

## Productions in 2012

Autumn 2012 - 'Sweet Charity'

Runner-Up, Best Musical in NODA Eastern Region District 6 in 2012 and

Winner of the Award for Technical Achievement

With the final cheers and applause still fresh in our memories we celebrated a highly successful run of our autumn production for 2012 - 'Sweet Charity'. The Opening Night audience was vocal and enthusiastic so with ticket sales already very good things looked set fair for an entertaining and enjoyable week for both cast and patrons alike. And so it turned out!

Don't take our word for it though - read the NODA review, by clicking [here](#).

Probably best known for the Hollywood film starring Shirley MacLaine with Stubby Kaye and Sammy Davis Jnr, this show delighted both the ear and the eye with production numbers such as 'Hey, Big Spender!', 'If My Friends Could See Me Now', 'Rhythm of Life' and 'I'm A Brass Band' as well as having a poignant and tender story-line: a sure-fire box-office hit, in fact!

We were delighted to welcome Jane Zarins to the Society as Stage Director for this her first show with us. The Musical Director for the show itself was Dick Walter, also joining us for the first time. Dick had other commitments during the summer however, so Sarah Cook acted as our Chorus Master while we learned the music, ably assisted by the occasional "volunteer" on the piano. Choreographic niceties were once again in the able hands (or should that be feet?) of Jean Cator, thus ensuring that "movement" rehearsals were suitably exhausting!

The well attended Preview Evening for the show gave the production team a chance to tell everyone about this tragi-comedy, in which Charity tries to make her way in the world despite the upsets which life throws at her. The Read-Through was a hilarious affair, with all sorts of dubious accents being adopted by those trying out the roles and bringing to life the witty script. Next up were the Principals' Auditions, where eager hopefuls were grilled by our fearsome Audition Panel (well, they like to believe so!). The final piece in the jigsaw was put into place when we auditioned our Fan-Dango Ballroom hostesses, so we then had a cast!

Charity Valentine - Helen Roscoe      Oscar Lindquist - Ian Cook      Vittorio  
Vidal - Jason Lambert

Nickie - Sarah Cook      Helene - Helen Watson      Herman - Peter Simmen

Daddy Brubeck - Mark Anthony      Ursula Marsh - Laura-Jane Timewell      Rosie -  
Bethan Roscoe

Hostesses - Sarah Burgoyne (Dance Captain), Ruth Alder, Louise Archer, Ella Farrer,  
Ruth Gardener, Helen Hart, Kate Jackson, Jackie Kefford, Laura-Jane Timewell

The usual mixture of new faces and established performers in fact, all keen to astound with their New York accents! (or not, as the case may be!!).

Rehearsals proper started in early June with a full "Sing-Through", and then ran twice-weekly until the end of September when we started our full run-throughs in the Public Hall. These increased in intensity early in October until the Technical rehearsal threw up a few lighting and staging problems just before show week but it was then all hands to the pumps as barely controlled panic set in before Opening Night!