

**Gunnedah Conservatorium**  
**AGM – Annual Report**  
**DRAMA 2016-2017**

**January 2016** The Drama Studio started with 2 students studying Speech and Drama and Public Speaking. The lessons took place weekly by video conferencing out of The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music (UHCM) and were supplemented by face to face lessons 4 times a term. The student's progressed and remained loyal, they competed in Eisteddfod and took up concert opportunities to perform.

**January 2017** The private students studying speech and drama increased to 6 students having weekly face to face lessons on a Thursday afternoon or a Friday morning lesson.

Currently 3 of these students are preparing for their first TRINITY GUILD speech and drama exam Grade 2, to be held at Tamworth in November.

**Workshops** 2016 school holidays we hosted a Shakespearian Theatre workshop for young people. 2017 April school holidays we hosted an Eisteddfod Preparation Workshop to boost numbers and support the endeavours of the local Eisteddfod Committee. This had a positive effect on the number of entries in the Primary Eisteddfod.

**2016 Term 4** The Drama Studio conducted an enrichment program in the Town Hall for 4 weeks for the students of Tambar Springs Primary school.

**2017 Term 3** Gunnedah Conservatorium assisted Carroll Public School with the District Finals of the "Speak Fest" adjudications. I adjudicated the Public and Impromptu Speaking Finals for Stage 2 in this Department of Education event.

**Community Theatre:**

Rebecca Ryan produced the Australian comedy "Secret Bridesmaid Business" by Elizabeth Coleman for a 6 night season at the Gunnedah Civic Theatre, 27<sup>th</sup> July – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017. I directed the 6 man show. 567 people saw the show, and we also contributed some funds to a local sporting team's fundraiser. Auditions were advertised in April 2017. The rehearsal period last for 3 months, and was a successful production at the box office and lay a foundation for inter town amateur theatre liasons.

I would like to thank the Board for their support with new risks and creative paths. I congratulate all the staff with their smooth transition into a new building. I look forward to 2018 endeavours.

15/9/2017

Larni Christie/Drama Teacher