



WAGGA WAGGA
CIVIC THEATRE

Media Release
for immediate release

Tuesday 29 April 2025

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre Delivers Opera to Every Heart: A Special Performance at Remembrance Retirement Village

Opera Queensland will make a special guest appearance at Remembrance Retirement Village in Wagga Wagga on Tuesday 29 April before they take their show *Are You Lonesome Tonight* to the Civic Theatre's main stage.

The intimate performance brings a taste of the show to residents who are unable to attend public performances.

Celebrating country music and opera, *Are You Lonesome Tonight* visits Wagga Wagga following Opera Queensland's ambitious regional tour, which covered over 8000-kilometres across Queensland and visited more than 30 communities.

Featuring a cast of young Australian singers, *Are You Lonesome Tonight* blends arias and songs by composers such as Puccini, Verdi, Slim Dusty, and Dolly Parton, offering a diverse and accessible opera experience. With its powerful melodies and evocative storytelling, the performance is sure to touch hearts, ignite memories, and foster a sense of community and connection.

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre Manager Claire Harris said this is such a special and memorable event.

"We're incredibly proud to bring this opportunity to the residents of Remembrance Retirement Village, ensuring that opera is not just confined to a stage, but shared in meaningful ways with everyone, regardless of their circumstances."

Director of Learning, Regional and Community at Opera Queensland Laura Hansford said Opera Queensland is committed to bringing music to communities all over Australia.

"We believe that opera isn't just for city theatres; it's a vibrant and multi-faceted artform that belongs everywhere.

"Our artists love creating deep connections with the communities we visit through our workshops and performances. This is about more than just entertainment; it's about opening doors to new cultural experiences and building communities connected by the power of telling stories through music."

Lifestyle Co-ordinator for Remembrance Retirement Village Adrian Hallam added: "Our residents are eagerly anticipating this exciting performance, and we are so grateful to the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre for bringing such a high-quality cultural experience right to our doorstep".

Following the performance at Remembrance Retirement Village, the cast will perform at the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre at 7.30pm on Tuesday 29 April.



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Tickets are still available for the evening performance providing a wonderful opportunity for the local community to enjoy world class entertainment from a national arts company without the need to travel to big cities.

“Whether you're in jeans and boots or tuxedos and ballgowns, this is opera in a fresh and exciting form—one that speaks to the heart of all generations,” Ms Harris said.

The Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre is a cultural facility of Wagga Wagga City Council.

More information on the performance and ticketing information is available at **civictheatre.com.au** or by contacting the Civic Theatre's box office.

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Media Opportunity

What: Opera Queensland deliver a personal sneak peek performance of *Are You Lonesome Tonight* at local retirement village.

Who: Civic Theatre Manager Claire Harris, Lifestyle Co-ordinator for Remembrance Retirement Village Adrian Hallam, and Opera Queensland Teaching Artist and Performer Nick Kirkup.

When: Tuesday 29 April 2025 at **10.30am**.

Where: Remembrance Retirement Village – 50-56A McKell Avenue, Wagga Wagga.

Contact the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre
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A cultural facility of the City of Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre

The Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre entertains more than 65,000 audience members each year.

From its annual Subscription Season, to the Wagga Comedy Fest, the Civic Theatre encourages discussion, enjoyment, learning and laughter throughout the community.

A cultural facility of the City of Wagga Wagga, the Civic Theatre features more than 180 productions and workshops each year.

The Civic Theatre was officially opened in 1963 and is now regarded as one of the best regional theatres in NSW.

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