

VHP Vagaries

www.villagehallplayers.com

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December 2024

Bringing Live Theatre to Local Rural Communities



**We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
From all of us to all of you.**

RECAPPING 2024



37 Postcards

Directed by Jill Runciman
6 shows in May 2024



Oliver!

By Lionel Bart
Directed by Lynette Zito & Jill Runciman
6 shows in September 2024



Divarama 2024

Twisted Christmas Variety Show
1 fabulous performance in November 2024

Thank you to everyone who supported us over the year. They were all volunteers!

- the cast members;
- the crew members;
- the sound and lighting technical crews;
- the front of house workers;
- those who donated costumes, set pieces, props, money;
- those who came to our shows; and
- parents who transported kids to and from the many, many rehearsals and shows.

You are what makes it all worthwhile!

GOLD PALM AWARDS

In our first year being involved with these Awards, Village Hall Players received the following nominations for the two productions we entered – *37 Postcards* and *Oliver!*

Best Set Design

37 Postcards - Jill Runciman

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

37 Postcards - Rex Forwood

Best Actress in a Supporting Role

37 Postcards - Haylee Holliday

Best Actress in a Leading Role

37 Postcards - Susan Hughes

Best Director of a Play

37 Postcards - Jill Runciman

Best Actor in a Supporting Role in a Musical

Oliver! - Cameron Clarke

Best Actress in a Supporting Role in a Musical - **Oliver!**

Jill Runciman & Elke Dundler

Best Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical - **Oliver!**

Jasmine Phillips & Lietta McElligott

Best Costumes

Oliver! - Roisin Wilson

Best Program

Oliver! - Jill Runciman

The Jock and Beverley McIlwain Special
Encouragement Award & Bursary

Oliver! - Elke Dundler

On behalf of the President and Artistic Director, congratulations to all Nominees.

Elke Dundler was named a **FINALIST** - Best Actress in a Supporting Role in a Musical - **Oliver!** While she didn't win the award, she won all our hearts with her fabulous portrayal of The Artful Dodger.

And thanks to all members of the cast and crew, because one person is not able to do all that needs to be done to create a successful production. So, we are all standing in the light which these awards shine on our company.

DIRT

The wonderful Jasmine Phillips, DIRT Senior Instructor, reports that we have received a lot of positive feedback about the DIRT students who performed in the Village Hall Players' production of *Oliver!*

Parents and community members were impressed with their talent, dedication, and stage presence.

Focus since the end of *Oliver!* had been on preparing for the end-of-year showcase on **Wednesday, December 4th**.

The showcase included:

- Improv performances
- one choral piece and one musical theatre number
- short scene work in pairs

Students also took on behind-the-scenes roles (props, marketing, front-of-house) to experience different aspects of production. VHP Stage Manager extraordinaire Ian McLean assisted Jasmine with teaching students about these roles.

DIRT will be back in 2025. If you would like more information on our theatre program for 8 – 16 year olds, please email us at dirt.vhp@gmail.com



DIRT AWARDS

We are thrilled to announce that two of our DIRT students, Elke Dundler and Lietta McElligott, are each the recipients of a \$1000 scholarship awarded by the Village Hall Players committee, which will enable these fantastic students the opportunity to study at a special school holiday program at NIDA (The National Institute of Dramatic Art).



Congratulations Elke & Lietta!

EOI - DIRT INSTRUCTOR 2025

Due to a lack of volunteer DIRT Instructors, the VHP Committee decided to fund a paid contractor position. This was brought about because Miss Lynette's health isn't great and Miss Jasmine, besides running her own business, is now studying at university. The committee's options were to close the program, continue to seek volunteers or go with option 3 – a contractor.

We are still seeking instructor assistants. This role provides administration assistance by marking the attendance record, writing receipts for fees received, helping with theatre games, if necessary, hitting the play/stop buttons for music, etc.

If you would like to volunteer, please email villagehallplayers@gmail.com. Information on the Instructor position is available on our Facebook page.

EOIs close on 3 January 2025.

VHP COMMITTEE NEWS

Commencing 1 January 2025, Village Hall Players will no longer be a sub-committee of Arts Kyogle. On behalf of the committee, our sincere thanks to Arts Kyogle who have supported us over the years.

Our AGM will be held late January 2025., All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.



We cannot bring quality live theatre productions to Kyogle without the help of the group at the helm who run the show.

Please seriously consider joining the committee to help us grow and improve. We need new people and new ideas.

Though all Executive positions will be made vacant, we are especially seeking volunteers with an interest in :

- becoming our committee Secretary; and
- with bookkeeping experience.

You do not need to have experience for the Secretary role as all the training you need will be given. However, you do need to be comfortable using MS Word on a laptop.

Information is available by emailing villagehallplayers@gmail.com

Email Lynette Zito, Artistic Director, at villagehallplayers@gmail.com for more information on any of the roles listed above.

For more information about how to get involved, please also email us at villagehallplayers@gmail.com

You can also follow Village Hall Players on Facebook and Instagram.

WHAT'S ON IN 2025

12 INCOMPETENT JURORS

A comedy by Ian McWethy

7pm 10 May 2025	Wiangaree Hall
2pm 11 May 2025	KMI Hall
7pm 17 May 2025	KMI Hall
2pm 18 May 2025	Ettrick Hall
7pm 24 May 2025	KMI Hall
2pm 25 May 2025	Eden Creek Hall

NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY

A darkly comic musical
by Douglas J. Cohen

We are seeking a **Musical Director**.

We are also seeking expressions of interest from actors who can sing for this small ensemble musical.

Auditions will be held for the following roles in February:

Morris – male, mid-30s to 40s

Kit - male, mid-30s to 40s

Sarah – female, mid to late 30s, svelte, sunny, funny and sophisticated

Flora – Morris's mother, mature, strong, maternal

Alexandra/Carmella/Sadie/Mrs Sullivan – similar characteristics to Flora.

