



**VAPAC Member's Meeting Agenda
Meeting 62 March 20 & 21 2018**

Bunjil Place

2 Patrick NE Drive, Narre Warren 3805

Day 1

9.45 am Meeting Commences – morning tea available from 9.30 am

- **Welcome to country**
 - **Apologies**
 - **Minutes of previous meeting**
 - **Business Arising –**
 - **Treasurer's Financial Report**
2017 Financial Report
2018 Budget YTD Update
-Rob Robson, Acting Treasurer
 - **General Business**
 - Membership application from Bunjil Place- change from Associate to Full
 - Membership application from Doncaster Playhouse – change from Full to Associate
 - Membership cancellation from BPACC, HotHouse Theatre
 - **Executive Update – David Lloyd, Chair of VAPAC**
- Reports**
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| PATA Update | Merryn Carter (Tabled) |
| Sub networks Updates | Russell Proud & Fiona Elliott |
| Showcase Victoria Update | Gemma Robertson |
| RAV Update | Joe Toohey |
| APACA Update | Robyn Birrell |
- 11.15 Hot issues from the network:**
- Touring Coordination Update- David Lloyd, including presentation by appointed Creative Victoria consultant for the Touring Engagement Review.
 - Strategic Planning Meeting Report- David Lloyd

- **General Meeting finishes**

1.00pm

Lunch

Professional Development workshops and case studies

1.45 MSO Touring Update Sophie Galaise, CEO & Jennifer Lang, Senior Manager Education & Community Engagement; Gabrielle Waters, Director of Operations

Sophie Galaise joined the MSO as its first female Managing Director in April 2016. Sophie sits on the board of Symphony Services International and is a member of the Advisory Council of the Harvard Business Review, the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) and The CEO Institute in Australia. A Winner in the Australian Financial Review and Westpac 100 Women of Influence Awards in 2015, she is renowned for her extensive experience working with orchestras, not only at the executive level, but also as a professional musician and musicologist. Prior to her appointment to the MSO, Sophie was Chief Executive Officer of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. Previous roles include Executive Director of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra, Executive and Artistic Director of the Orford Arts Centre and Music Coordinator for the Quebec Arts Council. Starting her career as a flautist in Germany, she also worked in Switzerland and France with Pierre Boulez. Native from Quebec, Canada, Sophie has a PhD in Musicology from the University of Montreal and an Executive MBA from McGill University/HEC Montreal.

2.30 Exploring International & Australian Models for engaging with producers -Andrew Threlfall, Director, CDP & Suzie Franke, Producer CDP

CDP Theatre Producers is a boutique production house with an unsurpassed track record for developing new productions, putting ideas into action and for producing some of the best theatrical entertainment in Australia. Founded by Christine Dunstan and Andrew Threlfall in 2011 building on the success of Christine Dunstan Productions, CDP was recently described by Melbourne's *The Age* as "a reliable and prolific source of high-quality children's theatre". CDP's recent productions for children and families include world premiere stage plays which are adaptations of popular books *The 13-Storey Treehouse*, *The 26-Storey Treehouse*, *The 52-Storey Treehouse* and *The 78-Storey Treehouse*, *The Incredible Book Eating Boy*, *Snugglepote and Cuddlepie*, *Mr Stink*, and *Horrible Harriet* along with the Australian premieres of *The Gruffalo*, *The Gruffalo's Child* and *Room on the Broom*. CDP also produced *The Sydney Opera House Babies Proms* for Sydney Opera House. CDP's productions are seen in theatres throughout Australia and New Zealand, in capital cities as well as in metropolitan, regional and remote communities. We also tour internationally including to Singapore, Hong Kong, Mainland China, the Middle East, Europe and the USA. Christine Dunstan retired from the company at the end of 2015 in pursuit of a quieter life but continues her interest in Australian theatre; her place as a partner in CDP Theatre Producers is now held by Yolande White.

Andrew Threlfall is a producer, marketer and performer with more than 15 years' experience. Prior to joining CDP in 2009, Andrew held a range of positions including Production Development & Marketing Manager at the Seymour Centre and General Manager of Audience Development Australia. Andrew became a Director of CDP in 2011, and since 2016 has led the company along with fellow Director Yolande White.

Suzie Franke has a long association with CDP having previously toured as a Company Stage Manager. Over the past five years she has been Producer for the company, overseeing the development and management of productions and touring seasons. Prior to working with CDP, Suzie cofounded and managed the theatre company Blackbird Productions where she produced a range of new Australian works, chamber musicals and national tours including *Debutante Diaries*, *BPM beatsperminute* and *Steel Magnolias*. In 2010 she made her West End producing debut with *Holding the Man*. Suzie is now based in Melbourne.

3.15 Afternoon tea, move to the Studio

3.45 Unconscious Bias – Dr Jennifer Whelan, Psynapse

The Psynapse story began in 2010 with the goal of bringing innovative cognitive science research out of the laboratory, and into the world of practical solutions to organisational problems. A central passion for our work is helping organisations and leaders to leverage diversity and inclusion to drive innovation and organisational performance. We apply our insights to enhancing organisations' collective intelligence, and improving leaders decision-making and problem-solving.

Jennifer is the founding director of Psynapse Psychometrics. A former Research Fellow at the Melbourne Business School and the University of Melbourne, Jennifer is a recognised academic expert, thought leader, and organisational consultant specialising in corporate diversity, inclusion and innovation. She helps leaders in a range of organisations from large and listed, to tertiary, government, and non-profit to lead beyond bias, and unlock the power of difference.

5.00 Venue Tour & Drinks – Council introDUCTION

6.15 Meeting concludes

7.00 Dinner – Atura Hotel, Dandenong

Day 2 –

9.15 Working with Producers via the Power PAC concept – Rick Heath, Executive Director PAC (Australia)

-Rick has worked in the performing arts industry across Australia for some 25 years. He is the Director of Push Management Pty Ltd, an arts management company that undertakes strategic business planning for creative organisations. Rick has fulfilled roles such as Executive Producer for the Perth International Arts Festival, Event Operations Manager at the Sydney Opera House and General Manager of Buzz Dance Theatre. He has co-produced work with Black Swan Theatre Co and worked with companies such as WA Theatre Company, Dancenorth (Townsville), Chrissie Parrot Dance Company, Country Arts WA, Barking Gecko Theatre Company, Perth Theatre Company and Australian Dance Theatre. Rick graduated from the WA Academy of Performing Arts in Stage Management and also holds a Bachelor of Business (Marketing). Rick is an authority on performing arts touring in Australia, having been intimately involved in national touring through his work as a 'Blue Heeler', whilst Touring Consultant at Arts on Tour NSW and as both a Councillor and interim Executive Officer of the Performing Arts Touring Alliance [PATA]. Together with Harley Stumm, Rick wrote Australia's first National Touring Framework for the Australia Council for the Arts as well as developing a 5-year touring WA touring strategy with CircuitWest.

Power PAC - In 2012, PAC Australia (working with James Buick) developed the PowerPAC guide and workshop program to assist regional, outer metropolitan and suburban performing arts centres to nurture the development of theatre production and presentation within their venues and better connect with their communities. This guide and workshop platform have been updated for 2018, offering the opportunity for all Australian performing arts centres to support and promote professional theatre practice through the use of their own resources, to experiment with new work, to share risk and to collaborate. It has been developed to suit the complex demands on art centres operating within the local government context providing information to assist arts centres to engage with creative artists in the performance making process in order to make new work and augment existing programs.

10.30 Morning tea

11.00 Maximising the activity from a small space – Rob MacLeod & Lisa Harvey, Potato Shed

Drysdale. Lisa Harvey – Operations Officer – Family Fun Day Co-Ordinator -Geelong born and bred Lisa has worked in the conference and events industry for the majority of her career. After completing an Associate Diploma in Hospitality Management in 1995 Lisa began her career at Deakin Management Centre, a dedicated conference venue in Waurin Ponds, completing Management traineeship and went onto become the Conference and Sales Coordinator. In 2000 Lisa joined the Australian Human Resource Institute as an Event Coordinator responsible for coordinating the venues, program of speakers and entertainment for the 2000 AHRI annual convention in Sydney and the Regional conferences in Newcastle and Ballarat. After starting a family Lisa returned to Geelong as a Catering Sales Executive at the Four Points by Sheraton on Geelong Waterfront in conference coordination and sales and launched the inaugural wedding showcase. Desires to combine her love for community work and running events have lead Lisa to her current role at the Potato Shed as the Operations Officer. Lisa has been in this role for the past 10 years working with the community and partner schools and is the driving force behind the flagship children's week event, Family fun Day at the Potato Shed and Prep Performing Arts Workshops. The annual Family Fun Day attracted 2000 patrons in its first year, now exceeds 8000 visitors and will celebrate 10 years in 2018.

Rob MacLeod - Venue Manager -Also Geelong born, Rob has been involved in theatre most of his life. Rob attended NIDA in 1978 undertaking the Technical Productions stream; after NIDA Rob worked for Nimrod, The Stables Theatre and at the Capital Theatre Sydney before returning to Victoria. Back in his home state he worked at the Union theatre at Melbourne University, presented productions at the Organ Factory, and some events at various Nightclubs and venues. Rob started a café in Carlton and worked as catering manager at Impressions Nightclub and Campion College in Kew before returning to study at Ballarat University to undertake a Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts. On graduation he co-founded Storybook Theatre a touring children's theatre company, based at the Universal Theatre with tours to Bendigo, around the Coast, Geelong, Ballarat and the Mornington Peninsula this continue for eight years, along with successful drama schools in Ballarat and Bendigo. In 1998 Rob together with associates took over Grainery Lane Theatre and Gallery and started an arts management company and bar called The Front, this team went on to manage the 1999 Ballarat Winter Festival. In 2002 Rob returned to Geelong and applied for the part time role at a new arts centre called the Potato Shed.

11.45 Managing the opportunities and challenges of working with a local government space – Daniel Henderson, Venue Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat

Daniel Henderson is the newly appointed manager of Ballarat's historic Her Majesty's Ballarat. Daniel has a solid background in arts management, local government, banking and finance. Not a new hand to this nationally significant theatre, Daniel has worked closely with Theatre Management, Board and Council over the past 10 years. Blending a passion for art across all forms with his background in finance and local government.

12.30 Meeting finishes with Lunch

1.30 Update with Creative Victoria Touring Review Consultant