



# Light Op News

Edition 4, 2020 (July-Sept )

**Albany Port Theatre, Princess Royal Drive Albany**

**P: PO BOX 124, Albany WA 6331**

**T:08 9842 5515**

**E: [info@alotco.com.au](mailto:info@alotco.com.au)**

**M:0459 589 133**

**[alotco.com.au](http://alotco.com.au)**

ALOTCO would like to acknowledge the on-going support of the Southern Ports Albany



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## Urinetown the Musical



"Hilarious...sublime...tremendous...subversive...a big, big surprise!"

These are just a few of the audience comments after watching Urinetown the Musical at ALOTCo. The show has been very well received by the Albany community, perhaps because they are starved of live entertainment, perhaps because the show is a fast moving, quirky and funny social commentary of great relevance to our times.

The cast, crew and band have risen to every challenge presented to them by the show, the directors and a pandemic, performing with great energy which each audience has soaked up enthusiastically. The CWA enjoyed the Charity Preview performance which raised a few thousand dollars for the renovation of their holiday flats. Word spread fast and all eight performances were sold out by the end of opening weekend.

Special thanks go to the new cast and Maureen who joined us when rehearsals restarted again, fast-track learning the music, script and Maxi's "inventive and tight" choreography. This is the first show that has had a choreo warm-up before each show get the cast ready to "burst" onto the stage. Much praise has been given to the quality of the singing and music, thanks to James' keen ear and encouragement of high standards. Our new and rising stars have grasped the opportunity to demonstrate and extend their talents, delighting each audience with their ability to take the story and wring every moment to their best. It's been great to also have the assistance of more senior and experienced cast members mentoring their junior colleagues along the way and it was a pleasure to join them on stage and keep the cast on the toes with Harry's malevolent sneer. ("Is he in character or is he actually not happy with my posture/position/expression/choreo/lighting?!"). My profuse and heartfelt thanks to all of our production crew who have helped bring this unique show to the stage.

Thank you to the ALOTCo Committee for having the bravery to produce the show, we all "hope" it has exceeded their expectations and attracted even more local community to watch and even join the Company in our little amateur theatre by the tracks.

Airell Hodgkinson, Director



## ALOTCo's Got Talent AGT - 2020



### ALOTCo's Got Talent

Remember the successful AGT in 2019 - Albany's Got Talent?

ALOTCo had planned three productions but due to COVID that didn't happen, and many members missed out on performing as we only had one production. Performances are mid-November for three shows (rehearsals Saturdays). We will have present/past members performing this variety show. Auditions/performing are exclusive to these members.

Come and join:

- some of the cast of Urinetown
- our ALOTCo Monday night tappers
- members who are a part of other performing groups
- performers from 'Beauty and the Beast', 'Sound of Music', 'Mary Poppins'. 'Magic of Musicals' also AGT-2019 and Let's Shine

**Want to know more?**

**Information Night next Wednesday 23rd Sept at 7.00pm and auditions are Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October.**

### **Musical of Musicals – the Musical**     One story – five mini-musicals!

This affectionate and hilarious send-up tells one story in five distinctive musical theatre styles. Why choose between Rodgers & Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd-Webber, Kander & Ebb or Jerry Herman when you can have them all!

In the Musical of Musicals (The Musical!) the story of a young ingenue and her evil landlord gets played out as a rock opera, a dream ballet set in Kansas in August and a sexy satire in a Chicago speakeasy.

Five acts, each the same storyline, however the characters are portrayed differently according to the style of a master composer.

Director Donna Markovic along with assistant director /stage manager, Peter Cook are incredibly pleased to be able to resume planning. Andrea LePage and Carmen Fasolo will be developing and teaching the choreography. The "MOM" team as they are affectionally known, are thrilled to have Susie MacIntosh join them. Susie will be a great all-round support with her musical theatre knowledge and enthusiasm.

Info Night – Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 2021

Auditions Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan and Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Jan

Rehearsals begin 2/2/21 – every Tuesday and Thursday until April 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
except for Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April for Easter break.

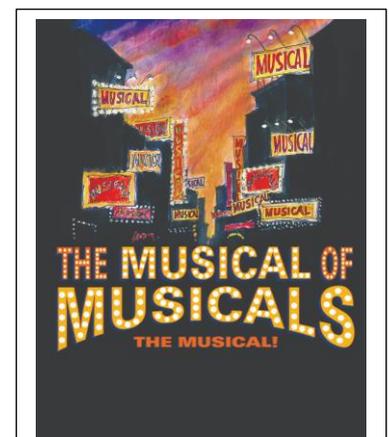
Extra rehearsal on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April, if required.

Performances : Charity night Wed 28<sup>th</sup> April

Opening night Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April, Sat 1<sup>st</sup> May, Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> (matinee)

Fri 7<sup>th</sup>, Sat 8<sup>th</sup>, Sun 9<sup>th</sup> (matinee),

Fri 14<sup>th</sup>, Sat 15<sup>th</sup> May



## Charity Night for Urinetown

At ALOTCo, we have a proud tradition of offering our final dress rehearsal to a charity at no cost.

This year the charity night fundraiser was for the CWA. We received this message....

We made \$2,295.00 for tickets and \$266.00 for Raffle.

Everyone enjoyed the show.

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity.

Have a wonderful weekend and hope the show is a great success

All the Best

Anne Barton



Thank you also to Valerie Niemann and Win Malone who could not attend the show and donated their ticket refund of \$50 to CWA Albany.

## Committee/Helpers – the next generation

It is important that we encourage the next generation of helpers to assist in the running of ALOTCo.

ALOTCo has been operating for nearly sixty years. We will celebrate our Diamond anniversary in 2022.

Linda Leighton has been actively involved with ALOTCo since 1963 performing, directing, serving as a committee member and as head of the costume department for many years. Ross Anderson and Robin Hughes were Theatre Managers for many years. Todd McGregor and Dean Fasolo have taken over the reins and we are so pleased that they have. There is so much information inside the heads of our long-term members that is not written down. It is only when we find ourselves calling Ross or Robin we realise how much we relied on their knowledge and experience. List making and brain picking has begun!

The theatre relies upon members like Linda, Ross and Robin to take on the responsibility to keep this amazing Company running. Committee members and heads of departments started off just like you – performing on stage, working backstage, helping with costumes, making props, helping front-of-house etc etc etc. We saw the need to shoulder some more responsibility and we stood for election. Our aim is to support new members and hope that new members will one day shoulder the responsibility.

I am a johnny-come-lately to the Company. I joined ALOTCo in 2007 when I retired from teaching. Since then I have served two years as president and nine years as secretary with a two year break in the middle. Bless you, Michelle Dayman! I believe I will need to hand over as secretary next year as family matters in Mandurah will need our full attention.

## Will you step up?



## Shine from the Shadows

'Shine from the Shadows' is series of three short films about 'Let's Shine Brightly 2019' - an integrated production with people living with a disability and ALOTCo members. LSB is the fifth of the series of Let's Shine productions since 1998.



These films give you an insight of this amazing production. Eighty special guests will enjoy the Gala Premiere this Tuesday evening at the Port Theatre. Films will be publicly released online later in 2020. Congratulations to videographer's Bayden and Dylan Redshaw.

Sponsored by CarersWA and supported by ALOTCo.

**Videos for social media** - Congratulations again!!!! Let's Shine Brightly stars Emily O'Brien (interviewer) and Bayden Redshaw (videographer) will be producing short videos for social media.

L.E.D. (Let's Embrace Diversity) project – to increase awareness and understanding of youth living with Autism in the Albany community. Emily and Bayden will be looking for youth 16yrs - 22 yrs. living with Autism for this worthwhile project. If interested call Project Co-ordinator Janet McArtney 0401 203 557

Sponsored by Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) - ABC Heywire and supported by [Autism Support Network Albany \(ASNA\)](#) and ALOTCo. This Gala Premiere will be late 2021 at the Port Theatre.

Keep updated: [Lets Shine](#)

## From El Presidente..... Congratulations to Airell, James and Maxine

for creating a most amazing production with the world's worst name! SOLD-OUT the first weekend and once the word was out then SOLD-OUT the other 2 weekends before the first weekend's performances had ended. Proof that the Albany community appreciated excellent entertainment.

Looking forward the next production - **ALOTCo's Got Talent** - three shows over one weekend in November. We have more shows booked over the next three years, the most the theatre has ever had planned. This is proof the theatre is buzzing with talent and opportunities.

El Presidente – Janet McArtney

## Spectrum News

At Spectrum things have begun to spring back into life, as we have begun planning to resurrect Secret Bridesmaids Business for early next year, along with the possibility of hosting a Youth Drag performance and a Fringe show a little later.

The theatre hosted a Script Reading earlier last month which was the start of (hopefully) a regular program of social events to try and engage the local community.

Our AGM happened on Wednesday night and was attended by a good crowd, all spots on the committee filled except for the position of Treasurer - for which we are still looking for!

There was great discussion about the type and number of shows Spectrum would produce going forward, as well as lively discussion as to what our audience wants to see.

## 2020? Ahhhhhhhhhhh!

It has been an 'interesting' year. I could say more but I don't think I could stop using expletives.

Congratulations to Airell, James, Maxi, Maureen, cast and crew on a wonderful production. Who would have thought that people would be fighting over tickets in the last weeks! The theatre phone was running **hot!**

We have a full schedule planned for the next THREE to FOUR years. We did consider trying to produce three major shows each year to increase our revenue but have decided that two productions needing major costumes and props will be sufficient unless we can recruit extra helpers in the costume and props departments. We cannot keep relying on the same group of willing helpers.

Some of the delights in our future are...

- Musical of Musicals – the Musical - Donna
- Seussical the Musical - Emma
- Mama Mia – Anne
- AlOTCo's Diamond Anniversary
- Alice in Cuckoo Land Panto – Susie and Linda
- Let's Shine – Jill and Janet
- Catch Me If You Can – Sandra
- Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat – Jill, Findlay, Maureen

### Your 2020/21 Committee

President	Janet McArtney	0401 203 557	Vanessa Paterson	Donna Markovic	Richard Habal
Vice President	Linda Leighton	0418 850 994	0412 259 149	0439 950 697	0448 795 008
Treasurer	Peter Cook	0419 929 758	Kelly Seaton	Todd McGregor	Emma Davis
Secretary	Jill Larsen	0408 844 727	0488 958 358	0427 892 001	0439 890 925
Theatre Managers	Todd McGregor	Dean Fasolo	Todd 0427 892 001	Dean 0407 450 451	
Auditor: Jan Biglin	Facebook: Janet McArtney and Kelly Seaton				
Front of House: Linda Leighton, Lisa Harrison	Grants: Emma Davis				
History: Karen Freeman	Library: Sandra Wilson				
Lighting: Sandra Wilson	Make-up: Alison Sharpe				
Newsletter: Jill Larsen	Nostalgia Portraits: Kelly Seaton				
Props: Vanessa Paterson	Scenery:				
Publicity: Janet McArtney	Social Events: Vanessa Paterson				
Sound: Charles Danger, Ben Davis	Wardrobe/Costume: Linda Leighton				
Website: Jill Larsen	Albany Gateway: Donna Markovic				
Dropbox: Janet McArtney, Karen Freeman, Jill Larsen	Mics: Imogen and Zoe Taylor				

### Contributions

If you have any ideas or contributions for the newsletter, please email them through to Jill at [info@alotco.com.au](mailto:info@alotco.com.au) and we will do our best to include them in the next edition!