

Backchat

News from The New Zealand Theatre Federation Inc



July 2012 Volume 35 Issue 4

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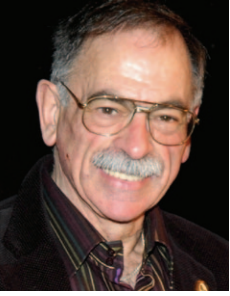
Theatre Whakatane 8



Theatre Whakatane is profiled in this issue on page 8. Here the cast and Tracy Tidd playing the part of Nancy are in full flight during the 2011 production of *Oliver!*



President



It's Festival time and this year we have over 30 entries in the Festival Of Community Theatre performing in 7 Festivals. New regions being covered are the Waikato/Bay of Plenty area and the Wairarapa. It is pleasing to note that the two largest festivals are Canterbury/WestCoast and Otago/Southland. No doubt teams are encouraged by the prospect of travel subsidies to the National Final in Hastings.

Regional Finals are in Whakatane 24/25 Aug; Pahiatua 31 Aug/1 Sept; Christchurch 24/25 Aug and Invercargill 31 Aug/1 Sept. Like last year there will be a different adjudicator in each Island, and they will confer about what they've seen and select what should go forward to the National Final. This worked well last year and helped keep team travel costs down so hopefully this structure will continue in future.

Planning for the National Finals in Hastings 14/15 September is in hand and the organisers are pulling out all the stops to make it a memorable weekend. A registration form is enclosed. There are a number of exciting workshops running on Saturday afternoon and Irish adjudicator Larry McCluskey will no doubt give many erudite and illuminating comments about the plays he sees at the National Final. A reminder that while in NZ Larry will be taking a Masterclass in Christchurch, the weekend before the National Final, and in Wellington the weekend after. Hard copies of forms were sent in June; an electronic form is attached or you can download it from our website - Events.

Included with Backchat are nomination forms for the National Executive. It is hoped that all members will give due consideration to this and think of possible people to nominate or maybe there are individuals from within our member groups who may consider putting themselves forward for election.

As we move into the most active period on the NZTF calendar I would like to thank all those who give endless hours of volunteer time to make Festivals a success and wish everyone participating all the best. May you all get as much out of these Festivals as you put in.

Ewen D Coleman
National President

Notices

This month we are very pleased to welcome **Patron** Ray Henwood ONZM, an actor who started in Tawa, Wellington and has been in professional theatre, film and TV for over 30 years. We welcome **school groups** Napier Boys High, Taikura Rudolf Steiner School, Tamatea High School all from Napier and from Wellington, Newlands College. We also welcome **individual member** Bob Hudson, Tauranga.

Notice is given that the 42nd **Annual General Meeting** of The New Zealand Theatre Federation will be held in the Lowe Family Performing Arts Centre Lindisfarne College Pakowhai Road Hastings at 9am on Saturday 15th September 2012.

Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six National Executive members are called for.

Forms for photocopying are enclosed and should be returned to NZTF Box 329 Palmerston North 4440 by August 17th.

Remits are also called for by August 17th.

Other enclosures with this Backchat are: a **David Brockett Award for Backstage Achievement** nomination form also to be returned by August 17. **National Finals Weekend Registration** form to be returned by noon Saturday 8 September. Festival information comes as a 'lift-out' pp 3-6

.....
All groups received a Festival Newsflash in June together with a **Poster Competition** entry form and it is announced that the adjudicator will be Bridget Waikato of Hastings.

If you need to contact the organiser Helen Ball her phone number is 06 843 6979.

.....
A reminder to send in nominations for the **Meritorious Service Award**. Forms were sent out in May and the closing date is 1st August.

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Drama Development Trust distribution of **\$5000 travel funding to South Island teams**: Invercargill Regional max \$2000 one team or \$1,500 x 2 teams; Christchurch Regional max \$1,500 one team or \$1,000 x 2 teams.

2012 Festival of Community Theatre

Local Festivals

Waikato/Bay of Plenty

John Paul College
Hamilton Playbox

Skid Marks by Lindsay Price
The Window by Barbara Else

Hawke's Bay

Te Puke Repertory
Napier Boys High School
Napier Repertory Players
Pahiatua Repertory Society
Tamatea High School

Darlings You Were Wonderful by Derek Lomas
A Horrible Death by Chris Place
Feeding the Magpies by Colin Cook
Tiggy Tiggy Touch Wood by Renee
Mac Dreamy by Millie Booth & Shakespeare

Manawatu

Taikura Rudolf Steiner School
FAHS, Feilding High School
Wanganui High School
Wanganui High School
Wanganui High School
Feilding Little Theatre

Coal Town Blues by Mervyn Thompson
The Dreaming by Richard James
Figment by David Tucker
To Burn a Witch by James L Bray
The Extraordinary Revelations of Orca the Goldfish by David Tristram

Wairarapa/Wellington

Limelight Stage Door Youth Theatre
Limelight Theatre

Youthanasia by Scott Frater

Top of the South

Newlands College
Marlborough Girls College
Marlborough Repertory

Take Five by Wesley M. Pederson
Which Pretty Little Girl is Going to be Next? by Eric Scott

Canterbury/West Coast

Aranui High School
Aranui High School
Elmwood Players
Elmwood Players
Lincoln High School
Lincoln High School
Lincoln High School
Pierrot Theatre
Rangi Ruru Girls College

Living with Lady Macbeth by Rob John
Jack and Jill by Wade Millar

Southland/Otago

St Margaret's College
Invercargill Repertory
Invercargill Repertory
James Hargest College
Logan Park High School
Southland Boys High

King Lear by William Shakespeare
Me and My Friend by Gillian Plawman
A Galway Girl by Geraldine Aron
The Imaginary Friend by Neil Troost
An Illustrated Death of Eddie Fivetrees by Simon O'Connor
Cage by Chris Dockrill
Living with Lady Macbeth by Rob John
Deep End by Bruce Goodman
Psychosis by Sarah Kane
Titus Andronicus by William Shakespeare
Hello from Bertha by Tennessee Williams
Legend by Floyd Dell
The Real Problem by Bruce Kane
A Different Sort of Love Story by Denise Walsh
Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

Regional Adjudicators



Deborah Davids
ANZDA, LAMDA

will adjudicate Regional Festivals in Christchurch (August 24/25) and Invercargill (Aug 31/Sept 1). She trained and worked as an actor in England and danced with

a company in South America. A week after arriving in Christchurch she had contracts with the Court Theatre and TVNZ for the first season of MacPhail and Gadsby. Working round family commitments Deborah has continued to act, teach and adjudicate a wide variety of art based events. She has received a number of awards over the years for her activities.



David Chambers
BA, ATCL, ANZDA

will adjudicate Regionals Festivals in Whakatane (August 24/25) and Pahiatua (Aug 31/ Sept 1). David turned his passion for performance drama into his

profession in 1988 when he became an HoD Drama. Since then he has directed hundreds of plays, and mentored others. He has adjudicated two South Island District Festivals and gained the confidence and respect of the people he worked with.



2012 Festival of Community Theatre

Programme for National Finals Weekend 14 & 15 September

Lowe Family Performing Arts Centre,
Lindisfarne College, Pakowhai Road, Hastings

Friday, 14 September

- 1.30 pm NZTF Executive Meeting.
7.00 pm Opening Ceremony.
Performances selected from the North and South Island Regional Festivals.
Bar facilities open at 6.00 pm and are available throughout evening.

Saturday, 15 September

- 9.00 am New Zealand Theatre Federation Annual General Meeting.
11.00 am Insurance Forum with Guest Speaker, Rick Behague, Aon Insurance.
12 noon Lunch (**Prepaid lunch orders essential. No lunch orders taken on the day.**)
1.00 pm Association of NZ Drama Adjudicators Annual General Meeting.
1.00 pm Workshops
Workshop A Lighting (**1.00 pm to 4.30 pm**)
Workshop B Improvisation (1.00 pm to 2.30 pm)
Workshop C Voice (1.00 pm to 2.30 pm)
Workshop D Special Effects Make-up (1.00 pm to 2.30 pm)
2.30 pm Afternoon Tea
3.00 pm Workshops
Workshop B Improvisation (3.00 pm to 4.30 pm)
Workshop C Voice (3.00 pm to 4.30 pm)
Workshop D Special Effects Make-up (3.00 pm to 4.30 pm)
7.00 pm Performances selected from the North and South Island Regional Festivals.
Presentation of Awards.
Closing Ceremony.
Supper. Bar facilities open at 6.00 pm and are available throughout evening

See workshop details pp5/6 and register attendance on separate form by 8 September

Accommodation within walking distance:

Aparima Motor Lodge
207 Pakowhai Road, Hastings
Phone 06 876 0209 or 0800 2720 7462
Email: aparima.motel@xtra.co.nz
www.aparimamotel.co.nz

Frimley Lodge Motel
311 Pakowhai Road, Hastings
Phone 06 876 0519 or 0800 800 936
Email: frimley@actrix.co.nz
www.frimleylodgemotel.co.nz

Accommodation within five minutes driving time:

Cumberland Court Motel
Cnr Omaha and Mareakakaho Rds Hastings
Phone 06 879 8051 or 0800 356 673
Email: stay@cumberlandcourt.co.nz
www.cumberlandcourt.co.nz

Elmore Lodge Motel
301 Omaha Road Hastings
Phone 06 870 7061 or 0800 166 248
Email: elmorelodgemotel@xtra.co.nz
www.omahumotorlodge.co.nz

Omaha Motor Lodge
327 Omaha Road Hastings
Phone 06 870 7061 or 0800 166 248
email info@omahumotorlodge.co.nz
www.omahumotorlodge.co.nz



2012 Festival of Community Theatre

Workshops from 1pm Saturday 15 September

Workshop A: Lighting (One 3 hour workshop)

Stuart Mitchell, NZ Sales Manager, Philips Selecon, Auckland

BIOGRAPHY

Stuart has been leading the New Zealand Sales team at Selecon since 2001 and spent many years on and off the boards at the Harlequin Theatre in Howick, doing everything from lighting design and operation to production and stage management and a wee bit o' singing (in the chorus).

Stuart's passionate about light and lighting and the products he sells to make lighting a true art form. Philips Selecon's products have now been joined by products from other world class companies such as Varilite (moving lights), Color Kinetics (LED) and Strand (dimming and control), making Stuart's lighting product palette one of the best around.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

- Quick safety run down, volts, heat, height, safety chains, working alone.
Set up and explain PC, Fresnels and Zoom spots. Focus, shaping, colouring and effects. Show accessories for all and show detail in uses of luminaires, effects, colour, control systems and design concepts.
- Practical exercise with designing a scene, setting it up, focusing, colouring etc.
This could be done in 2 or 3 groups if numbers and time allow. Explaining the scenes with the group and getting feed-back and critique from others.

Stuart will have a trade display at the Festival.

Workshop B: Improvisation (Two 90 minute workshops)

Clare Kelso, Creative Director, ConArtists, Auckland

BIOGRAPHY

Clare Kelso is a fully professional actor who has Produced, Directed and Tutored Improvisation for 20 years with THEATRESPOITS, Auckland and ConArtists. She has made guest appearances in "Shortland Street", "Super City" and "Outrageous Fortune". She is a winner of the NZTF One Act Play Festival, NZTF Best Actress Award and NZTF Shell Playwright of the Year award in an earlier life. She believes improvisation can help any actor improve their live performance skills and she has been seen by over half a million people in her live performances.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

These workshops will be an introduction to improvisation techniques to improve scripted, devised and improvisational performance.

Participants will be able to experience exercises to strengthen their ability to perform improv games and open scenes. They will learn that telling stories can be dramatic but not earnest and that comedy has to be earned within a story. The methodology of the workshop is to involve the participants in many varied exercises, both as individuals, pairs, small groups and as a whole.

Although this is only an introduction and very brief - by the end of this workshop the actors should have realised the power and reassurance of improvisation in any field of performance and the strength of ensemble work.



2012 Festival of Community Theatre

Workshop C: Voice (Two 90 minute workshops)

Lisa-Jane Hay, One Voice Consulting Ltd, Napier

BIOGRAPHY

Lisa-Jane Hay trained as an actor in New Zealand before venturing overseas to further her studies in vocal technique. During her time there she studied intensely with renowned vocal tutors including *Cecily Berry* and *Kristin Linklater*.

Lisa-Jane was the Director of the Performing Arts Drama Diploma at the Eastern Institute of Technology in Hawke's Bay 1998-2001 working with Diploma students aged 16 years to 25. She has been tutoring Voice at NYDS (National Youth Drama School) for over 11 years.

Lisa-Jane now works as a Public Performance Coach with her company One Voice Consulting Limited. She tutors nationwide working with vocal students (specialising in the spoken word) and runs many workshops for youth around NZ incorporating vocal drama work and vocal presentations

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The workshop will cover:

- Relaxation Techniques
- A brief overview in teaching accents
- Vocal Safety in the Theatre
- Projection / Articulation Techniques

Workshop D: SPFX Make-up (Two 90 minute workshops)

Amanda Murray, Make-up Artist, Napier

BIOGRAPHY

A passionate and professional make-up artist, Amanda Murray brings an impressive background of credentials and experience to the Hawke's Bay. Her qualifications include a Certificate in Television and Special Effects Make-up from The Sydney College of Make-up Art, and advanced training in fashion, film, television and photographic make-up. She has been involved in brand marketing for prestigious cosmetic houses such as Versace, Clarins, YSL, and Orlane, and organised make-up teams for Girls Day Out and Wedding Expos. She has worked in both television and film, and with well known photographers on fashion shoots for magazines and advertising. Amanda has extensive industry knowledge, having worked as a make-up tutor for one of NZ's leading make-up schools. Relocating to the Hawke's Bay seven years ago, Amanda currently works freelance teaching SPFX classes at Hastings Girls' High School, for Hawke's Bay Television, and focuses on customer service, fashion photography, SPFX and bridal make-up.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The workshop will cover:

- Bullet holes and blood spatter
- Scratches
- Sutures/stitches
- Bruises
- Puncture Wounds (e.g. vampire bites)
- Wounds
- Corpses - both recent and decomposing

Using SPFX wax, rigid collodian and SPFX blood, participants will learn industry techniques on how to create special effects suitable for photography, film, television and stage.

There will be a brief tutor introduction followed by a short demonstration of the above techniques, then students will divide into groups and apply SPFX make-up on themselves or each other. Amanda will be giving advice and instruction but also letting students use their own artistic licence to achieve the effect they desire

Amanda will have a trade display with SPFX and stage make-up for sale.

What's On August / September

• Avondale College	<i>Godspell</i> by Schwartz and Tebelak	September 18 - 22
• Otamatea Repertory Theatre	<i>Oliver!</i> by Lionel Bart	July 27 - August 19
• Titirangi Theatre	<i>Some Girls</i> by Neil La Bute	September 4 - 15
• Howick Little Theatre	<i>Entertaining Angels</i> by Richard Everett	July 14 - August 4
• Detour Theatre	<i>Peninsular</i> by Gary Henderson	September 8 - 29
• Tauranga Repertory	<i>Tauranga: A Midsummer's Night Dream</i> by William Shakespeare	September 12 - 29
• Theatre Hawkes Bay	<i>Playing Away</i> by Janet Shaw	September 5 - 22
• Rotorua Little Theatre	<i>A Man of No Importance</i> by McNally/Ahrens/Flaherty	August 16 - 25
• New Plymouth Little Theatre	<i>Absent Friends</i> by Alan Ayckbourn	August 17 - Sept 1
• Foxton Little Theatre	<i>The Odd Couple</i> by Neil Simon	September 12 - 22
• Levin Little Theatre	<i>A Kiss on the Bottom</i> by Frank Vickery	August 3 - 18
• Kapiti Playhouse	<i>The Memory of Water</i> by Shelagh Stephenson	August 30 - Sept 8
• Mana Little Theatre	<i>Whodidit?</i> by Neil Harrison	August 17 - 25
• Khandallah Arts Theatre	<i>Third Week in August</i> by Peter Gordon	August 23 - Sept 1
• Stagecraft Theatre	AUDITION: <i>The Haunted Through Lounge</i> by David Tristram	August 12@7.30
	AUDITION: <i>The Mousetrap</i> by Agatha Christie	August 11 - 12
	<i>Enron</i> by Lucy Prebble	August 1 - 11
	AUDITION: <i>As You Like It</i> by William Shakespeare	August 18 - 19
	<i>Serial Killers</i> by James Griffin	September 19 - 29
• Drama Christi	<i>You Can't Take it With You</i> by Moss Hart & George Kaufman	September 7 - 16
• Heretaunga Players	<i>For the Good of the Family</i> by George Douglas Lee	August 3 - 11
• Amuri Players	Hanmer: <i>Seussical - the Musical</i> by Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty	August 8 - 11
• Elmwood Players	<i>Triple Treat</i> short play season	July 26 - August 4
• South Canterbury Drama League	Playhouse: <i>Short Cut to Happiness</i> by Roger Hall	August 3-11
	Theatre Royal: <i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i> by Andrew Lloyd Webber	September 14 - 22

Do you send your newsletters by email? Include Backchat Editor info@theatrenewzealand.co.nz



At the Bay And *The Garden Party*



Katherine Mansfield's 125th Birthday Celebrations.

A variety of events are planned for 2013 to celebrate the birth of Katherine Mansfield, on October 14, 1888. Kevin Boon has dramatised two of her most popular stories: *At the Bay* and *The Garden Party* for reading and performances by drama groups throughout New Zealand.

The Garden Party is a One Act Play of approximately 30 minutes, set in the parlour and garden of her house. It can be performed on a bare stage in an indoor or outdoor setting with a minimum cast of 6 (3 male & 3 female).

At the Bay is a play of 60 minutes with a minimum cast of 8 (3 male & 5 female). It is set at the beach, on the lawn and in a bedroom of the house. However, it is able to be adapted to most indoor or outdoor locations.

Copies of the plays can be viewed and obtained by contacting Kevin Boon by phone on (04) 4793264 or email at k.boon@clear.net.nz.

There is no charge for accessing or downloading these plays.

Theatre Whakatane

Material supplied by Mark Howell

Theatre Whakatane was formed in 2005 by the amalgamation of the local 60 plus year old music and repertory societies. The new organisation's objective is to "promote the practice, performance and enjoyment of dramatic and related arts" in the Whakatane community. Day to day running is in the hands of a hard-working, dedicated elected management committee made up of a good mix of young and old with some highly experienced people and others who are quite new to the society.

Theatre Whakatane sold off former properties and used the proceeds towards new club rooms.



We should be able to make our final payment on our bank loan this year. and the next phase is to develop an auditorium, rehearsal space, storage area and workshop.

We also continue with the production of musicals and plays. This year we have completed a successful season of *Blast From The Past* featuring contemporary music from the 1960s through to the present. In August we are hosting the NZTF Festival of Community Theatre Upper North Island Regional Finals on the 24-25 August at 7pm. At the end of the year we are going to produce a traditional pantomime; *Cinderella*. So we are busy.



Editor: Margaret Robertson

Designer: Jade Gillies

Deadline for next issue of Backchat

September 19, 2012

Send NZTF communications to

info@theatrenewzealand.co.nz

or PO Box 329 Palmerston North 4440