

SPECTRUM THEATRE ALBANY

PRESENTS A HOME GROWN AUSSIE MUSICAL...



BOOK BY DAVID HINES

FEATURING
A CAST
OF LOCAL
TALENT!

DIRECTED BY
MICHELLE HARRIS
& **JEN CROSTON**

MUSICAL DIRECTION

**JEN CROSTON &
SERGE MAUJEAN**

APRIL ONLY DATES

FRI 5th, 12th & 26th at 7:30PM

SAT 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th at 7:30PM

SUN 7th, 14th & 21st at 2PM

TICKETS \$25 / \$22 CONCESSION

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Synopsis

'Class of 77' is a home-grown Aussie musical that takes you back to the 70's, a time that was easier to know. Follow the story of young love, girl talk, Torana's and heart break as the graduating class journeys into their brave new worlds through music and laughter. When we meet them again 15 years later at their reunion, they've all come a long way from their golden years at 17. We learn that different outcomes have eventuated and their class has realised that time really does fly and you can't stay young forever.

Act 1

Scene 1 - A pub in Sydney 1992

Scene 2 - High school 1977

Scene 3 - The science lab

Scene 4 - Adam's garage

Scene 5 - Michael and Bruce

Scene 6 - Jenny's parents house

Scene 7 - The Graduation Ball

*There will be a twenty-minute intermission between Acts One & Two.
During this time, our kiosk will be open, selling cold drinks, snacks and ice-creams.
Cash and card are accepted.*

Act 2

Scene 1 - The Reunion

Scene 2 - Familiar faces

Scene 3 - Old friends back together

Scene 4 - You can't stay young forever

Scene 5 - Jenny and Michael

Scene 6 - Golden Years



**Scan the QR code to follow us on
Facebook to keep up with what's
happening at Spectrum Theatre**



Todd McGregor as Michael

When convinced to face one his greatest fears and get up on stage 10 years ago, Todd landed the role of 'Sammy' alongside his son Lachlan in ALOTCo's *'Blood Brothers'* - and was immediately hooked!

Todd went on to perform in 6 major productions at ALOTCo as well as many variety shows and served on the committee and as Theatre Manager for several years.

With roles such as *'The Black Knight/Herbert's Father/French Guard'* in *'Spamalot'*, *'Uncle Max'* in *'Sound of Music'*, *'The "Bill Murray" Dentist Patient'* in *'Little Shop of Horrors'*, *'Gaston'* in *'Beauty and the Beast'*, and the conniving *'Mr McQueen'* in *'Urinetown'* - one could be forgiven for thinking Todd has been typecast as a villain in the past....some say it makes perfect sense!

Todd is looking forward to playing a "normal" person for a change in *'Class of 77'* and is pleased to be teaming up again with Jen Croston and several other cast members from previous shows, and can't wait to perform for the first time in the amazingly quaint Spectrum Theatre.



Jessica Jovanovic as Jenny

Jessica is an educator from Albany, WA. Jessica first found her passion for acting in primary school when she got the lead in her school play. She continued to enjoy drama, participating in choirs and school productions and winning her high school's drama award at her year 12 graduation. Since school, Jessica has had a break from the theatre world as she has been busy building her career and being a mother. Jessica joined Spectrum Theatre last year when she joined the ensemble in *'Minefields and Miniskirts'*. She feels privileged for the opportunity to portray *'Jenny'* in the *'Class of 77'* and hopes that she does the character proud.



Ingrid Nissen as Linda

Ingrid is a new member to Spectrum Theatre having largely confined her theatrics to showers, kitchens and boring her family to tears with endless renditions of *'Frozen'*, *'Mary Poppins'* or the song the washing machine sings when it's finished it's cycle. Honoured to be playing the role of *'Linda'* in *'Class of 77'*, Ingrid hopes to entertain an audience that doesn't only consist of 9 year old twins and a very patient husband with a nostalgic musical performance directed by real (and amazing) people and not by her appliances.





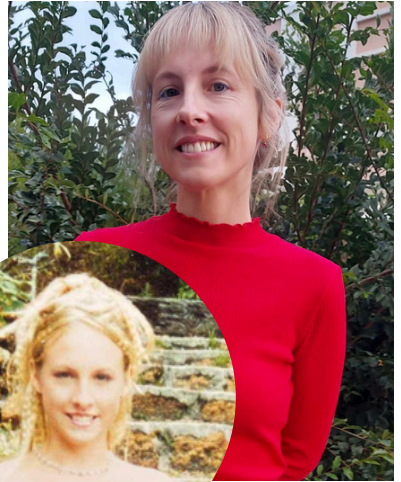
Serge Maujean as Bruce & Musical Director

Serge is a musician, based in Albany, who first joined the Spectrum ranks last year playing guitar behind the scenes for *'Minefields and Miniskirts'*. Since then, he's come along way, having played the lead *'Paul Sumner'* in *'Up and Running'* (with only 10 days notice), directed By Roger Guinery followed by antagonistic grandfather *'Tom'* in *'A Good Old Fashioned Big Family Christmas'*

In *'Class of 77'*, he is co-musical director, as well steps back in time to play *'Bruce'*, who dreams of walking his own path as an architect, alongside his best mate *'Michael'* and celebrates life with his high school sweetheart *'Linda'*, as they walk their own paths and celebrate the golden years of their lives.

Nadia Prater as Helen

Nadia is a proud mum of two beautiful girls and works as a free lance interior designer. This will be the first time she has performed in a musical in 20 years! Her first ever musical blew her mind when she played *'Alice'* in ALOTC's *'Alice'* in '97. Her mind was blown a second time when she played *'Audrey'* in *'Little Shop of Horrors'* at the Albany Town Hall. She is so happy to have the musical bug back in her blood after all the years.



Jillian Kimber as Judy

Jillian travelled to Albany from Queensland 7 years ago in search of excitement and adventure. She is now a proud local and the mother of a beautiful little girl. They both share a love for music, dance and the finer things in life like going to the theatre. Jillian is looking forward to gracing the Spectrum Theatre stage for the first time!

Cass Swarbrick as Sue

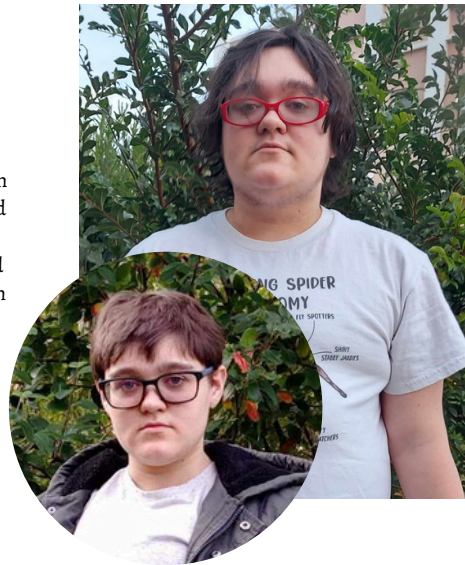
While this is Cass's first production with Spectrum she is no rookie to musicals, having sung alongside both Opera Australia and the West Australian Opera company as a part of the children's chorus in four separate productions. From landing leads in school plays to playing *'Tamatoa'* in Albany Children Theatre's debut production of *'Moana Jr'*. Described by her brother as a 'choir kid' Cass is hoping that she will soon be promoted to 'theatre kid' within the household. Cass is excited to get back into performing following a year long break (she blames school for interrupting her artistic endeavours).



Luka Fumagalli as Adam

Luka has been acting since he was 8 years old. Luka first performed with Spectrum Theatre in the very funny and feel-good 2023 production of *'A Good Old Fashioned Big Family Christmas'*, for which he also provided the poster illustrations. He has performed previously with ALOTCo, singing a duet in the 2018 production of *'It's Been a Long, Long Time'*, and two solos in 2019's *'Albany's Got Talent'*. Later that year he participated in ALOTCo's *'Let's Shine Brightly'*, when he decided he would learn the piano in just 6 weeks to accompany his performance of Judy Garland's live version of *'Over the Rainbow'*!

Luka is active online as a member of multiple creative fields, the most prominent being musical performance and visual arts.



Ben Anderson as Greg

Ben is an Electrical Apprentice from Albany with a passion for vintage cars, music and theatre. He has performed in several productions, his most recent being a lead role in *'The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)'*. After a brief hiatus due to work commitments and Covid, Ben is excited to ease his way back onto the stage and bring to life the character of *'Greg'* in *'Class of 77'*.



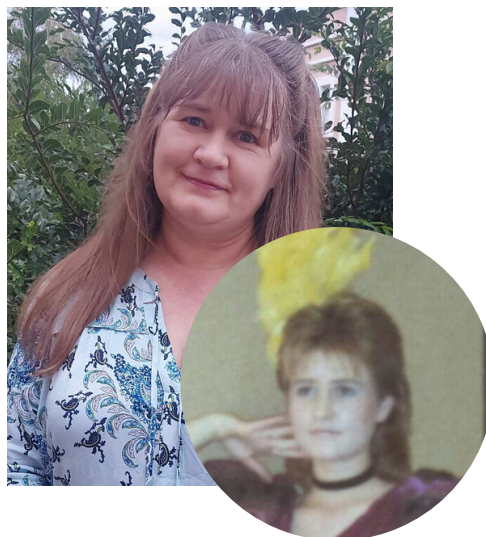
Ethan Giovanazzi as Brian

Ethan is a young artist who has a passion for both music and acting. He's been part of two small bands, lending his musical talents to their sounds, and he's also enjoyed singing in a choir. While exploring his creative interests, Ethan tried his hand at acting in a drama club, where he took on the role of the dead guy.

His journey into the world of theatre took a significant turn when he watched Spectrum's Christmas production, *'A Good Old Fashion Big Family Christmas'*, which inspired him to take the next step in his passion for theatre. Ethan's dedication is evident in his willingness to explore different artistic mediums and push his boundaries. With each new experience, he continues to grow as a performer, driven by his love for the stage and the thrill of entertaining audiences.

Lachlan Benson as Kevin

Lachlan is no stranger to theatre in recent years and started as a stage hand on the Albany Children's Theatre's production of *'Moana Jr'*. Which got him hooked ever since he has been backstage for various Spectrum and ALOTCo shows such as *'Minefields and Miniskirts'* and *'Grease'* but now Lachlan is excited to be on stage and is ready to bring the character of *'Kevin'* to life for an audience of many



Trudi Anderson as Olga

Having first discovered the beautiful escapism of theatrical performance at the age of 6, there has been no holding Trudi back. This will be her 10th production with both Theatre's in Albany since arriving here in 2003. Trudi's most recent production with Spectrum Theatre was in 2023 where she featured in *'Minefields and Miniskirts'*. She is really enjoying the opportunity to share the stage once again with her son, Ben.



Laura Leach as Mrs Franklin

Laura caught the theatre bug last year when she joined Spectrum's cast of *'A Good Old Fashioned Big Family Christmas'*. This is her first musical and it has been a great experience. She's always wanted to perform in a musical ever since her early years putting on shows with her younger brother for their parents (including tickets and snacks!) *'Class of 77'* has been a blast with some amazing music and awesome cast!

Toni Gunning as Mrs Hines

Toni recently ventured into performing arts starting with *'A Bareface Story'* with Andrea Gibb at the ABC, then as a member of the Great Southern Playback Theatre Group. Toni has played parts in creative productions such as *'The Talisman Project'* and *'Humana'* in Denmark. More recently she appeared as Irma Leopold in *'Picnic at Hanging Rock'* at Spectrum Theatre. *'Class of 77'* is Toni's debut into musicals.



Roger Guinery as Mr Theodore

Roger retired to Albany and joined the Spectrum Theatre because he loves the people and their energy. He returned to acting after a gap of more than 20 years. His thespian highlights in Perth were to play a mad librarian who hates his wife's cat but kills his wife instead, and a pompous Oxford professor who sings drunkenly and loudly. He graduated with Spectrum, playing a pragmatic and sober legal representative in *'Custard!'* between rushing around as the stage hand. He then fell in love with a farce called *'Up and Running!'* Nobody was brave enough to stop him staging it. *'Class of 77'* is his debut in a musical and he plays the English teacher, and you will recognise him as the tall, bald, gangling one with no discernible dance moves!





Davina Tyler as Leonie & Ensemble

Davina began classical vocal training from a young age but discovered her passion for musical theatre at age 11 when she first heard Elaine page sing 'Memory' from 'Cats'.

From there she performed in many productions around Perth including 'The Mikado' with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society, 'Hans Christian Andersen - The Musical' and her all time favourite, 'Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'.

Her last production was 'Fiddler on the Roof' at the Quarry Amphitheatre in City Beach all the way back in 1996 as she put her performing aside when she was married and began a family of her own.

Both humbled and thankful that the directors have believed in her ability to grow and regain her confidence as a performer, she is loving every minute being a part of the cast in 'Class of 77'.

Sarah Hutton as Fiona & Ensemble

Sarah is excited to be performing in her second show with Spectrum, having been part of the ensemble for 'Minefields & Miniskirts' last year. You may also have seen her on stage across the tracks with ALOTCo as part of shows such as 'Urinetown' and 'Let's Shine'. Prior to moving to Albany five years ago Sarah and her family were in Newcastle, NSW where she was part of multiple productions over the years though her favourite would undoubtedly be 'Beauty and the Beast'. 'Class of 77' is set to be a fun filled show which Sarah hopes to share with you all.



Jen Croston - Director & Musical Director

Jen has been quite the permanent fixture at Spectrum for many years & many more shows. She can be quoted as saying she has loved every minute of her involvement!

This is the second time Jen is teaming up with the incredibly talented Michelle, this time with the added bonus of creative input from the amazing musical talents of Serge.

Having co directed the 'semi musical' 'Minefields and Miniskirts' with Michelle this time last year, Jen was absolutely wrapped when Michelle asked to form their 'dynamic duo' again to take the journey from script to stage of 'Class of 77', a classic Aussie musical full of humour, infectious musical score and nostalgic references to the iconic era of the seventies.

Jen has been blown away by the dedication and talent of the cast and their tireless work to bring this show together of which she is sure you will enjoy!





Michelle Harris as Director

This is Michelle's fourth time directing. Her second at Spectrum with the amazing Jen Croston. Michelle has had a passion for theatre, especially Musical Theatre, since her teens when she saw 'Evita' on a school excursion.

2023 saw Michelle direct her first musical, the successful '*Minefields and Miniskirts*'.

Michelle is excited to be once again working with an amazing cast (wait for the harmonies). Some old friends and some new. Talent of all ages that will definitely take you back to a time easier to know, when Torana's ruled and young love was drifting on the air.

CREATIVE TEAM

Jen Croston - Director, Musical Director, Choreography & Lighting/Sound

Michelle Harris - Director, Choreography & Lighting/Sound

Serge Maujean - Musical Director

Andy Huntley - Stage Manager

Eve Wilkinson - Prompt

Trudi Anderson - Costume

SET CONSTRUCTION

Scott Richards, Andy Huntley, Flynn Huntley,
Diana Caley, Tigre Bird, Jack Harris-Richards &
Thomas Harris-Richards & Jess Baxter

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Darian Mercuri - Publicity & Programme

Maddi Sharpe - Publicity

Nadia Prater - Poster Design

Lachlan Benson - Up and Coming Director

Clint Howe - For special use of his Torana

Upcoming Auditions - '*And Then There Were None*' by Agatha Christie

An exciting, classic Murder Mystery by one of the greatest playwrights of all time - Directed by Melenna Cooper alongside a team of mentors.

Auditions in June 2024

Contact Melenna to enquire and register for auditions (text preferred)

Melenna - 0438 905 987

spectrumtheatrewa@outlook.com

Performances in September 2024!

Scan the QR Code for information regarding the play, including synopsis, characters and themes!



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Spectrum Theatre Inc.

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COMMITTEE

President: Darian Mercuri (0434 587 332)

Vice President: Maddison Sharpe

Secretary: Diana Caley

Treasurer: Laura Leach

Jen Croston

Melenna Cooper

Billie Whitbread

Tigre Bird

LIFE MEMBERS:

**Frank Astle Wendy Faville Bronwyn France Kevin Kanzler Shirley Pannell
Oonagh Randall Michael Rich Marianne Winsor Sandra Wilson Joan Anderson
Martin Hveissel Charles Danger June Hveissel Eve Wilkinson Karen Freeman
Darian Mercuri Jen Croston**

Spectrum Theatre was formed in 1980 in the Vancouver Arts Centre, moving to its present location in 1981. If you have ever felt like 'giving it a go' on-stage or back-stage, please feel free to have a chat with any of the cast or crew after the show, or contact the committee. You will always be most welcome in any capacity, at whatever level of experience or inexperience!

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all. Applications/Expression of interest should be sent via email to Spectrumtheatrewa@outlook.com

Annual fees are: \$20 Single, \$30 Family and \$10 for Juniors. Members are entitled to reduced ticket prices, invites to our regular ongoing social events and club groups as well as being covered under the theatre's insurances with the ability to participate in productions, either onstage or behind the scenes.

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