

LITTLE THEATRE NEWS

19 Ruataniwha Street, Waipukurau, 4200

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November 2025



Proposed 2026 shows:
-March 2026 :*Blind Eye* by April Phillips. Director: Lindsey Bishop

- Mid year 2026: *The War of the Worlds* by Howard Koch & Orson Welles. Director: Helen Griffin.



For the *Killer Boobs* audiences, we have put on something a little bit special to acknowledge the serious content and light-hearted handling of this wonderful play


WAIPUKURAU LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS


Killer Boobs

By Tim Hambleton

Directed by Rob Blamires

6th - 15th NOVEMBER 2025
MATINÉE | SUNDAY, 9th NOV

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM |  eventfinda
AND | BETTA ELECTRICAL, WAIPUKURAU

Proudly supporting CHB Cancer Society 

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH PLAYMARKET

In this issue:

- Killer Boobs... and cup cakes!
- Show proposals for next year
- Killer Boobs reviews
- Notification of auditions for *Blind Eye*
- Weekly Wednesday Wenches & Short N Sweet
- Monthly Short N Sweet
- Committee Officers

KILLER BOOBS!

Coming to the stage at the Waipukurau Little Theatre - directed by Rob Blamires

By Debby Minehan

Who is this Rob Blamires you might ask? Rob is a Central Hawke's Bay local, who, along with his wife Hilary (whom he met when they were both in the Navy a few years or so ago), reside in the quiet countryside of Ōtāne with their beloved dog Pippa and three chooks. They are both champions of the Waipukurau Little Theatre, well theatre in general - and have been for many years.

Upon meeting Rob, you will realize he is committed and hardworking, a joker, a quick-witted character who always has a project on the go.

Rob is not your quiet rural town inhabitant, staying backstage out of sight. No! he's acted in countless plays and musicals in our Central Hawke's Bay community. He has designed, built and painted many a set for said plays, whether he is performing in it or not, and has been a member of the Waipukurau Little Theatre committee for many years.

Rob is always reading a script or three but at the moment he is pouring his time into directing the latest Waipukurau Little Theatre play Killer Boobs written by our very own New Zealand playwright Tim Hambleton. The Killer Boobs cast is played by all local talent, Megan Adie, Helen Griffin, Isobel Lloyd, Chris Scanlan, Kirsten Selfe and Tess Stableford who is making her stage debut.

It takes a team to bring a play to the stage and Hilary is mentoring the crew of stagehands. Central Hawke's Bay College students, Juliette Griffin on props, Amber Madsen, Elsane van der Ryst and Lupin Berry who are all learning the art of backstage - complemented by Wal Slavin and Luke Madsen on lighting and sound.

This humorous play is about a breast cancer support group aptly named "Thanks for the Mammaries" who meet once a month in a small-town community hall. The eclectic group of women discover a potentially life-saving drug is not being funded by the government. Antics ensue as they try everything they can, whether above board or not, to convince the officious Pharmac CEO of the need to pay for access to the drug.

While Killer Boobs treats a serious topic in a light-hearted way, the shows timing follows October's Breast Cancer Awareness month and in support of this there will be a donation box available at the theatre each night for any contributions.

The season runs from 6 to 15 November with one matinee on Sunday 9th. Tickets are available online now at Eventfinda - www.eventfinda.co.nz/2025/killer-boobs/waipukurau or locally at Waipukurau Betta Electrical.

Ticket prices \$35.88 Adults and \$30.75 for Seniors and students. Don't miss out!

[6 November at 08:00](#)

KILLER BOOBS REVIEW BY LEANNE GOODGER

I became a fan of NZ Playwright Tim Hambleton after seeing Waipukurau Little Theatre's production of *Heaven Help Us* a few years ago. While *Killer Boobs* wasn't as outrageously funny, I wasn't disappointed. Director Rob Blamires describes it as a light-hearted take on a serious subject, portraying the resilience of a group of breast cancer sufferers.

Killer Boobs addresses Breast Cancer with both sensitivity and good old Kiwi humour. One in three New Zealanders will experience cancer in their lifetime — statistically we've all had some close encounter, whether personally or through a family member or friend. It's easy to relate to the characters in this play.

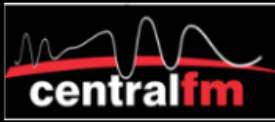
The set is simple, evoking the blandness of local community halls and the clinical bleakness of treatment centres. It conjured memories of the Palmerston North Radiation department building. This set barely alters during the entire play yet it serves as the perfect barren garden for the characters to grow within. Jenny, the meeting coordinator, remains constant in her caring and supportive role, while the other members of the group are initially more reserved - except for Kath! Kath is a bubbly gossip whose character develops from shallow to shape-shifter as she takes on the town council. Snooty aloof Louise softens to reveal unperceived vulnerability, shy young Bex blossoms into a mature supporter of her new found friends and rough-edged Gena sheds her bluntness to expose her softened layers.

The action begins deliberately awkward and stilted, typical of a new group finding its footing. As the play progresses, so too does the group dynamic and their support for each other. There's a strong sense of community and plenty of digs at New Zealand's growing obsession with bureaucracy. The women in the play are credited for their strength — and rightly so. They have children, parents, and partners who all depend on them.

Theatre stalwarts Helen Griffin, Kirsten Selfe and Megan Adie were as professional as ever in their well-cast roles. Their timely one-liners were superb and well appreciated by the audience. On par Chris Scanlan, as Pharmacist rep, was perfectly uncomfortable amongst all these women and their boobs and bits! Most unexpected however were the exceptional performances of newcomers Tess Stableford and Alexis Carnie. Tess appeared completely at ease on stage and entirely credible as the group co-ordinator, delivering her lines with sincerity and compassion.

As for Alexis — it's hard to believe she was called into the role only two weeks ago, and that this is her first time on stage! Her delivery was poignant and her portrayal authentic. I can't wait to see her perform again soon. Wal and Luke in lighting and sound, along with the stage crew, complemented the show with their professional operation.

Congratulations Rob and to all the cast and crew for such a well delivered production and lots of unexpected laughs. FAQs never sounded so entertaining!



Our first *Killer Boobs* review in *Off the Record*

FROM THE STUDIO

SMALL TALK WITH SEREENA

Last night I was lucky enough to head along to one of the final dress rehearsals at the Waipukurau Little Theatre "Killer Boobs" And it delivered I'm going to start strong by saying this is one of the best shows I have seen this year!

A Breast cancer support group meets once a month in a small-town community hall Where a group of ladies develop un-likely friendships, all have one thing binding them together the terrible C word.

Director Rob Blamires definitely cut the mustard & if I get a chance, I'm returning for a second helping The stage setting was simple effective & spacious, lighting & sound hit the mark I particularly enjoyed the mime scenes with the dimmed red light & sound to suit .

The humour throughout was refreshing & clever, tough when it's such a sensitive topic but all very tasteful & the one liners had me in fits!

The Stars of the show & all characters we could relate to, Richard in Charge of Pharmac played by Chris Scanlan another outstanding performance, Gena a hard lady with a potty mouth rough around the edges but does have a heart of gold – Stellar job Megan Adie, Bex Young ditzy mum but a chess champion – Alexis Carnie loved your character you did Bex proud! Louise The posh one with a few dark secrets, Kirsten Selfe impressive once again loved seeing the vulnerable side to Lousie, Kath the local gossip with the pink hair vibrant energetic & booblicious loved the humour, Helen Griffen your talent "Masterful"

Last but not least Jenny, Tess Stableford who left me in absolute awe - move over Julia Roberts - there is a new leading lady in town!

You radiated confidence & this was your first show since school - it definitely didn't show - I'm proud of you!

POWERFUL, INFORMATIVE & REAL

Too good to miss purchase your tickets now

The secret handshake & plot twist at the end wrap it up well. "Killer Boobs" 6th -15th November

Tickets available from Eventfinda and locally at CHB Betta Electrial.

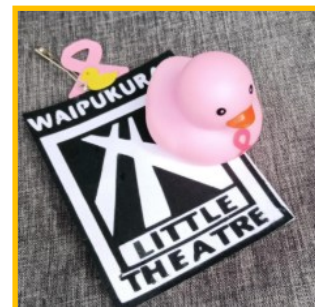
Duck Day Raffle Results

86	Tickets x2	Margaret
34	Duck Painting	Theressa
102	Ceramic Tile	Yvonne F
07	Felt Duck	Meg B



GIVE US A CLUE!

Finding the right play that audiences want to come and see, AND casting a show is far from easy! Help us out and tell us what **you** want to act in or see.... Please:)



Show your membership card at the bar and we knock a dollar off your tippel!



Behind the scenes at Waipukurau Little Theatre

Blind Eye – Audition details.

Click on link above or poster for synopsis

A New Zealand play by April Phillips

Directed by Lindsey Bishop

Cast of Characters

- Wally Matthews:** A retired bricklayer, salt of the earth man.
- Vera Matthews:** A gentle old woman, blind and showing signs of early dementia.
- Alice Dempster:** A district nurse, and a married mother. Could be any age.
- Patrick Warburton:** A Senior Police Sergeant, staunch, strong, silent type.

Scene: The home of Wally and Vera Matthews, with some scenes outside and in a cafe.

Time: The present.

Proposed Production Schedule:

AUDITION – Sunday 23 November at 10 -12am at Waipukurau Little Theatre

READ THROUGH – Either Saturday 29 November or Sunday 30 November (depending on cast).

REHEARSALS – Sunday 11 January to Sunday 15 March

SHOW SEASON – Wednesday 18 March to Saturday 28 March.

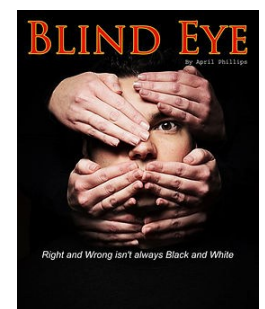
Please contact the director for:

Any questions.

A copy of the script.

To register interest in the auditions.

Contact details: Lindsey Bishop on 0274 711 550 or linzb@icloud.com.



Volunteer vacancies arising on the committee

Treasurer:

This position would suit someone who would love to be involved in theatre not just as a treasurer but also as part of our theatre team, behind the scenes and/or on stage, if interested. It would suit a part time worker or a retired/semi-retired person with an understanding of Zero accounts (or willing to learn). We give support when you need it. The treasurer role is an important one and has been well organised to ensure successors transition smoothly.

Publicity

We have solid links with local advertising, Facebook, and online media. It needs an additional person willing to maintain these contacts and to bring in their own ideas too. This position would suit someone who loves being involved in theatre not just covering advertising but as an important part of our theatre team with the opportunity of being involved in theatre life, behind the scenes and/or on stage.

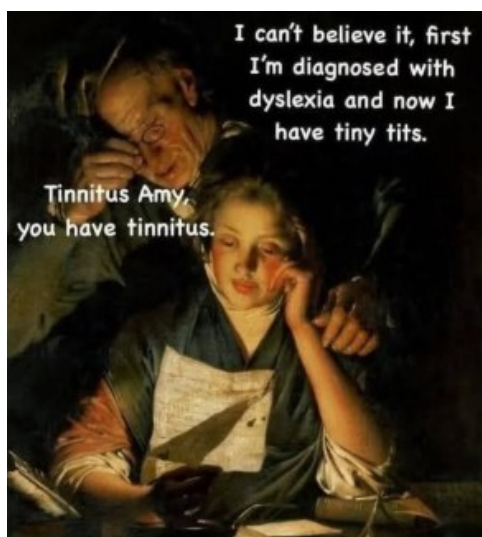
Contact the Secretary if you would like to know more. We will also organise a tour of the theatre and an opportunity to meet some of our members and volunteers.



The *Killer Boob* crew in the Green Room, preparing for the next set change.



The Membership year is now from 1st June to 31 May annually.



Short N Sweet Third Friday of the month 6pm to 8pm



Please contact us to confirm you are coming

One hour of theatre activity: Wardrobe, kitchen, cleaning, set building... whatever needs doing. Then a fish N Chip social. An opportunity to share our news over a beer or a coffee.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY WENCHES!

(WWW) 11.30 till 2pm when no show

If something needs doing at the theatre, we do it. Wardrobe, kitchen, props, archives and scrapbooking. Something for everyone.

If you can't stay or prefer to work on something at home, no problem.

MAKE DO
AND MEND



Committee Officers

President / Bar Manager
Secretary / Newsletter
Treasurer

Helen Griffin **
Hilary Blamires
Vacancy

Publicity/ Facebook
Publicity/ Social media

Debby Minehan
Oisin Casey Galloway
Lupin Berry

CHB College Drama
Front of House / Facebook
Ticketing
Set building/maintenance
Youth Officer

Chris Scanlan**
Donna Te Amo
Jacqui Gilbertson
Bruce Poole*
Juliette Griffin

Sub-Committees

Set building / Lighting
Set building / Sound

Lindsey Bishop* **
Rob Blamires* **

- Vacancies coming up: Publicity: Facebook/social media

* Life members

** Production Directors