

WAIPUKURAU

LITTLE THEATRE NEWS

19 Ruataniwha Street, Waipukurau, 4200

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WAIPUKURAU



February 2026

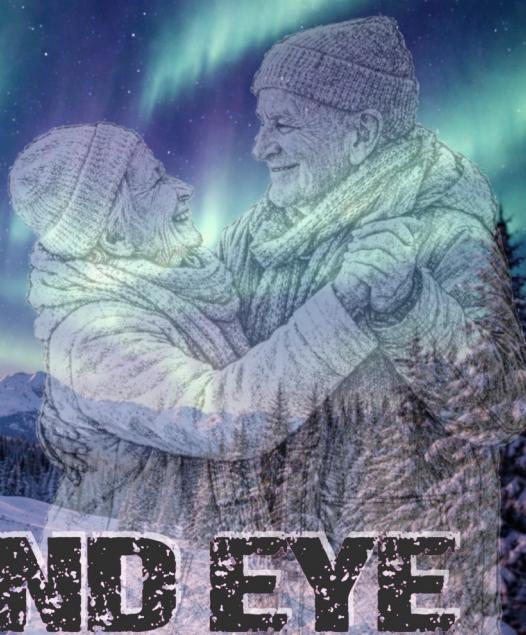
"BLIND EYE" A play by APRIL PHILLIPS

Directed by LINDSEY BISHOP

SHOW SEASON – Thursday 19 March to Saturday 28 March.



WAIPUKURAU LITTLE THEATRE
presents



BLIND EYE

by April Phillips
directed by Lindsey Bishop

19th to 28th March 2026

Tickets available from Eventfinda, Waipawa Library
and The Hub Waipukurau



"Blind Eye" is a poignant play that captures the lives of Wally and Vera Matthews, an elderly couple whose deep affection for one another defies societal norms. Set in their modest home, the story unfolds through their tender interactions, revealing the profound bond they share despite the escalating challenges of aging. Wally, a retired bricklayer, tenderly cares for Vera, who is blind and beginning to show signs of early dementia. Their tranquil life is turned upside down when Wally is injured during an assault, prompting Alice, a dedicated district nurse, to step in and assist Vera during his recovery.

As the play progresses, it becomes clear that all is not as it appears to be. The play leaves viewers to ponder the complexities of human connections and the lengths one will go to, to safeguard those they cherish.

Link to details and Tickets for next show <https://www.littletheatre.net.nz/>

In this issue:

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- Committee Officers
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- Volunteer vacancies

Other 2026 proposed events:

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

November: *Three Feet Under* by Helen Vivienne Fletcher
The Dumb Waiter by Harold Pinter

Directed by Rob Blamires. Comedy Drama
Directed by Chris Scanlan. Absurdist Thriller

2026 AGM

Waipukurau Little Theatre
7pm, Monday 4 May 2026



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

Members standing down from the committee

Debby Minehan



For several years now, Debby has been developing our publicity links on Facebook, with Central FM radio, coordinating reviews and reviewers to promote Little Theatre. In addition, she has been actively involved in designing themes and decorating Front of House to complement our shows. When we had the opportunity to raise funds via car parking duties at the monthly Waipukurau market, Debby joined the roster. Home life demands have increased, with Debby having to juggle her time available. Although standing down in December, Debby still plans to be part of the Front of House Tea Roster. We will miss her on committee but relieved that we will see her during productions.

Oisin Casey Galloway



Oisin was one of 24 young actors from SGCNZ National Shakespeare Production School in Company chosen to embark to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, in 2023. He initially had to compete with almost 4000 high school students to get into the National Schools Shakespeare Production. By setting up his own page on the [Arts Foundation site](#), he raised \$3,000.00 towards his \$11,000 expenses. He kept in touch with Little Theatre and became a member of our group and more recently a Committee member in between work on the farm and trips away. Oisin has been part of the cast in shows, actively promoting Little Theatre on Facebook as part of the Publicity Team, supporting the Front of House duty roster and joined in some of the committee fun activities when he was able to attend. Oisin's passion for theatre shines, and especially his love of Shakespeare.

Oisin stood down Mid-January this year and is now in Wellington on the next part of his community theatre journey, and about to embark on his barista training. We hope you get to do *Every Brilliant Thing* Oisin. We will be there when it shows in Wellington or closer to base!

'To unpathed waters, undreamed shores' -Shakespeare.

Juliette Griffin



Juliette joined as a High School student and became quietly involved with just about everything with encouragement initially from her mum! We have had the pleasure of watching Juliette grow and establish herself as part of the team and eventually joining the committee.

Her Little Theatre contributions include Youth Representative on Committee; actor; rehearsal stand-in; lighting design & operator; properties manager, design & Maker; cupcake queen; monthly ShortnSweet participant; regular working bee participant; duck day stall assistant coordinator; and participant in monthly car parking duties as a fundraiser for WLT. It was a no brainer to propose an *Above and Beyond Award* with \$100 towards her future studies.

Juliette has gained a place at Hamilton University and is leaving on 21st February. She plans to explore local theatre there. We wish her all the best in her studies.



Wanted! For our volunteer Cast and Crew.

We love our dishwasher, but unfortunately the internal baskets have started to lose some of their supports and develop rust spots. So, if you have a broken Fisher and Pykel dishwasher with baskets that can be used, please consider us for recycling the baskets before you throw the whole lot away! Thank you.... In anticipation....

Fundraising for your Organisation?

For every production we offer the opportunity to raise \$875 by selling 50 theatre tickets at \$35 per ticket.

For \$875 we offer:

- A preview night with 50 auditorium seats
- Front of House team to welcome your guests
- Free coffees & teas
- A licensed bar with bar manager and staff

Your organisation:

- Pays \$875 to Waipukurau Little Theatre
- Sells the 50 tickets
- Provides any snacks or light supper for the event (optional)
- May also wish to run a raffle, to increase your funds

Interested and want to know more?

Contact the Secretary,
info@littletheatre.net.nz



Volunteer vacancies

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 Xero 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 team members

Interested in promoting our Little Theatre and shows. but not sure how to get involved ?

We have solid links with local advertising, Facebook, and online media. It needs additional people on our team to support each other, 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.

Youth Officer—vacant after February

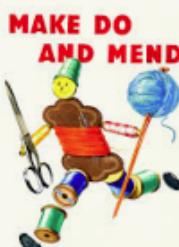
Contact the Secretary if you would like to know more. We will also organise a tour of the theatre and an opportunity to meet some of our members and volunteers.

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.



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.



Committee Officers

President / Bar Manager

Helen Griffin **

Secretary / Newsletter

Hilary Blamires

Treasurer

Vacancy

Publicity/ Social media team

Lupin Berry

Vacancy

Front of House / Facebook

Donna Te Amo

Ticketing

Jacqui Gilbertson

CHB College Drama

Chris Scanlan**

Youth Officer

Juliette Griffin

Set building/maintenance

Bruce Poole*

Sub-Committees

Set building / Lighting

Lindsey Bishop* **

Set building / Sound

Rob Blamires* **

* Life members ** Production Directors