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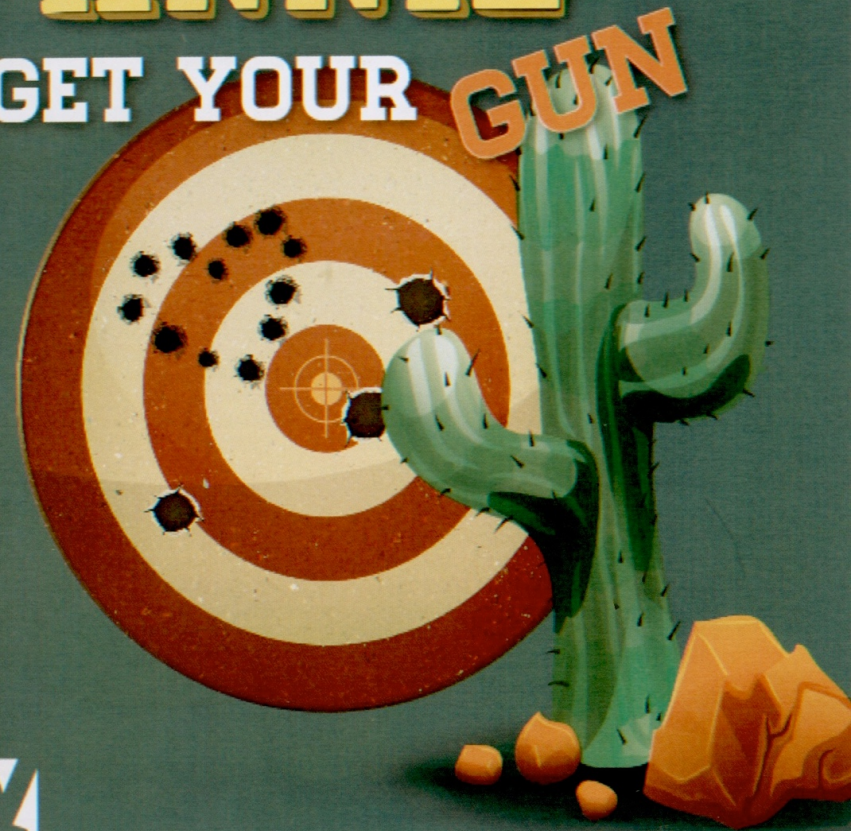


DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS
PRODUCTION OF

IRVING BERLIN'S

ANNIE

GET YOUR GUN



dv
DIAMOND VALLEY
SINGERS

Performed with the **ELTHAM ORCHESTRA**

Merinda (Rin) Gallagher – Director



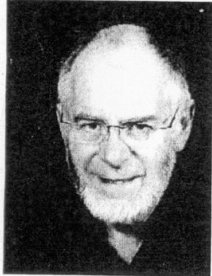
Merinda Gallagher renewed her childhood passion for musical theatre when she played Miss Hannigan in *Annie* (Eltham Little Theatre, 2016). She went on to join John Leahy in directing *Beauty and the Beast* (ELT 2017) and *Aladdin* (DVS, 2018). Merinda loves to write and has collaborated with her friend Michelle Collins to pen several musicals for children. She currently works at Briar Hill Primary School where she teaches Performing Arts. *Annie Get Your Gun* is Merinda's first experience directing adults, a challenge she has enjoyed... in a nail-biting kind of way. Merinda is delighted to be working with her friends Ian Lowe (MD) and Claire Colthup (Choreographer) to bring this production to life.

Claire Colthup – Assistant Director and Choreographer



This is the third show Claire has done for DVS, having choreographed *A Kidsummer's Night Dream* and *Aladdin* last year. Claire has enjoyed a long association with musicals and has been involved with well over 100 as either a performer, director and/or choreographer both in London and Melbourne. As a performer her favourite roles have included Mabel in the Broadway version of *Pirates of Penzance*, Euridyce in *Orpheus in the Underworld*, Velma Kelly in *Chicago* and Peggy Sawyer in *42nd St*. As a director/choreographer she has most enjoyed *Cabaret*, *Oh What a Lovely War* and *Footloose*. A Drama, Dance and Theatre Studies high school teacher by day, this is the third musical she has directed or choreographed this year. She is looking forward to the rest!

Ian Lowe – Musical Director



Ian was a co-founder of DVS in 1985. For the first 14 years of DVS history he conducted the orchestra for both stage shows and oratorios. He then moved to the Diamond Valley Singers, and has been secretary, president and is now treasurer. From the start of this century until recent years he has been our musical director for all shows. He started this show with much anticipation and energy, but about halfway through rehearsals had to withdraw due to an operation to remove cancer. We wish him a complete recovery.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Our performances are being held on the lands of the Wurundjeri people, and DVS wishes to acknowledge them as Traditional Owners. DVS would also like to pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and Aboriginal Elders of other communities who may be here today.

Director's notes

As a staunch lover of musical theatre it has always bothered me that there are so few leading roles for strong women. For those of us who measure our worth by our skills and talents rather than the girth of our waists and the length of our eyelashes, the roles that usually come our way are the witches, drunks and bitches! So to find a show with a leading lady who has personality, skill and grit is gold indeed. To learn that she is also a real character with a real history is even more exciting.

When I first spruiked the idea of *Annie Get Your Gun* to the DVS committee, there was concern about two main themes. The first was the perceived glorification of guns. Annie Oakley lived from the land. Learning to shoot at age eight, she supported her widowed mother and six siblings by selling game, and by the age of 15 had paid off her mother's mortgage. When Frank Butler, the travelling sharp shooter offered \$100 to anyone in Annie's county who could out-shoot him, Annie rose to the challenge. After missing on his 25th shot, Butler conceded defeat and Annie won the match. She went on to become the most famous female sharpshooter in Wild West history.

Annie Oakley did not shoot people. Despite the appalling political climate of the time, Annie was a champion of human rights. She taught thousands of women to shoot so that they could provide for themselves in a time when single mothers and widows were often left in poverty. Annie formed charities which supported women in a society with no social security and strong taboos about premarital sex. By the time of her death, Oakley had given all her prize money away to such causes.

The second theme of the show which raises alarm is the portrayal of the American Indian people (I use the term Indian here, rather than Native American, as that is the term used by Chief Sitting Bull to describe his people). It is always difficult to portray a figure from another culture in a sensitive way. This is especially so when there was approximately zero percent chance of us getting anyone to audition for the role of Sitting Bull who was of American Indian descent!

The original script for *Annie Get Your Gun* most certainly had some dubious portrayals of American Indians. The whole adoption scene and the song "I'm An Indian Too" is best forgotten. It is, of course, no longer acceptable to portray anyone from another culture as less than another, and the show was rewritten in 1999 to bring it up to current politically correct standards. Let's remember how far we have come as a society since this show was first penned in the mid 1940s and be hopeful that we as a species continue to evolve in a compassionate way. Goodness knows we still have a long way to go! But let's also remember that Annie Oakley, in real life, was adopted by Chief Sitting Bull and that theirs was a relationship of deep mutual respect. That this relationship could exist in the 1870s, when the Indian Wars were still fresh in the memories of those living on the "frontier" is a most extraordinary thing. That Chief Sitting Bull saw in Annie a kindred spirit, and a glimmer of the daughter he had lost in the massacres, is as profound an example of our shared humanity as one can conceive.

I am sure that when *Annie Get Your Gun* was being revised, the team must have discussed writing the part of Sitting Bull out altogether. After all, he is not central to the romance between Annie Oakley and Frank Butler and the show is certainly long enough already. It would surely have made publicity and casting easier, not to mention costuming! But to write Sitting Bull out of the script, when his relationship as adopted father to Annie was so significant; when his presence in Annie's life expresses so perfectly the kind of egalitarian person that she was; to write him out because people might feel uncomfortable about putting an American Indian figure onstage... well, surely that would be racist.

Directing *Annie Get Your Gun* has been a challenge and a pleasure. The crew here at DVS have risen to every challenge I have thrown them. Mark Clark's sets sparkle under Michael Gerrish's lights, setting off Dianne Richter and Robyn Mulder's wonderful costumes. Dozens of people have contributed to make this show come to life. And the cast has given me lots of laughs! With its unforgettable Irving Berlin score and its quirky portrayal of these wonderful Wild West characters, we hope you enjoy our version of *Annie Get Your Gun*.

Musical numbers

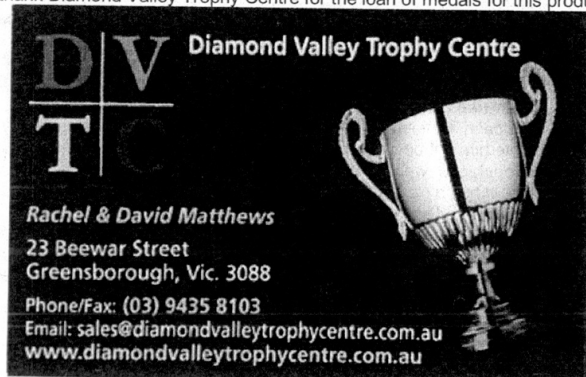
ACT 1

There's no business like show business	Company
Doin' what comes natur'lly	Annie, Wilson and the kids
The girl that I marry	Frank
You can't get a man with a gun	Annie
There's no business like show business	Frank, Buffalo Bill, Charlie and Annie
I'll share it all with you	Tommy, Winnie and ensemble
Moonshine Lullaby	Annie, Eagle Feather Buffalo Bill, Wilson, kids
There's no business like show business	Annie
They say it's wonderful	Annie and Frank
My defences are down	Frank and cowboys
You can't get a man with a gun	Annie

ACT 2

I got lost in his arms	Annie and cowgirls
Who do you love, I hope	Winnie and Tommy
I got the sun in the morning	Annie and company
An old-fashioned wedding	Annie and Frank
The girl that I marry	Frank
Anything you can do can do better	Annie and Frank
They say it's wonderful	Annie, Frank and company

We thank Diamond Valley Trophy Centre for the loan of medals for this production.



The story of Annie Get Your Gun

Act 1

Annie Oakley was 'perhaps the best sharpshooter the world has ever seen' In this version of her life, she is caring for three younger siblings by shooting game and selling it to hotels. She happens to come to Foster Wilson's hotel at the same time as Buffalo Bill's Wild West show has arrived in town. It is the custom that, to introduce themselves to each new town they visit, Buffalo Bill challenges the best shooter in the town against his 'champeen' Frank Butler. Wilson puts Annie against Butler and Annie wins. Annie introduces her younger siblings with the cheeky 'Doin' what comes natur'lly' Later the 'Moonshine lullaby' presents her in a motherly role. The relationship between Frank and Annie fills most of the show. Frank's pride finds it very difficult to be beaten by a girl, but he also finds himself falling in love with her. To her he sings 'The girl that I marry' – which is quite the opposite to Annie's character and she responds with 'You can't get a man with a gun' Tommy Keeler is a 'half-Indian' who throws knives as part of the show. The trusting girl who is his target is his girlfriend Winnie Tate: 'I'll share it all with you' However Winnie's older sister Dolly is racist, and determined that Winnie will not marry Tommy. Despite this, they do marry.

The romance between Annie and Frank continues with 'They say it's wonderful' and the womanising Frank confesses to his mates that Annie has won his heart: 'My defences are down'

Annie gradually outshines Frank in her abilities, publicity and tricks. She shows off her amazing skills with a new trick in an attempt to win Frank's admiration (and a proposal from him), only to lose him to the opposition show run by Pawnee Bill. His pride overcame his love. Although she seems to lose Frank, Annie does become the adopted daughter of Chief Sitting Bull, who agrees to put money into the show.

Act 2

Winne and Dolly Tate join Frank in Pawnee Bill's show, staying in America. Dolly has Winnie's marriage to Tommy annulled, as she was less than 18 years old when it happened. Supported by Chief Sitting Bull, Buffalo Bill's show does a tour of the European capitals, receiving great acclaim and many medals, but little money. In fact they limp home on a cattle boat, with Annie still hoping to marry Frank: 'I got lost in his arms' On arriving in New York, they are invited by Pawnee Bill to a reception, where Tommy and Winnie are reunited: 'Who do you love, I hope'

At the reception, it is revealed that both shows are broke, and the only solution is to merge. To finance the merger, Annie agrees to sell her medals: 'I got the sun in the morning' Annie and Frank also talk about a merger, though they disagree on the style: 'An old-fashioned wedding' However Frank's pride still gets in the way when he sees how many expensive medals Annie has earned while overseas, so Annie challenges him to a shooting contest.

Dolly dreams of marrying Frank, so she attempts to bend the sight on Annie's gun to make her leave the show. Caught in the act by Charlie and Sitting Bull, they realise that Annie needs to lose the contest to win Frank, so they adjust the gun. Before the contest Annie and Frank sing the duet 'Anything you can do, I can do better' When Annie misses her first five shots (with the bent gun sight), Frank loans her his gun. She deliberately misses, to let Frank win, only to have Frank deliberately miss to make a tie. Both Frank and Annie want to be partners again – and get married: 'They say that falling in love is wonderful'

Cast list in order of appearance

Buffalo Bill Cody	Antony Steadman
Frank Butler	Wade Robinson
Dolly Tate	Nic Ramsay
Tommy Keeler	Damon Holmes
Winnie	Charli Lewis
Charlie Davenport	Malcolm Wilton
Foster Wilson	Martin Gallagher
Annie Oakley	Sophia Bubner
Jessie	Ruby Taylor-Bennett or Izzy Coburn
Nellie	Olivia Dintinosante or Maddy Coburn
Little Jake	Solveig Yen or Hamish Gallagher
Performers in the Wild West show	Jeanette Flint, Cap Oretti, Sharon Harding, Scott Patton, Ian Matanis, Marlene DiBattista, Liahna Bennett, Regina Bennett, Ivy Liew, Olivia Ryan, Hannah Sleeth, Hannah Wade
Running Deer	Peter Gallagher
Eagle Feather	Aidan Borgeest
Waiter Porter	Jeanette Flint
Pawnee Bill	Scott Patton
Chief Sitting Bull	Steve Wilkie
Mac	Regina Bennett
Queen Victoria	Cap Oretti
Tsar of Russia	Ian Matanis
King of Italy	Neil Spitzer
President of France	Martin Gallagher
Messenger	Scott Patton
Band leader	Neil Spitzer
Sylvia Potter-Porter	Olivia Ryan
Mrs Schuyler Adams	Marlene DiBattista

Diamond Valley Singers thank

our creative team, Merinda, Claire, and Ian for their vision, skills, application and leadership
 Shirley Geraghty, Joe Caruana and Stephen Parkin, Warrandyte High School
 Michael Gerrish Starmist Studios
 Peter Holland Things We Need Distribution
 Hudson Bond Real Estate, Doncaster
 Cheryl Threadgold The Melbourne Observer
 Kevin Yates 96.5 InnerFM
 Brian Amos and Ken Donnelly 98.1 EasternFM
 Classic Press
 Joshua Thomas, Graphic Designer
 Starbus Film Services
 Mark Clark for the design and construction of set
 Our costumers Robyn Mulder Dianne Richter Mary Wright and Babirra Music Theatre
 Marie-Louise Wright and The Eltham Orchestras
 Steven Wilkie for the special effects
 Accompanists Ian Lowe, Gerard Banner and Jodie Lockyer
 The Diamond Valley Uniting Church and Briar Hill Primary School for our rehearsal venues
 All our volunteers assisting with Front-of-House and parking, crew, technicians,
 photographers, and videographers for their assistance with, and work on, this production.

Sophia Bubner – Annie Oakley



Sophia has been performing in amateur theatre for over ten years. Originally from Adelaide, she was highly involved in the musical theatre scene working with many different Adelaide companies in a variety of shows. Some of her favourite roles have included Maggie in *A Chorus Line*, Millie in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Serena in *Legally blonde: The Musical*, Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* and Nessarose in *Wicked*. Most recently, after moving to Melbourne, she had the opportunity to work with Waterdale in their 2017 production of *Seussical* in which she played one of the Bird Girls. When not on stage, Sophia loves her job as a primary school teacher, and recently helped write and direct her school's mid-Year performance of *The Practical Princess*. Sophia is extremely excited to be playing Annie Oakley, and hopes everyone enjoys the show!

Wade Robinson – Frank Butler



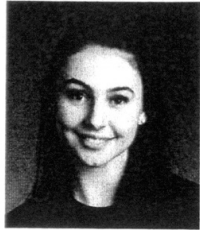
Wade started in theatre in the ensemble for *Spamalot* with MLOC Productions. Since then, he has had rave reviews for his performances of eccentric characters such as Reggie and British Rocker in the Australian Premiere of *First Date - The Musical* with Have You Seen it? Productions, Princeton/Rod in *Avenue Q*, Roger DeBris in *The Producers* with Waterdale and Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods* with Aspect Inc. His most recent role was that of Baldwin in *Cry Baby* with PEP Productions. Off stage, Wade has starred in several short-films for Salvos Studios and is credited on IMDB for *Before Our Time* which was submitted for Village Cinemas Unscene film competition.

Antony Steadman – Buffalo Bill Cody, Moonshine Lullaby



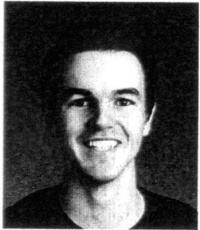
Antony has enjoyed performing from a very young age, beginning with *Peter and the Wolf*, in Kindergarten. Antony trained with the National Boys Choir, and highlights included performing with such luminaries as The Three Tenors and TV appearances on Good Morning Australia, Carols By Candlelight and the 1998 Grand Prix. His previous performing credits include *Mavis Goes To Timor* (Playbox), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Whitehorse Musical Theatre), and *Charley's Aunt* (Essendon Theatre Company). Antony also spent a significant number of years with Light My Candle Theatre Company, either performing or on the creative team for most of their productions in some capacity. For the past few years, Antony has been reviewing shows for his own blog, The Theatre Nerd, but returned to performance by creating the role of Bea St Lea for the premiere season of *Butch Masters: Man of Destiny* (Midsumma Festival), The Major General in *Essgee's Pirates of Penzance* (Waterdale Theatre Company), Warbucks in *Annie* (Western Arts Theatre) and as chorus in Melbourne Opera for *The Flying Dutchman* at the Regent. He will also perform chorus for *Norma* for MO later in 2019. Antony would like to dedicate this performance to his family for all their support.

Charli Lewis – Winnie Tate



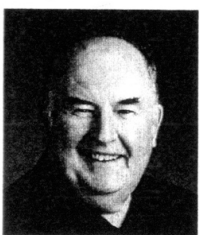
This is Charli Lewis' first show with DVS, playing Winnie Tate. She is currently training with Action Drama Studio, and has previously spent 11 years with Stage School Australia. Her performance experience includes many shows, with highlights being Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*, Ruth in *Cosi* and a dragonette in *Shrek Jnr*. Her love of performing has dominated her life, and she spends most days singing and tap dancing away. Working with DVS has been an incredible experience for her and she hopes you enjoy the show.

Damon Holmes – Tommy Keeler



Damon has performed several other shows with DVS such as *Aladdin Jr* (playing Aladdin) in 2018 and *A Kidsummer Night's Dream* (playing Demetrius) in 2019. Damon has no major pre-existing singing experience but has loved developing his knowledge through this show, working alongside many talented actors and actresses who have improved his ability and range to suit the new character he was portraying. *Annie Get Your Gun* has been such an incredible show to be a part of and certainly a major turning point for Damon's musical theatre experience.

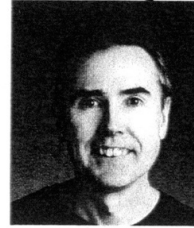
Malcolm Wilton – Charlie Davenport



Malcolm first took to the musical theatre stage with the Sandringham Light Opera Company with *Showboat* in 1987. His first appearance with Diamond Valley Singers was as a chorus member in *Patience*. Subsequent years saw him become the Learned Judge in *Trial by Jury*, Poo Bah in *The Mikado*, the Sergeant of Police in *Pirates of Penzance* (twice!) as well as other principal roles. In 2014 he took on a whole new role as the love interest of Dolly Levi as Horace Vandergelder in *Hello Dolly*. In 2017 it was wonderful to return to a role he loves as Pooh Bah in *The Mikado*. In *Once Upon a Mattress* (2016) his role was that of the mute king, King Sextimus. Now in 2019 he is so happy to be Charlie Davenport, and to be able to sing "There's no business like show business" It is the song that sums up the wonderful world of theatre!

He would love to play the role of Max Bialystock in *The Producers*. This role just shows all the humour, fun and frustration of working, directing and landing a show on stage. That would be his ideal role! Malcolm hopes you enjoy the show.

Martin Gallagher – Foster Wilson, Moonshine Lullaby, French President



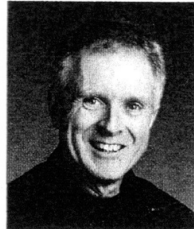
Martin is a latecomer to musical theatre. His debut performance was just last year, as Rusty Charlie in *Guys and Dolls* (Nova, 2018). He plays crusty hotelier Foster Wilson, and is relishing being cranky onstage every night- a nice change from his day job as mild-mannered radiologist. He was a member of the Eltham choir Yirriba from 2006 to 2008. He plays guitar and keeps threatening to learn piano. Any relation to production team or other cast members is purely nepotistic.

Nicola Ramsay – Dolly Tate



Nicola is playing the role of Dolly Tate. This is her fourth musical with DVS. The others were *Orpheus in the Underworld* (playing Euridice), *Iolanthe* (Celia) and *The Pajama Game* (Gladys). She has also been involved in four musicals with Eltham Little Theatre over recent years *Oliver* (Mrs Sowerberry) and *Annie* (Grace), and was Musical Director for *The Little Mermaid Jnr* and *Beauty and the Beast Jnr*. Nicola's first introduction to the stage was when she was three, doing calisthenics. She then learnt piano, flute and singing and loved the buzz of learning and performing. Her first ever musical theatre experience was as a pirate in *The Pirates of Penzance* at secondary school. This was followed by *Guys and Dolls* (Sgt Sarah Brown) and *Hello Dolly* (Dolly). She currently teaches piano, singing and flute and hopes to be involved in musical theatre for many years to come!

Steve Wilkie – Chief Sitting Bull



This will be Steve's third musical production with Diamond Valley Singers. He has sung with DVS for about 11 years in their oratorios and smaller productions with some solo roles. He played the part of Bill Boggins in *The Merry Widow* from *Blue Gum Creek* (2015), and a Porter in *The Mikado* (2017). During the last three years he has performed with a touring singing troupe TREK in solo roles. The role of Chief Sitting Bull is good serious fun. In real life, Sitting Bull did become friends with Annie Oakley and Buffalo Bill, when he worked in the Wild West Show for about four months in 1885. Steve has made a few little contraptions that add a bit of fun to a couple of the shooting scenes. He hopes you enjoy the show.

All our photos have been taken by Trevor D'Ambrosio, of TD Images.

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Annie's siblings (July 5, 6 eve, 10, 13 mat)

Olivia Dintinosante - Nellie



Olivia's Nan introduced her to Annie Get Your Gun when she a toddler. They watched it together so much that Liv would sing 'You Can't Get a Man With a Gun' while swinging an umbrella! Since 2017 Olivia has performed as Chip in ELT's *Beauty and The Beast*, ensemble in *Grease Spectacular* at Hisense Area, *The Magic Carpet* in DVS' *Aladdin*, a Mouse in DVS' *Cinderella*, The Duchess in ENPS' *Wonder In Aliceland*, Nick Bottom in DVS' *A Kidsummer Night's Dream*, Hayley in EHS' 9 to 5 production, and is thrilled to be playing Nellie in DVS' *Annie Get Your Gun!*

Ruby Taylor-Barnett - Jessie



Ruby Taylor-Barnett plays Jessie in *Annie Get Your Gun*, her first Diamond Valley Singers' production. In 2018 she performed in *Mulan* (Players' Theatre Company) and *Annie* (Youth Production Company), where she mastered the southern American twang perfect for *Annie Get Your Gun*. Ruby has been learning about the stage since she was five, performing at the Junior Troupe level with the Young Australian Broadway Chorus and more recently concentrating on film with the Acting Performance Studio. Ruby has weekly voice and piano lessons and her hobby is bringing plasticine to life, creating short Claymation clips.

Solveig Yen - Little Jake



Solveig has done two shows with Diamond Valley Singers before this one. Her first one was *Aladdin Jr* then she did *A Kidsummer Night's Dream* and now she is doing *Annie Get Your Gun*. Her part in the play is little Jake (Annie's little brother) and yes, she is a girl playing a boy's part. She is 11 years old with two older brothers. She has done six plays at her school so altogether including DVS stuff it adds up to nine shows. She did four years of calisthenics now she does YABC. Her friend Ruby Taylor-Barnett is also in this show. This is Solveig's first adult show with DVS.

Annie's siblings (July 6 mat, 7 12, 13 eve)

Maddy Coburn - Nellie



This is Maddy's third show for DVS having been *The Genie in Aladdin* last year and *Peter Quince in A Kidsummer's Night's Dream* earlier this year. Maddy has also performed at school and with Eltham Little Theatre, with Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast* being one of her favourite roles.

Izzy Coburn - Jessie



This is Izzy's second show with DVS having been a naughty fairy in *A Kidsummer's Night Dream* earlier this year. She has enjoyed being Annie's little sister and especially sleeping on the train!

Hamish Gallagher - Little Jake



Hamish is ten years old and attends Briar Hill Primary School and he is delighted to be playing Little Jake in this production of *Annie Get Your Gun*. This is Hamish's second production with DVS this year having played Francis Flute in *A Kidsummer Night's Dream*. His favourite role thus far has been as Gavroche in *Les Miserables* as he fancies himself rather good at dramatic deaths! When he grows up, Hamish would like to be a wizard.

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Regina Bennett - Mac



This is Regina's first show with DVS. Regina wanted to start acting, singing and dancing when she was aged 10 but it didn't happen until many years later at the age of 18 when studied the craft for two years and began her theatrical life. After then having acted for many years, directed and produced many shows within the Yarra Valley and having had many stressful and busy years, she wanted to join the chorus in *Annie Get Your Gun* to be able to sing again and have some fun without pressure. She is enjoying her time with DVS and has enjoyed getting to know some of the other talented cast members. Her next creative endeavour would be to try and write a book or do some painting.

Liahna Bennett



Liahna has performed in shows since she was 8 years old, her last role was playing *Peter Pan*. She loves performing, singing and dancing and takes her roles, no matter which they are, seriously and professionally. She has performed in three plays per year on average with various companies and in various roles. One of her favourites was playing one of Fagin's boys in *Oliver*. She has a great rapport with children and younger people. She lives with her fiancée in Cranbourne North and also loves to draw and paint. She has always loved the movie *Annie Get Your Gun*. She can sometimes be a bit shy and reserved when she first meets people, but comes alive on stage.

Aidan Borgeest - Running Deer



Aidan Borgeest is a relative newcomer to DVS having only done the past two children's shows: *Aladdin Jr* and *A Kidsummer Night's Dream*. He has a deep passion for theatre and music. He is very excited to participate in *Annie Get Your Gun* this year. He has enjoyed working with the fabulous people in the cast, crew and orchestra and intends to maintain a long-lasting relationship with every one of them.

Marlene DiBattista - Mrs Schuyler Adams



Marlene was a calisthenics girl for many years but after having children who were involved in theatre and dance she decided to join them. This is Marlene's 11th production with DVS. She has performed *Bamum* with Dandenong Theatre Group, *Dinkum Assorted* with Essendon Theatre Group, *Mama Mia* with Michelle Slater Performing Arts Group plus *Stepping Out* and several Music Halls with Eltham Little Theatre. She was part of the Mahler 8 at the Melbourne Town Hall and is an active member of the Heidelberg Allstars.

Jeanette Flint - Porter



Jeanette's first theatre experience was in *South Pacific* playing a native child complete with a liberal coating of make-up, with Regent Dramatic Society. They took the show on the road for one night in Yea and were billeted at local homes, a memorable experience. Jeanette has enjoyed returning to the theatre by joining DVS and been involved in many shows over the last 15 years and for the last four years joining TREK musicals as well.

Peter Gallagher - Eagle Feather, Moonshine lullaby



Peter is 14 years old and attends Eltham College. This is his second production with DVS, having played a Narrator in *Aladdin Jr* in 2018. Past credits include playing Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* (ELT), Billy Rae in *On Golden Pond* (ELT) and taking leading roles in several school plays. Peter is excited to be playing Chief Eagle Feather in *Annie Get Your Gun* and to have the opportunity to crack out his stilts for the circus scene!

Sharon Harding



Sharon has been a member of the Diamond Valley Singers since 1995. Over the years, she has performed in the chorus of a variety of stage productions and in many of the oratorio performances. Sharon has also participated as part of the publicity team for some of the stage shows. For the past three years she has been a member of the DVS fundraising team, supporting the committee to raise funds for our group and provide our members and their families with some social events.

Ivy Liew



Ivy is a member of the ensemble in *Annie Get Your Gun*. She joined Diamond Valley Singers in 2019 and this is her first show with them. Previously, Ivy has performed in *Seussical Jr* (2018) at Northside Christian College in the role of Mrs Mayor. Ivy enjoys singing, dancing and acting. In the past, Ivy has taken singing and dancing lessons. Ivy decided to join DVS annual production to continue being involved in musicals and to make new friends.

Ian Matanis - Italian President



Ian is performing in the ensemble of *Annie Get Your Gun* after previously being in *The Mikado* with DVS and with TREK in *Trek Through the Trenches*. Ian has been singing with Sisters and Mistery of Song for more than seven years. He enjoys the stage as a supporting singer/actor and the fun of entertaining.

Cap Oretti - Queen Victoria



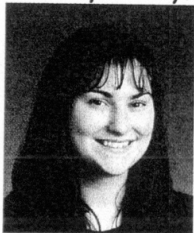
Cap hasn't been on stage since her days in the chorus of high school musicals! So what brings her back after more than three decades? She's not really sure how she got here, but is glad she came along for the ride and two young children interested in theatre, music and performing arts are part of the reason. Cap has found being part of the ensemble (and a brief doily-clad appearance as Queen Vic) lots of fun, once she gets past the challenge of singing, dancing and breathing all at the same time...

Scott Patton - Messenger, Pawnee Bill



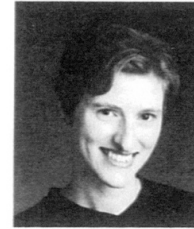
Annie Get Your Gun is Scott's debut into musical theatre, much to the surprise and delight of family and friends! He has always loved the theatre and has fun singing all the musical hits with his young daughter at home. Since auditioning for *Annie get Your Gun*, Scott has realised his love for being on stage and has thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Olivia Ryan - Sylvia Potter-Porter



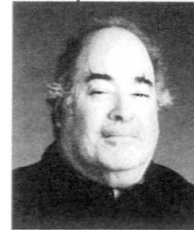
Olivia joined Diamond Valley Singers this year and has really enjoyed the experience. Previously Olivia performed in school musicals at Northside Christian College and her roles included Blanche in *The Rosie's* (an original musical by Angela Eynaud, 2014), Wendy in *Peter Pan Jr* (2016) and Gertrude in *Seussical Jr* (2018). Olivia is also a member of the University of Melbourne Conservatorium Choir (2019).

Hannah Sleeth



This is Hannah's first foray into musical theatre since high school and her first production with Diamond Valley Singers. After recently starting voice lessons, she decided to join a singing group. When Hannah saw that DVS were going to be performing *Annie Get Your Gun*, she was keen to get involved as Irving Berlin is also the genius behind one of her favourite musicals, *Easter Parade*.

Neil Spitzer - Russian Tzar Band leader



Neil has been in musical theatre for over 30 years, several of which have been with Diamond Valley Singers. He has mainly been in the ensemble, but has had a couple of roles, including Crompton in *The Merry Widow From Blue Gum Creek*.

Hannah Wade



Hannah is excited to be in the ensemble of *Annie Get Your Gun* in 2019. Last year she was in *Aladdin Jr*. Hannah has been involved in junior productions including *Oliver!*, *The Little Mermaid Jr*, *Annie* and *Beauty and the Beast Jr*. Hannah studied classical ballet for four years, has had singing lessons for three and a half years and has been doing gymnastics for seven years. Hannah has been in a number of school productions in both primary and secondary schools, has been in the mass choir for State School Spectacular and is an enthusiastic member of the Catholic Ladies College choir.

Angela Hennel - Production manager



Angela comes from an event management and public relations background, and fell into the musical world. While at school she played Golde in *Fiddler On The Roof*, and the title role in *Alice In Wonderland*, but these days contents herself with singing in the Melbourne Opera chorus where Angela has performed in *Der Freischütz*, *Maria Stuarda*, *Anna Bolena*, *Roberto Devereux*, *The Abduction From The Seraglio*, *Tannhäuser*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Lohengrin*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Otello*, *Der Fliegende Hollander*, and is currently rehearsing *Norma*. She sang in *Suor Angelica* (Cordelia's Potted Opera, 2017) and several Italian Gala Opera Concerts (Melbourne Opera 2019). *Annie Get Your Gun* is the tenth DVS show Angela has produced, and the fourteenth for which she has sold tickets.

Production team

Director	Merinda Gallagher
Assistant Director	Claire Colthup
Musical Director	Ian Lowe
Conductor	Mary Wright
Choreographer	Claire Colthup
Stage manager	Anita Wilton
Backstage crew	Naomi Robertson (ASM), David Edmonds, Jenny Edmonds, Neil Wilson, Ben Richter, Ash Richter
Scenic artist	Merinda Gallagher
Special effects	Steve Wlikie
Costumes	Diane Richter Robyn Mulder Mary Wright, Merinda Gallagher
Sets	Mark Clark and cast
Lighting design	Michael Gerrish
Lighting operators	Michael Rowe, John Keys, Jarryd Cairns
Sound	Dianne Richter Robyn Mulder, Peter Holland, Gary Richter SFX Finn Endries
Pianists	Gerard Banner Ian Lowe, Jodie Lockyer
Piano recordings	Michelle Collins
Props	Merinda Gallagher Naomi Robertson, Mary McDonald and cast
Program	Ian Lowe
Publicity	Malcolm Wilton, Cap Oretti, Jema Urlich-Howell, Sharon Harding and team
Poster	Joshua Thomas
Photography	Trevor D'Ambrosio
Videography	Bod
Ticket sales	Angela Hennel
Foyer display	Merinda Gallagher and Naomi Robertson
Front of house	Jennie Barnett, Mary McDonald, Kristen Barnett, Mary Wilkie, Mardi Harding, Michelle Bardsley and volunteers
Parking	John Keys and volunteers
Production Manager	Angela Hennel

Marie-Louise Wright – conductor



Originally from Graz Austria and later Switzerland, Mary studied music in Australia: violin with Tim Wachtel, Zefferino Mendes and Warwick Stengards and conducting with Robert Rosen, Peter Clinch, Marvin Rabin, Jerry Nowak, Robert Culver as well as attending Symphony Australia workshops in Melbourne, Adelaide and Tasmania. She has also attended workshop with the Royal Australian Navy Band, and this year has taken part in the Cairns Winter Music School.

Mary currently conducts the Surrey Hills Orchestra, Eltham Orchestra and its two string ensembles, teaches strings at Briar Hill Primary School, and is a past conductor of Henry Touzeau Strings for Melbourne Youth Music, the Preston Junior Strings and Victorian Concert Orchestra.

She has conducted many operettas, including *The Mikado*, *The Gondoliers*, *Merry Widow*, *Merrie England* and *Iolanthe* and DVS productions of *Oklahoma*, *Calamity Jane*, *Brigadoon*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Kismet*, *Carousel*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Pajama Game*, *Once upon a mattress*, *Hello Dolly*, *Cinderella* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Mary has also been privileged to conduct eight of the nine Beethoven Symphonies. Her favourite music is Ballet, especially that of the Romantic Era.

The Eltham Orchestra

Violins:	Matt Westwood, Jessica Callaway, Fiona Walsh, Lisa Filmer Angus Walsh, Mia Herricks, Ryan Chih, William Lor Isabella Wallač, Ed Cai
Violas:	Henry Rugers, Jenny De Lacy, Kami Castellynos-Krol
Cellos:	Ruth Vandersman, Jo Parr, Lyn Fraser
Double Bass:	Ben Bates
Flutes:	Katy Neesham, Lester Mascarenhas
Oboe:	Judy Lewis
Clarinets/saxophones:	Tony Robinson, Geoff Illing, Derek Wright
Trumpet:	Rachael Bean
Trombones:	Don Jordan, Lauren Pennefather
Percussion:	Heather Wright
Keyboard:	Gerard Banner

The Eltham Orchestras thank Storage King for their support.



Angela Hennel – Production manager



Angela comes from an event management and public relations background, and fell into the musical world. While at school she played Golde in *Fiddler On The Roof*, and the title role in *Alice In Wonderland*, but these days contents herself with singing in the Melbourne Opera chorus where Angela has performed in *Der Freischütz*, *Maria Stuarda*, *Anna Bolena*, *Roberto Devereux*, *The Abduction From The Seraglio*, *Tannhäuser*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Lohengrin*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Otello*, *Der Fliegende Hollander*, and is currently rehearsing *Norma*. She sang in *Suor Angelica* (Cordelia's Potted Opera, 2017) and several Italian Gala Opera Concerts (Melbourne Opera 2019). *Annie Get Your Gun* is the tenth DVS show Angela has produced, and the fourteenth for which she has sold tickets.

Diamond Valley Singers (DVS)

This year DVS celebrates 34 years of music making! In 1985 the conductor of the local orchestra, Ian Lowe, approached Mavis and Graham Ford for help in staging *Trial by Jury* with the Eltham Community Orchestra (as it was then called) for a concert in aid of World Vision. Rehearsals began and 'Valley Musical Society' (later to become the Diamond Valley Singers) was formed to provide local singers with opportunities to be heard in public, and to raise money for charity. So far over \$160 000 has been donated to organisations such as World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service, Harrison Youth Services, Eltham Emergency Relief Fund and Open House.

DVS have performed most Gilbert and Sullivan shows. In the last few years they have presented American musicals: *Brigadoon*, *Oklahoma*, *Calamity Jane*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Kismet*, *Carousel*, *The Pajama Game*, *Hello Dolly*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, and *Cinderella*.

We now regularly perform shows involving children; so far we have performed seasons for *Aladdin Jr*, and *A Kidsummer Night's Dream*. The youth program will start again in late July.

New members are always welcome. There are no auditions for chorus members. Adult rehearsals are held on Wednesday nights at Diamond Creek Uniting Church. See www.dvsingers.org for details. For further information, please contact Ian Lowe treasurer@dvsingers.com.

For the rest of 2019 DVS will be involved in concerts at Healesville (Oct 27) and Diamond Creek Uniting Church (Nov 10), both starting at 2 pm and DVS will share the stage with Yarra Valley Singers. The program, will consist of light choral songs, and excerpts from Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, particularly *Iolanthe*. Put it in your diary.

The Eltham Orchestra

The original Eltham Orchestra was established in 1975 and has been going from strength to strength since. Today the Orchestra consists of three levels. A beginner string group, and extension string group for players who are between beginner strings and the orchestra standard, and of course, the Eltham Orchestra itself. The Orchestra rehearses every Wednesday from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. for Strings and 8.00 – 10.00 p.m. for Woodwinds with a full Orchestra overlap from 8.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. The Orchestra currently is in need of full time brass players, double bass, violas, percussion and as many string players as we can get. Look us up on elthamorchestras.com. In 2018 Eltham Orchestra, together with Surrey Hills Orchestra had the privilege to play at the Sydney Opera House.

Our profits from this show will support these two charities.
They thank you for your support



International Needs Australia is a Christian organisation journeying to create a just world where girls and boys, men and women are treated equally with respect, dignity and opportunity to reach their full potential.

We work in 8 countries helping and serving the world's poorest people – since poverty touches all people regardless of race, religion, age or gender. These then are our target groups – those living on the edges of society who suffer the most.

Our small, dedicated team is passionate about their work – and as a result, INA do excellent work in the field achieving excellent results.



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BE A LIFE SENTENCE**

Open House Christian Involvement Centres

Somewhere to Belong.

Helping bridge the gap since 1971 by providing Friendship and Support for Children, youths and adults through positive and creative programs. The team at Open House is deeply and proudly committed to a friendship based model, with outreach to old, young, disadvantaged, disabled and lonely people left behind, unwanted, unloved, or forgotten by society. We serve people of all ages from babies or young children and their caregivers, through to older Australians. Open House receives some funding from the government but our work is really made possible by donations from generous individuals, organisations and sponsors. They are our lifeline.

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