



**MERBEIN LINK:** Cailen Biggs is honoured to be in the concert Picture: Sarah Simmons

# Wickedly good fun

## Performers showcase Merbein

By Hannah Knight

CAILLEN Biggs will embrace her wicked side at Merbein's Centenary Concert tomorrow night.

The Mildura Senior College student will perform *Popular* from the musical *Wicked* at the Mercy Theatre in Eleventh Street.

With the curtain going up at 7.30pm, the Bendigo Bank Centenary Concert will feature piano and ballet solos, sword dancing and individual and choir singing.

All members of the 100-strong cast share a link with Merbein.

Concert organiser Mavis Frances said some performers live in Merbein, some have relocated to other areas in Sunraysia and some are travelling back to their home-town for the event.

"This is an exciting chance for locals and visitors to see what talent has emerged from Merbein," she said.

"The centenary re-

ally has drawn people together who haven't crossed paths for a long time.

"It really is a positive for the community."

Featuring 24 acts, the program includes performances by the Centenary Percussion Group, Sing, Australia, Bushfire and The CWA Choir.

**'I haven't been back there in about a year, so it will be good to see all the friends and families I know,' she said.**

**Caillen has been singing since she was nine. She recently started ballet lessons and would like to work in theatre.**

**Rebecca Wells, a Merbein Centenary Committee member, said tickets for the concert were selling fast.**

**"It's \$15 a seat and it's going to be a great night."**

**The Merbein Centenary celebrations will start today with registrations, a meet and greet and book launch.**

**For more information and a full list of events, visit [www.merbeincenary.com.au](http://www.merbeincenary.com.au).**

Nigel Hoyle, Dominic Chorale, Kaitia Stephard, Shanae Tilley, Cassie Barco, Matthew Rodi, Jordan Kane, Jasmine Hudson, Alexandra Wellington, Vaughan Stirrat, Wilma Smart, Shirley Gill, Lara Francis, Terry Murphy and Cailen Biggs will

also grace the stage. Caillen, 17, said performing at the concert was an honour.

While Caillen has lived in Mildura all her life, she attended Merbein Primary School and Merbein Secondary College.

"I haven't been back there in about a year, so it will be good to see all the friends and families I know," she said.

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