



CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR 2026

I'm delighted to once again present my Annual Report to you, our members. Although you are receiving this prior to the meeting, it will be available at the meeting on 19 September. Thank you for attending.

Please see the attached message of condolence for the late ROGER MCKENZIE

Your committee elected for 2026:

Martin Mitchell stepped down as Treasurer this financial year and was replaced by Andrew Davis. Thank you Andrew for putting your hand up to undertake this role. Thank you to Committee members, the late Roger McKenzie, and Julie Bruce from Queensland. Your attendance online has been appreciated and I acknowledge the personal arrangements you have made to attend meetings in person in Sydney. Your committee in 2026 financial year has been:

- Roslyn English, OAM (CEO),
- The late Roger McKenzie (Vice President)
- Michelle Mitchell (Secretary),
- Andrew Davis (Financial Officer), with Martin Mitchell assisting
- Committee members: (In alphabetical order): Julie Bruce (in Queensland), Sean Clarke, Leesa Hazlewood, Neil Litchfield ('What's On' Co-ordinator), the late Roger McKenzie (in Gold Coast) and David Spicer (Communications Officer)

STATE			
	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	% DEC
NSW	86	107	20%
ACT	2	4	50%
VIC	8	14	57%
QLD	11	18	61%
S A	4	10	40%
TAS	2	4	50%
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
TOTAL	113	157	28%

This table indicates the membership within Australia. I have shown the percentage decrease this year to last year.

MEMBERSHIP

During these difficult financial times, it is not surprising that some member groups have not renewed their membership. But on the good side, we have received some new member group applications and that is heartening. I am aware that all groups are having

difficulties with our occupancy levels – it is difficult to sell tickets at the moment. Please believe in the value of what you present to our patrons and know that even in these difficult times, community theatre will always be important as a connection point for everyone – those giving the entertainment and those receiving it. and Please remember that our patrons like escapism and entertainment and that is what we do best. New and renewing member organisations can obtain forms online via: <https://www.communitytheatre.com.au/index.php/membership>. The benefits of membership are: Access to What's On brochure – and if you sell just two tickets as a result of your inclusion in that brochure, you have retrieved your cost outlay. It is also a networking tool to allow groups to contact each other and you also have access to Stage Whispers to be across the theatre scene in all its aspects. The most important benefit is the offering of affordable Insurance through Marsh. Detailed information is on the website.

"WHAT'S ON" - What's On 2026

A Guide to Community Theatre productions in Australia from The Association of Community Theatre Inc.

Martin Mitchell and Neil Litchfield continue to put untold hours and effort into seeking out and collating information for our fabulous brochure which continues to be available for the forthcoming year. There is always pressure to meet the deadline for this and I ask that you let us have your information as soon as you know what your program will be. Make sure you don't miss out on being included by completing the form from the following link: <https://communitytheatre.com.au/submit-whats-on/>

GRANT SCHEME

As you will be aware, we have not offered a grant scheme this financial year. The Committee felt it appropriate to provide funds for a new website to bring us into a more modern forum. The Committee will re-consider this resource for the next financial year.

NEW WEBSITE

Our new Website was built by Real World Technology Solutions. You can now add your own group and for those who are just starting, you can complete a membership form, or if an existing group, you can renew using the appropriate form. In the News section, you can add an event you are holding, and you can post a job with a description of the role. (There is an example for your reference). There is a whole section on Insurance (negotiated with Marsh) and the types of policies offered.

STAGECRAFT CONFERENCE AT NIDA

This will be an exciting event and we hope you will attend. There is a fantastic lineup of NIDA Lecturers who will deliver seminars on important and interesting subjects. Full details are on the website.

ACT LOGO

This is my yearly reminder to you to ensure you are all using the ACT Logo in all your programs and communications to your members and corporate connections. Please just pop it in the program:

***"(Your Theatre group) is a proud member of The Association of
Community Theatre Inc."***

Please contact our Secretary Michelle Mitchell at michellem@ozemail.com.au for the correct format. Keep spreading the word, thank you.

INSURANCE

A representative from Marsh Insurance will attend our Annual General meeting to give us an update on insurance. We have once again been working with Marsh who are keen to ensure our insurance arrangements remain appropriate and affordable for our member groups. Marsh is a generous sponsor and I offer my sincere thanks to Simon Calabrese and his team for their continued support over the years. You can find a "Stage Safety" video at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y73hT7wR8k&t=1183s>.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General meeting will be held on Saturday 19 September from 9.30 till 12.15. If you wish to attend only the AGM you are welcome to stay for lunch as well but please let us know for catering purposes. If you wish to attend please complete the registration form at the bottom of this report and return it to The Secretary, Michelle Mitchell at michellem@ozemail.com.au no later than close of business Friday 11 September 2026. You will not be able to take part in the meeting unless your group's membership is current and you have registered for the meeting.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

All Committee positions become vacant at the AGM. According to the Constitution, current financial members are able to nominate for positions.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee members (6 in total) – two of which will hold positions of What's On Co-ordinator and Communications Officer. Other Committee members will be responsible for Membership, Database Management, Publicity/Marketing/social media, and the Website management.

The Chief Executive Officer, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer form the Executive of the Committee. If you are financial and wish to nominate for any of the Committee positions listed, **please complete the appropriate nomination form on the website. Nominations MUST be in the hands of the Secretary by close of business on Friday 11 September 2026. You must be a current financial member of a current financial group. Two financial members of that group must sign the form, one to propose your nomination and the other to second the nomination. You, as nominee, must also sign the form to indicate your willingness to serve on the Committee.** The address for the form is secretary@communitytheatre.com.au **No late entries will be accepted under any circumstances.**

To all our wonderful members, never lose sight of why you first stepped onto the stage. Theatre is more than rehearsing lines, learning songs or performing under the lights—it is about connection, creativity, friendship and the joy of bringing stories to life. Whatever challenges come your way, keep following your passion, keep sharing your talents and keep believing in the magic you create together. **The stage needs people who care, and your passion is what keeps our theatre alive.**

Best wishes for the forthcoming year and remember, The Association of Community Theatre is here to support you in all your endeavours.



Roslyn English

Roslyn English, OAM
Chief Executive Officer
August 2026.

ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY THEATRE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REGISTRATION REQUEST				
GROUP NAME	PHONE	REPRESENTATIVE	POSITION	EMAIL
e.g. Gosford Musical Society	0428 691 010	Roslyn English	Life Member	05roslynenglish@gmail.com

The Association of Community Theatre Inc.

PO Box Q544 QVB Post Office

Sydney NSW 1230

Ph:

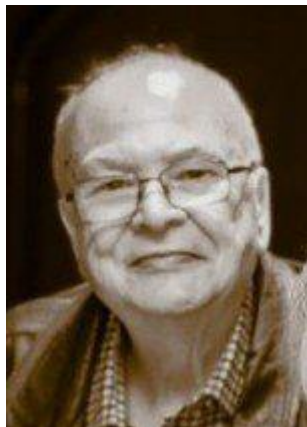
E Mail: ros@communitytheatre.com.au

Web: www.communitytheatre.com.au

ABN 69 986 634 265



August 24, 2026



Official Statement from The Association of Community Theatre

It is with great sadness that The Association of Community Theatre acknowledges the sudden passing of Roger McKenzie following a fatal heart attack.

Roger was one of the founding figures of our Association and a towering presence within the community theatre movement. His vision, leadership, and tireless advocacy helped establish and shape an organisation that has supported, celebrated, and strengthened community theatre for decades.

As an inductee into the Association's Hall of Fame, Roger's contribution to the performing arts was recognised not only through his many achievements, but through the lasting impact he had on countless individuals and theatre organisations. He was a mentor, leader, colleague, and friend whose influence extended far beyond the stage.

Roger believed deeply in the power of community theatre to bring people together, develop talent, foster creativity, and enrich communities. Throughout his life, he championed excellence while encouraging participation, generosity, and collaboration. His passion for the art form inspired generations of performers, directors, musicians, technicians, administrators, and volunteers.

The theatre community has lost one of its most respected and dedicated advocates. While we mourn his passing, we also celebrate a remarkable legacy that will continue to live on through the organisations he helped build, the people he inspired, and the countless productions that benefited from his wisdom and guidance.

On behalf of our members and the wider community theatre family, we extend our deepest condolences to Roger's family, friends, and all who were privileged to know and work with him.

Roger's contribution to community theatre cannot be measured simply by the roles he played or the organisations he served. His true legacy lies in the communities he strengthened, the people he encouraged, and the enduring belief that theatre has the power to transform lives.

He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

Vale Roger McKenzie

"The lights of community theatre shine more brightly because Roger McKenzie was here. His legacy will continue to illuminate our stages and our communities for generations to come."

Chief Executive Officer

Association of Community Theatre Inc.

Patron: Miss Nancye Hayes A.M.

The Association of Community Theatre Inc.

PO Box 125

Gosford NSW 2250

E Mail: ros@communitytheatre.com.au

Web: www.communitytheatre.com.au

ABN 69 986 634 265



24th August 2026

Financial Officer's Report for the financial year – 1st July 2025 to 30th June 2026

Our membership year is the calendar year 1st Jan to 31st Dec. Our fiscal year is the traditional financial year 1st Jul to 30th Jun.

There is no legal reason why we could not change our fiscal year to match our membership year, and despite some logistical issues, this is something the executive team will look at in the coming year. It makes sense for reporting, allowing us to capture expenses in the same period as the revenue earned (allowing us to comply with the Matching Principle – a core accounting concept). So many community theatre groups already do this, if for no other reason than to align the finances to their own artistic seasons which are annually based Jan – Dec.

Given that the membership and fiscal years are out of kilter, we have approximately 52 company and 5 corporate members owing 2026 membership fees as at 30/6/26 totalling ~ \$6,150.00 which we continue to chase throughout the year. As we account on a CASH basis, these amounts do not appear in the reports.

The Association has no physical assets. The only financial assets are funds held in our two bank accounts (see the Balance Sheet for details). As the maturity date of the Term Deposit was outside this financial year, we did not receive the interest at maturity until 15/7/026 which amounts to \$2,163.08 and that will appear in the next FYE reports. We are all volunteers and use our own equipment with very reasonable expenses being met by the association for consumables.

The Association has no liabilities other than on-going website hosting, maintenance and internet costs (including a Zoom license to facilitate remote meetings) plus What's On brochure production and distribution expenses.

Lastly, the very important sponsorship and WH&S Training grant we receive annually was not received as at 30/6/26 but, I can report that it arrived in the first week of July. This grant is essential for us to be able to host the biennial Stagecraft Conference at NIDA (coming up 19-20 September this year).

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Davis
Financial Officer

Profit and loss report

Cash mode

01 Jul 2025 - 30 Jun 2026

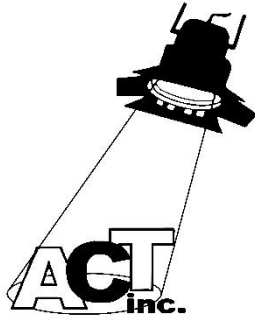
	Total			
	Actual	Last Year	Variance \$	Variance %
4-0000 Income				
4-1235 Membership Fees (Community)	12,250.00	0.00	12,250.00	-
4-1250 Stagecraft Conference	(105.00)	0.00	(105.00)	-
4-1300 Insurance Rebates	3,640.00	0.00	3,640.00	-
4-1500 Interest Received	31.99	0.00	31.99	-
Total Income	15,816.99	0.00	15,816.99	-
Gross Profit	15,816.99	0.00	15,816.99	-
6-0000 Expenses				
6-1120 Advertising & Marketing	3,150.00	0.00	3,150.00	-
6-1130 Bank Fees	136.43	0.00	136.43	-
6-1140 General Expenses NES	127.63	0.00	127.63	-
6-1300 Meeting Costs	1,107.80	0.00	1,107.80	-
6-1420 Internet, Phone & IT Expenses	246.29	0.00	246.29	-
6-1430 Member Grants paid	500.00	0.00	500.00	-
6-1450 Postage	1,294.63	0.00	1,294.63	-
6-1465 Stagecraft Conference expenses	1,650.00	0.00	1,650.00	-
6-1470 Travel costs	45.30	0.00	45.30	-
6-1480 Website build & maintenance	4,950.00	0.00	4,950.00	-
6-1490 What's On brochure - Production/Distribution	9,246.32	0.00	9,246.32	-
Total Expenses	22,454.40	0.00	22,454.40	-
Operating Profit	(6,637.41)	0.00	(6,637.41)	-
Net Profit	(6,637.41)	0.00	(6,637.41)	-

Balance sheet report

Cash mode

30 Jun 2026

	Total			
	Actual	Last Year	Variance \$	Variance %
1-0000 Assets				
1-1000 Current Assets				
1-1100 Bank Accounts				
1-1110 CBA Business Transaction Account	6,649.45	13,318.85	(6,669.40)	-50
1-1120 CBA Term Deposit	61,802.26	61,770.27	31.99	0
Total Bank Accounts	68,451.71	75,089.12	(6,637.41)	-8.84%
Total Current Assets	68,451.71	75,089.12	(6,637.41)	-8.84%
Total Assets	68,451.71	75,089.12	(6,637.41)	-8.84%
Net Assets	68,451.71	75,089.12	(6,637.41)	-9
3-0000 Equity				
3-9000 Current Year Earnings	(6,637.41)	0.00	(6,637.41)	-
3-9999 Historical Balancing	75,089.12	75,089.12	0.00	0
Total Equity	68,451.71	75,089.12	(6,637.41)	-8.84%



Communications Officer Report from David Spicer 2026

I am delighted to report that ACT's new website is up and running. Thanks to Andrew Yagar and the team from Real World Technology Solutions for setting it up and Adam Wilson from Beacon Musical Society for helping me upload content. The Hall of Fame section is very striking.

Please promote the URL www.communitytheatre.com.au in your programs and websites.

More than 60 companies have uploaded their membership details/logo, and it gives the public the chance to find out which clubs are in their locality and also allows other theatre companies to find which theatres have resources such as costumes and props. Please register here:

<https://communitytheatre.com.au/membership-hub/>

Member groups are encouraged to upload their own What's On details as soon as they confirm their seasons. Self-listed shows can have imagery making it more effective. Only a small number of member groups are taking advantage of this. Please register here:

<https://communitytheatre.com.au/whats-on/>

There is also a jobs section which no-one has used yet. It may be better to describe this as Jobs/Auditions. <https://communitytheatre.com.au/jobs/>

Other useful pieces of information can be added as required.

The published What's On remains an excellent tool to promote member company shows. Thanks to Michelle, Martin and Neil for their work on this. It is tremendous value as it is included in the cost of our modest \$100 membership fee. In my opinion we need to calibrate the number of copies we print in terms of what ACT can afford on a yearly basis considering rising print and postage costs. The What's On is available as a downloadable PDF on the website so in my opinion we should assign a budget each year for this and print as many as can be afforded.

Our Facebook page has passed 1000 likes. Neil often shares community theatre content from Stage Whispers Magazine which highlight member shows.

The major project I co-ordinated with other members of the committee for ACT this year was the conference – the 13th I have been involved with since 1998. We had 150 people turn up to the first one. This year getting to 100 participants has been very hard work. Great to see companies attending from Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and regional NSW. All Sydney theatre companies should have representatives attend on at least one day.

Digitally streamed seminars that are recorded might be the way of the future, particularly in non conference years.

The most recent livestreamed seminar on occupational health and safety remains on-line.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y73hT7wR8k&t=68s>

I would like to propose a new initiative to assist with communication.

Leaders in community theatre are typically too busy running their own companies and their own lives to join our committee. Fair enough.

Perhaps allowing member companies to send representatives to attend ACT committee meetings on zoom on an ad-hoc basis to raise particular issues might be a helpful communication tool.

At our local Waverley Council – local ratepayers can bring up issues for discussion. Ratepayers register in advance that they would like to speak on a particular issue and are given a time-limit. Happy to discuss this at the AGM.

Finally, Vale the mighty Roger Mckenzie who was on our Showline Wall of Honour back in the day when we had a telephone number to call to find out What community theatre was on.



All the Best for 2027

David Spicer



What's On Report from Neil Litchfield 2026

I continue to enjoy the role of What's On Coordinator, which I have been filling since the inception of the Association of Community Theatre. It dovetails very nicely with the coverage of Community Theatre which I research and compile for Stage Whispers magazine.

I am very happy to continue in this role.

Obtaining information is sometimes a challenge though.

While we provide physical and electronic forms for member groups to complete, much of the information for the What's On Brochure is curated from internet research which Martin Mitchell and I undertake.

Too often, I fear, the forms get misplaced in company in boxes and correspondence.

I'd encourage member groups to be aware that we are already beginning to compile next year's brochure and hope to go to the printer before the end of November. Companies attending the conference and AGM will have a hard copy of the form in your paperwork.

I look forward to hearing about everyone's 2026 seasons and getting the word out on all the fabulous shows you are producing. Please get your news to me as soon as possible

My thanks once again to my collaborators on this annual project, Martin and Michelle Mitchell for all their efforts in the layout, proof-reading and distribution of the What's On brochure.

Neil Litchfield