

June 2 - 4

TOWNSVILLE CIVIC THEATRE

COPYRIGHT NEIL GOODING, 2001

WRITTEN BY NEIL GOODING
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BY STUART SMITH

REVISED ORCHESTRATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS BY BRETT FOSTER
ORIGINAL MUSICAL ADAPTION BY SCOTT COPEMAN

Principal's Note



Kirwan High continues its tradition of outstanding musical entertainment with this year's production of *Back to the 80's*. Last time we performed *Back to the 80's* it was to enthusiastic packed houses. I hope this year's production will be as successful.

When Murray Hill started this tradition with *O What a Lovely War* in 1984 he would only have dreamed that twenty-four musicals later Kirwan High would have established such an outstanding record and provided so much entertainment to the Townsville community.

Andrew Higgins heads a huge team of talented, hard working people who have committed themselves to producing Kirwan High excellence at the Civic Theatre.

Thousands of hours of work have gone into this production. The talent, creativity and hard work have been rewarded by a fantastic show.

Every student will contribute their piece of magic. You will all be well entertained and we will be proud.

Best wishes and good luck for a great show!

John Livingston Executive Principal

Director's Note



Belinda Perry

For any of you who grew up in the 80's, or wore 'ra ra' skirts and lots of denim, you are going to love *Back to the 80's*. When my dear friend and colleague, Andrew Higgins, first asked me to take on the role of Director, I was absolutely thrilled but also quite daunted. I first saw *Back to the 80's* in its world debut here at Kirwan in 2002. I loved the show back then and was so excited to hear we were doing it again. Being new to Kirwan in 2011 and given the responsibility of blocking all of the on-stage action was quite a challenge. I am so thrilled to say, in reflection, that it has been a thoroughly wonderful experience. Fellow thespian, Neil Gooding has provided a wonderfully witty libretto and "rock n roll" score, with which to work. It has been a "trip down memory lane" reminiscing about all the pop culture referenced throughout the show. There have been many laughs shared in rehearsals when explaining these "old-fashioned" terms to the cast. Who would have thought that relics such as cassette tapes, Atari computers and TV shows like the 'A Team' and 'ALF' would need to be researched via "GOOGLE"!

I have been privileged to work with a superb musical team! The production Staff here at Kirwan is world class! Andrew, Chris, Sue Ellen and Dale and your teams of helpers, thank you so much for making my job at rehearsals, and here at the theatre, so easy and enjoyable. Your support has been incredible and your work on all aspects of musical from singing, to acting and the band, are nothing short of amazing! This wonderful team helped cast a superb ensemble of performers! I would like to thank the cast for all their hard work. These young performers literally put hundreds of hours of blood, sweat and tears into rehearsals. All the hard work has certainly paid off though and the final result will be visible when the curtain goes up tonight. I would also like to personally thank Julie-Anne Scull, who has assisted me throughout the rehearsal process with directing. Without your help Julie, the task of directing would have been enormous! Thank you also to Mr Livingston, for welcoming me into the Kirwan family. A huge "high five" must also go to the parents and family of our performers! Without your support a show like Back to the 80's would not be possible. I must take this time to thank my darling husband and wonderful mother, without whom I could not have invested the many hours of hard work into what has become the brilliant performance you are about to enjoy. I dedicate my role as director to my beautiful daughter Jemma, who is also my muse, and my darling grandfather, Doug who supported me for the last 25 years or so in my theatrical pursuits and who is no doubt here in spirit watching tonight. The musical team have no doubt you will love tonight's show. So, sit back relax and let us take you back in time to an era where hypercolour T shirts and leg warmers ruled!

Synopsis

Set in the USA, *Back To The 80's* tells the story of the senior class of William Ocean High School that graduated in the 1980's, as remembered and seen through the eyes of Corey Palmer, who is now 30-something.

The then 17-year-old Corey is madly in love with his next-door neighbour, Tiffany Houston, one of the coolest girls in the school. However, she barely notices this, as she is too busy mooning over Michael Feldman, the hottest guy around. Michael and his friends are athletic and good-looking - the kind of guys that Corey and his two best friends dream of being. However, while they may not be the coolest guys in school, they are still one up on Feargal McFerrin III, whose best friend is his computer, and who believes the crazy notion that one day CDs will replace cassette tapes.

The year commences with Class President Elections: Michael steals Corey's election speech, and when he uses his ideas and promises the girls a kiss for a vote, he becomes President, with Tiffany as his Vice-President. Corey is left looking on despairingly.

During the year, several new students arrive at the school - Mel and Kim Easton (the all-singing, all-dancing twin cheerleaders) and Eileen Reagan, whose life becomes a nightmare when Michael and his gang start to send her fake love letters.

Will Eileen ever make new friends at William Ocean High School?

Will Tiffany ever see the evil side of Michael?

Meanwhile the teachers are having issues of their own. Mr Cocker, after being in a relationship for two years with the apparently conservative English teacher, Miss Sheena Brannigan, confiscates an old edition of Penthouse from a student, only to discover that his girlfriend is the centerfold. How will he cope? Will their relationship be able to survive this hurdle?

Will Corey finally get the girl of his dreams?

Will the Prom night be a success?

Will Feargal McFerrin III ever get a date?

Cast

Aerobics Team

Nicole Brewster
Ebony Brown-Parker
Letitia Cummins
Brianna Delacour
Katie Green
Amy Hersant
Keely Hutchinson
Jordyn Keough
Nicola McCarron
Rebeckah Mines
Jenna-Lee Noy
Taylah Ticehurst
Jenna-Leigh Wickham

Cheerleaders

Jacinta Browning Laura Groves Laura Hodder Danielle Lindsay Alex Lynam Courtney McIntyre Stephanie Mee Emily Moore Courtney Weekes

Comic Book Club

Keren Bunungam Shannon Espino Melissa Fazel Ashley Fien Jaimi Huggan Connor Milne Ady Murphy Shane Murphy Jordan Robertson

Jocks

Stannis Agita Clinton Conway Robert Finau Tomas Holledge Tibian Wyles

Kids Next Door

Jackson Arthy Lauren Carvolth Matilda Eseli Michaela Grant Jennifer Hamilton Sarah Hamilton Luise Hannig James Hoffman-Lowe Caitlin Hurlock Paige Malone Brianna Martin Paige Matthews Emma McDougall Mikkayla McLeod Cristina Roda Alicia Smith Andrew Stokes Clare Warren Tiffany Weldon Ian Zaro

Mean Girls

Sam Dobe
Tegan Douglas
Carlie Glenwright
Katie Gowans
Temeka Johnson
Kendall Munro
Kaitlyn Murdock
Danielle Quantrill
Jacqui Quirk
Hannah Royle
Aira Salvador
Eloise Thompson

Nerd

Taylor Bauer Johnathan Bell Kayley Broad John Fenwick Allannah Gibbs Delaney Henderson Dorothy Henderson Keera Kapitzke Makonong Kuwimb Rato Kuwimb Caitlin Wall Jessie-Lee Webster

Punk

Jade Browning Helena Conelius Katharina Kief Bradley Moore Josh Saunders Kellena Seaton

Rehel

Sonya Bannan Ashleigh Eddison Cantin Gillen Franziska Knappe Julia Konrad Christopher Lynch Verena Melchert

Rock Chicks

Lyndee Blizzard
Suzie Braeckmans
Bianca Hall
Stevie-Maree Knight
Chantal Lauder
Pammella McDonnell
Rhegan McIntyre
Jasmine Miller
Cheyanne Pay
Alice Randell
Stephanie Reid
Grace Royle
Stephanie Sloman
Rhiana Vaughan
Tegan Wilken







Principals



Corey Palmer (Snr)

Adam Sperring

In the world premiere of *Back To The* 80's in 2002 Adam played the role of Corey Palmer Jr. Since then he has performed in numerous shows for the Townsville Choral Society and North Queensland Opera & Music Theatre including the lead role of Ren McCormack in Footloose in 2004 Adam is a fan of the 80's and is also a bit of a hoarder, so much so that he was able to donate costumes from the original production for this year's performance. Thankfully he doesn't have to wear any of them. Unlike Corey Snr, Adam was married by the age of 21, and thanks his wife and twin boys for their support whilst he went 'back to school'. Adam hopes you enjoy the show!



Corey Palmer (Jnr)

Aiden Barker

Aiden, a Year 11 student, is best known around Kirwan for his talent as a musician, and is currently Australia's fourth best cornet player under 18 years old. This year is his first as a lead in a Kirwan High musical. He believes his character relates exactly to his own personality. Aiden would like to dedicate this performance to his family and friends for their support throughout the whole show.



Alf Bueller

Zac Parkes

This is Zac's second musical at Kirwan High and first as a lead. Zac is in year 9 and is passionate about both music and drama. He is in many of the school bands and the choir. Zac is also in a rock band that performs at the school. He is very excited about the show and hopes you all enjoy it.



Kirk Keaton

Ben Wilson

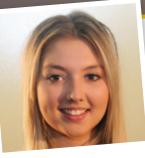
Ben Wilson is a year 12 senior and this year's proud school captain. Being involved in previous musical elements (lighting and audio-visual effects) and this year's senior choir, he is now very excited to be also taking on a lead role in *Back to the 80's.*



Tiffany Houston

Lindsay Parkes

Our Year 12 Music Captain, Lindsay, steps on to the stage this year in her 5th and last musical at Kirwan High - but her first time as a lead role. She is heavily involved in music and the musical is always a highlight of her year. Lindsay dedicates her performance to her sister, Kristen, and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Cindy Gibson

Shannah Dennis

Shannah has always had a passion for the performing arts. Since the age of 10 she has been involved in singing lessons and participated in Kirwan High's production of Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat in 2007. Recently Shannah has performed at family fun days, many "Relay for Life" events and Kirwan High's Senior Induction ceremony. A Year 12 student, this is Shannah's first time as a lead role in a school musical, and she is very thankful to be given an opportunity like this.



Mel Easton

Brooke Maxey

Brooke Maxey is a year 12 student and this is her 4th and last musical at Kirwan High. She is very passionate about the performing arts and hopes to one day find her a career in this area. She loves singing, dancing and acting and has always loved being involved in the school musicals. She hopes that everyone enjoys the show!



Kim Easton

Bonnie Zaghini

This is Brooke's 4th and last musical in her schooling life. Finishing Year 12 this year, she hopes to make a career out of the performing arts in the future.



Michael Feldman

Steven Copp

Steven Copp is a year 12 student who aspires to have a top ten hit on the national charts in the next 10 years. Steven enjoys playing his character, Michael, because it reflects his own nature and especially his popularity with women. This is Steven's first musical and he is excited to show everyone theatrical talents. He hopes everyone enjoys the performance.



Billy Arnold

Luke Taviani

Known for his sporting and mathematical prowess, Luke takes to the stage for this year's musical in a role seemingly made for him! A Year 12 student with a penchant for mullet haircuts (look at his Year 8 photo), Luke has thoroughly enjoyed the musical experience and the new challenges it has brought him.



Lionel Astley

Paul Bunungam

Paul Bunungam is not only talented on the sports field, after all he is the 2011 Sports Captain, but he is also showing off his theatrical talents this year in our annual musical. Paul has thoroughly enjoyed playing the role of Lionel Astley in *Back to the 80's*.



Huey Jackson

David YimSung

David is a well known Year 12 student. Since being in this production of *Back to the 80's*, David has now been inspired to consider a career in the theatre. David is looking forward to seeing the smiles from his fans as he hits centre stage. He also wishes all the best to the entire cast, crew and orchestra.



Rick Turner

Nicklin Evans

Nicklin is in year 12 student at Kirwan High and is excited to perform in this totally awesome musical. Even though they don't need it, he wishes all the cast and crew good luck.



Feargal McFerrin

James Gilbert

James Gilbert, Year 12 Music Captain, lives for music and musical theatre. This is James' fifth Kirwan High musical and fourth lead role. James was also involved in NQOMT's High School Musical and the Townsville Choral Society's production of West Side Story. He hopes you enjoy his portrayal of Feargal.



Eileen Reagan

Riley Fieldhouse

Riley, in Year 10, has been doing Kirwan State High musical productions since year 8 and this year is excited to score her first lead role as Eileen Regan, the nerdy new girl. Riley loves singing and acting and although she can't dance, she still gives it a fair shot. Riley has loved getting to know the cast and has gained a new family out of the experience.



Laura Wilde

Michelle Liu

Michelle is in Grade 10, and this is her second musical as a lead. She plays the character Laura and she couldn't be more excited to wear her retro nerd glasses on stage. She currently plays the violin and piano, and has been awarded a music scholarship in Brisbane, where she will perform with the finest musicians in the state. Michelle also loves to sing her heart out, so prepare to get your nerd on!



Debbie Fox

Ashley Gregori

Performing in Kirwan musicals since year 8, Ashley Gregori now takes to the stage in her first lead role "Debbie". As a year 10 student Ashley is loving every minute of this musical and can't imagine not being in it. Ashley's goal is to be a triple threat: singer, dancer and actor. She hopes everyone enjoys the show and gets ready to get their nerd on.



Sheena Brannigan

Caitlin Kearney

Caitlin, a proud Year 12 senior, has been in every musical since grade 8 and is still loving it! She loves the chance to sing along to all her favourite 80's songs which this musical provides. The musical is definitely the highlight of her school year and she would like to thank all the directors, the cast and the backstage crew for making it all possible. A shout out to my dad, love you.



Stevie Cocker

Brett Northeast

Year 11 student Brett started out as a tree in his grade three play. He was the most talkative tree in the whole forest. Since then he has been in a few school presentations, including the Mime Shows and last year's musical where he played trombone in the orchestra. He is really enjoying stepping on stage this year and no longer hiding down in the pit.



Behind the Scenes

The Band

Alto Sax Tenor Sax Trumpet Trumpet Keyboard 1 Keyboard 2 Scott Simmons Alexia Hanschen Kelly Clarke-Flesser Aydin Hammond Mark Wyer Luti Kiyingi

Guitar Guitar Bass Drums Trombone /Musical Director

Patrick Higgins Bradley Quantrill Jason Bennett Paul Neilsen

Dale Hosking

Production

Director Assistant Director Producer Choreographers

Vocal Director

Musical Director

Publicity

Belinda Perry
Julie Scull
Andrew Higgins
Chris Davis
Mira Irviring-Brown
Katrina Mills
Melanie Baxter
Suellen Johns
Bridget Anese
Dale Hosking
Joanne Thomson

John Livingston

Kirwan office staff

Costumes

Lisa Murray
Debbie Downie
Anne Sperring
Helen Groves
Sally Sinclair

Francis Warren Emily Stricklan

Townsville Choral Society

Probs Lisa Murray

Paul Wood Jon Simeon Sunday Legends Gary Gage Alyssa Beaufoy Raelene Frantz

Crew

Stage Manager Assistant Stage Managers

Backstage Lighting Follow Spots

Sound

Hair and Makeup

Set

David Gallagher
Kate Hennelly
Angela Webster
Tula Clutterbuck
Katie Boyd
Carole Oglivie
Jess Thomas
Sandy Neal
Rachael Cairns
Cara Doolan
Emily Molloy
Peta Hamilton
Anne Sperring
Katrina Mills
Melanie Baxter
Kate Hennelly

Peta Hamilton
Anne Sperring
Katrina Mills
Melanie Baxter
Kate Hennelly
Dave Gallagher
Sarah Potts
Jessica Thomas
Angie Webster
Gary Gage
David Gallagher
Alex McKean
Daniel Last
Eli Thaiday
Delia Zhou
Alyssa Beaufoy
Adrianna Hering
and family
Townsville Choral Society
Luke Jackson

Photographer Car

Car Shane Myers
David Kingston
and students
Shirts Karen Connor

Acknowledgements

The Musical Team would like to acknowledge the assistance of: parents, family and friends of the Kirwan High Community - without your time and efforts the musical would not be a success; the commitment of the Kirwan High Staff; as always Livo; the backstage supervision volunteers; Civic Theatre Management and Staff; Donna Kerr; Renae Curley; Townsville Choral Society; Emily Molloy; Cranky Pants; Local media; NPS Corporate; Hair and Make up Volunteers; Front of House Volunteers; School Captains; all the fantastic folk who helped out after this program was printed; and you the audience. Have a fantastic show! See you next year.

1984 - O What A Lovely War

1985 - Oliver

1986 - West Side Story

1987 - The Boyfriend

1988 - King and I

1989 - Oklahoma

1990 - Evita

1991 - Puttin' on the Ritz

1992 - Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Past

Productions

1994 - Bugsy Malone

1997 - Oliver

1998 - Dazzle

1999 - Wizard of Oz

2000 - Viva Mexico

2001 - Pirates of Penzance

2002 - Back to the 80's!

2003 - Annie

2004 - Grease

2005 - Oliver

2006 - Disco Inferno

2007 - Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

2008 - The Sound of Music

2009 - Grease

2010 - The Pirates of Penzance