

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for *Pride and Prejudice*. This Audition Kit is intended to give you some background information about the show. If you decide to audition you should also download the dialogue excerpts that you will be asked to perform at your audition.

ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION

Pride and Prejudice is being produced by The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Tasmania. It is directed by Anne Blythe-Cooper with assistant director Amber Jury. The Music Director is Anne Blythe-Cooper with Iestyn Parry as répétiteur. Julie Raphael is Production Manager.

The show will be set on a revolve using period sets.

All shows will be presented at *The Playhouse Theatre* in Hobart between 8 June until 23 June 2018.

ABOUT THE SHOW

This is a new musical, which was written by Carl Lawton and Louella Jury and which was premiered in December 2016 to a sell-out season. It is based on the classic novel by Jane Austen.

Pride and Prejudice is a romance novel by [Jane Austen](#), first published in 1813. The story charts the emotional development of the protagonist, [Elizabeth Bennet](#), who learns the error of making hasty judgements and comes to appreciate the difference between the superficial and the essential. The comedy of the writing lies in the depiction of [manners](#), [education](#), and [marriage](#) and [money](#) in the [British Regency](#).

Mr Bennet of the Longbourn estate has five daughters, but his property is entailed, meaning that none of the girls can inherit it. Since his wife had no fortune, it is imperative that one of the girls marries well in order to support the others on his death. However, Jane Austen's opening line, "It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife" is a sentence filled with irony and playfulness. The novel revolves around the necessity of marrying for love, not simply for monetary reasons, despite the social pressures to make a good (i.e. wealthy) match.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pride_and_Prejudice

PERFORMANCES

Pride and Prejudice will be staged at The Playhouse Theatre from 8 June until 23 June 2018. The performance dates and times are:

Friday 8 June 7:30pm (effectively the final dress run but also a preview with an invited audience)

Saturday 9 June 7:30pm (opening)

Sunday 10 June 3:30pm (possible matinee)

Wednesday 13 June 7:30pm

Thursday 14 June 7:30pm

Friday 15 June 7:30pm

Saturday 16 June 2:00pm

Saturday 16 June 7:30pm

Sunday 17 June 3:30pm (possible matinee)

Wednesday 20 June 7:30pm

Thursday 21 June 7:30pm

Friday 22 June 7:30pm

Saturday 23 June 2:00pm

Saturday 23 June 7:30pm

If there is sufficient demand the producers may offer additional matinée performances on Sunday 10 June and/or Sunday 17 June. This will be confirmed by early May 2018. Cast members must be available for all performances, including the reserved matinée dates.

PRODUCTION WEEK

Bump-in to The Playhouse Theatre will be on Monday 4 June. All cast must be available for dress rehearsals from 6.00 pm onwards on that day and on Tuesday 5 June, Wednesday 6 June, Thursday 7 June, and for the final dress run/preview performance on Friday 8 June. It is intended that sponsors, helpers and other VIPS will be invited to attend the preview and remain afterwards to meet the cast over an informal drink.

REHEARSALS

Acting calls for *Pride and Prejudice* will commence in November and music and dance calls in around mid-February 2018. NB: There will be no rehearsals over Easter 30/3-3/4 and during the run of *Mary Poppins* Jan 26- February 11th. The Autumn school holidays of April 14 to 29th will be TBC according to need and availability.

It is planned that rehearsals will be held Thursday evenings from 7pm to 10 pm for the entire cast from November with additional Saturday or Sunday afternoon rehearsals from February. The Music Director will also arrange one-on-one sessions with all cast members based on need and cast availability.

The show opens in June 2018. The production team has made an effort to avoid all public holidays and school holidays during the rehearsal period, but we expect that rehearsals will be continuing through January. We ask you to be as honest and accurate as possible when you complete the availability questions on your audition application form.

ROLES

No roles have been pre-cast. We know that there is considerable talent in the Hobart theatre community and we are holding open auditions to find the best we can get. Required are 14 women and 10 men with the possibility of extras (additional maids/footmen).

Characters

BENNET FAMILY

Mr George Bennet	50's, amiable, gentle and eccentric man
Mrs Bennet -	40-50, querulous, excitable and ill-bred, desperate to marry off her daughters
Elizabeth Bennet	21, intelligent, bold and attractive
Jane Bennet	22, the eldest daughter, considered to be the most beautiful, reserved manner, pleasant to all
Mary Bennet	18, pretentious third Bennet daughter, who prefers reading over socializing
Catherine Bennet	17, (Kitty)older than Lydia but defers to her.
Lydia Bennet	15, flirtatious, naive, headstrong and reckless, the youngest

BENNET RELATIONS

Rev William Collins	27 pompous, narrow-minded, high opinion of himself
Edward Gardiner	35 Mrs Bennett's brother, patient, caring
Mrs Gardiner	30 wife to Edward, sensible, intuitive, kind

BENNET'S SERVANT

Anna 15 to 20 maid, a young local girl, who knows much.

MERYTON ENSEMBLE

Charlotte Lucas 29, sensible, intelligent, but seeks a marriage for security

Sir William Lucas 50's, a retired merchant, recently knighted, jovial and community minded

Lady Lucas late 40's, pleasant, well to do, friend to Mrs Bennet.

BINGLEY FAMILY

Charles Bingley 24 - 27 outgoing, extremely good-natured, and wealthy

Caroline Bingley 25 - 30 Bingley's shallow and haughty sister

BINGLEY SERVANT

Alfred Any age, footman (In Ball Scenes)

DARCY FAMILY

Fitzwilliam Darcy 25 to 28, intelligent, wealthy, extremely handsome and reserved

Georgiana Darcy 16, Attractive, quiet, Darcy's sister.

Colonel Fitzwilliam	25 Cousin and close friend to Darcy
Catherine de Bourgh	late 50 - 60's Mr. Darcy's aunt and Mr. Collins' patron, inconsistent and arrogant
Anne de Bourgh	18 - 20 Lady Catherine's sickly, bland daughter
Reynolds	Housekeeper

MILITARY

Wickham	24, dashing, charming and handsome young soldier
Denny	20, Local boy, junior officer in militia, cheerful, kind
Carter	20, Local boy, junior officer in militia, cheerful, kind

SERVANTS

Maids (can be played by Georgiana who is Act 2 only) and backstage crew

Harriet doubles as **Anne de Bourgh**

Colonel Fitzwilliam may also be **Alfred** the butler

Jane Austen narrator who sings and interacts with the cast.

Characters in detail

Elizabeth Bennet - the second of the Bennet daughters, she is twenty years old and intelligent, lively, playful, attractive, and witty—but with a tendency to judge on first impressions. As the story progresses, so does her relationship with Mr Darcy. The course of Elizabeth and Darcy's relationship is ultimately decided when Darcy overcomes his pride, and Elizabeth overcomes her prejudice, leading them both to surrender to their love for each other. ***This is a leading speaking role and requires a very strong Soprano voice. Songs: Sometimes it rains, All of my life, Several others***
AUDITION EXCERPT TWO, THREE, FOUR, SEVEN, NINE AND ELEVEN (choose two)

Mr Fitzwilliam Darcy - the wealthy friend of Mr Bingley. A newcomer to the village, he is ultimately Elizabeth Bennet's love interest. Mr Darcy is the twenty-eight year old wealthy owner of the renowned family estate of Pemberley in Derbyshire, and is rumoured to be worth at least £10,000 a year. While being handsome, tall, and intelligent, Darcy lacks ease and social graces, and so others frequently mistake his aloof decorum and rectitude as further proof of excessive pride (which, in part, it is). ***Song: Strange. All of my life, Desires***

AUDITION EXCERPT FOUR FIVE AND EIGHT (choose two)

Mr Bennet - A late-middle-aged landed gentleman of a modest income of £2000 per annum, and the dryly sarcastic patriarch of the now-dwindling Bennet family (a family of Hertfordshire landed gentry), with five unmarried daughters. His estate, Longbourn, is entailed to the male line. ***Large comic acting role Song: Five Daughters. Desires, Off to Brighton.***

AUDITION EXCERPT ONE AND SIX

Mrs Bennet - the middle-aged wife of her social superior, Mr Bennet, and the mother of their five daughters. Mrs Bennet is a hypochondriac who imagines herself susceptible to attacks of tremors and palpitations ("[her] poor nerves"), whenever things are not going her way. Her main ambition in life is to marry her daughters off to wealthy men. Whether or not any such matches will give her daughters happiness is of little concern to her. ***Large comic acting role – minimal singing (Desires)***

AUDITION EXCERPT ONE AND SIX

Jane Bennet - the eldest Bennet sister. Twenty-two years old when the novel begins, she is considered the most beautiful young lady in the neighbourhood and is inclined to see only the good in others. She falls in love with Charles Bingley, a rich young gentleman recently moved to Hertfordshire and a close friend of Mr Darcy. ***Large acting role Song: Love Lost.***

AUDITION EXCERPT SEVEN

Mary Bennet - the middle Bennet sister, and the plainest of her siblings. Mary has a serious disposition and mostly reads and plays music, although she is often impatient to display her accomplishments and is rather vain about them. She frequently moralises to her family. ***Supporting actor with ensemble singing***

AUDITION EXCERPT SIX

Catherine "Kitty" Bennet - The fourth Bennet daughter at 17 years old. Though older than Lydia, she is her shadow and follows her in her pursuit of the officers of the militia. She is often portrayed as envious of Lydia and is described a "silly" young woman. However, it is said that she improved when removed from Lydia's influence. ***Supporting actor. Song: Off to Brighton, Desires***

AUDITION EXCERPT ONE AND SIX

Lydia Bennet - the youngest Bennet sister, aged 15 when the novel begins. She is frivolous and headstrong. Her main activity in life is socializing, especially flirting with the officers of the militia. This leads to her running off with George Wickham, although he has no intention of marrying her. Lydia shows no regard for the moral code of her society; as Ashley Tauchert says, she "feels without reasoning." **Supporting actor. Song: Off to Brighton, Desires**

AUDITION EXCERPT ONE AND SIX

Charles Bingley - a handsome, amiable, wealthy young gentleman who leases Netherfield Park, an estate three miles from Longbourn, with the hopes of purchasing it. He is contrasted with Mr Darcy for having more generally pleasing manners, although he is reliant on his more experienced friend for advice. He lacks resolve and is easily influenced by others; his two sisters, Miss Caroline Bingley and Mrs Louisa Hurst, both disapprove of Bingley's growing affection for Miss Jane Bennet. **Leading actor Ensemble singing**

AUDITION EXCERPT EIGHT

Caroline Bingley - the vainglorious, snobbish sister of Charles Bingley, with a dowry of £20,000. Miss Bingley harbours designs upon Mr Darcy, and therefore is jealous of his growing attachment to Elizabeth. She attempts to dissuade Mr Darcy from liking Elizabeth by ridiculing the Bennet family and criticising Elizabeth's comportment. Miss Bingley also disapproves of her brother's esteem for Jane Bennet, and is disdainful of society in Meryton. **Supporting actor. Song: So Common.**

AUDITION EXCERPT FIVE

George Wickham - Wickham has been acquainted with Mr Darcy since infancy, being the son of Mr Darcy's father's steward. An officer in the militia, he is superficially charming and rapidly forms

an attachment with Elizabeth Bennet. He later runs off with Lydia with no intention of marriage, which would have resulted in her complete disgrace, but for Darcy's intervention to bribe Wickham to marry her by paying off his immediate debts. **Supporting Actor Ensemble singing with solo lines in Desires.**

AUDITION EXCERPT NINE

Mr William Collins -Mr Collins, aged 25 years old as the novel begins, is Mr Bennet's distant second cousin, a clergyman, and the current heir presumptive to the estate of Longbourn House. He is an obsequious and pompous man who is excessively devoted to his patroness, Lady Catherine de Bourgh. **Comic acting role Song: A Woman who knows her plac.**

AUDITION EXCERPT THREE

Lady Catherine de Bourgh- the overbearing aunt of Mr Darcy. Lady Catherine is the wealthy owner of Rosings Park, where she resides with her daughter Anne and is fawned upon by her rector, Mr Collins. She is haughty, pompous, domineering, and condescending, and has long planned to marry off her sickly daughter to Darcy, to 'unite their two great estates', claiming it to be the dearest wish of both her AND her late sister, Lady Anne Darcy (née Fitzwilliam). **Appears in act two, supporting role. Song: A scandalous falsehood.**

AUDITION EXCERPT TWO

Mr Edward and Mrs M Gardiner - Edward Gardiner is Mrs Bennet's brother and a successful tradesman of sensible and gentlemanly character. Aunt Gardiner is genteel and elegant, and is close to her nieces Jane and Elizabeth. The Gardiners are instrumental in bringing about the marriage between Darcy and Elizabeth. **Some dialogue, ensemble singing with solo lines in Desires and Pemberly**

AUDITION EXCERPT TEN

Georgiana Darcy - Georgiana is Mr Darcy's quiet, amiable (and shy) younger sister, with a dowry of £30,000, and is aged barely 16-years-old when the story begins. When still 15, Miss Darcy almost eloped with Mr Wickham, but was saved by her brother, who she idolises. Thanks to years of tutorage under masters, she is accomplished at the piano, singing, playing the harp, and drawing, and modern languages, and is therefore described as Caroline Bingley's idea of an 'accomplished woman'. **Act two only, supporting actor**

AUDITION EXCERPT TEN

Charlotte Lucas is Elizabeth's friend who, at 27 years old (and thus past prime marriage age), fears becoming a burden to her family and therefore agrees to marry Mr Collins to gain financial security. Though the novel stresses the importance of love and understanding in marriage, Austen never seems to condemn Charlotte's decision to marry for money. She uses Charlotte to convey how women of her time would adhere to society's expectation for women to marry even if it is not out of love, but convenience. Charlotte is the daughter of Sir William Lucas and Lady Lucas, friends of Mrs Bennet. **Supporting actor, often on stage with Lizzie, some solo singing, Pride and Prejudice, Leaving Netherfield.**

AUDITION EXCERPT ELEVEN

Jane Austen: Narrator. AUDITION EXCERPT TWELVE. Various Singing including Intro, Leaving Netherfield, Pemberly.

ALL OTHER ROLES, AUDITION EXCERPT TEN

SONGS

Intro – Miss Austen

Five Daughters – Mr Bennett

A Grand Affair – Bennett girls and servants

Here with You – Bingley and Jane

Strange – Darcy

So Common – Caroline Bingley

A Woman who knows her place – Rev Collins

Netherfield – Lizzie, Jane, Charlotte and ensemble

Leaving Netherfield - ensemble

Love Lost – Jane

Sometimes it rains – Lizzie

Off to Brighton – Kitty, Lydia, Lizzie and Mr Bennett

Pemberley – Mr and Mrs Gardiner and servants

Desires – ensemble

A Scandalous Falsehood – Lady Catherine and Lizzie

Pride and Prejudice – Charlotte, Lizzie and ensemble

AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held on Saturday October 28 and Sunday October 29 from 6pm to 8pm at Hobart Rep Rehearsal Space, Creek Rd, Lenah Valley, and Lawrenny Hall West Hobart if needed.

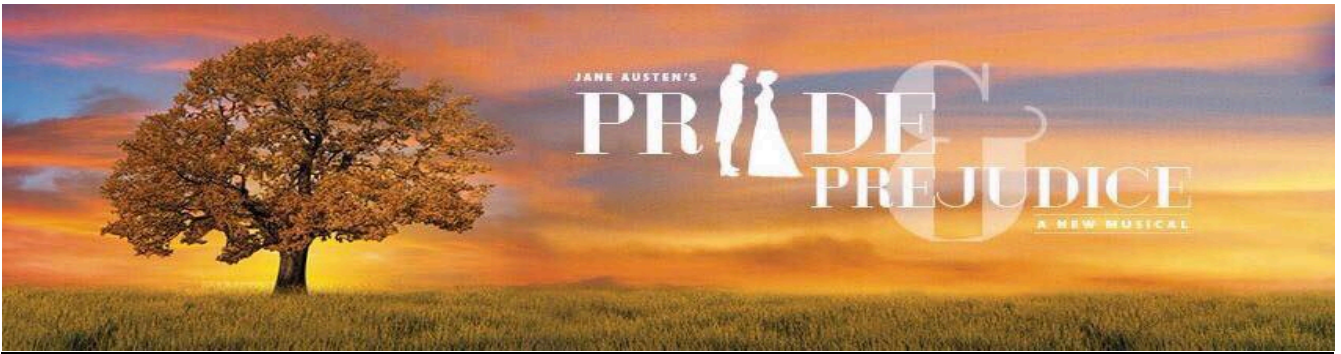
To book an audition time, please email us at PrideandPrejudiceHobart2018@gmail.com and provide us with the following essential information:

1. Your first and last name
2. Your date of birth
3. Your contact phone number
4. The role(s) you wish to audition for
5. Any times during the scheduled audition days that you are NOT available.

Alternatively, you can call Julie Raphael on 0408 341 152 to book an audition time.

If you have emailed us, we will respond to your email within 48 hours to confirm your audition time and the venue. If you haven't heard back from us within 48 hours, please contact Julie Raphael (mobile number above) to confirm that we've received your email.

Please provide this form at the time of your audition:



Name		Date of Birth	
Home Address			
Postal Address			
Email Address			
Phone Contact	(mob/h/w)		
Voice Type (eg Soprano)		Vocal Range (if known)	
Singing Teacher (if any)		Can you read music?	
Roles Auditioning for:			

Please list any **specific periods or dates that you may be unavailable**. You **must** advise us of all known work, study, family and other commitments (including holidays, other theatrical productions, music/dance concerts, exam periods etc) plus any potential/unconfirmed commitments you're aware of up to June 23 2018.

Day/Time	Availability	Day/Time	Availability
Mon 5.30 –10		Sat AM	
Tue 5.30 –10		Sat PM	
Wed 5.30 –10		Sun AM	
Thurs 5.30 –10		Sun PM	

Anything else we need to know? _____

Signed: _____

For each role you wish to audition for, please prepare both the dialogue and a piece of music of your own choosing from musical theatre repertoire. This is not entirely prescriptive but make sure your selection shows your range and ability. Please select the appropriate dialogue. Click on one of these links to download from the Society's website.

If you're running late, or if you decide not to audition after all, please let Julie know (mobile number above) as soon as possible.

AFTER THE AUDITION

Please be patient with us as it may take some time to finalise the cast. We will contact you as soon as we can.

If you are not cast it doesn't mean that you are not worthy of a part. We must consider all sorts of factors including availability for rehearsals, vocal ranges and creating a balanced ensemble.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please email us at PrideandPrejudiceHobart2018@gmail.com or call Julie Raphael on 0408 341 152 or Anne Blythe-Cooper on 0408 055 115.