

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 2020

THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS

SHANNON WRIGHT MICHELLE MACWHIRTER RYAN VERBRUGGEN CAT DELLER SEAN CURRAN ROB KENNA

DIRECTED BY HELEN MADEN

# The Psychic

a comedy by Sam Bobrick  
A Murder Mystery...OF SORTS!

PLAYING  
11-26 September

BOOKINGS  
07 5539 4255

By arrangement with Origin™ Theatrical on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

STRICT COVID-19 RULES ARE BEING APPLIED.

POSTER COURTESY SEAN CURRAN



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

Director Helen Maden with set painters Sandy Wilcox and husband Peter.



With just two weeks to go, **THE PSYCHIC** has moved into the Halpin Auditorium. The set is being built and decorated, the lighting is in the design phase, the cast have their scripts down, the fast changes are being perfected, the Stage Manager is learning the ropes, the laughs are coming thick and fast and the director is hoping to be released from her padded cell any day now!

This delightful murder mystery (of sorts) boasts a wonderful cast of seasoned performers who certainly know how to use their skills to make the most of every moment on stage. The director Helen Maden, is so excited to be working with this team and everyone is looking forward to having an audience to share in the magic of this quirky, interesting, unpredictable script by award winning author, Sam Bobrick.

**THE PSYCHIC** follows the life of a down-on-his-luck writer. In desperation to make the rent, Adam puts a sign in his window, "Psychic Readings \$25". The sign draws the interest of the lovely and conflicted Laura, followed by her slimy husband Roy, Roy's sexy mistress Rita, Rita's lover-gangster Johnny Bubbles



and Ace Detective Norris Coslow. In the surprising twists that follow, Adam gets entangled in an hilarious murder mystery (of sorts). **THE PSYCHIC** is the winner of the 2011 Mystery Writers of America 'Edgar Allan Poe Award' for Best Play.

Strictly limited seating: **The Bodyguard** was fully booked out, so call today on 55 394 255 to avoid disappointment and head out for a great night at the theatre.

The PLAYERS



## USA Reviews **PSYCHIC**

*"Bobrick was still actively plying his trade before his death on 11 October 2019, and quite capably too ... Satisfyingly unpredictable..."*

F. Kathleen Foley — L.A. Times  
*"A devilishly clever comedy/mystery with a hilarious first act and an even better second one that takes on an added layer of brilliance half-way through. You may find as this reviewer did, wanting to stand up and cheer. You'll love it."*

— Steven Stanley — Stage Scene

*"An Extra Special Play ... a delightful murder mystery... The plot ensues with many humorous, suspenseful, unexpected twists and turns, very characteristic of the talented playwright Sam Bobrick's previous works."* Bonnie Prieuer

— Tolucan Times and Canyon Crier

and the ... The PAINTERS



*"There were few times when the audience wasn't in hysterics, and Bobrick's hilarious one-liners and snappy dialogue deserves all the credit."* James Famera — Burbank Leader

*"Delightfully farcical new comedy ... enjoy your visit with The Psychic."* — Cynthia Citron — Cynthia Citron Reviews

*"Engaging, surprising, clever and funny. The Psychic offers audiences everything they could ask for in a comedy mystery."* — Candyce Columbus — L.A. Theatre Examiner

*"For an evening of fun entertainment, I recommend The Psychic..."*

— Carol Segal — Stage Happenings

*"The Psychic is a laugh-filled unexpectedly entertaining ride that gratifies copiously from moment to moment. A definite must see..."* — Don Grigware — Broadway World.Com

## Vice President's Report on behalf of Duncan Sims the President

Duncan has done an amazing job leading Spotlight through the maze of conditions and regular amendments to the requirements of Covid 19. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you.

**The Bodyguard** in the Halpin Auditorium has been an amazing success with a record 100% seats sold at every performance. Five extra shows were added and if we were able, we could have added at least four more.

Patrons were blown away and the cast received a standing ovation at every show.

Clem and Shelly Halpin, assisted by their dedicated crew, produced a show of a professional level with amazing costumes, sets, lighting, sound and a wonderfully talented cast. **Thank you all!**

This was a new venture for Front of House led by Leanne and Ross. Patrons were seated early and table service was provided. This was a huge success and enjoyed by all. Thank you to all Front of House volunteers, you did a sterling job.

**The Psychic** directed by Helen Maden is Spotlight's next great adventure and is due to open 11th September running to the 26th of September in the Halpin Auditorium. Helen is excited to be working with an amazing cast and knows you will find the show highly humorous and entertaining. This is a show not to be missed!

Please note that conditions of entry and procedures have changed. Please arrive early so that you can be seated and table service provided. The theatre capacity is restricted so there are fewer tickets available and conditions apply. The Ticket Office is located in Costume Hire and opening hours are 10-30am to 4-30pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 3pm Saturday. All individual ticket holders' details have to be recorded for contact tracing. **TICKETS ARE ON SALE and must be ordered by calling the Ticket Office on 5539 4255 or in person. BOOK NOW so that you are not disappointed.**

**Footloose The Musical** directed by Nathan French opens October 23rd and runs until November 14th. Nathan and his cast are hard at work to produce this highly acclaimed musical.

**Please note that TICKET SALES are open.** Table numbers cannot be allocated, as the theatre can only apply these once the Covid 19 restrictions are updated.

The AGM was held on Tuesday 18th August in the Halpin Auditorium. Thank you to all those who attended and adhered to the Covid rules. The new Committee was selected and commence their duties from the 1st of September. The committee is as follows:- EXECUTIVE: Duncan Sims, President; Erica Graham, Vice President; Michelle Edwards, Treasurer; Noreena Wines, Secretary. COMMITTEE: Jamie Watt, Leanne Schultz, Ross Smith and Hayley Cox.

Thank you to the past committee and returning committee members for all their work and support this past year. Welcome to Noreena and Hayley, we are looking forward to working with you.

Shirley King has fulfilled the role of Secretary to Spotlight for many years and her commitment and dedication has been second to none. Shirley, we thank you for your hard work and are eternally grateful for all you have done. Thank you for maintaining the Spotlighter and assisting with the many other functions you have done so methodically and professionally.

Thank you Joel, for your ongoing support of Spotlight. Your co-operation, understanding and support as we strive to make sure that Spotlight Theatre is a safe place for all to visit, is invaluable.

We look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming, blockbusting shows.

*Erica Graham*  
Vice President

# Spotlight Theatre Costume Hire

Phone 07 5539 4700

COVID-19 SOCIAL DISTANCING REGULATIONS ARE BEING STRICTLY OBSERVED.

**NOW OPEN:** Monday – Friday 10.30 am to 4.30 pm  
Saturday 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

"THE LARGEST RANGE OF UNIQUE, UNUSUAL, VINTAGE AND HAND-MADE COSTUMES AND ACCESSORIES FOR HIRE ON THE GOLD COAST"

**Visit us and get dressed by the best!**

**Come in and Grab a Bargain!**

To Celebrate our Re-Opening, we're offering  
**A BIG MERCHANDISE SALE - NOTHING OVER \$5**



**AND THERE'S MORE ...**  
**WIGS at a GREAT PRICE**  
**and A HUGE RANGE OF**  
**MASQUERADE MASKS!**



***FOOTLOOSE the musical***  
**bursts onto The Halpin Auditorium stage**  
**24th October until 14th November, 2020**  
**with the following Team and Cast.**

Director – **Nathan French**

Musical Director – **Shari Willner**

Choreographers – **Martina French & Jamie Watt**

**Bryn Jenke** - Ren McCormack  
**Georgia Beck** - Ariel Moore  
**Lee Stoka** - Reverend Shaw Moore  
**Rachel Love** - Rusty  
**Ethan Cairns** - Willard Hewitt  
**Melissa Quirk** - Vi Moore  
**Jo De Goldi** - Ethel McCormack  
**Clay English** - Chuck Cranston  
**Isabella Wiesenthal** - Wendy Jo  
**Sammy Price** - Urleen  
**Alan Beck** - Wes Warnicker  
**Martina French** - Lulu Warnicker  
**Joe Bourke** - Principal Clarke  
**Taylor Holmes** - Eleanor Dunbar/Betty Blast  
**Ricky Moss** - Coach Dunbar

*Female Ensemble:*

**Hayley Green**  
**Mikaela Kimberly**  
**Emma Leese**  
**Laura Carret**  
**Katie Munday**

*Male Ensemble*

**Clay Carlaw** - Lyle  
**Jake Barker** - Travis  
**Sam Flowers** - Bickle/Cowboy Bob  
**Ethan Speight** - Garvin  
**Rory Schiele** - Jeter

**FOOTLOOSE the musical is one of the most explosive movie musicals in recent memory and now bursts onto the Spotlight Halpin Auditorium stage.**

**Footloose** is the story of Ren McCormack, a teenage boy from Chicago. He and his mother move to the small town of Bomont after his father abandons them. Upon arriving, Ren finds himself at odds with most of the town, including the Reverend Moore. The Reverend has convinced the town to outlaw dancing, which Ren finds unbelievable. With the help of Ariel (the Reverend's daughter) and Willard (a country hick who becomes his best friend), Ren convinces the Reverend to let the teenagers dance, and in the process helps the town heal from a tragedy that affected them all.



**Director Nathan French**

**BRONZE CORPORATE SPONSOR**



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



The Spotlight Theatrical Company  
proudly presents

# Footloose

the musical

Music by  
**TOM  
SNOW**

Lyrics by  
**DEAN  
PITCHFORD**

Stage adaptation by  
**DEAN PITCHFORD  
and WALTER BOBBIE**

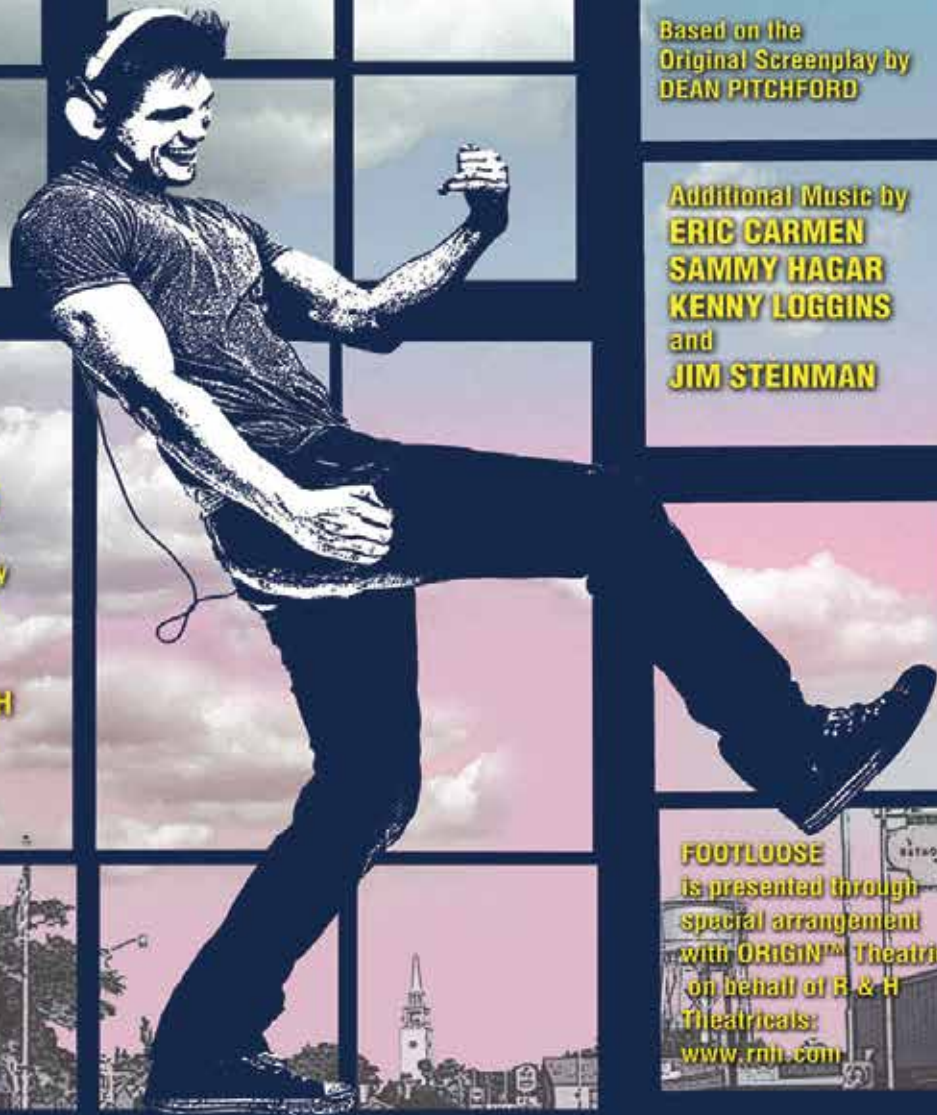
Based on the  
Original Screenplay by  
**DEAN PITCHFORD**

Additional Music by  
**ERIC CARMEN  
SAMMY HAGAR  
KENNY LOGGINS  
and  
JIM STEINMAN**

Directed by  
**NATHAN FRENCH**

Musically Directed by  
**SHARI WILLNER**

Choreographed by  
**MARTINA FRENCH  
and JAMIE WATT**



**FOOTLOOSE**  
is presented through  
special arrangement  
with **ORIGIN™** Theatrical  
on behalf of R & H  
Theatricals:  
[www.rnh.com](http://www.rnh.com)

The HALPIN Auditorium

**OCTOBER 23 – NOVEMBER 14, 2020**



Bookings 07 5539 4255 • [www.spotlighttheatre.com.au](http://www.spotlighttheatre.com.au)



# 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 (Asst. Teacher Senior & Intermediate Drama)*

*KIRSTY SLEEMAN (Head Teacher Junior Drama)*

*VAL LEFTWICH (YT Administrator)*

*KAY HAWKER (YT Accountant)*

We are now past the midway point of term 3, and are gearing up for our 8 end-of-year productions for 2020. All of our classes are well on their way to presenting entertaining and polished performances between October and December.

This year, due to the Covid-19 legislations, we have decided to move all our Youth Theatre productions upstairs into The Halpin Auditorium. Though this is normal for our High School students, this is a very exciting, and perhaps a little daunting, experience for our Junior and Intermediate students. Miss Hannah, Miss Kirsty, and Miss Taylor are working hard to prepare their students to step onto the big stage for the first time ever!

Our Music Theatre students have been extremely lucky this term, having had the opportunity to work with Courtney Monsma. Courtney performed at Spotlight for many years before attending the QLD Conservatorium of Music to study Music Theatre. She has since gone on to perform in professional, touring productions of *Mamma Mia*, *Aladdin*, *Six*, and is about to commence rehearsals for *Frozen The Musical*, in which she will take on the role of Princess Anna! Hannah and I are ever so grateful to have had the opportunity to work alongside Courtney, as she has helped our year 12's prepare for their University auditions.

The Young Adults Class will present the first Youth Theatre production for the year. On October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, come and support these amazing students as they present their self-devised cabarets in 2 intimate performances. Watch out, for a special guest appearance too!

## Young Adults Cabaret 1 – 2 OCTOBER 2020 – 7.30pm





BOOK & PAY ~ 07 5539 4255



The SPOTLIGHT Theatrical Company Youth Theatre

# INTERMEDIATE DRAMA

production of

Directed by  
**HANNAH  
CROWTHER**

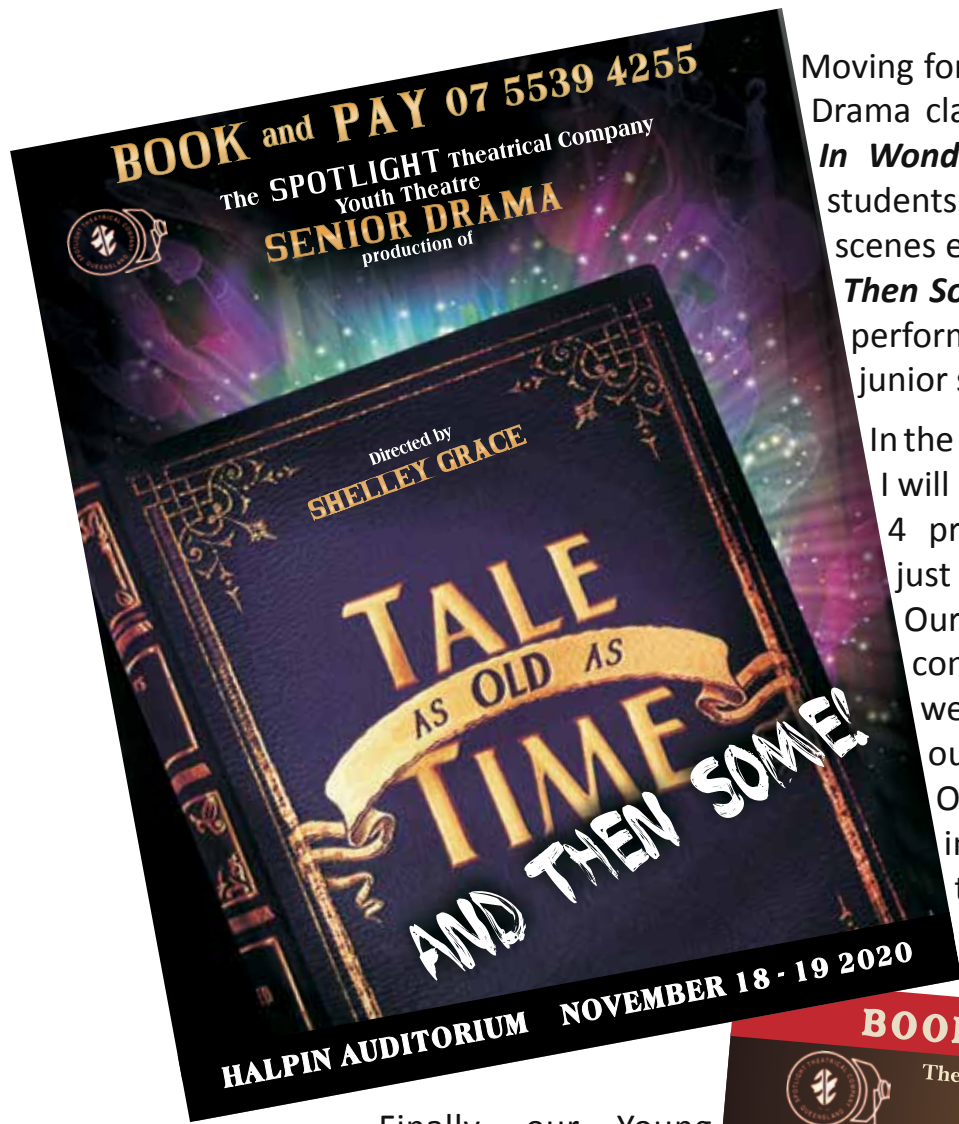
# Alice

in

# Wonder Land

**HALPIN AUDITORIUM**  
**October 26th-28th 2020**

POSTER BY KIT TASKER



Moving forward from there, our Intermediate Drama class will present a retelling of *Alice In Wonderland*, before our Senior Drama students tackle some of the biggest movie scenes ever, in *A Tale As Old As Time... And Then Some*. Rounding out the Drama class performances for the year is Miss Kirsty's junior students, presenting *Carnival Tales*.

In the world of Music Theatre, Hannah and I will be kept extremely busy, as we stage 4 productions in 3-and-a-half weeks, just before school finishes for the year. Our Intermediate classes begin with a condensed version of *Aladdin*, before we jump into the Christmas spirit with our Middle Schoolers presenting *Elf Jr.* Our senior class has been challenged immensely this year, working on their production of *42<sup>nd</sup> Street*.

Finally, our Young Adults return to the stage, to present a show about the different stages of love, when they perform *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*.

Unfortunately, as we are operating at 50% capacity currently, we have had to limit the number of tickets each student will be allocated. Over the next week or so, parents will receive an email as to how many tickets will be available for them to purchase. Tickets will be on sale within the next 2-3 weeks.


Though we had a rough start to 2020, we are looking forward to seeing all your children shine on stage at the end of the year.

Kind Regards  
**Matt Pearson**  
 Senior Youth Theatre Teacher

POSTERS BY KIT TASKER




The **SPOTLIGHT** Theatrical Company  
*Intermediate Music Youth Theatre*  
 production of



Disney  
**Aladdin**  
*KIDS*

*Directed by*  
 Hannah Crowther

*Musical Director*  
 Matt Pearson



**BOOK & PAY - 07 5539 4255**

*Music by* Alan Menken  
*Lyrics by* Howard Ashman and Tim Rice  
*Book by* David Simpatico  
*Music Adapted and Arranged by* Bryan Louiselle  
*Based on the 1992 Disney film "Aladdin"*

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

**HALPIN AUDITORIUM**  
 November 27th - 28th 2020

# DECEMBER YOUTH THEATRE SHOWS

LIMITED SEATING FOR ALL SHOWS




**SOMETHING  
 BIG**

IS COMING TO  
**SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE...**




A  
**SPOTLIGHT** Theatrical Company  
 Young Adults'  
 production

**COMING SOON!**

A Musical Tribute to  
**Dating and Waiting,  
 Choosing and Losing**  
 and everything in between.

**HALPIN AUDITORIUM DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> 2020**



**COME ON ALONG**  
 AND LISTEN TO  
 THE LULLABY OF  
**BROADWAY...**



**SPOTLIGHT  
 YOUTH THEATRE**

**THE SPOTLIGHT THEATRICAL COMPANY  
PLAYBILL 2020 – JULY to DECEMBER**

All remaining shows for 2020 will be in  
The Halpin Auditorium  
with strictly limited seating due to COVID-19 regulations.

*The Psychic ... A Murder Mystery ... of Sorts* –  
September 11 – 26

*Footloose the musical* – October 23 to November 14.

**YOUTH THEATRE PERFORMANCES**

OCTOBER 1 – 2: YOUNG ADULTS CABARET (7:30pm)

OCTOBER 26 – 28: INTERMEDIATE DRAMA: *ALICE IN  
WONDERLAND*

NOVEMBER 18 – 19: SENIOR DRAMA (*A TALE AS OLD AS  
TIME... AND THEN SOME*)

NOVEMBER 24 – 25: JUNIOR DRAMA: *CARNIVAL TALES*

NOVEMBER 27 – 28: INTERMEDIATE MUSIC THEATRE:  
*ALADDIN KIDS*

DECEMBER 3 – 5: MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC THEATRE: *ELF JR.*

DECEMBER 10 – 12: SENIOR MUSIC THEATRE: *42<sup>ND</sup> STREET*

DECEMBER 15 – 16: YOUNG ADULTS: *I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE  
PERFECT, NOW CHANGE.*



**SPOTLIGHT  
ON CHRISTMAS**  
*DECEMBER 18 – 19*



**NO ONLINE BOOKINGS**  
**PLEASE PHONE 07 5539 4255 to book – LIMITED SEATING**



Many congratulations to the Director, Cast, Musicians, stage hands, and all who worked under difficult conditions to bring the musical *The Bodyguard* to the stage.

Such a wonderful production with such talented artists. A pleasure for the audience to feel a little bit normal again. A shame the applause by such small numbers couldn't match the performance. Audrey Smith with so much appreciation.



**AN ABSOLUTELY MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION !!! Thank you to everyone involved.**

Photos by VARGO STUDIOS



# Spotlight on Environment

We are taking part in the **Cash for Containers Scheme** to help the environment and also get some valuable funds for the theatre. Since we joined we have earned over \$1,000 by recycling the cans, bottles and plastic bottles at the local depot. We have our own **Scheme ID number C10106788**.

## How can you help?

Every day you will be using containers that have a 10c refund on them. When you have finished with them instead of throwing them in your waste to end up in landfill why not recycle them and help us.

You can take them to the local depot yourself and, instead of collecting the cash, put our scheme number above into the system and the funds will be directly deposited into our account.

Or you could drop them off at the theatre when you next visit and when we have collected a decent amount, a volunteer takes them to the recycling depot. It doesn't matter if you only have one or two or twenty or more, every one you give to us will help your theatre earn valuable coin to help meet the costs of running the complex.

## What can you recycle that is refundable?

All beer and pre mix spirit cans and bottles.

All soft drink cans and bottles.

All plastic drink bottles, water and soft drinks.



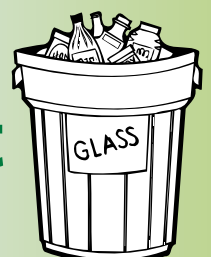
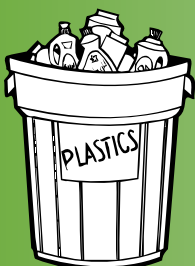
**No wine bottles please as these are not part of the refund scheme.**

(They are recyclable so put them in your yellow top bin.)

*We will be doing more environmental friendly changes to help lower the amount of landfill in 2020, so please help us to help you to help the environment.*

**Thank you**  
for helping

# Spotlight on Environment



## CONTACT INFORMATION – SPOTLIGHT COUNCILLORS 2020-2021

**President:** Duncan Sims e: dunlo@ozemail.com.au  
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**Secretary:** Noreena Wines e: winesfamily13@gmail.com  
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Ross Smith e: rss7@bigpond.com  
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#### Stage Mechanist/Workshop Supervisor

Butch Bernet

#### Sound Co-ordinator

Nick Willner

#### Lighting Co-ordinator

Leannie (LJ) Jones

#### Library

Matt Pearson

#### Small Props

TBA

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Leanne Binns

Insurance matters e: leanne@leaib.com.au

#### Fire & Security Contacts

Matt Pearson (1) Duncan Sims (2)

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