

Waipukurau Little Theatre Inc.

19 Ruataniwha Street, Waipukurau 4200.

Email: info@littletheatre.net.nz

Web: www.littletheatre.net.nz



October 2023 NEWSLETTER

A Message from the President – Hilary Blamires

Celebrating 130 Years is exciting! It means we get the opportunity to delve into the past and meet our forebearers, to act in plays they presented on that very first occasion and..... to dress up... if you want to. And I want to! Having seen the amount of effort made to be as authentic as possible, with stage set, props, wardrobe and language it's a no brainer that the President too, should make the same effort. She is not the only one.

The Treasurer/Production Manager has grown mutton chops, the Director/M.C. of the show is busy sorting her attire and we have Victorian aprons for the Front of House team serving at the bar and beverage counters. Even the Caterers and decorations are going to be a part of the entertainment. Those dressing in Victorian attire, will be in the prize draw, for two tickets and two free drinks from the bar for our next show.

So, start celebrating with us. We have **SOLD OUT** for the Gala Night but you can still get tickets for other nights.

Best wishes, Hilary

Just gone ...

The Heartbreak Choir was a theatrical and financial success thanks to the hard work of the director, the talented cast and the technical and support crews. Those of you who were lucky enough to be able to come to the show will agree that it was a wonderful break from our normal straight plays. Even the director was heard to say that he hadn't realised just how much extra work was required to produce a play with music.



We trialled a seating layout without tables to see if more seats available would result in bigger audiences. Unfortunately, the experiment wasn't really successful and almost exactly the same number of people came as for previous shows. Oh well, one has to try these things! 😊

The collection of donations towards suicide prevention, raised **\$300** and we are currently in discussions with CENTRAL CONNECT WHARE MANAAKI and CHB DISTRICT COUNCIL Community Development Coordinator to identify the most appropriate local organisation to receive these funds. Thank you to everyone who donated.

... almost here ...

The 130 Yr Anniversary celebration has been long in the planning but is now nearly upon us. The cast have been rehearsing for almost 7 weeks, starting out in one of the science rooms at Central Hawkes Bay College.

This was necessary as cyclone Gabrielle forced the cancellation of the first play of the year and we had to squash three productions into the space of two. Rehearsals for each play, therefore, overlapped with the season of the previous one.

The small changing and makeup room at the rear of the theatre has been monopolised for weeks by a cohort of dedicated un-pickers, cutter-uppers and stitch-togetherers, beavering away to make period costumes on a budget. And what a great job they are doing!



The set is almost complete, barring a few furnishings and we have even brought back a stage curtain, to allow our wonderful CHB musicians a more dedicated area to perform.

So, all we need now is for you, our amazing supporters, to get on line to Eventfinda or stroll into Betta Electrical, Waipukurau and buy your tickets. Please don't leave it until the last minute and risk missing out.

Buy Your Tickets Here >>



... and coming later.

April 2024 – The Drowning Girls. Written by Beth Graham, Charlie Tomlinson & Daniela Vlaskalic. Directed by Madeleine Howard

July 2024 – Keeping Up Appearances. Written by Roy Clark. Directed by Helen Griffin

Nov-Dec 2024 – A Christmas Carol. Written by dddddddddd. Directed by Lindsey Bishop

Short 'N' Sweet

So called because we do an hour of work then stop for Fish N Chips after. Starting at 6pm, we undertake some repair & maintenance, cleaning, decorating, kitchen, wardrobe, props or other activity for the hour. We find that the more volunteers we have to do these things, the merrier the Fish N Chips social is afterwards. Contact Hilary on 021 906 032 or email: hilary@blamires.net

Weekly Wednesday Report

What an amazing response to the advert asking for help with the Victorian Costumes! We have a team of 11 volunteers willing to have a go at anything from unpicking/deconstructing, upcycling, sewing straight and curved lines, sharing skills and ideas.... and sewing machines to produce outfits for the shows.

We also thank both *Waipawa Music and Drama* and the *Taikura Rudolf Steiner School, Hastings* for contributing their amazing costumes too. We promise that no costumes from these sources have been upcycled or modified for our show, unless express permission was given to do so. They have been an excellent source of ideas for construction methods!

We meet every Wednesday from 11 till 2 but we will be taking a break during the final week of rehearsals and the show season. Afterwards, we hope to work on hats to match the outfits made.

If you have experience of using a Cricut, definitely make contact. We will use it to make embellishments for the hats! Contact Hilary on 021 906 032 or email: hilary@blamires.net or keep an eye on the Little Theatre Facebook page for a restart date.

Trainee Treasurer Needed

Waipukurau Little Theatre is looking to co-opt onto the Committee a responsible person to assist the Treasurer until the next AGM in May 2024. Anyone who is willing to learn the role of Treasurer with a view to standing for election next year is very welcome to apply.

Previous experience is not essential as training will be given. A working knowledge of the Xero accounting software would be of great benefit but, again, this is not a prerequisite. You don't need to be a mathematician; the software looks after the add-ups and take-aways. All you need to do is pay bills online, file the invoices and payments in the correct boxes and run off monthly reports to present to the Committee. What could be simpler?

Contact Rob Blamires on 021 075 7856 or email: accounts@littletheatre.net.nz if you'd like to give it a go.

Other Local Productions

WAIPAWA MUSICAL & DRAMATIC CLUB

17 – 25 November 2023

Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs

DANNEVIRKE THEATRE COMPANY

22 Nov – 2 Dec 2023

Noises Off

THEATRE HAWKES BAY

2 – 11 November 2023

Blue Eyes