

**AUGUST 2 TO 7 AT THE
CIVIC THEATRE
BOOKINGS: 6926 9682**

hairspray

• THE BROADWAY MUSICAL •

Advertising feature

Curtains to open on the *Hairspray* dream

BIDGEE Theatre Productions is a theatre company located in Wagga and was founded in 2011 by the late Mick Radatti.

Our goal is to produce the best possible quality theatre, using local actors, off stage crews and technicians, thereby extending their opportunities to hone their skills and gain valuable experience, in the magical world of theatre.

BTP is proud to announce the production of *Hairspray: The Broadway Musical*.

Synopsis

Hairspray will delight audiences by sweeping them away to 1960s Baltimore, where the '50s are out – and the '60s change is in the air. Loveable plus-size heroine, Tracy Turnblad, has a passion for dancing, and wins a spot on the local TV dance program, *The Corny Collins Show*.

Overnight she finds herself transformed from outsider to teen celebrity.

Can a larger-than-life adolescent manage to vanquish the program's reigning princess, integrate the television show, and find true love (singing and dancing all the while, of course!) without mussing her hair? *Hairspray* is a social commentary on the injustices of parts of American society in the 1960s.

Hairspray: The Broadway Musical with music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Scott Wittman and Shaiman, a book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan and based on the 1988 John Waters film *Hairspray*.

The songs include 1960s-style dance music and "downtown" rhythm and blues. The musical's original Broadway production opened on August 15, 2002, and won eight Tony Awards out of



Picture: Daniel Burfoot

thirteen nominations.

It ran for over 2500 performances and closed on January 4, 2009.

Hairspray has also had national tours, a London West End production, and numerous foreign productions and was adapted as a 2007 musical film.

The London production was nominated for a record-setting eleven Laurence Olivier Awards, winning for Best New Musical and in three other categories.

Cast – Leads

Leah Ellis as Tracy Turnblad
Gavin Hulm as Edna Turnblad
Melissa Donges as Amber Von Tussle
Rachael Cox as Velma Von Tussle
Haylee Potts as Penny Pingleton
James MacCallum as Link Larkin
Betty Newah-Jarfoi as Motormouth Maybelle
Francis Tamara as Seaweed J. Stubbs
Gregory Wardrobe as Wilbur Turnblad
Chris Ward as Corny Collins
Keji Gwada as Little Inez
Judy-Ann Emberson as Prudy Pingleton, The Matron & The Gym Teacher
Michael Mitchell as Mr Pinky, The Principal and Mr Harriman F. Spritzer

Cast – Ensemble

Hayley Kimball, Stuart Morgan, Joshua Loiterton, Carmen Rixon, Aneka Ceccato, Cameron Tokley, Isabella Tinsley, Belinda Belli, James Demby, Rama Ramazini, Wani Gwada, Angelina Afful, Madeleen Newah-Jarfoi, Sara Gwada, Amy Blundell, Breanna Blundell, Catherine Crutchett, Jillian Tenant, Samantha Bailey, Sarah Foley, Briana Rogers, Emily Gordon, Victoria Drake and Zoe Hadler.

Creative Team

Stuart Morgan as Director
Mick Radatti as Creative Director and Producer (Founder of Bidgee Theatre Productions)
Nichole Ingram as Musical Director and Producer
Melissa Donges as Choreographer
Bret Power as Production Manager
Ticket Prices
Purchased at The Civic Theatre Booking office or online at www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/civic-theatre
Adult (17+) – \$40.00
Concession (Students/Seniors) – \$35.00
Children (16 & under) and Groups of 5+ (any age) – \$32.50

The show will go on

MICK Radatti had a vision of producing *Hairspray* in Wagga because he knew there was a need to integrate our African community and where the subject of integration was the main story it seemed like a perfect fit.

We shared this vision with him and as such began the journey.

We all feel that we have learnt so much, about him and his passion for all things life, spirit, music and theatre.

When Stuart first met with Mick, they didn't talk about the show at all.

It started out being about the weather and the flavour of his coffee and then after two hours of talking about practically nothing they realised what they were actually there for.

They realised very quickly that they had the exact same thoughts and trusted in each other about its direction and they knew right then that they would love working with each other.

Like most of us, Mick became a mentor to Stuart and has placed his trust in him to share this vision with the community, which will be honoured by us all.

Mick talked about, in great length, his dream of involving the African community into *Hairspray*, something he had wanted to do for an extremely long time and on the day of auditions, we saw his eyes light up and a huge grin across his face when we told him just how many had shown up for him.

It was truly an amazing thing to see him as excited as he was.

Mick didn't get to see our very first African rehearsal, but we know he was there with us regardless.

The memories that we personally have of Mick and the memories that each person of the *Hairspray* family have, will always be in our hearts as we focus on his passion and his vision of *Hairspray*.

Although not many cast and crew members had yet spent much time with Mick, there are a few that have spent the last 12 months working very closely with him and with his passing, a huge hole has been left in the family that Mick had put together.

Mick, you will be missed greatly but we will do you proud.

The show will go on.

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre

We would like to wish **Bidgee Theatre Productions** all the best for their musical "**Hairspray.**" Best wishes for a successful season.

RM1950784

CIVIC THEATRE WAGGA WAGGA

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Based on the New Line Cinema film written and directed by John Waters
By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)

Book by Mark O'Donnell Thomas Meehan
Music by Marc Shaiman
Lyrics by Scott Wittman Marc Shaiman

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YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT BOOK NOW

2 - 17 AUGUST, 2013 AT THE CIVIC THEATRE

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WWW.WAGGA.NSW.GOV.AU/CIVIC-THEATRE

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Hair done by:
KARIZMA HAIR & BEAUTE

DIRECTOR: STUART MORGAN - CREATIVE DIRECTOR: MICK RADATTI
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: NICOLE INGRAM - CHOREOGRAPHER: MEL DONGES

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