

2024 SEASON AT A GLANCE

JANUARY

CHILDREN ARE STINKY

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24 AT 3PM THURSDAY JANUARY 25 AT 11AM & 1PM

FEBRUARY

A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18 AT 8PM

MARCH

RESPECT - THE ARETHA FRANKLIN STORY

FRIDAY MARCH 1 AT 7PM

ROBERTSON BROTHERS 1960'S VARIETY TV SHOW

SUNDAY MARCH 3 AT 3PM

THE SMEDS AND THE SMOOS

THURSDAY MARCH 7 AT 1:30PM FRIDAY MARCH 8 AT 10AM & 12PM

THE LLOYD WEBBER EVOLUTION

TUESDAY MARCH 12 AT 2PM

ELVIS AND BUDDY HOLLY

FRIDAY MARCH 15 AT 7:30PM

LEAVING JACKSON THE JOHNNY CASH AND JUNE CARTER SHOW

SATURDAY MARCH 23 AT 7:30PM

APRIL

THE POP SQUAD

TUESDAY APRIL 9 AT 11AM & 2PM

THE FLEETWOOD PAC - A TRIBUTE TO FLEETWOOD MAC

SATURDAY APRIL 13 AT 7:30PM

WE REMEMBER

WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 AT 8PM

MAY

TONY AS ROBBIE

WEDNESDAY MAY 1 AT 8PM

ELLA HOOPER IN CONCERT

FRIDAY MAY 17 AT 8PM

LONDON CALLING

SATURDAY MAY 25 AT 8PM

THE WORLD OF MUSICALS IN CONCERT

SUNDAY MAY 26 AT 6PM

GARAGE GIRLS

FRIDAY MAY 31 AT 8PM

JUNE

BABBA - 30 YEARS ANNIVERSARY SHOW

SATURDAY JUNE 22 AT 8PM

HOW SWEET IS IT?

WEDNESDAY JUNE 26 AT 2PM

TORRIO!

THURSDAY JUNE 27 AT 8PM



THE EAGLES STORY - TAKE IT TO THE LIMIT
SATURDAY JULY 6 AT 8PM

CELTIC ILLUSION
THURSDAY JULY 11 AT 7:30PM

GSO - AT THE MOVIES SATURDAY JULY 13 AT 2PM

NAT BARTSCH: HOPE THURSDAY JULY 18 AT 8PM

THE VISITORS
TUESDAY JULY 23 AT 8PM
WEDNESDAY JULY 24 AT 11AM

LA BOHÈME - OPERA AUSTRALIA SATURDAY JULY 27 AT 7:30PM

AUGUST SLAP. BANG. KISS. THURSDAY AUGUST 22 AT 11AM & 1PM

MAFFRA MUNICIPAL BAND WINTER MELODIES SUNDAY AUGUST 25 AT 2PM

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING: 30 YEARS OF CHOCOLATE STARFISH FRIDAY AUGUST 30 AT 7:30PM

AFFINITY QUARTET
BEETHOVEN OPUS 18 - PART ONE
SATURDAY AUGUST 31 AT 8PM

SEPTEMBER
DAVE O'NEIL
OVERWEIGHT LIGHTWEIGHT
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5 AT 8PM

THE LIBRARIAN
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 AT 2PM
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11 AT 11AM & 1PM

FLEETWOOD MAX FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13 AT 8PM

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS
THURSAY SEPTEMBER 26 AT 11AM & 2PM

OCTOBER
THE BIRTHS AND
DEATHS OF STARS
THURSDAY OCTOBER 3 AT 8PM

MOONWALKER THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 AT 8PM

TASH YORK HAPPY HOUR SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 AT 8PM

WILDFLOWERS SATURDAY OCTOBER 26 AT 8PM

SYMPHONIC MASTERS GIPPSLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 AT 2PM

NOVEMBER
FRANKIE J HOLDEN
& THE CLASSICS
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15 AT 8PM

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to The Wedge 2024 Season.

The arts represents one of the few areas in our community where people can come together to share an experience even if they see the world in different ways. It provides a place to nuture local talent alongside the best touring performers, as well as gather as a society to build stronger communities.

As you will discover in the following pages, there will be no shortage of exciting events on offer at The Wedge this year and the lineup promises to captivate audiences of all tastes, ages and abilities.

2024 will include everything from stand-up comedy to the grace of classical music, compelling dramatic performances and world class contemporary musicians.

Highlights include London Calling, the magnetic tribute band; A Midsummer Night's Dream, an enchanting outdoor production set under the stars at the Sale Botanic Gardens; exciting children's shows like The Librarian and The Smeds and The Smoos and the contemporary classic show The Visitors, directed by the visionary Wesley Enoch.

For music lovers, the Affinity Quartet will breathe life into Beethoven Opus and Australian music royalty Ella Hopper and Eskimo Joe will take to the stage to perform both classics and new titles.

We will again get to witness the incredible local talent with have in the area, with performances from The Gippsland Symphony Orchestra and Maffra Municipal Band.

It's going to be a fantastic year and I am eagerly waiting to join my fellow community members as they immerse themselves in the finest arts and culture right here in The Middle of Everywhere.



Our commitment to inclusivity shines bright as we aim to engage wider audiences and encourage the next generation of arts enthusiasts.

I invite you to uncover the magic of performance and immerse yourself in The Wedge in 2024.

Let us enjoy the theatre at our doorstep, indulge in new experiences, broaden our horizons and introduce friends and relatives out of town to everything we have on offer.

I am delighted to present this season of performances and celebrate the arts and our vibrant community.

lan Bye

Mayor Wellington Shire Council





Children are Stinky challenges children to step on stage and prove

themselves worthy, smart, co-ordinated and imaginative against these

ridiculous circus performers resulting in wonderful interaction and an

Packed with lots of fun, lightning fast hula hooping, dare devil balances,

astounding strength, incredible acrobatics and loads of comedy,

Children are Stinky will have both adults and kids with their jaws on the

Carlos and Walsh create a show with equal measures of high calibre circus, anarchy and hilarity to suit an audience of all ages.

SUITABLE FOR: 3-12 year olds.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24 AT 3PM THURSDAY JANUARY 25 AT 11AM & 1PM

John Leslie Theatre 50 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

NCM

audience of proud kids and parents.

floor wanting to see more.





A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S

DREAM

UNDER THE STARS

Our flagship production, A Midsummer Night's Dream under the stars is a dazzling spectacle sure to delight audiences of all ages!

The jewel in the Shakespeare comedy crown is set to take you on a riotous ride through the interwoven world of Lovers, Fairies and Fools. See the Sale Botanic Gardens lit up at night, glowing and sparkling beyond your wildest imaginings while you reel with laughter as you witness the comedy that is "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

When the feuding king and queen of the fairies' cross paths with a quartet of runaway lovers and a group of tradesmen come amateur actors attempting to rehearse a play, one night in the enchanted forest becomes one wild ride!

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18 AT 8PM

Sale Botanic Gardens 2 hours 30 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$47
Senior	
Concession	
Member	\$39
Under 30	\$37
Group 10+	\$37
Child U15	\$19



THE WEDGE ··· SEASON 2024 7





BEACH BOYS THE MONKEES **JOHNNY FARNHAM** PETER, PAUL and MARY **BEE GEES • THE HOLLIES** FRANKIE VALLI • NEIL SEDAKA **EVERLY BROTHERS** THE SEEKERS

Guest Starring: SIMON BROOK McLACHLAN

Following their Sold Out National Tour in 2023, Australia's new 'Kings of Variety Television' are back in 2024 with a brand new show! The Robertson Brothers are thrilled to be returning with their new heart-warming and uplifting 1960's Variety TV Show!

Geoff and Ben Robertson are back, with special guest Simon Brook McLachlan, as your charming and cheeky hosts for this nostalgic night of entertainment as they pay tribute to the musical giants of the 1960's.

Unlike anything you have ever seen before this ground-breaking and interactive theatrical TV experience is filled with all the fun, music and long forgotten memories of the fabulous 1960's. The Variety TV Show audience is taken on a unique and emotional journey back to the best years of their lives!

SUNDAY MARCH 3 AT 3PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 30 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$79.95
Senior	\$74.95
Concession	\$74.95
Member	\$74.95
Group 10+	\$74.95

THE WEDGE SEASON 2024 9





Smeds and Smoos

LIVE ON STAGE

A stellar new show based on the book by

JULIA DONALDSON and AXEL SCHEFFLER

Soar into space with this exciting adaptation of the award-winning book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (also seen in the TV animation on ABC Kids) On a far-off planet, Smeds and Smoos can't be friends. So, when a young Smed and Smoo fall in love and zoom off into space together, how will their families get them back?

Music, laughs and interplanetary adventures

10 THE WEDGE ... SEASON 2024

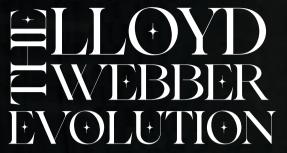
for everyone aged 3 and up, from the team that brought you The Gruffalo and Room on the Broom live on stage.

The Smeds and The Smoos © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 2019, published by Scholastic.

SUITABLE FOR: Ages 3+ years.

THURSDAY MARCH 7 AT 1:30PM FRIDAY MARCH 8 AT 10AM & 12PM John Leslie Theatre 55 minutes, no interval

at the second	TICKETS
Adult	\$37
Senior	\$35
Concession	\$33
Member	\$33
Under 30	\$31
Group 10+	\$31
Child U15	\$19



A fantastic narrative concert performance with hit songs from Lloyd Webber, Elton John, Tim Rice and many more!

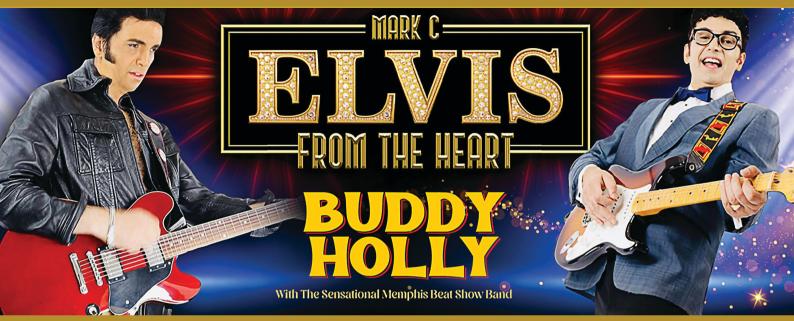
The life and hit songs of the greatest Broadway and London West End composer of the last 50 Years, Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, and his greatest friends and influences. Ian Stenlake, an Australian music theatre and television star, sings alongside award winning music theatre singer actress Michelle Fitzmaurice, in this sparkling new concert production.

Ian and Michelle will take the audience through a cavalcade of hit songs not only from the pen of Andrew Lloyd Webber but also many of his musical influences and other composers he admires and draws inspiration from.

TUESDAY MARCH 12 AT 2PM

John Leslie Theatre
1 hour 15 minutes, no interval

\dult	\$29
Senior	\$27
Concession	\$23
Member	\$23
Jnder 30	\$21
Group 10+	\$21
Child U15	\$15



Get ready to shake, rattle, and roll in a whirlwind of rock 'n' roll magic! A time when hips swayed, hearts raced, and the music spoke to your soul!

Join highly acclaimed entertainer Mark Caligiuri and The Sensational Memphis Beat Showband as they bring to life the songs of Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly. With one of the most exciting lineups with some of Melbourne's most talented musicians and backing vocalists!

You will be taken on the ultimate Rock and Roll journey by this dynamic group of entertainers.

Sing along to the songs from two of the most influential Rock and Roll performers of all time - from "That'll Be The Day", "Peggy Sue", "Rave On", "That's Alright Mama", "Suspicious Minds", and "American Trilogy".

Mark has been performing as Elvis and Buddy for 20 years, taking his two-part action-packed show around the world and exciting audiences everywhere!

This ultimate tribute to two of the greatest entertainers of all time is one show you don't want to miss!

FRIDAY MARCH 15 AT 7:30PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 20 minutes, inc. interval

Adult	\$63
Senior	\$59
Concession	\$59
Member	\$59
Group 6+	\$57
Child U15	\$25



LEAVING JACKSON

After performing sold out shows around Australia and New Zealand, Leaving Jackson The Johnny Cash and June Carter Show returns with a bigger show than ever. All the hits and stories that captured the life of a LEGEND – From the famous "Walk the Line" and "Folsom Prison Blues" to the Legendary songs of "Highway Men" Leaving Jackson will perform them all.

Starring Jeff Carter Jnr and Narelle Ryan with full

backing band. Jeff Carter leads the charge with an absolute no holds barred performance of a younger Johnny Cash. A high energy wholehearted performance you will love.

So come and join Leaving Jackson for a night you will never forget.

WARNING: Smoke and haze effects.

SATURDAY MARCH 23 AT 7:30PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 20 minutes, inc. interval

Adult	\$69
Senior	\$64
Concession	\$64
Member	\$64
Group 6+	\$59
Child U15	\$25



"Pop Squad" is a brand new, uplifting kids Show paying tribute to three of the world's most loved Pop Music icons: Katy Perry, Taylor Swift and Dua Lipa. The show brings the hit music, flamboyant performances, and outrageous costumes of these global superstars to local stages around the country. This national tour has all the glamour of these chart-

show is perfect for kids interactive to 93 and there might even be surprise special guest appearances.

choreographed performances of their biggest songs,

along with an impressive light and visual display.

There will be a chance to meet the girls after the show, to ensure the experience stays with you long after the school holidays have finished!

TUESDAY APRIL 9 AT 11AM & 2PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 10 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

dult	\$31
enior	\$29
oncession	\$25
ember	\$25
nder 30	\$23
roup 10+	\$23

Child U15 \$19



The Fleetwood Pac were formed at a time when the world needed nostalgic comfort. Taking you back to a simpler time, The Fleetwood Pac pay tribute to their idols with authenticity and respect.

What sets this act apart is the attention to details. This show has been transcribed note for note with the melody as Fleetwood Mac recorded,

the harmonies where they belong and the toms back-to-front on the drums. Fans of Fleetwood Mac will recognise and appreciate the details.

They may not be the real thing, but they are the real experience.

WARNING: Smoke and haze effects.

SATURDAY APRIL 13 AT 7:30PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 30 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS Adult \$59 Senior \$55 Concession \$55 Group 6+ \$55 Member \$50 Child U15 \$50

THE WEDGE ··· SEASON 2024 15





This production is dedicated to those brave men and women who gave of their lives in service of our country.

We Remember will contain many hit songs, stories, and indeed laughter that came from WW2, and The Vietnam War, all in front of a backdrop of incredible images on the big screen.

This production will be one of the highlights of the year, programmed to coincide with ANZAC Day 2024.

There are many great singers who performed during the Wars that are highlighted in this wonderful production. Dame Vera Lynn, The Andrew Sisters, Bob Dylan, Normie Rowe, John Denver, Mamma Cass and many more.

Promac Productions are the only Company in Australia sanctioned by the Veterans Affairs Canberra to perform this show.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre
1 hour 40 minutes, inc. interval

auit	\$33
enior	\$31
oncession	\$27
ember	\$27
nder 30	\$25
roup 10+	\$25
hild U15	\$15

TONY As Poblie

Tony Lewis is Robbie Williams!

For the past two decades, Tony has been turning heads and wowing audiences across the globe with his amazing portrayal of Britain's Greatest Entertainer, Robbie Williams!

The resemblance is so uncanny that Tony has appeared for numerous promotional campaigns and tv shows throughout Europe appearing on occasion as Robbie's double including playing Robbie in a series of official short films for the album, 'Rudebox,'. Tony has also helped Comic Relief, when he's stood in for our favourite cheeky chappy.

The show takes you on a journey of the old favourites, a hint of swing, right up to date with the modern classics and even incorporates a certain boyband.

This show has it all!

WEDNESDAY MAY 1 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

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TICKETS

All Tickets......\$69







Ella Hooper was still a teenager when she burst onto the Australian music scene–Unearthed by Triple J when she was just 13, Ella scored her first number one with the single 'Mascara' on her 17th birthday.

At 18, she became the first woman to be awarded APRA's Songwriter of the Year. After releasing three hit albums with Killing Heidi, Ella embarked on a solo career. Her forthcoming album, Small Town Temple –written in her hometown of Violet Town–has been hailed as a new beginning, showcasing Ella's deeply personal songwriting.

After a multitude of gold and platinum records and four ARIA Awards, Ella remains committed to her craft, as she sings on Small Town Temple: "Still strong, still on a mission".

FRIDAY MAY 17 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 40 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

\dult	\$59
Senior	\$57
Concession	\$55
Nember	\$55
Jnder 30	\$53
Group 10+	\$53
Child U15	\$45

18 THE WEDGE SEASON 2024

WE WILL ROCK YOU

ROD STFWART

FREDDIE MERCURY

ROBERT PLANT

FOLLOWING SELLOUT SHOWS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Get ready for London Calling!

There's a new show on the road and if you are a fan of Queen, Led Zeppelin, or Rod Stewart, you simply can't miss it. This high-quality tribute act utilising the phenomenal talents of the best performers in the business will be coming to The Wedge. Promising a once in a lifetime chance to see the superstars and legends of British rock perform not only all your favourite hits, but together, London Calling will also

feature a band worthy of such legends.

Appealing to young and older audiences alike there'll be something there to delight everyone. LONDON CALLING is an incredible line-up of talent that will have you believing that you've seen Freddie Mercury, Robert Plant and Rod Stewart together in a concert of supernova proportions.

SPONSORED BY



SATURDAY MAY 25 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre

1 hour 50 minutes, inc. interval

		TICK	ETS
	Adult		\$59
	Senior		\$57
	Concession		\$55
	Member		\$55
	Under 30		\$53
	Group 10+		\$53
	Child U15		\$45
THE	WEDGE ··· SEASON	2024	19



The World of Musicals in Concert has graced stages across the globe and features a world-class ensemble of multi-talented artists who exquisitely perform classic hits, fused with emotive ballads, big-screen anthems and iconic show tunes.

From the best of 'The Phantom of the Opera' and 'Les Miserables' to 'Guys & Dolls' and 'South Pacific' and many, many more, the World of Musicals delivers a stirring musical concert theatre experience that will leave you spellbound - from the opening song to the final medley of classics.

The World of the Musicals In Concert is a show that is tailored for the entire family, so get ready to be enthralled and sing along to all your favourite and much-loved songs from the world of Musical Theatre in one unforgettable evening. Secure your seats today to a show inspired by many but unlike any other.

WARNING: Stobe lighting, smoke and haze effects

SUNDAY MAY 26 AT 6PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

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Adult	\$79.90
Concession.	\$74.90
Group 10+	\$74.90
Child U15	\$59.90
	\$250.00

Imagine... 1920's Melbourne - the advent of the motorcar! Society reels from the aftermath of war and a second wave of Spanish flu wreaks havoc on the streets. Theatres buzz with vaudeville hacks and men with an eye for enterprise seize every opportunity to weasel wealth. Meanwhile, one small woman defies convention and makes her mark...

Meet Alice Anderson. Mechanic. Trailblazer. Entrepreneur. Part history, part farce, part who-done-it, Garage Girls shines a light on one remarkable young woman's short but eventful life. Who was Alice Anderson? Why did she drive her baby Austin all the way to Alice Springs? Who were

all those women, dressed in greasy dungarees... and don't they look a little bit like men? Inspired by actual events and realised for theatre with a healthy dose of magic realism, breathtaking sound design and many colourful characters, played by five actors - Garage Girls is a rollicking ride celebrating a Victorian icon.

Welcome to Miss Anderson's All Girl Garage!

WARNING: Adult themes and loud sound effects **SUITABLE FOR:** Ages 13+ (Recommended Age 18+)

FRIDAY MAY 31 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 10 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

Adult	
Senior	\$45
Concession	\$39
Member	\$39
Under 30	\$37
Group 10+	\$37
Child U15	\$25

GARAGE GIRLS

A MAMA CREATIVE VICTORIA



Welcome to the wonderful musical illusion that is BABBA.

A BABBA show is an electrifying experience that transports audiences back to the glory days of ABBA. With stunning costumes, captivating choreography, and pitch-perfect renditions of the band's greatest hits. 2024 sees these talented and passionate performers celebrating their 30th Anniversary year, bringing the infectious energy of ABBA to life on stage. From "Dancing Queen" to "Mamma Mia," the show is a non-stop party that will have you singing and dancing along from start to finish.

If you want to relive the magic of ABBA then BABBA Australia's Premier ABBA Show is a must-see for music lovers of all ages.

It's a guaranteed crowd-pleaser!

SATURDAY JUNE 22 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 20 minutes, inc. interval

Adult	\$69.90
Senior	\$64.90
Concession	\$64.90
Group 10+	\$62.90
Member	\$60.90
Child U15	\$49 90



Two of Australia's best-known performers, who happen to be husband and wife, present a show about living and loving, full of music and laughs from this accomplished pair.

Together, Frankie j and Michelle present a unique and entertaining show, which will delight you with its honesty and humour, featuring some of the greatest songs about love, marriage, children and all the facets of being a couple.

This show has a special resonance with their own lives, and there is sure to be much for you to relate to as well. This is a great opportunity to see two great performers up close and personal.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 26 AT 2PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour, no interval

Adult	\$35
Senior	\$33
Concession	\$27
Member	\$27
Under 30	\$25
Group 10+	\$25
Child U15	



Torrio! - Paul Grabowsky (piano), Mirko Guerrini (tenor saxophone), Niko Schauble (drums), was formed for a one-off performance in late 2013 - the immediate personal and musical connection inspired a commitment to continue performing together as an ongoing project. All three members of Torrio! are prolific composers and each contributes original music to the ensemble's repertoire.

The band's performances are marked by their astounding interplay and passionate playing. Torrio's performances range across the boundaries of genre, referencing the various traditions that have inspired them, from jazz and contemporary classical music to pop and soundtrack composition. The result is music without frontiers, playful, joyful, and deep.

Truly a show not to be missed.....

10m

THURSDAY JUNE 27 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 45 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

\dult	\$53
Senior	\$51
Concession	\$47
Nember	\$47
Jnder 30	\$45
Group 10+	\$45
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SPONSORED BY



ACCOUNTANTS



In an eagerly anticipated event, Eskimo Joe, the renowned Australian alternative rock band, is set to take the stage at The Wedge.

Enjoy a night filled with the band's signature blend of rock and indie sounds.

The performance promises to be a memorable experience, with emotive vocals, expertly crafted instrumentals, and a dynamic stage presence, the band is poised to deliver an unforgettable show.

This event is a celebration of live music, bringing Eskimo Joe's passionate performance to our stage. It offers fans a chance to immerse themselves in the magic of the band's music and create lasting memories.

> Be sure not to miss this opportunity to witness Eskimo Joe's musical prowess!

FRIDAY JULY 5 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

All Tickets......\$89

THE WEDGE ... SEASON 2024 25





TAKE IT TO THE LIMIT

The Eagles Story - Australia's Premier Eagles Experience is a celebration of the iconic American rock band, The Eagles. With incredible attention to detail, the performers bring the band's legendary music to life in a way that is both authentic and electrifying.

The respect for the original band by members Pete McCarthy, Gary Young, Paul Gales, Norm McNaughton & Steve Wells are the driving force that continues to ensure that each in their own right "Take it to the Limit"

The Eagles Story is a must-see for fans of the band, as well as anyone who loves classic rock music. Whether you're a die-hard fan or simply enjoy great music, this show is an unforgettable experience that will leave you wanting more.

SATURDAY JULY 6 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

Adult	\$69.90
Senior	\$64.90
Concession	\$64.90
Group 10+	\$62.90
Member	\$60.90
Child U15	\$49.90



Immerse yourself in one of the most unique productions touring the world. Celtic Illusion, the Irish dance and Grand Illusion sensation that has taken Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Canada and the USA by storm and will tour nationwide in 2024.

Starring the multi talented former lead dancer of Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance and Star Illusionist Anthony Street, with Georgia May, a marvel in both dance and Illusion. These impeccable performers lead a cast of champion dancers recruited from renowned productions across the world, such as Lord of the Dance and Riverdance, into a theatrical masterpiece that will have you mesmerised from the moment the curtain is raised.

Don't hesitate, and book now to know the hype of one of the largest and most unique Dance and Illusion shows in the world. Celtic Illusion is not to be missed!

WARNING: Strobe lighting, smoke and haze effects

THURSDAY JULY 11 AT 7:30PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$89.90
Concession	
Group 10+	\$80.00
Child U15	\$79.90
Family of 4	\$80.00ea

THE WEDGE SEASON 2024 27



Have you ever wondered what a movie would be like without music? Music makes a scene, it adds tension, pathos, joy and celebration and throughout the history of cinema there has been many outstanding composers writing for the screen.

From sci-fi to romantic comedies, action to animation music has played a significant role in our appreciation of the movie. Who could forget the immediate and profound impact of John Williams' score for Jaws, Star Wars, or his extraordinarily moving scoring of Schindler's List.

The GSO will play a selection of well-known Classical and Romantic works related to the silver screen alongside some of the recent master works of composer such as John Willliams. Come and join the GSO and relive movies you love and the sounds that make them great.

SATURDAY JULY 13 AT 2PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 30 minutes, inc. interval

	TICKETS
Adult	\$23
Senior	\$19
Concession	
Member	\$17
Under 30	\$15
Group 10+	\$15
Child U15	\$11

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SEASON 2024



Melbourne pianist/composer Nat Bartsch performs her ARIA-nominated album 'Hope'.

Released in 2021 on ABC Classic, Hope is an abbreviation of hopefulness and hopelessness, responding to the Black Summer bushfires and long COVID lockdowns in Melbourne. It is an immersive and cathartic listening experience, for piano, string quartet and ambient electronics. Hope creates the space for us to collectively acknowledge all we endured through 2020/2021, but also be left with a sense of quiet optimism. It is arrestingly beautiful, gentle piano music that has wide appeal to different audiences.

Nat has worked for many years in the Melbourne music scene in both jazz and classical music and is renowned for her inimitably ethereal, lyrical and gentle piano playing.

THURSDAY JULY 18 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour, no interval

REGIONAL	
ARIS VICTORÍA	
REATIVEVICTORIA	

	TICKETS
Adult	\$45
Senior	\$43
Concession	\$39
Member	\$39
Under 30	\$35
Group 10+	\$35
Child U15	\$15

THE WEDGE -- SEASON 2024 29



On a sweltering day in January 1788, seven clan leaders gather on a sandstone escarpment overlooking the harbour. The attendees, six of them Elders and one new initiate, catch-up, laugh together, share a meal and compare notes. But beyond the friendly banter, protocols, and hospitality, a momentous decision is waiting to be made.

A mysterious fleet of giant nawi is amassing in the harbour and as they creep closer, these seven representatives must choose unanimously: whether to send these strangers on their way or welcome them?

Co-produced by Moogahlin Performing Arts and Sydney Theatre Company and directed by Wesley Enoch, The Visitors is at once a riveting, deeply researched insight into one of the most impactful and painful days in Australia's history, and a hugely entertaining study of how communities respond to change and the unknown.

WARNING: Infrequent coarse language, themes of racial violence, descriptions of violence, intergenerational trauma, and theatrical haze.

> **TUESDAY JULY 23 AT 8PM WEDNESDAY JULY 24 AT 11AM**

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 15 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

ult	\$57
nior	\$53
ncession	\$47
mher	\$47

Under 30 \$43 Group 10+ \$43

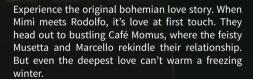




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LA BOHÈME

O PERA AUSTRALIA



For our bohemians, everything is possible. Rodolfo and his friends are determined to make their mark on the world and experience everything it has to offer.

Some emotions are too big for words alone, and for that, we have music. La Bohème exposes your soul to the feelings that only music can express. The music soars with the ecstasy of love, crackles with the pain of jealousy and cries with the agony of loss.

Puccini's score has always captured the soaring spirit of young love. Award-winning director Dean Bryant brings his trademark wit and vivacity to this new staging, which captures that giddy moment where you and your friends feel you'll live forever.

Sung in Italian with English surtitles.

SATURDAY JULY 27 AT 7:30PM John Leslie Theatre

2 hours 20 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$5.
Senior	\$52
Concession	\$48
Member	\$48
Group 8+	\$40
Child U15	\$2

Sponsored by the John Leslie Foundation

THE WEDGE SEASON 2024 31

NATIONAL TOUR PARTNERS











Bloombera















officer goes viral. BANG - Sofia's impassioned speech for the victims of a school shooting makes international news. KISS - In the car park of a smalltown supermarket, people rally around Darby and Daniel as the boys lock lips in an attempt to set the world record for the longest kiss.

Shortlisted for the 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, SLAP. BANG. KISS. tracks three young people

them could have anticipated, transforming them into global symbols of revolution. But when their stories go viral and the whole world is watching.

Exploring themes of activism, community and hope, director Katy Maudlin delivers a bold production featuring Sarah Fitzgerald, Conor Leach and Tsungirai Wachenuka for the Melbourne Theatre Company's acclaimed Education and Families Program.

AT 11AM & 1PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour, no interval

SUITABLE FOR: Ages 14+

dult	\$47
enior	\$45
Concession	\$39
1ember	\$39
Inder 30	\$37
Group 10+	\$37



John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$2
Senior	\$1
Concession	\$1
Member	\$1
Under 30	\$1
Group 10+	\$1
Child U15	\$1

From one Band of 12 members, we have exploded to 6 groups and over 120 talented musicians, Maffra Municipal Band is the talk of Gippsland.

Come along to see and hear what the buzz is all about as Maffra Municipal Bandwagon lands at The Wedge. There's a musical style & group to suit everyone's taste, from the classics to now.

Performed by our six groups: Intermediate Concert, Senior Concert & Stage Bands, String Orchestra, Ukestra and, new in 2024, our Choir. Join an afternoon of pure entertainment and be amazed at the talent in our district.



shows for which the band is widely renowned. Featuring the hits of their self-titled debut album and favourites from Box, Spider, Primitive and The Beautiful Addiction along with stand-out selections from their brilliant Classic Album Series - Bat Out of Hell, INXS Kick and Adam Thompson's Bohemian Rhapsody Concert, this celebration promises – and delivers - everything and more. Still smoking from the 2023 tour of their acclaimed

Chocolate Starfish marks 30 years with a spectacular Australian tour that celebrates the best of everything - the albums, the songs, and the exhilarating

Bat Out of Hell show, Australia's most entertaining live band shows no signs of slowing down as they approach their 30-year anniversary in 2024. With audience accolades consistently pouring in, the Fish are winning new fans with every performance and welcome the latecomers with open arms.

The Best of Everything tour promises audiences everything they know and love about a Chocolate Starfish show - pure, unrivalled entertainment... and the joy of the unexpected.

FRIDAY AUGUST 30 AT 7:30PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours 30 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

All tickets\$95.40

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING

Australia's international prize winners, the Affinity Quartet, returns from a period in Europe to perform one work from Beethoven's first foray into string quartets, the Opus 18, for one night only at The Wedge.

A young Beethoven, still in his twenties, defies the logic of The Enlightenment to create a striking new direction for this intimate medium. Compact and ground-breaking, the Opus 18 quartets are often

overshadowed by the ten string quartets Beethoven would compose over the next three decades. In these early works Beethoven transforms the legacy of Haydn and Mozart into something fluid, brilliant, and ingenious.

Don't miss this powerfully crafted, uplifting program performed by one of the most exciting chamber music groups in Australia.

SATURDAY AUGUST 31 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 45 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS Adult \$43 Senior \$41 Concession \$39 Member \$39 Under 30 \$37 Group 10+ \$37 Child 1115 \$15

AFFINITY QUARTET BEETHOVEN OPUS 18 - PART ONE

THE WEDGE SEASON 2024 35

DAVE O'NEIL

OVERWEIGHT LIGHTWEIGHT WITH BRAD OAKES

Dave O'Neil may call himself a lightweight, but with over 30 years of experience, his cheeky brand of humour has made him one of Australia's most loved comedians. After playing to sold out audiences across the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and with years of breakfast radio on Nova, frequent appearances on Spicks and Specks, a bunch of podcasts (including Somehow Related with Glenn Robbins and The Junkees with Kitty Flanagan) and a reputation for taking any corporate gig he is offered, it takes a lot to throw this comedian off his game!

Dave will be joined by his friend and regular on The Debrief podcast, Brad Oakes (Hey Hey it's Saturday, Comedy Company) for what will be a night of laughs with two of Australia's longest working comedians.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

SPONSORED BY



Adult	\$4
Senior	\$4!
Concession	\$39
Member	\$39
Under 30	
Group 10+	



36 THE WEDGE SEASON 2024



A BOOKISH CIRCUS ADVENTURE

NCM

At first glance, Paul-Émile Dumoulin seems like just a regular librarian. He is serious, proud and very orderly. Every book is in its place on his impeccable shelves. The only problem? As soon as Paul-Émile gets his nose in a book, reality disappears, giving way to the slightly crazy

worlds he discovers between the pages.
On his adventures, the very sensible
librarian metamorphoses. He
suddenly turns into strange and
silly characters who perform
acrobatics, balancing, juggling,
break dancing and beatboxing.
Just how far will reading take him?

This show blends clowning, physical theatre and the circus arts. It invites young audiences to discover the passion of reading and the power of the imagination, which whisks readers away to faraway lands, on an adventure, or into a romance or thriller.

A HILARIOUS SHOW THAT WILL MAKE YOU READ!

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 AT 2PM WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11 AT 11AM & 1PM

John Leslie Theatre 50 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

dult	\$37
enior	\$35
oncession	\$33
lember	\$33
Inder 30	\$31
iroup 10+	\$31
hild U15	\$19

THE WEDGE ••• SEASON 2024 37

Following a string of sold-out shows, don't miss the chance to spend a magical evening with Australia's premier Fleetwood Mac Tribute!

Featuring amazing vocal performances from Sue Jones, Jordan Z and Debbi Arpini, with an all-star band including Rick Petropoulos (The Ferrets), Fallon Williams III (Humble Pie), Peter Valentine (Burns, Cotton & Morris) and Dave Hampton (The Australian Madonna Show).

Fleetwood Max is often described as "The closest thing to The Real Deal" due to the accuracy of the rhythm section and the stunning harmonies that complete the authenticity of Fleetwood Mac's sound.

Join Fleetwood Max, as they take you on an unforgettable journey, reliving the timeless hits of Fleetwood Mac and Stevie Nicks including Dreams, Go Your Own Way, Songbird, Rhiannon, Gypsy, 7 Wonders, Don't Stop, and many more!

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

\$59
\$57
\$55
\$55
\$53
\$53
\$45

SPONSORED BY

Flying Colours

TETWOOD MAX

38 THE WEDGE SEASON 2024



Join Ratty, Mole, Badger, Otter, Portly, and, of course, Mr Toad as they bring Kenneth Grahame's immortal story of life on the riverbank to The Wedge.

This critically acclaimed theatre production delivers music, songs, and laughs. There is fun for young and old as the Head Chief Rabbit transforms the audience into rabbits with a waggle of the ears and a wiggle of the nose. The young 'rabbits' are encouraged to get involved in the action and are given every opportunity to scream out loud, sing along and become part of the adventure. With laughs and surprises for children and adults, this is interactive theatre at its best.

1 hour 30 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

\dult	\$25
Senior	\$23
Concession	\$19
Member	\$19
Jnder 30	\$19
Group 10+	\$19
Child U15	\$19

THE WEDGE · SEASON 2024 39



Multi-award winning world music favourites MZAZA present critically acclaimed show The Birth and Death of Stars.

The Birth and Death of Stars, based on the awardnominated album of the same name, draws inspiration from history's philosophers and astronomers, leading us on a surreal voyage through the ether to explore what links us to each other and the world around us. Sitting comfortably between music and theatre, the show is a powerful collaboration of creative minds featuring director Benjamin Knapton, Finnish animator Laura Matikainen and writer Pauline Maudy.

Take a step away from the everyday and contemplate our place in the universe to the sounds of some of Australia's most uniquely diverse musicians, storytellers and composers.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 3 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 10 minutes, no interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$53
Senior	\$51
Concession	\$47
Member	\$47
Under 30	\$45
Group 10+	\$45
Child U15	

THE BIRTH & DEATH OF STARS





Step into the world of music royalty with our electrifying Michael Jackson Tribute Show, MOONWALKER.

This thrilling spectacle pays homage to the King of Pop, Michael Jackson, capturing the essence of his legendary career and iconic dance moves. The show is a mesmerizing journey through his greatest hits, with the incredible Paul Rizzo. Paul Rizzo was named in the world's top 5 Jackson tributes in 2002 by America's BET (Black Entertainment Television) before attaining the top position.

Our Michael Jackson Tribute Show is a nostalgic celebration that transports audiences back to the era of the Gloved One, reminding us all why Michael Jackson will forever be the King of Pop.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	\$53
Senior	\$51
Concession	\$47
Member	\$47
Under 30	\$43
Group 10+	\$43
Child U15	\$19

SPONSORED BY







Mildflowers

Melissa Fraser, Raychel Stone and Clare Quinn present 'Wildflowers': a celebration of the songs of Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris.

Fraser, Stone and Quinn have collectively contributed over 60 years of music and performance to Australia's thriving music scene. The trio of treasured songbirds have come together to celebrate harmony and connection through the sharing of songs by the incredible women who have inspired their own musical journeys, with a modern interpretation of the classic songs featured on the 'Trio' records, providing a crossgenerational musical experience.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 40 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

\$45
\$43
\$39
\$39
\$37
\$37
\$17

SPONSORED BY



THE WEDGE ... SEASON 2024 4

SYMPHONIC MASTERS



Experience the magic of Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet Suite," a masterpiece that tells the most famous love story of all time. Today, the GSO presents a unique performance, combining pieces from both the orchestral suites, offering a fresh perspective on this beloved work.

Brahms' final symphony, the fourth, is a masterpiece that captures the full spectrum of orchestral colours, crafted in the classical style

while also ushering in the Romantic era. With sweeping, vivid musical strokes and unforgettable melodies, this symphony stands as a testament to Brahms' genius.

Join us for an afternoon of musical brilliance and unforgettable memories.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 AT 2PM

John Leslie Theatre 1 hour 45 minutes, inc. interval

TICKETS

\dult	\$23
Senior	\$19
Concession	\$17
Member	\$17
Jnder 30	\$15
Group 10+	\$15
Child U15	\$11

FRANKIE JHOLDEN She Claysics

FRANKIE J HOLDEN...... A CLASSIC!

He first came to prominence in the mid-seventies with the legendary Aussie rock band OL'55, and since then has enjoyed an incredibly diverse career on stage and screen.

On screen he has had long running roles in such classics as "ROUND THE TWIST", "POLICE RESCUE", "SOMETHING IN THE AIR", "UNDERBELLY" and "A PLACE TO CALL HOME".

In 2016 Frankie J was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his services to entertainment.

Back doing what he does best, out front of a rockin' band, Frankie will have you dancing and singing along to the hit songs of OL'55, and a whole lot more classics from the 50's and 60's.

Classic songs like ON THE PROWL, LOOKING FOR AN ECHO, DIANA, THE WANDERER, GET A JOB, DON'T BE CRUEL, TWISTIN' THE NIGHT AWAY, REET PETITE and much more great Rock and Roll, presented in an energetic and hugely entertaining stage show.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15 AT 8PM

John Leslie Theatre 2 hours, inc. interval

TICKETS

Adult	၃၁:
Senior	\$5
Concession	\$5!
Member	\$55
Under 30	\$49
Group 10+	\$49
Child U15	\$25

SPONSORED BY

Ed Jountain
REMOVALS
"A move in the right direction"

2024 MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP COST

The Wedge Membership costs \$30 and runs from January to December.

MEMBER BENEFITS

As a 2024 member of The Wedge you receive:

- Discounted tickets to the 2024 Season shows
- Discounted tickets to selected shows outside of the 2024 Season
- Seasonal newsletter
- · Seat reservation option for up to 5 days from booking

HOW TO BOOK

In Person: Drop into the Box Office, open Monday to Friday

10.00am - 5.00pm.

By Phone: Call us on 03 5143 3200.

Online: Go to www.thewedge.com.au.

DISCOUNTED TICKETS

To obtain discounted prices please present your Seniors Card, Pensioner Card, Health Care Card, Student Card or Youth Card at the Box Office.

GIFT VOUCHERS

The Wedge Gift Cards are the perfect idea! Simply purchase a gift voucher for any amount and let them choose which show they would like to see. The gift vouchers do not expire.

LOCATE US

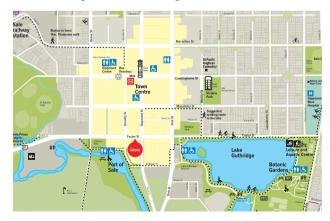
BOX OFFICE 100 Foster Street, Sale, Victoria 3850

PHONE 03 5143 3200

ONLINE www.thewedge.com.au

www.facebook.com/thewedgesale

www.instagram.com/thewedgesale



FREE STUDENT TICKETS

In 2024, we're offering free tickets to shows across our season to secondary students enrolled in Wellington Shire schools.

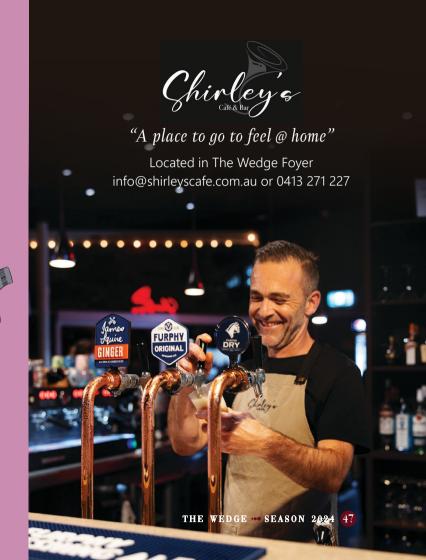
To take advantage of this offer, students need to come to the box office in person, show proof of enrolment, and we'll book you a free ticket.

TERMS:

- Limited tickets available.
- These tickets are for student's entertainment, not for study or classwork purposes.







THEATRE GIPPSLAND

Along the 200km corridor from Pakenham to Bairnsdale, linked by major highways, there are six excellent theatre venues. Each venue is only 45 minutes or fewer from the next. Though owned locally, we have an opportunity to program collaboratively and share the theatre experience with our whole region in mind.

Imagine one 'great big theatre' with six box offices, six stage doors, six stages and six foyers full of superb shows, local faces and friends enjoying the performances with neighbours and visitors.

We want to encourage our audience to consider crossing municipal boundaries, to maybe follow a show they miss locally, or simply to experience an enjoyable and rewarding live theatre experience at any of our venues.



ACCESSIBILI

It is important to us to extend the accessibility of our programs to as much of the community as possible. To improve the accessibility of our program, we have:

- Accessible parking in the carpark off Raymond Street
- Clear accessible pathways to the main entrance and the entrance off Raymond Street
- Accessible toilet facilities
- Recharge point for scooter or wheelchair batteries
- Tactile ground surface indicators
- Companion Card access, allowing people who require a carer to accompany them without incurring the cost of a second ticket
- Communication Boards are located at the box office and at entry to the theatre to assist anyone who may have difficulty communicating with various venue and transaction specific prompts
- Hearing loop facilities in the John Leslie Theatre (devices available from the box office)
- Accessible seating at entry level, and assistance for those requiring early seating
- Tactile Tours for selected performances, allowing patrons with sensory impairments to familiarise themselves with sets prior to the performance.



CAR PARK



ACCESS



ACCESS



HFARING LOOP **EOUIPPED**



RECHARGE



TACTILE



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Australian Government is proud to be associated with the tours of a number of shows in this year's program through the national performing arts touring program, Playing Australia, which gives Australians across the country the opportunity to see some of our best performing arts.

A number of shows in this year's season are also supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria - Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources

Additionally some of the shows in this year's season are proudly supported by Regional Arts Victoria.









VARIOUS PRODUCTIONS IN OUR 2024 THEATRE SEASON WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS.































2024 THEATRE SPONSORS

The 2024 theatre season would not be possible without the support of our fabulous sponsors. Please support those local businesses that support us.















ACCOUNTANTS









BOX OFFICE

100 Foster Street Sale, Victoria 3850 Phone 03 5143 3200 www.thewedge.com.au







