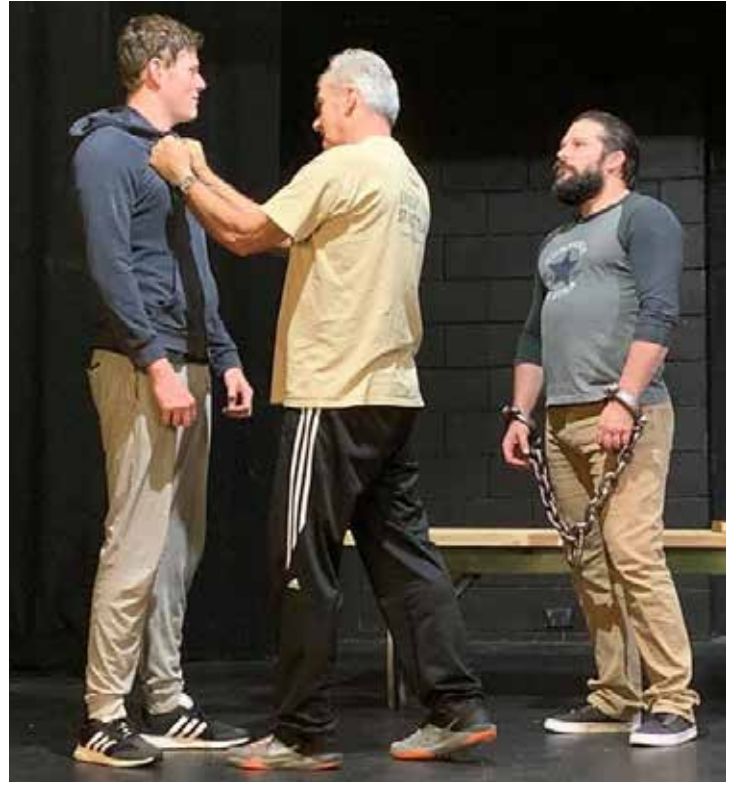
AUSSIE THEATRE



Ned Kelly

Last photo before execution.

Spotlighter September 2019



Early rehearsals for Kelly. Photos courtesy of [facebook.com/spotlighttheatricalcompany](https://www.facebook.com/spotlighttheatricalcompany)



THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY

COUNCIL MEMBERS for 2018-9

- | | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| President | – | Duncan Sims |
| Vice President | – | Erica Graham |
| Secretary | – | Shirley King |
| Treasurer | – | Michelle Edwards |
| Councillors | – | Jonathan Allwood, LEEANNE SCHULTZ, Ross Smith, Jamie Watt |

The Spotlight Theatrical Company Executive Council has been returned for another 12 month term.



President
DUNCAN SIMS



Secretary
SHIRLEY KING



Treasurer
MICHELLE EDWARDS



Vice President
ERICA GRAHAM



Councillor
JONATHAN ALLWOOD

This is Jon Allwood's second year on the Spotlight Committee. He works mainly for the Front of House and Bar. However, he has been assisting back stage building sets and working as stage crew. He is now involved with the Youth Theatre and stage managing some of their productions.



Councillor
JAMIE WATT

Jamie has offered his services as a Councillor for another term. He wears a number of hats – Director, Dancer, Singer, Social Media Co-ordinator and he has many other skills that are invaluable to Spotlight Theatrical Company.



Councillor
ROSS SMITH

Ross has been involved in the entertainment industry for many years, first as a musician and then more recently in Front of House. He joined the newly renovated Capitol Theatre in 1995 as an usher working on Cameron McIntosh's shows and then in 2003 he took over the position of Front of House Manager for Disney's production of *The Lion King* and was sent to New York to observe the Broadway production. He has also worked at Sydney's Lyric Theatre, Riverside Parramatta and the Sydney Town Hall. On moving to the Gold Coast he has been a member and volunteering at Spotlight.



Councillor
LEEANNE SCHULTZ

I have been seeing shows at Spotlight Theatre for many years. I was lucky enough to be selected by Helen Maden to host one of the benefit nights back in 2011 to raise money for the Heart Foundation. I then started to volunteer ushering and selling program/raffles and then moved into the Bar. I love volunteering at Spotlight Theatre. I have since gained a lot of experience Front of House, Box Office and lately learning behind the scenes. I am looking forward to helping at Spotlight Theatre and working with the wonderful Team.

Thank you to the 42 Members and 2 Non-Members who attended the Annual General Meeting on 20th August. 14 Apologies were received. It was pleasing to see so many people and especially exciting to have a lot of our younger members attending. Special Thanks to Returning Officer JOEL BESKIN, and congratulations to our new Life Members - Butch Bernet & Chris Dickinson. (See page 5.)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP GRANTED TO BUTCH BERNET AND CHRIS DICKINSON

Citations for these two outstanding volunteers, Butch and Chris were presented and read by Joel Beskin. Award Certificate was presented to Butch by President Duncan Sims. Unfortunately Chris wasn't able to be present, due to surgery.



BUTCH BERNET – GRANTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP to The Spotlight Theatrical Company at the AGM 20th AUGUST 2019.

Butch has been with The Spotlight Theatrical Company since 2009 when he joined the Production team for *Spamalot*. The following year he worked on the set construction and production team for *Curtains*. Since that time he has been invaluable designing and building sets, welding whenever this talent is needed, and obligingly giving his time to all sorts of jobs that are needed around the Theatre.

He has been Stage Manager for 28 plus Main and Youth Theatre shows as well as Constructing Sets for at least 36 or more shows. At times he has overlapped Construction, SM and Crew.

From July 2009 to present time (2019) Butch has Stage Managed, constructed sets, built large props, designed or crewed for at least fifty six (56) shows for The Spotlight Theatrical Company as well as attending to many maintenance jobs around the theatre. This year, with his many skills, he took on the Office Bearing roles of Stage Mechanist and Workshop Supervisor.

Butch Bernet has been a great help and a wonderful volunteer to our theatre and the Company is extremely grateful. We are very happy to honour Butch Bernet with Life Membership to The Spotlight Theatrical Company.

Spotlighter September 2019

CHRIS DICKINSON – GRANTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP to The Spotlight Theatrical Company at the AGM 20th AUGUST 2019.

Chris Dickinson joined Spotlight as a volunteer early 2009 helping with Front of House and Bar. In 2010 she was elected to Committee then took over the design of programmes in 2011. A year later, she added Grant Applications and Box office duties.

As well as designing, setting and coordinating the programmes for almost every show including Youth Theatre, Chris is also responsible for the massive task of creating the beautifully designed Thank You cards for Cast, Crew and Volunteers.

She became Secretary at the 2012 AGM continuing for 3 years and to this date can still be seen in the box office throughout show seasons.

Chris has great artistic talent and has helped in so many ways over the years, often in difficult health circumstances. She is a real trouper, both to family, friends and a wonderful volunteer to Spotlight Theatrical Company.

Always smiling, she is available to help in every way she can and stands by her email motto: ***“Get Up, Dress Up, Show Up and Never Give Up – Have A Happy Day”.***

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you to all who attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 20 August in The Halpin Auditorium. It was very encouraging to see so many new and younger members there. It was very pleasing to be able to report a small surplus for the year due to the hard work and diligence of our Treasurer, Michelle and Bookkeeper, Deb.



Thank you to the outgoing Committee for their work and support over the last year as we certainly had some challenges over the last six months.

Congratulations to the new committee members elected. I look forward to working with you all, to consolidate the good work done, so that the Company continues to flourish and prosper. I hope you got to see the spectacular ***Higher & Higher the Motown Musical Revival*** directed by the multi-talented Jamie Watt. To see the audiences dancing in the aisles having a wonderful experience is what entertainment is all about. The audiences loved the show and couldn't get enough. Congratulations and well done to all Cast and Crew on providing an outstanding night of song and dance for our discerning audiences.

We are slowing the pace down to present you the play ***Kelly*** by Matthew Ryan directed by Cilla Scott. This production is now in final rehearsal mode in the Basement, putting the final touches before opening on 20 September through to 5 October.

We are approaching the busiest few months for the theatre. Every spare rehearsal space is being used so we have had to hire some outside venues to fit everything in.

The Intermediate Drama class are rehearsing for their production in the Basement on 18, 19, 20, October.

The Cast of ***Kinky Boots*** directed by Katie Grace will be announced on Tuesday 10 September with a live Facebook launch. Tickets are now on sale online www.spotlighttheatre.com.au so make sure you don't miss out on this one. Opening night is 1 November and continues through to 23 November.

We then put the focus on our ***Spotlight on Youth*** as the classes perform their end of year productions. All shows are listed elsewhere in the Spotlighter.

We end the year with our ***Spotlight on Christmas*** concert in The Halpin Auditorium on 20 and 21 December, so in the last four months of the year you can see that there are lots of rehearsals; sets to build and take down; costumes to be made; lighting and sound plots to be set. If you have any spare time and want to help, just let us know as there are always plenty of jobs to be done.

That's it from me, so until next month look after yourselves and each other.

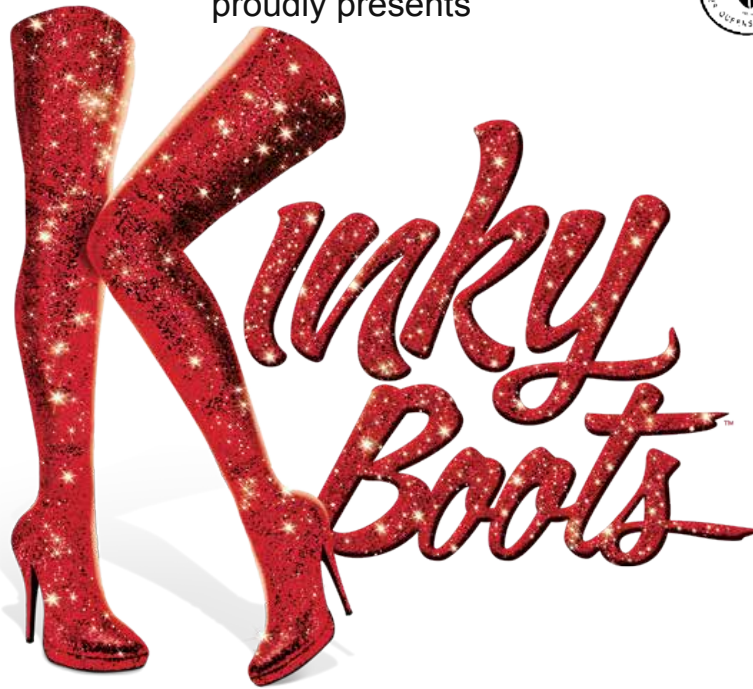
Best regards,

Duncan Sims

**CAN YOU HELP?
SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY REQUIRES A DEDICATED VOLUNTEER
TO LOOK AFTER STAGE PROPERTIES.**

**Please Contact 07 5539 4255
email: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au**

The Spotlight Theatrical Company
proudly presents



Book by
Harvey Fierstein

Music and Lyrics by
Cyndi Lauper

Original Broadway Production Directed and Choreographed by
Jerry Mitchell

Based on the Miramax motion picture *Kinky Boots*
Written by **Geoff Deane and Tim Firth**

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

Directed by
Katie Grace

Choreographers
Georgia Beck & Jackson Kook

Music Director
Steven Days

1 – 23 NOVEMBER 2019
HALPIN AUDITORIUM

Book now on (07) 5539 4255
or online at www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

Joel Beskin's 'Theatre Roundup'

is on Air, Tuesday every week.

Tune in to 4CRB 89.3FM between 2.35pm and 3pm
for Community Theatre News

Spotlight on Youth Theatre



TEACHING FRATERNITY & ADMINISTRATORS:

HANNAH CROWTHER (*Int. Drama & Snr. Music Theatre Teacher*)

MATT PEARSON (*Music Director*)

SHELLEY GRACE (*Head Teacher Senior Drama*)

TAYLOR HOLMES (*Assistant Teacher Senior & Intermediate Drama*)

KIRSTY SLEEMAN (*Head Teacher Junior Drama*)

VAL LEFTWICH (*YT Administrator*)

KAY HAWKER (*YT Accountant*)

I have now returned from my vacation and I thank Kay for standing in for me whilst I was away. We are now four weeks into term 3 and everyone is working really hard to reach their goals for the end of year productions.

We started an Intermediate Music Theatre two years ago and this has been completely full for over a year. For 2020 we are looking at moving a few classes around to accommodate another Intermediate Music Theatre class, as I get numerous requests for places in this class every month.



Val Leftwich

Teachers Shelley and Taylor have attracted many more students into Drama classes at Spotlight. At the moment the classes are closed as they are working on their end of year play. Each class has in excess of 20 students each and we are still getting enquiries for spaces.

The Junior Drama classes are busy having fun and now beginning to work on their plays. Kirsty and Hannah are both teachers that work together to help these students gain confidence.

The end of year Music Theatre shows have been cast and work has begun; we look forward to seeing what these talented students produce this year. I am sure it will be spectacular as we have a good combination with Hannah's dance and drama skills and Matt's music skills to bring out the best.

The Senior Drama play had to be transferred to another date as there was a clash with school exams. This play will now take place in November.

Spotlight Youth Theatre is looking towards making November/December a youth extravaganza, with all classes performing their end of year numbers during that time.

Some Youth Theatre teachers attended workshops in New York this year, bringing back wonderful ideas and experience to pass on to our students.

Spotlight Youth Theatre is always looking at ways to improve and I am sure many students will benefit from the extra knowledge.

Just a quick reminder, as we are getting close to production dates please consider the teachers who have to rehearse to make sure that your children perform to the very best of their ability. This does become very difficult when a student is absent and the teacher has planned the class for that week. Just a quick text to me will really help if you find that your child cannot attend class that week.

Val Leftwich

Youth Theatre Administrator

YT photos courtesy Val Leftwich



The **SPOTLIGHT** Theatrical Company 
 Middle School Youth Theatre
 PRODUCTION OF



Book by
Richard Morris and Dick Scanlan

New Music by
Jeanine Tesori

New Lyrics by
Dick Scanlan

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

HALPIN AUDITORIUM
DECEMBER 5 & 6 – 7:00pm
DECEMBER 7 – 2:00pm
BOOK & PAY 07 5539 4255
 or online at www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

The **SPOTLIGHT** Theatrical Company 
 Young Adults
 PRODUCTION OF

Avenue



Music and Lyrics by
**ROBERT LOPEZ &
 JEFF MARX**

Book by
**JEFF
 WHITTY**

Based on an Original Concept by
**ROBERT LOPEZ &
 JEFF MARX**

Originally produced on Broadway by Kevin McCollum, Robyn Goodman, Jeffrey Seller,
 Vineyard Theatre and The New Group

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

Directed by **HANNAH CROWTHER** Musical Director **MATT PEARSON**

HALPIN AUDITORIUM
17 & 18 DECEMBER 2019 – 7:00pm
BOOK & PAY
07 5539 4255
 or online at www.spotlighttheatre.com.au



Allan as he appeared in
The Merry Widow

VALE
❧❧
**ALLAN
COOPER**



Sadly, we advise that ALLAN COOPER, a Past President and Member of Spotlight passed away recently. His funeral was on the 14th August 2019.

Allan was also a wonderful Volunteer for many years around the 70-80's. Besides performing in many musicals, he helped with Set Design, Crewed and was Stage Manager to many of our earlier productions at Spotlight theatre.

He gave a great deal of time to Spotlight and the Spotlight Entertainers Festival which was an Annual Event instigated and organised by Isabel Williams and later Christine & Paul Harris. The children loved him.

Allan was President for a time in the 1978-9 period before Maurie Hansell took the reigns. He helped Maurie with the first *Jesus Christ Superstar* set building and was prominent in the shows that followed.

Our sincere condolences to his family and loved ones.



Allan (left) with Kevin Ryan, Diana Holzworth and Stuart Adey in *The Merry Widow*





HIGH & HIGHER REVIVAL – The Mowtown Musical
 Congratulations Jamie Watt and his creative team, cast and crew!

Reviewed by Roger McKenzie (STAGE WHISPERS)
 Spotlight Theatre has revived a popular “juke box” musical from 2016 with great success. It is a musical tribute to Motown during that great period in the 60’s and 70’s, featuring over 50 tunes. The pace is fast and furious with the six dancers hardly off stage and whipping up a nonstop whirlwind of energy.

Under the baton of Ben Murray, the four featured artists: Caroline Taylor, Jacquelyn Turner, Hannah Rigby and Jamie Watt were greatly supported by the seven piece onstage band and the four backup singers, who each had the opportunity to share their talents with the audience.

The simple staging was effective (I’ve never seen so many mirror balls of varying sizes dress a stage). The costumes and wigs added to the atmosphere along with Leonnie Jones’ lighting.

The appreciative audience loved everything about the performance.

Motown devotees will be in seventh heaven with this production and you can dance along with the hits – that’s if you have the energy to match the dancers! Another great night at the theatre. <http://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/higher-and-higher-revival>

The Spotlight Theatrical Company



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Rev 6 : 2019 PLAYBILL SEPT - DEC

<i>Kelly</i>	Basement	20 Sep - 5 October
Roald Dahl's <i>The Witches</i> (YT Intermediate Drama)	Basement	18, 19, 20 October
<i>Kinky Boots</i>	Halpin	1 - 23 November
<i>The ALMOST Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged</i> (Snr Drama)	Halpin	27, 28 November
<i>Crocodile Tales & Twisted Tales</i> (Jnr Drama)	Basement	29, 30 Nov, 1 Dec
<i>When I Grow Up: A Showcase about getting older</i> (Int. Music Theatre)	Halpin	5, 6, 7 December
<i>Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr.</i> (Middle School Music Theatre)	Halpin	5, 6, 7 December
<i>All Shook Up</i> (Snr. Music Theatre)	Halpin	12,13,14 December
Avenue Q (YT Young Adult)	Halpin	17, 18 December
Spotlight On Christmas	Halpin	20, 21 December

Disclaimer: Subject to change without notice.



TICKET PRICING & BOOKINGS:
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au p. (07) 5539 4255
 185-187 Ashmore Rd, Benowa Qld
[facebook.com/SpotlightTheatricalCompany](https://www.facebook.com/SpotlightTheatricalCompany)

Spotlight Theatre is a Foundation Member of the Gold Coast Theatre Alliance

THANK YOU

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

Division 7 and Councillor Gary Baildon
for a Grant Donation to our Community Theatre.

THANK YOU

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GOLDCOAST.

for Divisional funding to the value of \$2000
to update computers and office equipment.

Spotlight Theatre
Artist's Review Seniors
known as

STARS

Noni Buckland – STARS Liaison

Since the last newsletter we have completed shows at the following venues:-

Ozcare – Runaway Bay

Bupa – Banora Point

The Terraces – Varsity Lakes

We had to cancel a concert at Arcare Helensvale as they were in lockdown due to a flu outbreak. We wish

them the best and hope that everyone is okay.



We are currently preparing our Christmas concert which will be upon us before we know it. We still have eleven shows to perform before we start our Christmas season, in November and December, with fifteen shows taking us to the end of our year.

I have included two photos from our current show. One photo of Kerry and Sam in *Fever* and Lyn in *Sunny Side of The Street*.



That's all from the **STARS** and now back to the boards.

Noni Buckland
STARS Liaison

SEASON TICKETS

Great Bargains!

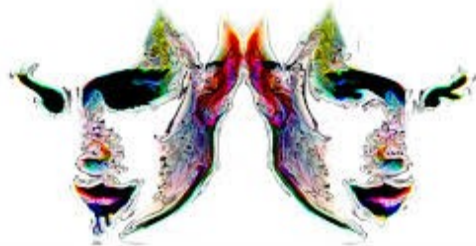
Get in early! CONTACT BOOKINGS 07 5539 4255. * Special Conditions apply.



Celebrating 60 years of
Spotlight Theatrical Company
Diamond Anniversary, 2015

Season Ticket

SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY



Not Transferable: Not Redeemable for Cash
Bookings Essential
Authorised by : _____

This certificate entitles :-

To : _____ Shows

Valid: From _____ To: _____

NOT VALID: OPENING OR CLOSING NIGHT PERFORMANCES

Transaction ID: _____

185 Ashmore Road BENOWA QLD 4217 Phone: 5539 4255

email: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au

TICKET PRICING

The Halpin Auditorium Musicals

Opening Night \$37, Adults \$34, Concession \$30,
Member \$29, Child (under 16) \$25,
Group 10+ \$31

Basement Theatre Plays

Opening Night \$37, Adults \$32, Concession \$29,
Member \$27, Child (under 16) \$25,
Group 10+ \$29

(Note: BT Musicals as per The Halpin Auditorium)

PANTOMIMES: All tickets \$16, Group of 10+ \$15.

NOTE

**TICKETS WILL ONLY BE HELD FOR 72 HOURS
OR 3 BUSINESS DAYS.**

THANK YOU

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

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for a Grant Donation to our Community Theatre.

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**GOLD COAST
THEATRE ALLIANCE**

For an update on all current and scheduled plays and shows by Gold Coast and Tweed Shire member groups visit the website:
<http://www.goldcoasttheatre.com.au>

**SPOTLIGHT
COSTUME HIRE**

We have thousands of costumes!

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SATURDAY
 9:00am - 3:00pm

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Hats, masks, jewellery, wigs, stockings, head pieces & much more

Mehron Theatrical & Special Effects makeup

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e: mailbox@spotlighttheatre.com.au
www.spotlight-costume-hire.com

The Spotlight Theatrical Company is a participant in the 2019 Gold Palm Theatre Awards

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 For all your insurance requirements contact Leanne on (07) 5538 8988

**Special Thanks to
 THE GAMING COMMISSION
 for a substantial GRANT.**

Thank You
CITY OF GOLDCOAST.
Council for a substantial Rate donation.

*Thank You
 Pauline Davies
 for another donation to our Sponsor a Chair Fundraiser.*

CONTACT INFORMATION – SPOTLIGHT COUNCILLORS 2018-2019

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Treasurer: Michelle Edwards e: michelle@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Councillors

Jonathan Allwood e: helibear56@me.com
Leeanne Schultz e: sewroo@bigpond.com
Ross Smith e: rss7@bigpond.com
Jamie Watt e: j_j_watt@hotmail.com

Production Committee

TBA

Theatre Technical Consultant Michael Sutton
Artistic Adviser Tony Alcock
Stage Mechanist/Workshop Supervisor Butch Bernet

Sound Co-ordinator Nick Willner
Lighting Co-ordinator Leonnie (LJ) Jones
Library Matt Pearson
Small Props TBA

Insurance Leanne Binns Insurance matters e: leanne@leaib.com.au
Fire & Security Contacts Matt Pearson (1) Jon Allwood (2)

Administration Liaison/Group Bookings/Membership Coordinator/ Royalties/Theatre Hire & Usage/Key Dist. & Registration/Gift Coordinator/Volunteer FoH Roster Coordinator/Liaison

Administration W 07 5539 4255

Publicity e: dunlo@ozemail.com.au

Social Media Jamie Watt e: j_j_watt@hotmail.com

Costume Hire Michelle May W 5539 4700 Tony Alcock – **Costume Coordinator** – W 5539 4255

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Hannah Crowther (Music Theatre Teacher & Head Intermediate Drama Teacher),
Matt Pearson (Music Director),
Shelley Grace (Senior Drama Teacher), Taylor Holmes (Assistant Teacher Senior & Intermediate Drama),
Kirsty Sleeman (Head Junior Drama Teacher)

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Bar Manager - Duncan Sims e: dunlo@ozemail.com.au

Charity Night Co-ordinator Helen Maden e: hpmaden2@gmail.com

G.C. Theatre Alliance Representative Joel Beskin / Shirley King

Webmaster Michael Thomas e: stc_webmaster@showbizaustralia.com

Programmes Chris Dickinson e: chris@spotlighttheatre.com.au

Spotlighter Editor Shirley King e: shirley@spotlighttheatre.com.au

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