



Mana Little Theatre

NEWSLETTER October 2017

Dates for
your 2017 Diary

“Bums On Seats”

Wednesday 15 – Saturday 25
November

Theatre Cleaning Day

Saturday 11 November 11am

AUDITION for Red Riding Hood

Sunday 26 November 5pm

Directing Workshop

Saturday 2 December 9.30am –
4.30pm

Hi folks

After a busy year of appearing in two productions and directing “Hobson’s Choice” – I’m taking a break!

A big thank you to Maureen Aitken (Maus) and her team for organising a wonderful evening of jazz with Kevin Clark last month. Always a delight to have Kevin at the theatre. Just a point – the theatre is available to members of the community to put on music evenings, poetry readings etc. Just contact us for more information.

Also a big thank you to all those who helped out onstage, offstage and behind the scenes for “Hobson’s Choice,” especially poor, long-suffering Colin Clemens who had to make that set! He was still putting the finishing touches to it the day before the dress rehearsal but everyone who saw the show loved it. They particularly liked watching the expert change over between Acts 3 and 4 – well done Colin, Jack, Anneke, Anne and Tegan. I had great fun directing with a wonderful cast. All our cast did well, but a special round of applause for our three leads – Bruce Cannell (Hobson), Lauren Ford-Jones (Maggie) and Alistair Smith (Willie) – they were magnificent. I’m especially pleased that yet again we have attracted new actors to join MLT – Harlan Te Wiata, Luke Baron and Anne McMullin, as well as getting some back on stage who have been missing for a few years – Christian Shaw, Alan De La Mare! We wish Christian all the best in his new ventures in Auckland (but secretly we’re hoping he returns to us)

PRESIDENT’S LETTER



The show is over – long live the show - Paulette McIndoe has already started directing rehearsals for our final production for 2017, “Bums On Seats” – a comedy of a play within a play and the ticket office is open now. Harlan and Anne have obviously got the stage bug because they appear again in this one. Yet again, we have a great cast and a very funny show for you to finish off the year.

She Who Shall Be Obeyed aka our wonderful Director has decreed that we need blood splattered curtains for the hospital scene – so if you fancy spending a Saturday morning re-creating the scene from Psycho or need to release your inner Jackson Pollock, get in touch with me on 0212731127.



Bruce Cannell as ‘Hobson’ and
Lauren Ford-Jones as ‘Maggie’

Now for more exciting news – Sue Miller has organised a workshop in December for new directors (and those who fancy learning something new), led by Ewen Coleman who is well known for his productions throughout the Wellington region. Places are limited so contact Sue fast if you are interested. Details are below.

So lots to look forward to. Enjoy the warmer days and sun!

Sue



Alistair Smith as ‘Willie’



Coming up next at MLT in 2017

 Mana Little Theatre

BUMS ON SEATS

A Comedy by Michael Snelgrove

15-25 November 2017
Mana Little Theatre, Plimmerton

"Bums On Seats" by Michael Snelgrove

Director Paulette McIndoe

Wednesday 15 – Saturday 25 November

Bums On Seats is a fun time for actors and audiences alike. Set in a tatty provincial theatre, a new play "Fecund" is being staged. Everyone gets involved from the OTT usherettes to the hung-over Stage Manager. The many actors range from the pompous to the incompetent – all working under the lecherous author and a new Marketing Assistant fresh from British Rail.

This hilarious play takes you on a journey through theatre production from all angles and from both sides of the stage!

Cast: Chris Balm, Susannah Donovan, Pat Knight, Anneke Mace, Anne McMullin, Natalie Plowman, Fiona Popert, Ibrahim Raouf-Morton, Sally Ratchford, Damian Reid, Bill Robinson, Harlan Te Wiata PLUS a cameo with our very own Mayor of Porirua (and one of our Patrons) Mike Tana!

Directing Workshop – Directing 101

Tutor: Ewen Coleman

Mana Little Theatre

Saturday 2 December 2017, 9.30am – 4.30pm

For more information or to register, contact Sue Miller, 2331842, 0274510339, kotuku.media@xtra.co.nz

NB There will be a small charge.

This one day workshop will cover the fundamentals of directing including: choosing a play, script and character analysis, (content, form, subtext, inner/outer conflict etc); auditions and casting; the rehearsal process; blocking and movement; working with actors.

The workshop is aimed at those keen on learning the processes of directing but who have never directed. Also directors with some experience but want a bit of a refresher. Or actors interested in the directing process. In fact, anyone interested in theatre is welcome to attend. And it won't be all talking, as participants will be expected to work on a variety of practical exercises during the course. A set script will be used which participants need to read before the workshop. Participants will also work on excerpts from other plays handed out on the day.

Breakdown of the workshop:

PRE-PRODUCTION

- Introduction to Directing
- Choosing a Play
- Once The Play is Chosen
- Background research
- Script Analysis
- Content
- Form
- Mechanics of Analysis – General and Specific
- Plotting Moves

PRODUCTION

- Casting and Auditions
- Pre-production
- First meeting of cast and crew
- Rehearsals – Blocking
- Detailed work on Beats and Units
- Shaping the play
- Production week





More Info

MLT on Social Media

Follow us for updates on news, shows, production dates, photos of rehearsals and opportunities to get involved in the theatre!



@ManaLittleTheatre



manalittletheatre



@manaliltheatre

Front of House

Bryony Ford-Jones brings her hospitality skills to take over front of house. Anyone wanting to help out – please contact Bryony on 0220345052 or email bfordjones91@gmail.com

Times are changing and Health and Safety rules have become stricter. We used to slide a chair into the aisle so helpers could watch the show but we're not allowed to do that anymore. We need one front of house person to remain in the foyer and the other to stand at the back of the theatre (or perch on a step at the back!) Unfortunately buying a ticket to see the show on the same night as doing front of house has also led to unforeseen difficulties so to avoid disappointment, front of house helpers are invited to any of our dress rehearsals on the Sunday or Monday before a show opens.



Tickets

Email mlttickets@gmail.com or text / ring 0212731127 (NB the new phone number). *The theatre landline is no longer in use.* It is a lot easier to keep track of your booking if you email.

\$25 adults

\$20 school students & Gold Card holders.

\$5 discount in the first week only for members

\$5 discount off each ticket if a booking is made for 10 people or more. MUST be paid for in advance.

Our group discount has proved very popular with groups of friends getting together. If you can get a group of 10 or more people then each person receives a \$5 discount. So an adult would pay \$20 and a senior or school student would pay just \$15 – a veritable bargain! Group tickets must be paid for in advance through one person, but they can be booked in advance before anyone else – in fact, you can start booking now for *Bums On Seats* by texting 0212731127 or emailing mlttickets@gmail.com.

Booking the whole theatre for a performance is also becoming increasingly popular – sometimes for fundraising, and sometimes just for the fun of it. Again, you need to email mlttickets@gmail.com for details. Thursday 23rd November for *Bums On Seats* has already been booked out. Booking the whole theatre entitles you to use the foyer for refreshments and our license also allows you to sell alcohol if you are fundraising. Someone from the theatre will be in attendance in accordance with licensing regulations.



Coming up at MLT in 2018



RED RIDING HOOD The pantomime!

by Roger Hall

Directed by Lauren Ford-Jones

14-24 March 2018

In the great tradition of panto, the story about an innocent Red Riding Hood, her widowed mother and short-sighted Grandmother, has received the legendary Hall special treatment.

A wolf has escaped from Wellington Zoo and is on the loose in the Karori Sanctuary - thanks to the bungling efforts of a couple of failed List MPs on work experience. He's dangerous, and must be caught - and before the next full moon.

Meanwhile, Sir Roger Bounder, the evil property developer has other designs on this prime piece of real estate, and Grandma's small adjoining cottage ...

0224120291 or lfordjones88@gmail.com for more information

AUDITIONS Sunday 26 NOVEMBER 5pm

Check the website and our Facebook page for information on parts-we are looking for adults and children!



Radium Girls

By D W Gregory

Directed by Sue Mortimer

13-23 June 2018

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage- until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, *Radium Girls* traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court. Her chief adversary is her former employer, Arthur Roeder, an idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees. As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling not only with the U.S. Radium Corporation, but also with her own family and friends, who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire.

Audition dates to be announced



What's on Elsewhere

OCTOBER



Hutt City Musical Theatre, Epuni

Community Hall, Lower Hutt

Downtown! The Mod Musical

12 – 28 October

Set in the swinging 60s in London.

Downtown! The Mod Musical addresses different issues facing women at that time in a witty and often light hearted way. With such awesome tunes such as "Wishin' and Hopin' ", " Boots are Made For Walking", "I Just Don't know What to Do with Myself" you just can't help singing along in no time!

We have MLT member Tegan McIndoe in this!

KHANDALLAH ARTS THEATRE
**AUGUST:
OSAGE COUNTY**
BY TRACY LETTS
DIRECTED BY JOY HELLYER & PAUL KAY
12 - 21 OCTOBER 2017

Khandallah Arts Theatre

August: Osage County by Tracy Letts

Directed by Joy Hellyer & Paul Kay
12 – 21 October

Black comedy at its best. As the family gathers to deal with the disappearance of its patriarch, secrets and lies from the past bleed into the present and the veneer of happy families quickly peels away to reveal an assortment of seething tensions. (Be aware: this play contains adult themes, and strong language that may upset some people)

**MR FOOTE'S
OTHER LEG**

WRITTEN BY
IAN KELLY
DIRECTED BY
AMY WHITEROD



1 - 11 NOVEMBER

**Stagecraft Theatre, Gryphon
Theatre, Ghuznee Street Wellington**

Mr Foote's Other Leg by Ian Kelly

Directed by Amy Whiterod

1 – 11 November

Stagecraft is hopping with delight to be presenting the New Zealand premiere of Ian Kelly's roaring comedy **Mr Foote's Other Leg**. This fast-paced, sometimes filthy, and always very funny play tells the true but often unbelievable story of Mr Samuel Foote, the most famous actor and comedian you've probably never heard of.

NOVEMBER



THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

**Wainuiomata Little Theatre,
Moohan Street**

Hairspray! The Musical by Marc

Shaiman and Scott Wittman

Directed by Trevor Williams

8-18 November

In 1962 Baltimore, pleasantly plump teenager Tracy Turnblad's dream is to dance on The Corny Collins Show, a local TV dance program based on the real-life Buddy Dean Show. When Tracy wins a role on the show, she becomes a celebrity overnight and then launches a campaign to integrate the racially segregated show.

We have MLT member Bryony Ford-Jones in this!

DECEMBER



Hutt Repertory

A Kick in the Baubles by

Gordon Steele

Directed by Ruth Sarratt

29 November – 9 December

A Christmas comedy to get you in the mood.

**Porirua Little
Theatre**

Rock of Ages

Directed by

Sandy Brewer

18 November –

2 December

Rock of Ages takes you back to the times of big bands with big egos playing big guitar solos and sporting even bigger hair! This Tony Award - nominated Broadway musical features the hits of bands including Night Ranger, REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister, and others.



**ALL
SHOOK UP**

The story is all new. The hits are all Elvis.

Upper Hutt Musical Theatre, Moonshine Road

All Shook Up by Joe DiPietro

Directed by Andrew Watson

1– 11 November

A musical inspired by, and featuring the songs of Elvis Presley

It's 1955, and into a square little town, in a square little state, rides a guitar-playing roustabout who changes everything and everyone he meets in this hip-swivelling, lip-curling musical fantasy that will have you jumping out of your blue suede shoes with such classics as "Heartbreak Hotel," "Jailhouse Rock," and "Don't Be Cruel."

We have MLT member Bruce Cannell in this!



PARTY TIME!

MANA LITTLE
THEATRE
CHRISTMAS
PARTY

2 DECEMBER 2017
7:30PM

- BYO
- Bring a plate

RSVP to mltcommittee@gmail.com