



# Light Op News

**Edition 4 , 2021 ( July/Aug)**

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

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



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**Instagram – [albanylightopera](https://www.instagram.com/albanylightopera)**



## From the President...

It's been a couple of busy months with Seussical in full speed, with children's smiling faces everywhere, sewing ladies revving their machines and buzzing electric tools for scenery adding to the noise of busyness. All in contrast the sweet sounds of singing, music and laughing. Well done Super Woman Emma Davis and side-kick hero (always in stealth mode) Sandra Wilson and the Magnifico Findlay MacNish directing those amazing voices.

Congratulations to ALOTCo Committee member Richard Habal on the recent successful St Joseph's school production of 'The Wizard of Oz.'

You may have noticed that Southern Ports gave the outside of the theatre a little spring clean, all ready for our wonderful season of Seussical. Thank you, Southern Ports (they own the building)

The Port Theatre is known as an inviting venue for local live music entertainment with Evan Ayres and The Swing Kings, Blues Brothers & Soul Sisters (with our own Jenny G & C) and a Beatles show later in the year. Cabaret and row seating tickets on sale soon at Paperbarks.

ALOTCo's Evan Ayres returns with a new eight piece band, after eighteen months at WAAPA, and a recent North West tour called 'Charm of the Lady', to release a new CD of his original songs. A few years ago (while still at school) Evan had six sell-out performances (one show sold out in two hrs) at the Port Theatre. Imagine what he will be like now!

Also, checkout the information about "View from the Magpies Nest' where 'Lets Shine' member Naomi Lake has written a show (assisted by local author Dianne Wolfer) and Emily O'Brien is choreographing the dance (assisted by Rita Bush) to be performed at the Albany Entertainment Centre in late November. Details later in the newsletter.

Best of luck Seussical! You'll be a smash!

"You'll be on your way up!  
You'll be seeing great sights!  
You'll join the high-fliers who soar to high heights".

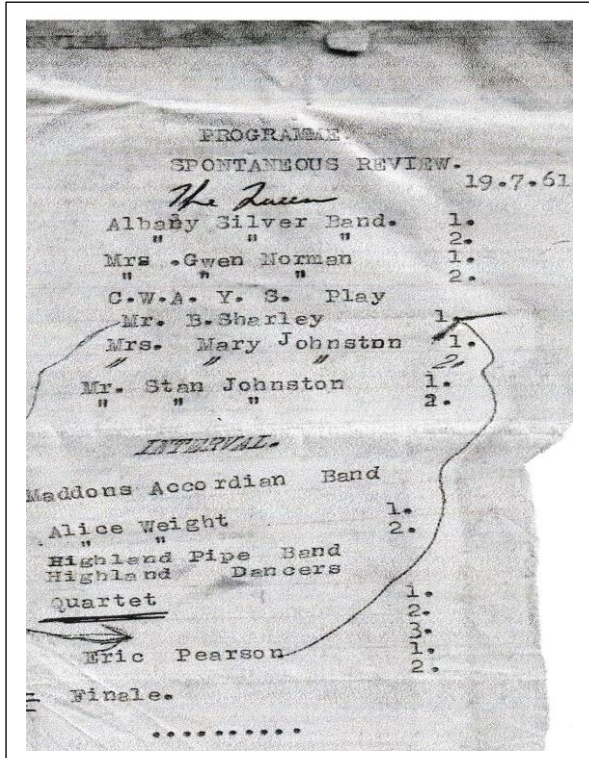
Janet McArtney

El Presidenté

# Some ALOTCo History...

I recently received this information from Alice Mol (nee Weight). Alice is one of our original Life Members and the wife of the late Wilson Weight. In 1961, Wilson was one of the newly formed quartet, the King Sound Singers, along with Bruce Houston, Stan Johnston and John Garrity.

The first performance of the quartet was in a show called 'The Spontaneous Review' on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1961. After the performance Wilson and John made a bet that a Light Opera Company could be created in Albany. The prize was a carton of beer. Wilson won the bet and the rest is history.



## ALBANY LIGHT OPERA COMPANY

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27<sup>TH</sup> September 1961

Dear Sir/Madam,

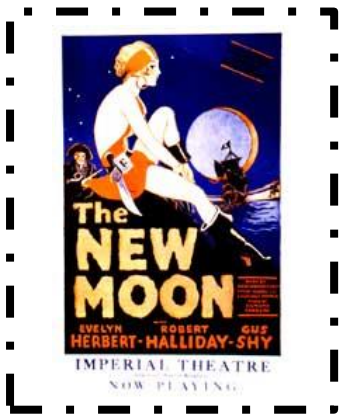
The Company has been formed to perform light musical productions, and it is to stage Sigmund Romberg's 'New Moon' during January next.

We understand that you may be interested in becoming a member of the Company. Singing Auditions will be held in the Methodist Hall on September 30<sup>th</sup> 1961, Saturday morning between 10.00am and 12.30pm.

If you are unable to attend the audition and wish to join could you please contact Mr W.G. Weight, 117 Serpentine Rd, and an audition will be arranged for your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

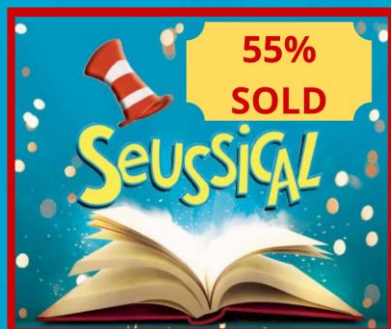
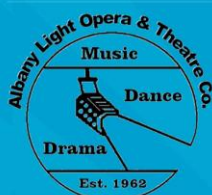
.....  
Secretary



And here we are, sixty years on!



## OPENING WEEKEND SPECIAL all \$25



Sept 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19

## View From the Magpie's Nest (VFTMN)...

ALOTCo's 'Lets Shine' performers are so excited .....

Albany Light Opera and Theatre Co's 'Let's Shine' and [Breaksea.org](http://Breaksea.org) have been working together to create an inspirational performance for the Breaksea Festival at the Albany Entertainment Centre, late November 2021.

'Let's Shine' requires dancers and actors (no singing or talking parts) to perform in a production written by Naomi Lake (mentored by Diane Wolfer), choreographed by Emily O'Brien (mentored by Rita Bush), music by Breaksea's Jonathon Brain and co-ordinated by Janet McArtney collaboratively with [breaksea.org](http://breaksea.org).

'Let's Shine' provides a safe environment for people living with disabilities to perform.

**Information Afternoon @ Albany Light Opera (Port Theatre), Princess Royal Drive**

**Saturday 25th September 2:30pm – 3.30pm**

**Rehearsals Oct/Nov Saturday pm (2) & Sundays (2) & Wednesday pm (1)**

**Performances -@ Albany Entertainment Centre**

• **Friday 26th Nov 4pm & 7:30pm**

More details check out [www.facebook.com/LetsShineALOTCo](https://www.facebook.com/LetsShineALOTCo) or call Janet on 0401 203 557



The image is a composite. On the left, a woman with long, dark hair is shown from the waist up, wearing a light-colored t-shirt and dark pants, standing on a beach with her arms outstretched and looking upwards. A magpie is flying in the sky above her. On the right, there is a dark blue promotional poster. At the top of the poster, it says 'breaksea FESTIVAL PRESENTS'. Below that, the title 'View from the Magpies Nest' is written in large, yellow, serif font. Underneath the title, it says 'Information Afternoon'. Further down, the location and date are listed: 'ALBANY LIGHT OPERA (PORT THEATRE), PRINCESS ROYAL DRIVE SATURDAY | 25TH SEPTEMBER | 2:30PM - 3.30PM'. At the bottom of the poster, there are several logos for sponsors and partners, including Albany, Town Hall, Albany Entertainment Centre, Life's Stage, Vancouver Arts, SEA, breaksea, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Lotterywest, and Regional Arts WA.

## Vale Melville Hedges Dale... 24-12-1927 to 06-07-2021

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Mr Dale – as Melville preferred to be called. Mr Dale was a great supporter of ALOTCo over the years. He wrote many letters to the newspapers praising our shows and to encourage others to attend. He also was a great financial supporter.

He often booked tickets to EVERY performance of some shows, refusing the offer of a 'free' ticket. He was a true gentleman and loved all kinds of music and reading.

Sadly, over the past years Mr Dale's sight failed so he was unable to enjoy live performances.

Lisa Harrison and I attended his funeral on behalf of ALOTCo.

Linda Leighton.

Vice President



## Welcome to our new Secretary...

It is with great delight that Charles, plus a very relieved Jill and the Committee welcome Mick Vertigan as the new Secretary.

As Charles' 'retirement' became too busy, he reluctantly had to hand over to someone with more time and Mick has taken over the responsibility.

Mick has a long history with ALOTCo. He has featured in many musicals – my personal favourite was his portrayal of Javert in Les Misérables and he is now playing Mr Mayor in Seussical the Musical.

We are very happy that Mick has returned from Perth to live in Albany.

## Spectrum News...

**If you believe in love at first sight, you never stop looking.**

DIRECTED BY COURTNEY CARROLL

DATES AUG 13-14, 20-21, 26-28 AT 7:30PM

MATINEE AUG 22 AT 2:00PM

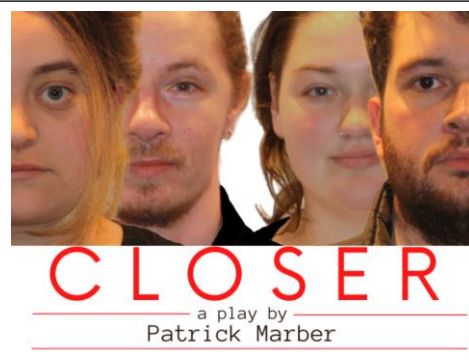
TICKET PRICE 30 DOLLARS 25 DOLLARS CONCESSION PRICE

TICKETS FROM PAPERBARK MERCHANTS  
240 YORK STREET in person or visit WWW.PAPERBARKS.COM.AU or call (08) 9842 8044



MA15+ This play contains adult themes, frequent coarse language and depiction of a strip club. It is not recommended for those under the age of 15 years old.

2021



## Your 2021/22 Committee

President	Janet McArtney	0401 203 557	Kelly Seaton	Todd McGregor	Emma Davis
Vice President	Linda Leighton	0418 850 994	0488 958 358	0427 892 001	0439 890 925
Treasurer	Peter Cook	0419 929 758	Vanessa Paterson	Richard Habal	Findlay MacNish
Secretary	Mick Vertigan	0409 036 498	0172 663 505	0448 795 008	0408 936 258
Theatre Managers	Todd McGregor	Dean Fasolo	Todd 0427 892 001	Dean 0407 450 451	
Auditor:	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, Ben Davis	Make-up: Alison Sharpe				
Newsletter: Jill Larsen	Nostalgia Portraits: Kelly Seaton				
Props: Vanessa Paterson, Sandy O'Doherty	Scenery: Findlay MacNish				
Publicity: Janet McArtney	Social Events:				
Sound: Charles Danger, Ben Davis	Wardrobe/Costume: Linda Leighton, Jodie James				
Website: Jill Larsen					
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 [alotcoport@gmail.com](mailto:alotcoport@gmail.com) and we will do our best to include them in the next edition!