

STARS

(Southern Theatre and Arts Supporters Inc) Newsletter March 2016

In this Issue

STARBURST – P1
The Mikado – Co-Opera - P2
SPECIAL MEETING – P3
AGM report – P3

Dates to Note

The Mikado – Sunday April 17

STARBURST

STARS is bursting from Waverley Homestead on 31 March and relocating our special and treasured goods to Recreation Park Centre, where we are staging some of our future events. We will go to other venues for smaller afternoon concerts and hope that Waverley Homestead will be available for us to hire back from time to time.

Our piano will be housed in the newly renovated supper room for use by our artists as well as any Cinemallunga and other musical events that will take place in the centre.

Our crockery and glasses will also be going to the Rec Centre, for use by us and others in the bar and kitchen – we will share any other practical goods such as tables and chairs if they are not surplus to requirements.

The Rec Centre personnel are excited by our imminent move into their fold, as it adds an arts component to what they already offer to the Willunga and wider community, and we are excited too.

STARS SUBS - \$25 single, \$40 couple

It's never too late to pay your STARS subs. If you haven't yet done so, why not get it off your conscience and do it now.

Membership of STARS will include some discounts on tickets, newsletters and messages, website and opportunity to be a part of our continued commitment to scholarships to worthy recipients in the area.

Doing it electronically is the way to go these days. STARS bank details are as follows:
BSB: 633 108 AC: 1538 03879.

Or cheque to STARS at PO Box 283, Willunga, 5172.



Thankyou for your attention.

THE MIKADO – PRESENTED BY CO-OPERA

NOW IS THE TIME to book for Co-Opera's beautiful production of **THE MIKADO!**

Sunday April 17, Willunga Sports Stadium, 6pm for a 7pm start.
\$45 / \$35 members.

Visit the STARS website for information on how to book.
www.stars.org.au



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Prior to the AGM a short Special General Meeting was held, at which a change to the constitution was proposed. It was proposed to reduce the size of the committee from nine to five, which, it was felt, would be more workable. This was passed unanimously by those present. It should be noted that as projects come up, people will be co-opted to sub-committees to help with specific tasks.

REPORTS FROM THE 2016 AGM

CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR AGM 2016

The STARSTRUCK year kicked off with a fabulous launch which included Co-opera performers and a visit by the charming Vince Ciccarello of Adelaide Symphony Orchestra to set the scene for a very successful year of fun and glamour.

STARS hosted two art exhibitions during the year, one with Riverland artist Julie Noble and the other with local Brooke Walker and her standout work in 'Periclitatus' which saw a huge audience at Waverley Homestead.

The largest crowd ever supported the Cancer Council morning tea, so large in fact that a power outage of some proportions added to the usual chaos that happens at this event. Nancy weaved her magic and raised a large amount for cancer council. Thanks Nancy and everyone involved.

We decided to change the venue for the opera from Bocce Club and in May hosted Magic Flute in the McLaren Vale Institute. We offered gourmet packs and the Co-opera cast were magnificent – the conclusion was that we go to a bigger venue for the next opera to give opportunity for a large audience.

In August one of the stars of the opera, Sidonie Henbest, wowed the audience with her cabaret performance which we held in the Willunga Show Hall – a great venue for stars with lighting and staging supplied by the hard working Rec Park helpers and Wayne.

With a lot of trepidation but single mindedness the STARS committee worked throughout the year to present the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in the Vale. The idea had been mooted for some years with application for grants ongoing. STARS decided to go alone on this venture although council has been very supportive throughout STARS history with an annual special arts grant.

After an extensive search of suitable venues around Willunga and the Vale, Tatachilla Lutheran College stadium was chosen – the school has a vibrant music and arts centre so was happy to have ASO on the campus.

On a very hot and humid Saturday in October (same day as the AFL football final) a crowd of 500 people streamed into the stadium and were suitably pleased with the concert.

It was a concert that included local content in the form of Lucinda Moon as the soloist, Luke Dollman conductor and host Julie Howard from ABCFM. Beethoven was beautifully presented and received and one of STARS favourites Minas Berbery and his wife were in the orchestra.

The concert was so successful that we are awaiting confirmation of a date in the 2017 programme in the same venue. Tatachilla College were outstanding in their support with Greg John and Chris Majoris invaluable with logistics and assistance.

STARS helpers worked very hard on the night to make it a success. Thankyou.

A very busy year concluded with the annual gala Christmas party featuring the youthful and energetic group Limited Edition the highlight of the day. The audience was mesmerised by the

acapella group's performance and requested a return for this year. Lucinda and Luke joined for a violin piece which was followed by the terrible two Peter and Wayne with usual outrageous hilarity. A fitting end to the Starstruck year.

Many thanks to all of the committee and helpers who made every event successful even though there were some huge health issues last year with Camille, Jon and now dear Tess who is struggling with radiotherapy at the moment. We wish her well.

STARBURST could be the theme for stars for 2016 with a committee decision to move from Waverley Homestead out into the Willunga community. While it is a sad occasion on many levels including our love for the venue, it has become clear for some time (mentioned many times as far back as 2005) that the costs associated with the general running of STARS are rising all the time, i.e. electricity, insurance etc. but the seating capacity remains the same at 60 – we have repeated many of the small concerts many times so need to keep presenting quality but varied events that are more costly so require larger audiences in order to finance them. Art exhibitions are totally saturating the area and our venue is somewhat off the beaten track for visitors. Lack of manpower during exhibitions is also an issue.

In addition, the responsibility of maintaining the homestead has been totally on my shoulders for some 8 years. Of course I have had the generous assistance of committee members who assist when fit and able and the wonderful Trevor Beneke who for years has been responsible for rubbish removal and water and maintenance of the garden. We are all busy with our own lives and this cannot continue for us. Should any of you feel that you have the energy and commitment to continue on this basis, let me know.

Over the last few weeks I have been talking to the community-owned Willunga Recreation Park committee and last week met with the chair Paul Williamson at Waverley Homestead. He and his committee are excited at the prospect of STARS adding to the already vibrant community groups and indeed their brief is to promote sporting, social and cultural activities in the area. Although the Cinemallunga, Almond Blossom Festival and Folk Festival in some ways fit the brief, they are welcoming STARS to their venues, giving us the ability to present cabaret, dance, music and opera in bigger venues without the responsibility of just a couple of people. Our piano will be stored and used in the newly refurbished supper room behind the stage and we are working to move some of our equipment, crockery for use by the community including stars at our events within the complex. We plan to utilise Waverley Homestead if available when council decides on the forward usage of the venue but we are looking to use Wirra Wirra barrel hall, Fern Forest and other suitable soiree venues that we can hire on a needs basis.

Our headquarters will now be in the middle of Willunga at the lovely Show Hall and we will store some of our necessary equipment as offered by their committee. There are big plans for the Rec Park complex and the stadium is to be renovated – perhaps the ASO can perform there in the future.

I trust that the plans outlined will be positively embraced by our membership and we will look to a wider audience some of whom will be happy to come on board as new members and support our future plans.

Our aims are to foster the arts in the Fleurieu and in this regard we will continue to offer scholarships to schools as we have done last year. Tatachilla College has offered a STARS music scholarship with funds raised by us last year and we have given a grant to Celeste Jamae of Willunga who used the funds to attend a workshop at Brent Street summer school in Sydney in January. We have a letter from her thanking the committee for the grant which enabled her to improve her skills into the future. My sincere thanks to Meredith Bowman and her wonderful judging panel including Libby Raupach, Lucinda Moon, Gail Kellett and Julie Howard for their diligence throughout the last few years.

We are supporting the Musica Viva in schools project again and will be offering assistance to Aldinga primary school a recognised 'disadvantaged' school for the 3 year project to give all

students an opportunity to participate in music. It is a wonderful venture and STARS will be involved with funds collected from our events this year.

I trust that you will embrace STARBURST and encourage other people to become members as well as give us feedback on events that you want.

Thankyou to Peter Elder and Wayne Anthoney for maintaining the huge workload i have placed on them throughout the year and to everyone of my committee, Camille, Joannie, Jo and Jon and of course Tess and their partners for wonderful commitment to STARS. Thanks to Peter (Colling) for his support over the many years.

Carolyn Colling Chair.

TREASURER'S REPORT – 2015

I present the Treasurer's Report for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2015, and audited accounts for the period. For the purpose of this report figures have been rounded.

Income for the year amounted to \$54500 compared with \$30500 for the previous year
The main variations against the previous year were –

- Significant grants and donations were received. \$6900 as against \$390 in 2014
- Concert ticket sales in 2015 were \$30500 compared to \$9500 in 2014 mainly attributable to the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Concert.
- Art Exhibitions Commissions earned in 2015 amounted to \$1800 compared with \$3100 in 2014

Expenditure for the year was \$52300 compared with \$33000 in 2014.

The main variations against the previous year were –

- Performers and Artists \$23000 as against \$16300
- Advertising \$5000 as against \$2800 in 2014
- Catering \$5900 as against \$1400.

The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Concert had higher than normal performer costs, advertising expenditure and catering for the orchestra members who were in rehearsal and performance for over 6 hours.

Operating expenditures in 2015 compared with 2014 were as follows –

- Cleaning \$800 as against \$300
- Insurance \$3300 as against \$2500
- Rent \$2000 as against \$1300.

All other operating expenses showed very little variation between the two years.

In this year we have written down the value of certain assets to zero – carpet, lighting, blinds and retain only the piano and trestles in our depreciation schedule.

In 2015 STARS made donations of \$3300 and made 'Stars of Waverley' awards of \$1580

In summary 2015 showed a surplus of \$2100 compared with a deficit of \$2400 in 2014

Retained earnings at the end of the financial year amounted to \$15500 made up of –

- Cash at Banks \$14900
- Plant and Equipment \$600

The accounts have been audited and the following statement has been made by the auditors. 'In our opinion, subject to the effects of adjustments, if any, the financial report of Southern Theatre and Arts Supporters Inc presents a true and fair view in accordance with accounting policies.'

I commend the report and the audited accounts to members and move that they be received.

Peter Elder

Treasurer, 8 March 2016