











**LUKIS BAGLEY** SHANARA BOROVINA NICHOLAS BREHENY CRUIZ CAMPBELL **ALYSSA CANNON** TOM CLAYTON HANJO FERREIRA HARRY HAWKSLEY JADE HELLIWELL **JAKE KIRCHNER** HAMISH MCGUIRE TIA MUDGE ELIZA MURDOCH **RUBY PIGRAM** MIA RAMM PEYTON ROSE JACK SCOTT TAROUIN STANLEY **ALBY STANTON** JETT WALKER **RHYS WARR** 

AMELIA WRIGHT

## **ALSO FEATURING**

HARRISON HAY, Yr 1...LITTLE KICKER MR ANDREW RICH...BLUEY PHILLIPS

## WITH GUEST PERFORMERS **BRINE HOUSE BAND**

**LUKIS BAGLEY WEST BELLOTTI** CRUIZ CAMPBELL SAM CULLEN **BOSTON PETCHELL** HENRY RIGGALL **SENIOR BOARDERS' BAND** ADAM JESPERSEN JACK JOHNSON **ELIJAH JOSE** RYAN OBST JORDAN PETCHELL SHAUN ROBINSON CADEN WARD UNDER THE DIRECTION OF **DAN MIJAT** 

**CHRISTOPHER RYAN** LIGHTING & SOUND TECHNICIAN

## FROM THE DIRECTOR





Kicker Thompson, the stage play, was originally written and mounted in 2018 and was created to fulfil a need for a drama project designed specifically for boarding students. On entry to boarding, students often have a great deal of sporting experience but less experience with the dramatic arts. They can therefore understandably be reticent to participate in school theatre productions which are consequently primarily made up of day students. It was felt that creating a play specifically for boarders and about boarders would go some way to redressing that imbalance.

*Kicker Thompson* is about football, the wheatbelt and anxiety. It reflects the joy and sense of belonging that country living can bring and also considers the mental health issues wrought by both rural isolation and displacement.

This year, a cast of largely inexperienced but enthusiastic Year 7 and Year 8 boarding students from Hale School and St Mary's embraced the country mindset of 'giving it a good go' and auditioned for the 2023 touring production.

After 8 weeks of rehearsal, our performers take to the stage tonight in the Hale Auditorium for a special performance which kicks off National Boarding Week and celebrates Mother's Day. We are also pleased to have performances by the magnificent Brine House and Senior Boarders bands tonight.

Next week we take to the road and travel to Narrogin and Beverley to perform Kicker Thompson for and with our connected rural communities. A local footy legend and a 'Young Kicker' from each town will join us on stage for these performances and a community gathering will be held after each event.

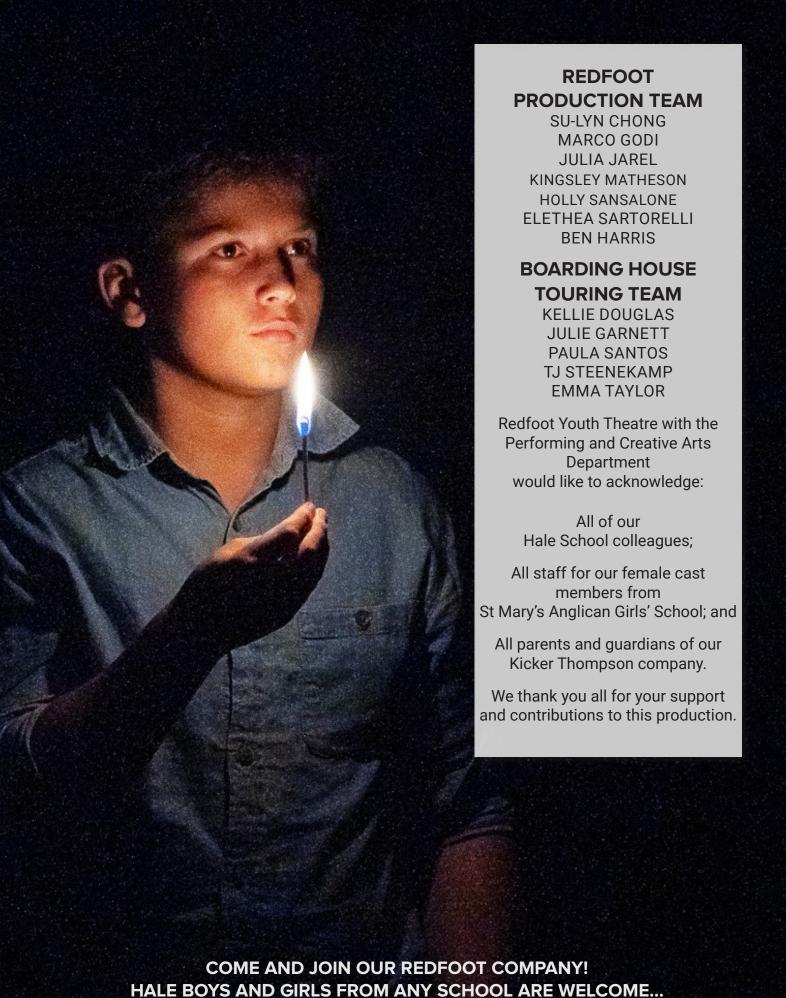
No production of this nature can ever happen without the creative and logistical support of a huge team behind the scenes. Thank you to all the boarding, technical, creative and events teams for your wonderful input.

I would also like to make special mention of Christopher Ryan, a Year 9 day-boy who is our Lighting and Sound Technician who is accompanying us on tour.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working on this challenging work with such a committed and enthusiastic young group of women and men from St Mary's (my old school!) and Hale School and would like to thank them all most sincerely.

Please join us after the show to connect with and congratulate these young actors who have worked as a team to create a beautiful, meaningful and timely piece of theatre.

> JULIA JAREL Director / Writer



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