



President's Report

Hi folks

It's almost THAT time of year again – is it just me getting older or is time speeding up? We've had a successful year at Mana Little Theatre and are gearing up for our final show. The ceiling has been repainted, refurbishments have continued all year with piping now erected to carry the lights and wiring and we are in the process of applying for grants to update our lighting system. Thanks to all those involved, especially Alan De La Mare and Bruce Cannell.

This November 18th – 28th sees our fourth and final play – *Season's Greetings* by Alan Ayckbourn. John Wilce pulled out all the stops and built the set in one week so we could get the photographs done. That man is a wonder! We have some 'oldies' (Paulette McIndoe, Bill Robinson, Damian Reid, Lucy Moore & Craig Haywood) and some newbies (Paula Gardyne, Chris Davidson, Marion Rosner, Symon Choveaux and young Billy Murrell). Paula and Symon have appeared with other companies so we welcome them to our stage. Marion is returning to the stage after a long gap. Chris is a stage virgin and proving to be a wonderful 'find'! He's having a baptism of fire having to handle a puppet show, pages of lines, a hilarious cast and a director who keeps changing her mind! Billy pretty much plays himself as the 'child' of the house. He has helped mum, Linda, backstage at MLT in the past and was just itching to tread the boards so we've found a role for him! We do our best to encourage new people to get involved, especially young people as they are the future of our theatre.

If you're familiar with Alan Ayckbourn's work (remember *The Norman Conquests* from years ago?) then you will know that his plays are always well written with a delicious depth of character and hilariously funny. *Season's Greetings* is no exception and has become one of his most popular plays. Rehearsals are a riot – ten people on a small stage which has been divided into three rooms.

Details are on our website. Tickets can be booked through mlttickets@gmail.com or phone/text **021 025 77648**. Please don't leave it too late as I've already sold 28 seats and I haven't advertised yet!



 **Mana Little Theatre**

presents

Alan Ayckbourn's COMEDY:

Seasons Greetings



18-28 November

8.00pm Wednesdays-Saturdays

3.00pm Sunday 22 November

@ Mana Little Theatre
Sunset Parade, Plimmerton
(behind Plimmerton Pavilion)

Bookings:

mlttickets@gmail.com

021 025 77648

On the subject of websites – a big thank you to Sandy Werner who keeps ours updated and makes sure the community knows what we're up to in the residents' newsletter.

We have a wonderful team of volunteers – if you know of anyone who fancies joining in the fun – on or off the stage, then send them our way. We're looking for people who are willing to do front of house as well as stage crew, lights, sound, and set building. Everyone welcome – young and older!

Sue Mortimer

President

Christmas Concert

Put it in your diaries – after "Season's Greetings" we have a concert.

The wonderful Neils Gedge and Vikki Clayton will be appearing at MLT Friday 4th & Saturday 5th December with "Up Close and Personal with Vikki Clayton and Neils Gedge. Tickets \$20 (\$15 for students and seniors) Phone 021 025 77648 or email mlttickets@gmail.com



Up close and personal with Vikki Clayton and Niels Gedge

at Mana Little Theatre, Plimmerton

8.00pm Friday 4 December

8.00pm Saturday 5 December



"Vikki Clayton regarded as one of the finest singers of her generation and adored by audiences and peers. Vikki is a performer of many parts with a proven track record in the folk/rock world. Her voice is clear, sweet and beautiful, the guitar work astounding. She's sensitive, clever, witty and great fun." **** *Q Magazine*

"Uncanny resemblance to Sandy Denny" *Living Tradition*

"Peachy voice, enchanting" *Living Tradition*

"No mean songwriter" *Rock and Reel*

"Unbelievably talented" *Folk Roots*

Niels Gedge is our own singer/songwriter in Plimmerton, well known to many of us for his Youtube song The Plimmerton Waltz.

Niels will be performing his acclaimed latest song Southern Land and songs from his CD 'Maui's Whale'.

"It's a really enjoyable CD full of beautiful playing and personal yet universal songs that draw on timeless traditions of gospel, folk music and blues" *Nick Bollinger, NZ Radio Broadcaster and Music journalist.*



There will also be a few Christmas themed songs to get us all in the spirit for summertime. Join us for a delightful and relaxing night of songs, stories and celebrations.

Topor

Have dinner before the play at Topor and receive a generous **25% discount off your restaurant bill.** Bookings essential (phone 233 9939) and you need to give them your theatre booking number.

Thanks to Harcourts for their sponsorship –



Plays for 2016

The Committee is delighted to announce the selection of four wonderful plays for 2016:

Under Milk Wood – a play for voices by Dylan Thomas.

Director Maureen Aitken

(Details below)

NB Early audition date Sunday 29th November 7.00pm

Production dates: 30th March – 9th April

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)

by Adam Long, Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield.

Director Andrew Watson

A parody of Shakespeare's plays in which all of them (hilariously shortened) are performed by only three male actors.

Audition date TBA

Production dates: 15th June – 25th June

Blue Remembered Hills by Dennis Potter.

Director Sue Mortimer

A drama in which adults take the roles of seven-year-old children playing in the West Country of England during WWII – at times both funny and tragic.

Audition: Sunday 19th June, 7.00pm

Production dates: 24th August – 3rd September

Death by Fatal Murder by Peter Gordon.

Director Bruce Cannell

Another in the hilarious Inspector Pratt murder mystery series.

Audition date TBA

Production dates: 9th November – 19th November

Under Milk Wood

A Message From Maus

I make no excuses for wanting to perform the hat trick of this wonderful play. It is truly worthy of re-visiting and hopefully will introduce a whole new generation to all the delights it has to offer.

First introduced to our theatre in 1982, then 1999, and now to be show-cased in 2016 – I view it as an accolade to the stalwart souls who have built up our theatre over fifty plus years. It is part of our celebration of our delightfully re-configured space.

For those of you who are as yet unaware of the plot (such as it is), the story goes...well actually it is a peek into the lives of a crazy little Welsh village called Llareggub (try saying it backwards), over a period of 24 hours. There's a multitude of colourful characters of all ages – each one totally unforgettable! The plan is to have about 6 men and 6 women of varied ages from teen to tottering – take your pick! But each actor, except for Captain Cat (the old retired Sea Captain), will do several roles.

Enquiries to Maus (04) 233 9357

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