

## Secretary's Report for 2022

Those of us attending this meeting in person, and of course those who enthusiastically came to see the fundraising Revue in December, entered the theatre via our new facilities. The dramatic colour scheme, loved by most and certainly noticed by all, are thanks to Tony Tartaro. While Maria Haughey, Tony and I agreed on a general colour palette, the final exact paint colours and locations were Tony's decision. Gaetano Santo, our architect, was blown away by the effect, much to Tony's relief and delight. Our underlying premise was that as this is a theatre, a dramatic entrance is essential, and Tony certainly gave us that. Well done Tony!

There were 11 meetings of this Committee in 2021, most of them online. We quite forgot how to do meetings without everyone in individual boxes on a screen like Celebrity Squares - but not the Brady Bunch.

During the year Robert Harsley applied for, and was granted, three months leave.

Meeting attendances over the year were:

	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Apology</b>	<b>On Leave</b>
Alex Begg	11		
Brian Christopher	11		
Steven Drumm	11		
Roger Forsey	11		
Robert Harsley	5	3	3
Maria Haughey	10	1	
Emma Hunt	11		
Celia Meehan	11		
Peter Newling	10	1	
Melanie Rowe	9	2	
Shirley Sydenham	11		
Tony Tartaro	11		

As you can see, once again despite the theatre closure, your Committee continued its work. Much of this involved discussions about how to deal with Covid in a theatre context, finding alternate venues for auditions and rehearsals only to deal with cancellation and rescheduling of those plays. Of course, an enormous amount of time involved dealing with the seemingly endless refurbishments and the attendant problems, crises and delays. A frequent cry on that score was 'Are we there yet?' and finally, gloriously, yes we are, other than fixing glitches. There is now ongoing work in re-organising and repurposing spaces freed up by the refurbishment.

Maria Haughey is leaving the Committee in order to travel in Ireland and surrounds for a year or so. Safe travels Maria, you will be greatly missed by all. Rest assured, we'll save our next raffle for your return.

Robert Harsley, who has done a sterling job of ticketing, has also not nominated for 2022 Committee. He has offered to continue as Ticketing Manager, a request to be considered by the new Committee. Thank you Bobby for all your years on Committee, including many years managing FOH and supplies.

I also have not nominated again for Committee. After 12 years as Secretary and the last 2 years as part of the refurbishment Project Management team, I am opting out for a rest.

It has truly been an enormous privilege to undertake those roles, and I am proud to have been able to contribute to this amazing company.

Thank you to Tony Tartaro for his diligence and thoroughness as our COVID Officer, establishing and maintaining our WLT COVIDsafe Plan according to Government updates. He is firmly supported by Steve Drumm, who in his role of Facilities Manager oversees OHS on site.

During the refurbishments, anything we could do in-house saved us money. We thank all the wonderful people who last year stepped in enthusiastically to clear, clean, paint walls, clean some more, and a myriad of tasks. This amazing group includes Steve Drumm, Alex Begg, Neil Williamson, Raymond Blake, Dion Sexton, Rob Edwards, Brian Christopher,

Barb Hughes, Adrienne Williamson, Bernadette Wheatley, Les Hart, Tony Tartaro, Maria Haughey, Kerry Drumm, Karin Bouvin, Judi Clark, Stephanie King, Maxine Palmerson, and of course Roger Forsey for his hard work that has resulted in a bio box that is the envy of every community theatre. I hope I have not omitted a name. Very special thanks to Alex Begg who carried a particularly heavy load in the moving in process: we had a little over a week to move in and set up the foyer, bathrooms, clean up the theatre before the Revue's tech and dress rehearsals, quickly followed by audiences. In fact it such a close call that on the opening day of the Revue when I delivered the flowers to the foyer at 3.30pm I found electricians on ladders finishing off and making a bit of a mess in the cleaned foyer! There was only one weekend where more people were able be involved, and on the weekdays it was mostly Alex on his own moving mountains. Truly a Super Hero!

Please let's thank all those who helped us last year.  
Truly, without you it would still be a work in progress.

Thank you.

Shirley Sydenham, Secretary  
4 February 2022