

News from Theatre New Zealand

BACKCHAT

Te Pūtoi Whakaari o Aotearoa



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tēnā tātou katoa

Is your Constitution fit for purpose?

As part of our future-proofing, template-making, cloud-storing, forward-thinking approach for 2022, The National Executive is also revisiting Theatre New Zealand's Constitution.

We recently had cause to seek legal clarification – and was told it was a mess!

Too open for 'interpretation' they said. So it's up for revision.

It is after-all over 50 years old, and a tweaked version at that, of the 1970 New Zealand Theatre Federation constitution. Some of its language is no longer appropriate for today. One clause, not even the Lawyer could understand!

So I'm urging you all to also revisit your group's constitution.

Because if you don't, and here is the real reason – your registration as an Incorporated Society, will lapse soon.

We have been advised by our constitutional lawyers that most groups, societies, charities have constitutions that have out-lived their 'use-by-date'!

We must revise them and pass them before our memberships.

Then reapply for Incorporated Society status. This will not happen automatically.

There is no 'roll-over' system.

You may eventually receive individual advice of this – but here is your advance notice!

The Incorporated Societies Act of 1908 – is being replaced by the Incorporated Societies Act of 2022. About time you might say. You need to start re-registering by December 1st, 2025.

Get an action-group together soonest. Start the process. It may take a while to work through.

There are several other aspects of our operation that are also receiving attention.

Our TheatreFest site has been receiving bi-lingual headings, along with revising non-gender references and content. The Education System is charging ahead with inclusive language on all fronts, and we, Theatre New Zealand, have simply not kept up. Have you?

We are now heading into TheatreFest season at last.

What a year it looks like being..... Bumper registrations are being received.

Published plays, locally written or devised pieces are all eligible. We have a raft of new awards including He Pito Aronui-The Seeding of Creativity, especially founded for Māori and Pasifika works. Do we have your entries? You have until June 17th to get them in.

The National Executive are hosting their first ever Cultural Hui. See details next issue, for the TheatreFest ShowCase weekend, September 17/18.

Ngā Mihi
Bryan Aitken
National President

NEWS FROM TNZ

Subs for year 2022/23 are now due

Subs for the 2022/ 2023 year are now due.

Invoices have been sent out to Groups and Schools (only \$50 this year!) and individuals (\$40).

Please pay to 03 0802 0134721 00.

Please also return your form with details updated.

2022 Service Awards

There are updated Meritorious Service and David Brockett Award forms for the nomination of worthy candidates on the website. Go to Resources and scroll down to Recognition Forms.

Get your nominations in by Friday September 2nd

info@theatrenewzealand.co.nz

2022 Poster Competition

Are you keeping files of your posters on hand? The call is out once again for you to submit your best two since September last year. The form is on the website under TheatreFest forms.

Closing date is Friday 2nd September and entries are to be sent to

festivals@wdtf.org.nz

TheatreFest 2022

Ewen Coleman, TheatreFest National Co-Ordinator has assembled 73 possible entries into this year's TheatreFest! This is a record and we look forward to exciting theatre pieces emerging throughout the country.

Of special interest is a festival in Taranaki; the first one there in over 20 years.

Local TheaterFest dates and venues are listed on the next page.

Some groups may choose not to advance but many will be eligible for advancement to Regionals.

Welcome to two new Individual Members Virginia Grey of Wairarapa and Craig Wilson of Granity, Buller.

LOCAL THEATREFESTS

Everything You Need To Know

Northland

30 July Dargaville Little Theatre
Adjudicator Jillian Carpenter

Auckland

26 - 30 June Diocesan School for Girls.
Adjudicator TBC

Waikato Bay of Plenty

9 July Centre Stage Taupo.
Adjudicator Johnny Givins

Taranaki

6/7 August New Plymouth Little Theatre.
Adjudicator Sheridan Hickey

Hawkes Bay

30 July Napier Repertory Players.
Adjudicator Shannon Tubman

Manawatu

6 August Globe Theatre, Palmerston North.
Adjudicator Rob Ormsby

Wairarapa

6 August Majestic Theatre Masterton.
Adjudicator David Chambers

Wellington date

TBC Newlands College.
Adjudicator TBC

Top of the South

9 July Havelock Town Hall.
Adjudicator Phil Peleton

Canterbury

9/10 July Merivale Lane Theatre, Rangi Ruru College.
Adjudicator Jonathan Hendry

South Canterbury TBC

West Coast

30 July NBS Theatre Westport
Adjudicator Lara McGregor

Otago

6/7 August The Playhouse, Dunedin
Adjudicator Bryan Aitken



Regional TheatreFests

Upper North Island Regional TheatreFest
13/14 August

Venue – Auckland Diocesan School for Girls
Organiser - edcoleman@xtra.co.nz,
027 428 8491
Adjudicator, Laurence Wiseman, Christchurch

Upper South Island Regional TheatreFest
13/14 August

Venue - Havelock
Organiser - Ian Cameron
ianc.cameron@xtra.co.nz 0210598713

Lower North Island Regional TheatreFest
20/21 August

Venue – Majestic Theatre, Masterton
Organiser – Paul Percy
wep@percy.co.nz, 027 500 8107
Adjudicator, Laurence Wiseman, Christchurch

Lower South Island Regional TheatreFest
20/21 August

Venue - Athenaeum Hall, Arrowtown, Otago
Organiser – Jake Hansen - jhansen@wakatipu.school.nz
Adjudicator, Hilary Norris, Wellington

National Final

TheatreFest ShowCase/Workshops/Hui/AGM 2022

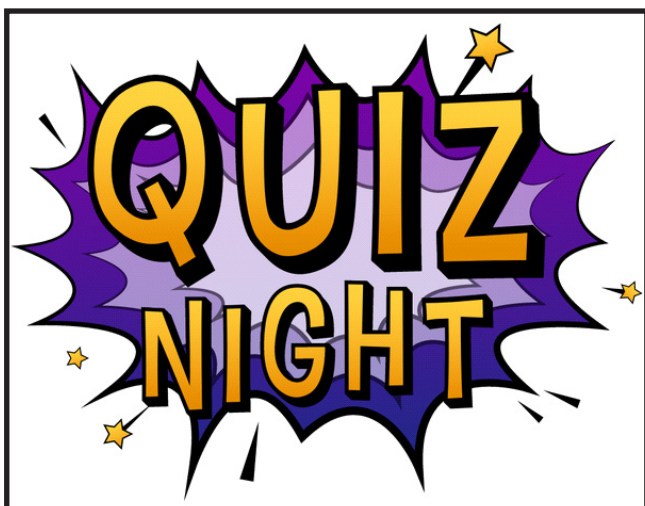
17 & 18 September

Venue - Te Whaea: National Dance and Drama Centre, Wellington

Organisers – TNZ & WDTF

Adjudicator, Steven Arnold, Auckland

REGIONAL ROUND-UP



Katikati Theatre held a quiz night in May with eye-catching advertising on Facebook.

Rotorua Little Theatre's production in May was *Waiting For God* by Michael Aitkens


The SM reports that patrons really enjoyed the almost sold out production.

Pictured Tom (Leigh Taylor) has complained to Retirement Manager Harvey (Richard Rugg) about the quality of food served to the residents. Harvey says there's no money in the budget for extras while Diana Trent (Val Isherwood) is pleased someone other than herself is doing the complaining.



MTC
MASTERTON THEATRE COMPANY

Variety club



The MTC Variety Club is an initiative to give those who love to sing and enjoy musicals an opportunity to do so on a regular basis with other like-minded people. You do NOT have to read music, learn anything off by heart, or have had stage experience. Just come along and SING!

WHO: Anyone aged up to 90+

WHEN: The second and fourth Tuesdays of the month beginning Tuesday 24 May

TIME: 1:30-3:00pm (includes afternoon tea)

WHERE: Harlequin Theatre Foyer, Dixon Street, Masterton

PIANIST: The renowned 'Peter Totman'

ENQUIRIES: Deborah Percy 021 1832508 / deborah@actingantics.com

Masterton Theatre Company have started a new daytime community activity: **Variety Club!**



Hokitika Dramatic Society's building is known as the Old Lodge Theatre

They regularly host performing groups who are part of Arts on Tour New Zealand. Recent visitors have been the Mundi trio, The Alpaca Social Club, Folk Trio Turkey the Bird and Albi and the Wolves who in music, song and slides honour unsung heroes of NZ's settlers' past.

McKenzie Theatre Group

Here's the poster for their May production of Caravans2 The Trailer by John Mawson. The production has been garnering praise on Facebook for laughter and the really appropriate food served. Camping fare no doubt.



Clyde Theatre have wrapped up their one production for the year: Drifting by Jo Denver.

Members of the Ross/Sullivan family get together for Christmas. This year new life joins the family (baby James) and a much-loved member Enid slips further into Alzheimers. Through a lively and humorous script the audience sees how each character reacts to Enid's ways whilst trying to maintain Christmas banter and jollity. Donations were collected for Alzheimers New Zealand.

Remarkable Theatre regularly holds a season of Pint Sized Plays, written for the occasion. The audience is invited to vote on their favourite. Of the nine plays performed this year, Out of Time by Phena Byrne of Queenstown was awarded 1st place. Here's the cast with their very happy director Victoria Keating in front.

Entries for the 2023 playwriting competition close 30 November 2022



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PLAYMARKET SCRIPTS

ENVIRONMENTAL PLAYS

The Bees at the End of the World by Amy Wright

(3f, 1m) One Act

A family struggling on the edge of an unforgiving land must make a decision about how to survive. Gram wants to stay put. Jocelyn dreams of moving away. Honey counts the bees. The bees are dying. And the circle goes on.

Atlas/Mountains/Dead Butterflies by Joseph Harper

(2f, 2m, 2 any) One Act

This is a play about trying to find that slippery middle ground between being totally overwhelmed by the wealth of the world's problems, and being totally ignorant to their undeniable existence. The two protagonists slip, giddy, down either slope, pulled by various outside influences, crackpots, and their own developing sense of righteousness. Meanwhile Atlas presents and performs a parable about millions of dead butterflies being brought to life and holding the world afloat.

The Night Mechanics by Mīria George

(2f, 2m, 1 any) One Act

A small drought stricken Māori community in the middle of Aotearoa becomes the flash point of resistance against 'the water company' a multi-national that is more powerful than the government. Inspired by the modern fight for clean water, The Night Mechanics is a tale where water is no longer free and where dreams no longer exist. Is this the future?

LAUGH-OUT-LOUD COMEDIES

Jack the Stripper by Lindsey Brown

(2f, 1m) One Act

When your part time job is a little risqué, it's only natural to want to keep it under wraps. But what happens when your mother finds out and you're forced to lay the truth bare?

The Little Black Dress by Allen O'Leary

(6f, 1m) Full Length

A contemporary Hampstead drawing room comedy using the idea of a charity clothes swap event.

The Biggest by Jamie McCaskill

(1f, 5m) Full Length

It's been a while since Poppa, Pat and Mick have seen Stu. He's been absent from the local working men's club since Stu wrote off the new boat he spent his life savings on and landed himself in a wheelchair.

Reunited, the men seize the opportunity to enter the local fishing competition to win Stu a replacement boat. All they have to do is catch the biggest fish...

This hilarious comedy takes a look at a group of old friends--and a couple of new enemies--navigating life in small-town Aotearoa.

PLAYMARKET SCRIPTS

SUSPENSEFUL SCRIPTS

Blind Eye by April Phillips

(2f, 2m) Full Length

Wally and Vera are a salt of the earth couple in their golden years. They have lived on the same street their entire lives. They have kept to themselves and led decent lives. Or have they?

A malicious attack on the old man results in two strangers entering their lives. Strangers who gradually unravel a long-held and shameful secret with devastating consequences. What the strangers discover will disorient their own moral compasses and question the clarity of right and wrong.

Handy Man by Gavin McGibbon

(1f, 2m) Full Length

We join Richard and Claire at their remote 'super-bach' as they divide up their possessions in preparation for their divorce. Things are already fraught, and then the toilet breaks – they need a plumber. Enter Dom and in no time he has it fixed. With his purpose served this urban couple can't wait to see the back of this unusual tradesman but Dom has other ideas – he's been waiting for tonight for a long time...a leaky toilet, a remote bach and a captive audience.

For just one night Dom wants to be heard, to close the gap between rich and poor, but Richard and Claire hide a dark secret, that will change Dom's life forever.

Drawer of Knives by Stephen Sinclair

(2f, 1m) Full Length

When Sarah and her infant son move into the flat below Denise and Russell, the rot sets in. Reality blurs with alternative relationships conducted in imagination; the characters are locked in the hell of the present where nothing is as it seems.

Beast by Tom Sainsbury

(3-6f, 4-10m) Full Length

A road trip turns into a nightmare when three siblings break down in Kaitangata. The locals are strange. The food is stranger. A thriller horror.

Con by Gavin McGibbon

(1f, 3m) Full Length

In a world of pyramid schemes, dodgy builders and Nigerian internet scams, the con artist is the fastest growing career path of the 21st century.

Stevie and Earl are conmen, they're good at it too, they get people to do what they shouldn't. And now here's their chance to make money like never before. They have been waiting for it for years, all the tricks and their schemes have built to it. A con so wicked it's totally irresistible.

Will they pull it off and what will be the consequences when love walks in the door?

Did you know that, by subscribing to Playmarket for \$40/year, you can download single copies of unpublished scripts directly from our website at any time?

Become a member now at www.playmarket.org.nz/membership.

To request any plays and/or musicals, contact Isaac Martyn - Script Coordinator/ Kaiwhakahaere Whakaari, on isaac@playmarket.org.nz

ON THE BOARDS

Otamatea Repertory Theatre AUDITION The Revlon Girl Neil by Anthony Docking	June 12
Howick Little Theatre AUDITION Not Safe for Work (NSFW) by Lucy Kirkwood	June 4
The Maltese Falcon by David Jacklin	July 9 - 30
Te Aroha Drama Society Death and Taxes by April Phillips	June 23 -
	July 2
Hamilton Playbox	
Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars by Jenny Lee & Dan Boulton	July 2 - 16
Waihi Drama Society AUDITION The Viewing Room by Mark Smith	June 12&13
16th Ave Theatre, Tauranga Puffs by Matt Cox	July 8 - 23
Detour Theatre, Tauranga The Old People Are Revolting by Devon Williamson	June 16 -
	July 1
Gisborne Unity Theatre A Skull in Connemara by Martin McDonagh	June 3 - 11
Evolution Theatre Gisborne The Secret Garden adpt Jessica Swale	June 30 -
	July 10
Napier Repertory Players The Raft by Carl Nixon	June 8 - 18
Dannevirke Theatre Company One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Dale Wasserman	July 6 - 16
Pahiatua Repertory Society Star Quest (Children's talent show)	June 11
New Plymouth Repertory The Pink Hammer by Michele Amas	July 19 - 30
Hawera Repertory Society Mama Mia! Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus	June 11 - 25
Foxton Little Theatre Un-bloody Believable by Joe Musaphia	July 29 -
	Aug 13
Levin Little Theatre Chitty Chitty Bang Bang by Richard and Robert Sherman	June 10 - 25
Kapiti Playhouse The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie	July 28 -
	Aug 6
Mana Little Theatre Dancing at Lughnasa by Brian Friel	June 29 -
	July 9
AUDITION Ghost Writer by David Tristram	July 10 @7pm
Porirua Little Theatre AUDITION Little Shop of Horrors by Howard Ashman	July 30 Aug 6
KAT Theatre, Wellington Woman in Mind by Alan Ayckbourn	July 21 - 30
Stagecraft Theatre The Normal Heart by Larry Kramer	June 29 -
	July 9
AUDITION No Exit by Jean Paul Satre	June 18/19
Wellington Repertory Rope by Patrick Hamilton	June 1 - 11
Riccarton Players Charlotte's Web adpt by Joseph Robinette	July 13 - 23
Canterbury Repertory Theatre AUDITION DNA & Saint Kevin by Barry Grant	June 4 & 5
South Canterbury Drama League Gaslight by David Jacklin	June 10 - 17

To be included in this list send information to info@theatrenewzealand.co.nz

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Myth, Legend, Fantasy

Can anyone name the 1960 production from which this picture comes!

Correct answer will receive a prize at the National TheatreFest ShowCase in September, you have to attend to receive it!