

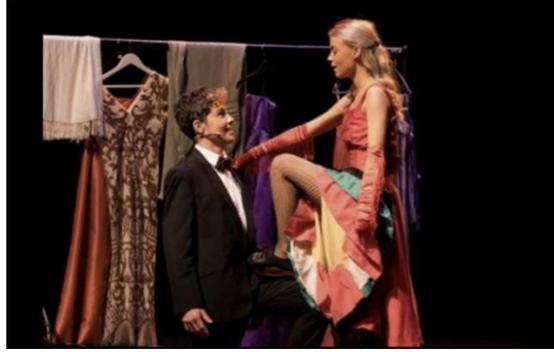
CALAMITY JANE

Report by Yvette McDonnell (assisted by Kacey Mooney)



In mid-September 2021 the school announced that we would collaborate with St. Peter's College and put on a production of the musical 'Calamity Jane'. The auditions were held later that week, with many girls auditioning for the four female lead parts. The next day the cast was announced and the first rehearsal for 'Calamity Jane' was held on the 28th of September.





From that day on, the principal cast met with director Alan Corcoran every Monday and Thursday, to work on the placing and delivery of each scene. To help with the singing and musical side of things we had our Mr. Kavanagh and Mr. Cleary from St. Peter's. Within the first few days, there was a great bond between all the cast, and we could feel that there was a great show in the making. In the next two months the whole show was pulling together. Ms. Davey and Ms. Kennedy (St. Peter's) helped with pulling everything together and choreographer Sorcha O'Connor helped us create a great presence on stage during all our songs.

Rehearsals became more intense and plentiful in the last few weeks leading up to show. Before we knew it, we were in the Opera House for our dress rehearsal the day before the show was originally supposed to take place from 7th-9th of December.



However, because of “Storm Barra” and covid restrictions the show had to be rescheduled and took place on the 8th and 9th of December, with two extra shows on the 11th of December to accommodate our audiences.



Our production of ‘Calamity Jane’ meant an immense amount to everyone who was involved. All the hard work that everyone put in most definitely paid off in the end.

The role of Calamity Jane was played by the amazingly talented Yvette McDonnell who played the role as if she was born to play it. Here is how she felt about her experience in the show.



“The moment when it became real for me was the first rehearsal with the orchestra just a week before the show. It was the first time we ever got to sing with full live accompaniment. That was the day that the whole show really came together.

It was a very emotional goodbye to each other and our characters. The feeling of wearing Calam’s deerskins one last time was one that I’ll never forget.

It was an absolute pleasure to get to play the role of Calamity alongside such great people. This show has given me some of my best memories and the best friends I’ll

ever have. On behalf of the cast, I would like to give a huge thank you to all of the teachers, backstage crew, members of the orchestra and especially Alan Corcoran. Without these people this show would've been impossible. 'Calamity Jane' was a great experience, which over 80 students from both schools got to experience, leaving many anticipating what Loreto and St. Peter's College will have for us in 2023."

