

Biographies (listed alphabetically by first name) of Forum Panel Members, Facilitators, Seminar Presenters & Conference Speakers as at February 9, 2010

Allan Nagy has been a member of the Palmerston North Operatic Society (PNOS) – now known as Abbey Musical Theatre (AMT) - since 1980, working predominantly in the background. He started as a Stage Hand and joined their Executive in 1983. He is the current President of AMT, a role he has held for the last three years. His passion for theatre has seen him turn a hand to almost every aspect of musical theatre and to theatre as a whole (excluding singing as his singing voice has firmly been regarded as belonging to “one of the crew”). Some of the roles he has undertaken in theatrical productions include Floor Sweeper, Stage Hand, Flyman, Lighting Operator/Designer, Set Designer/Builder, Stage Manager, Technical Director, Financial Controller, Production Manager and a few more that he can't think of (or should not mention) at the moment. Throughout his time with PNOS/AMT he has learnt many aspects of theatre and has spent many hours dealing with the trials and tribulations of running a successful voluntary operation. In 2006 Allan was awarded an MTNZ Merit Award. In his other life (the few hours he spends outside theatre) he is a Regional Manager for Turners Transport, a Division of Turners and Growers.

Andrew Comrie has been secretary of North Shore Music Theatre since 2006 and heavily involved in Musical Theatre in Zone 1 since 2004 working on shows such as 'Beauty and the Beast', 'Seussical', 'FAME!', 'By Jeeves' and 'Little Shop of Horrors' both on and off the stage. During the day he works as an IT Engineer for Connect New Zealand designing, building and managing IT Infrastructure and AV projects. North Shore Music Theatre's award winning website design (by Rachael Wiseman) built on a custom CMS has allowed North Shore Music Theatre to keep its friends and members up to date as well as leverage marketing options for the society.

Basil Mahan first became involved with live theatre in 1970 with Porirua Titahi Bay Little Theatre with their production of South Pacific- the budget was \$1,072!! He only came over to Mana College to pick up his wife Adele up from a rehearsal and there were a few guys building the set and the rest they say is history. Since 1970 Basil has helped design and build over 170 sets including sets for what are considered “big theatre shows” for example, Les Miserables and Chess. Being a builder has been a great asset to the theatre however, in the early years the sets were very sturdy and the first revolve Basil built was built like a house and took an army of crew to move it, however, PLT now has a wonderful revolve built into the stage and it is so easy to move. PLT is very limited with wing space and no fly floor so has presented huge challenges over the years with set design and build, which Basil and his teams have mastered. Basil has also always kept an eye on the maintenance of the theatre and has also been involved with Wellington Musical Theatre. He has devoted hundreds of hours to PLT with wife Adele, son John (who does lighting design) and daughter Leigh who sings and dances – it has been a wonderful family commitment to theatre. Basil was awarded Life Membership of PLT and a MTNZ Merit Award for his services to musical theatre, which was presented to him by the late Nola Speir.

Bruce McDowell started in theatre for the West Otago Theatrical in 1984 and before long was on stage performing, even taking singing lessons at that late part of his life (amazing!) He inevitably joined WOTS committee and in 1991 when he joined up with the Taieri Musical Society, it was on stage and behind the scenes. However, what generally happens is one gets too old to be on stage so you tend to concentrate solely on committee. Bruce, however, liked working as stage crew but being in the forestry industry, he was able to perk timber and therefore, tended to be on the set building side for productions and Bruce considers himself to be more a builder's mate. By the way, he has a rule when he builds things “you have a 5 mm tolerance” very good rule that!!!

Campbell Downie (Ba Hons Mus, MAPRA) started his professional career at the age of fourteen recording his first album track on 'All dressed up and no place to play' produced by Oscar winner Russell Crowe. Since then his career has taken him across the world and into every area of the music business. After owning and working in studios and theatre in New Zealand he moved to the UK in 1995 where he worked as a musical director, session musician, performer, a composer for film and television and record producer and was creative principle for House of Sound Productions. While in the UK Campbell worked with a number of professional theatre companies and obtained the position of Musical Director for Danny La Rue OBE for a period in the late nineties. He was also the Musical Director in residence for the British Theatre Dance Association. In 2004 he graduated from the University of Westminster, London with a BA Honours in commercial music and became a Creative Director of the international award winning, London based multi media production company Rollingsound. Returning to New Zealand in 2005 Campbell continues to produce, compose and musically direct internationally. Respect Music Publishing Ltd represents Campbell worldwide without exclusivity. Campbell plays keyboards, bass, guitar, trumpet, trombone, drums, percussion and double bass www.downiemusic.com

Chris McKenzie is a working lighting professional. Alongside his sales and project work for Kenderdines and Professional Lighting Services he still finds time to work as a TV lighting director. The work and Kenderdines and PLS covers is not only theatrical, concert, film &TV, but spans into the architectural and commercial fields. Recent work has been "Singing Bee" as Lighting Designer for Great Southern TV to screen on TV2. In addition to a number of projects including exterior lighting for the Auckland Museum, and display lighting for Telecom shops for the XT Network launch; Chris is a current member of the ETNZ executive, a former chair of the Film & Video

Technicians Guild, and a member of the Illuminating Engineering Society of Australia & NZ. Chris is a firm believer in passing on knowledge to everybody in the industry and as such strongly supports all training and up skilling initiatives.

Christian Penny - A Director principally, Christian has worked in a range of fields developing new New Zealand theatre works ranging from new plays, devised works, community theatre projects and most recently Opera. He co-founded the Auckland theatre company *Theatre at Large* in 1990 with Anna Marbrook. Together they co-directed over 40 productions. Highlights include *"King Lear"* with Ian Mune, which toured nationally and was seen by over 17 000 people. Also *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* and *"Cyrano de Bergerac*, (New Zealand International Festival, Adelaide and Festival of Perth). New New Zealand work includes *Manawa Taua/Savage Hearts*, *The Butchers Wife*, *Henry 8*, and *Gold*. Since dissolving Theatre at Large in 1997 Christian has directed *Shadows and Light* with John Bolton, for Taki Rua Productions; national tours of Victor Rogers award winning play *Sons* and Witi Ihimaera's *"Woman Far Walking"*, with Theatre Physical in Australia & Auckland, Christchurch Festival and the Fuel Festival *"A House Across Oceans"*, and with Touch Compass Dance Trust *"Lusi's Eden"* and *"Lighthouse"*. He is the co-founder of the New Zealand Playback Theatre Summer School which he has taught for ten years annually with Bev Hosking. Students for this programme have come from Germany, USA, Japan Singapore, Vietnam, Fiji, India as well as Australia and New Zealand. He has worked with Playback Theatre in community and aid contexts - specifically Kiribati in the central pacific. In 2007 he premiered a major new work *"Penumbra"* at AK07. Developed over four years at Toi Whakaari NZ Drama School with a team of collaborators. The show is a three and half hour epic spanning 50 years of New Zealand history, over 40 characters and touches on some of New Zealand's major historic landmarks. Metro magazine named it the best event in the Festival. In 2008 he premiered a major new New Zealand Opera at the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts, *"Trial of the Cannibal Dog"* an adaptation of Dame Anne Salmond's award winning History of the Journeys of Captain James Cook in the Pacific. The National Business Review called it "the most important, relevant and engaging Opera of the New Zealand Opera Repertoire. He is one of the first graduates of the Combined Leadership programme initiated by CNZ to develop leadership capacity across the sector." In 2009 he is a participant on the Leadership New Zealand programme along with 35 other mid career New Zealand leaders. He will also direct Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle* as the Graduation Production at Toi Whakaari . Currently the Associate Director of *Te Kura Toi Whakaari o Aotearoa: New Zealand Drama School*. He has been the leader of the Masters Degree in Direction there for the last seven years. He is married to the Sculptor, Cathryn Monro and together they have two daughters.

Christopher Green, having studied Commercial Art and Art Design in Australia in his youth, has considerable experience in his field. He has travelled to Britain, USA and the Caribbean to complete commissioned works. Chris's involvement in theatre spans 27 years and he is a proud recipient of the Musical Theatre NZ Merit Award. Set design and scenic art have occupied the majority of that time, although the last three years has also seen Chris dabble in the creative makeup arena. As past President of Theatre Hawke's Bay, Chris's 'mother company', Chris has also worked with the Napier Operatic Society, Napier Frivolity Minstrels, Hastings Operatic Society as well as being set designer and builder of Hamilton Operatic Society's production of *The Sound of Music*. Chris has been involved in over 100 productions and has been set designer and/or scenic artist for shows such as *Hello Dolly*, *Oklahoma*, *My Fair Lady*, *Me & My Girl*, *Gypsy*, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Blood Brothers*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to The Forum* to name just a few.

Chris Zampese has been involved in various aspects of Musical Theatre for the last 10 years. Starting on stage in a Musikmakers production of "Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat" Chris has gone on to fill many more roles, both on and off the stage. He has tried his hand at set construction, crewing and set design as well as being a member of the Musikmakers committee. In recent years Chris has devoted his time to producing posters, flyers and programmes for Musikmakers productions. He has been involved in the IT industry for several years and studied E-Commerce at Waikato University. He has recently designed website for Musikmakers, HMT productions and Rotorua Musical Theatre. Chris is passionate about IT and the benefits an online presence can bring, but also understands the challenges and limitations that face many theatrical societies around the country.

Dale Henderson is currently President of Tauranga Musical Theatre. He works at Baycourt Theatre, as the Manager of Events Tauranga, and was a member of the Tauranga City Council Corporate Health and Safety Committee. Dale is currently the President of EVANZ (The Entertainment Venues Association of NZ), and has previously served on the ETNZ (Entertainment Technology NZ) Executive. Starting in the industry as a theatre technician, and moving through his professional career to be Manager of Events Tauranga, he has a very good understanding of the diversity of the Events Industry and Venue Management. He suggests that Health and Safety issues for community theatres are not difficult to manage. There are many free tools and systems available to MTNZ societies, and with a small investment of time, many of the risks can be reduced.

David Bosworth is a specialised theatre rigger and has worked on many productions across New Zealand, Australia and the UK. David's theatre career began with stage management at Christchurch's Court Theatre, and then with shows in the West End of London, Pitlochry Festival Theatre in Scotland, Mercury Theatre and NZ Opera in Auckland. David then moved into stage rigging work and this saw him working on shows such as *CATS*, *Aspects of Love*, *Buddy* and *JC Superstar*. Currently the Touring Mechanist for the consortium productions of

Miss Saigon, David has also completed mechanist work on tours of Les Miserables, 42nd Street and West Side Story. David is part owner of the Light Site, a stage lighting and production company, supplying lighting and consultancy services to the theatre (both large and small societies and professional companies), entertainment and corporate conference industries.

Deane Philip started with John Herber Ltd after leaving school at 16 where he was involved in the rigging and engineering side of the business. Deane moved to Cairns to pursue a career as a dive instructor for six years and then returned to New Zealand and worked for an irrigation company as an engineer and was mainly involved in pump design and centre pivot irrigators. Graeme approached Deane with the concept of the maintenance and fire retardant application for drapes as it had become more of a demand and there was not currently anyone servicing the market and providing a quality service or product. So after a lot of research, Graeme and Deane found a product suited to their needs with the testing and quality they were looking for, so they approached the patent holder in New York about the manufacture of the product here in NZ. From there Graeme and Deane travelled to New York to undergo intensive training to become the approved manufacturers and licensed applicator for New Zealand & Australia. John Herber/NZ Fire-Shield are currently the only company in the world to manufacture the useable product outside of the US patent holder. Upon returning from New York, N.Z. Fire-Shield Ltd was set up as a division of John Herber Ltd to service the fire retardant industry. Since then, NZ Fire-Shield has grown in the industry and has worked closely with the Department of Building and Housing to understand the rules and regulations for commercial draperies and how these laws affect the theatre/entertainment industry. From this, NZ Fire-Shield has developed a service for the industry incorporating the already proven US techniques mixed with some new improvements and adhering to NZ standards to provide a better service and advice for their cliental.

Diane Brodie - A passion for theatre and a "can't beat 'em, join em" attitude led to Diane joining Showbiz Christchurch over 30 years ago. Her particular areas of expertise are costuming and administration, having been Wardrobe Manager, Administrator and Board member. Currently, Diane is President of Showbiz Christchurch, (for the sixth time!) . Professionally, Diane is the Touring Wardrobe Manager for CATS and Miss Saigon for the New Zealand Musical Theatre Consortium. Diane was awarded a MTNZ Merit Award in 2008 for services to musical theatre.

Gary and Angie Dixon of Alpine Print Group, Pukekohe – programme judges

Gary and Angie have lived in Pukekohe for many years. Gary has been involved in Alpine Printers with his parents for over 20 years and Alpine Printers has been in the family for over 30 years. Alpine Printers deal with larger runs and commercial printing such as magazines, mass media printing and invoice books etc. They also provide a professional graphic design service and have a retail outlet in the town which caters for a wide range of smaller jobs.

Glen Ruske - Since 1992 Glen and Redd Acoustics have supplied superior sound for bands, theatre shows and corporate events. He is sought after nation wide and his talent has seen him tour with numerous professional and musical theatre companies, orchestras and international artists throughout New Zealand. Glen has designed sound for productions as diverse as Maui (Te Ao Marama); Beauty and the Beast (Christchurch, Dunedin, Napier, North Shore), CATS (Christchurch, Dunedin, Napier, New Plymouth), My Fair Lady (Court Theatre, Wellington, Napier) and is currently designing and operating for a number of the Miss Saigon consortium productions, to name a few. In 2007 Glen became a major partner in Redd Acoustics, a theatre and event sound company which has recently been re-named to Bounce NZ.

Graeme Philip purchased John Herber Limited in 1980 and rebuilt the company to be theatre, television and film orientated along with maintaining the canvas fabrication as this part of the business is specialising in high tech cold climate tent manufacturing for the Antarctica and Arctic conditions. John Herber Limited is a family operated business with Graeme, Diane and Mark Philip being Directors and with Deane Philip as Managing Director of NZ Fire Shield Limited. John Herber Limited and NZ Fire Shield Limited are major sponsors of MTNZ.

Grant Meese's vast involvement with music, performance and in particular musical theatre began as a teenager and some 30 years on, his contribution now extends to the full theatrical spectrum from performer to choreographer, to musical director and director. Grant has now dedicated his full-time career to directing. Recent projects have included three seasons of Cats in Wellington, Auckland and Tauranga, Sound of Music in Wellington, Whakatane Theatre's Brassed Off, North Shore Music Theatre's Beauty And The Beast and My Fair Lady and currently working on Miss Saigon for Wellington Musical Theatre.

Helen Horsnell has been involved with musical theatre for over 30 years. She moved from onstage back row of chorus, to give most things a go. After shifting to Dunedin in 1998, she got involved in backstage work and soon moved up to stage manager. Helen's big chance came two nights before opening night for "42nd Street" when she first got to call a show. Nothing has been as nerve racking since, but she enjoys the challenge that each new show brings. Helen is currently the Zone Five representative on the MTNZ Executive.

Ian Reid's first involvement with theatre was in a high school musical in the UK. Born in Glasgow, Ian moved to Napier, New Zealand in 1960 with his parents and two sisters and has lived there ever since. Ian joined the Napier Operatic Society in 1967 whilst serving an electrical apprentice with the Napier City Council, starting as lighting board operator for 'Little Mary Sunshine' and moving on to props for later productions. Ian served on the executive committee of Napier Operatic for some 25 years and has been awarded Life Membership of Napier Operatic and a MTNZ Merit Award in 2003 for services to musical theatre. Ian's involvement with the arts is a fulltime one; he is manager of Napier's Municipal Theatre and the Century Theatre and he is also the current President of MTNZ.

Irene Mosley has worked with not for profit groups and organisations for the last 20 years and has her own consulting business (Results Consulting) working with not for profit and small businesses. For the last five years she has been contracted to the Clutha District Council to provide Community Development advice and resources for the districts groups and organisations. She has been involved with the South Otago Theatrical Society since her first role as rose seller in Oliver in 1981 and since then has worked both on stage, off stage in a number of roles including musical director. She is currently the President of South Otago Theatrical Society. Irene understands the importance of similar sized societies getting together at conference to discuss and share ideas relating to the nuts and bolts of running a society.

Jane Keller Jane Keller has lived in NZ for 21 years. She trained at The Ohio State University where she received a Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Vocal Pedagogy. Although classically trained and with over 30 years of operatic experience, Jane's real loves are musical theatre, cabaret and jazz. Her cabaret shows, "Bigger Is Better" and "Do I Have To Get Naked" got rave reviews in the U.S. and NZ. She recently received critical acclaim for new show, "So Many Disappointed Men" which debuted in the St James Cabaret Series in Wellington. Jane has a large private singing studio and she teaches singing at Toi Whakaari: NZ National Drama School. She teaches at The NZ National Singing School and travels the country doing workshops and adjudicating vocal competitions. She is the singer with the jazz quartet Black Coffee.

John Antony has been involved in theatre since his school days in Wellington, having his first taste of Operatic Society productions with Wellington Operatic in the 1960s. He was later involved on the Wellington Operatic Executive, before moving to Auckland in 1968. John has been involved in theatre as either performer, set designer or director ever since, with work for TVNZ included. He has directed shows throughout the Auckland region for North Shore Music Theatre, Auckland Music Theatre, Light Opera Club, Company Theatre, Mairangi Players, Combined Auckland Secondary Schools, Papakura Theatre Club and Birkenhead and North Shore City Councils, to name a few. A North Shore City resident for over 40 years, John holds a North Shore City Civic Award for his services to theatre and the arts. His involvement with North Shore Music Theatre saw him serve as a committee member for 25 years with three terms as President. John was awarded a Musical Theatre Federation Merit Award in 1997. He was the MTFNZ Northern Zone councillor in 1997 before becoming Vice President and then President for five years. Directing highlights for John have been "Man of La Mancha", the New Zealand Premiere of "Big River", "Guys and Dolls" and "Les Miserables". John 'officially' spends his time as Director of his own Merchandising Consultancy company.

John MacGibbon, in 1972, set up ML Consultants as a lighting hireage business which has expanded to covering hireage, sales, quotations and installation for all aspects of Theatres, Halls and Churches including lighting and sound equipment, projection and theatre drapes. Theatrical Consultancy (theatre design, lighting and sound planning) and Hazard Identification as required by the O.S.H Act is also undertaken by MLC and MLC also acts as an agent for the supply of a wide variety of equipment used in public premises e.g. commercial dishwashers and ovens, tables, chairs. MLC has provided lighting consultancy services for 'Wools of New Zealand' (previously the New Zealand Wool Board) and stock firms on correct lighting for fibre grading including seventy Woolshed Field Days and John has done the lighting design and operation for over twenty major musical productions and was also Technical Director for Pan Pacific Productions' New Zealand main centre production of 'The Sound of Music'. John has tutored lighting design and operation to technicians and directors at numerous training schools and has designed, supplied and operated lighting and sound equipment for both indoor and outdoor events. John started a theatrical career in 1961, subsequently performing onstage in five musical productions including major roles. He has played in orchestras for musicals, has worked most tasks backstage including Production Manager for a number of productions and directed six musicals for the Dannevirke Theatre Company. John first joined the executive of DTC in 1960 and is currently their President and has done lighting design and operation for over fifty dramas, plus major musicals and a vast number of widely varying performing arts productions such as variety concerts, dance recitals, school musicals and festivals and Maori concerts, also indoor and outdoor public functions and conferences. He has had 22 years membership of the Central and Southern Hawkes Bay Community Arts Council including a term as Chairman; 6 years membership of the Executive of the New Zealand Arts Assembly; 22 years membership of the Executive of Musical Theatre New Zealand including 6 years as a Zone Councillor, 10 years as Vice President, 4 years as President, 2 years Immediate Past President and a Life Member; and for many years a tutor of a theatre lighting module for Sixth Form Certificate students of drama at Dannevirke High School.

Kaarin Macaulay is head of costume construction at Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School in Wellington. Kaarin has worked across Australia for resident theatre companies, big-budget musicals (including Phantom of the Opera and Sunset Boulevard) and small project-based groups. In 1997 Kaarin accepted a full-time position with Opera Australia, where she collaborated with local and international designers, creating costumes for the vast repertoire of Australia's national opera company. She now runs the Diploma of Costume Construction at Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School.

Kate Ghent's debut in front of the curtain was in 1969 when she starred in a ballet panto as a tree and her first job behind the curtain was after school as assistant table setter for MATS theatre restaurants in the late 1970s, in Masterton. Greatest claim to fame was playing the totally nude Japanese prostitute in Ken Russell's Madam Butterfly for the 1994 Festival of the Arts - dress rehearsal really did take on a whole new meaning. Over the last 20 years, Kate has tended to be involved more in the backstage areas of the theatre and production for Wellington societies and various festivals, after returning from her big OE in 1989, pretty much doing anything that doesn't require climbing a ladder and has often appeared on stage in various "females of ill-repute" roles – ah, the life of an alto. In her corporate career Kate has worked for companies such as Lion Breweries, Castrol, Lotteries and Saatchis, in EA, conference and event roles and currently works part time off and on at the NZRU – her other passion - rugby. Kate is also involved with musical theatre outside her role as MTNZ Administrator in a professional capacity, and is currently the coordinator for NZ Musical Theatre Consortium of Miss Saigon and has recently been cast in the role of Carmen for the NZ Premiere of Curtains – the musical whodunit, at Porirua Little Theatre in Wellington in April.

Kathryn Osborne has had a career behind the pros arch since mid 1980's. Starting first with Auckland Youth Theatre and Perkel Opera, she has toured with Stetson Productions on several shows including Starlight Express in 2009 and earlier Chess, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, Blood Brothers in New Zealand & Australia and several seasons of The Original Phantom of the Opera in New Zealand, Australia, Japan & Korea. For the Ascot group she toured Joseph & his Technicolour and Secret Garden. For 10 years Kathryn looked after the technical side of NBR NZ Opera productions which included 25 opera seasons in Auckland & Wellington, 4 regional tours and numerous concerts. In between she found time to do event work with IMG, The Aotea Centre and The International Festival of the Arts. She is on the Executive of the ETNZ and has her own company Places Please.

Ken Williamson (QSM, JP, MInstD) and his partners built Law Mooney Williamson Insurance brokers (est.1974) into one of the largest NZ owned general insurance brokerages, creating a dominant market position within the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and King Country regions. In addition, they acted for a number of large national accounts. They sold their brokerage to Crombie Lockwood (part of the Wesfarmers Group) in 2007. Crombie Lockwood now employs Ken as a broker in their Hamilton office. Ken attributes a significant part of their business success and the eventual successful sale of their business, to the introduction of independent governance onto their board. He is a strong advocate of small and medium size businesses creating boards with independent directors. Ken is passionate about people taking ownership of their communities by becoming involved. He currently serves as a board member of the McKenzie Centre Trust; the University of Waikato Foundation; Hamilton Girls' High School; the Order of St John (Midland Region Ambulance Service); the 'Magic' netball franchise; Sunningdale RSA retirement home; and the Southwell School foundation. He is also vice chairman of the Perry Foundation (one of NZ's largest charitable trusts with annual grants given of over \$20m); and chairman of Te Rau Aroha Papakinga Trust (part of Te Whakaruruhau Maori Women's Refuge). He is a life member of St Peters Tennis Club in Hamilton; a founding trustee of the MS Waikato Trust; a Justice of the Peace; and an Officer in the Order of St John. Ken is a shareholder and director of 'Medical and Health Insurance Brokers' and 'Elite Meats'; and a director of the Rezlab Group. He is also a director in several property investment companies. In the 2009 New Year's Honour's List, he was awarded a Queens Service Medal for services to the community.

Kevin Murphy is a Chartered Accountant working with TSB Bank where he is the Chief Executive. He is married to Carolyn (a theatre romance!) and they have three children Shaun, Scott & Katie-Rose. With both parents Life Members of New Plymouth Operatic it was a good bet that Kevin would also have some theatre involvement. Kevin's involvement has focussed on the administration of the society and he has been a member of the Committee/Board of Management of New Plymouth Operatic for over 20 years including a term of six years as President, he is also a former President and Life Member of Musical Theatre New Zealand and is a member of the New Zealand Musical Theatre Consortium Management group that have bought a number of high profile musicals to New Zealand.

Lesley Reid first became involved in musical theatre in 1962 in Timaru, where she performed in numerous shows, both in the Operatic and Repertory branches of the South Canterbury Drama League. She became involved with Napier Operatic Society in the early 1980s working in the kitchen and front of house areas at the Tabard, and assisting with dressing for "Annie" when her daughter was in the cast. She has performed on stage in numerous productions for NOS, including both productions of Les Miserables, Chess, My Fair Lady, and many of their Tabard Theatre Productions. She has been Production Manager a number of times, and worked in most areas back stage. She spent four years as an executive member of the Society, four years as vice-president, and then six years as president, retiring at the end of March 2006. She completed her year as past president, and

spent some of 2007 assisting with "Beauty", before having to take some time out to care for her late husband Tony. During her time on the Executive of NOS, she was the Society's representative on the Consortium Committee, which was an invaluable experience, and a vehicle which is imperative if societies in this country are going to continue to produce big budget shows. In Lesley's life away from Theatre, she is the Financial Administrator for a sharebroking firm in Hastings.

Neville Scelly has been "on the boards" for some years! His first big theatre experience was on stage at His Majesty's Theatre in 1955, then in many other productions until leaving for Australia in 1964. Neville returned to N.Z. in 1971, having studied opera at the Sydney Conservatorium & toured in musicals with *Garnet H Carroll* the *Tivoli Circuit* & *J.C. Williamsons*, then performing in productions at His Majesty's Theatre including *Annie*, *My Fair Lady*, & choreographed four productions of *Fiddler on the Roof*, other shows include *Aspects of Love*, *J.C. Superstar*, *The Sound Of Music*, *Follies*, *Titanic* & the world premier of *Isabelle* a NZ musical based on *A Soldiers Tale*. Recently performing the role of *Gus* in the Auckland season of "Cats" at the Civic Theatre was a career highlight.

Ngaire Holmes' involvement in musical theatre began in Southland many years ago. Her first memory of performing was when she was five years old singing a duet in the local school concert. She was brought up in a large musical family in the little town of Tuatapere. Ngaire became a member of Western Southland Musical Theatre in the 1960's and from there to Hamilton when she became a member of Musikmakers Hamilton in 1994. She performed onstage for Musikmakers in a number of shows and then due to ill health had to turn her hand to the production roles. She has produced many top shows for Musikmakers over the last 10 years namely, *Oliver*, *Les Mis* and *My Fair Lady* to name a few. Ngaire held the role of Secretary for two years and President for four years and is the current Treasurer of the Riverlea Theatre Board of Management a position she has now held for eight years. Ngaire has worked for the past 15 years as an Office Manager for Stiles and Hooker Architects and Engineers. Ngaire is currently Production Manager for Hamilton Musical Theatre's production of *Miss Saigon*.

Phil Conroy is one of the principals of Shand Shelton Ltd Theatre Architects, Theatre Consultants and Project Managers. Phil has over 29 years experience in both the construction and entertainment industries, the last 16 years being spent working with Roger Shand in the design and construction of entertainment venues in New Zealand and Australia. Current projects include St James Theatre Gore, Dunedin Town Hall, Marlborough Civic Theatre and the Rotorua Civic Theatre. Shand Shelton have over their various projects been involved in all aspects of the design and construction process including fundraising, cost planning, project and construction management, specialist theatre services design and installation and venue management. Phil, working with Rob Peters, Steve Blackburn and Nic Kyle is a member of the committee who has drafted and updated the "Guide to the safe working practices in the Entertainment Industry". Phil is also a director of Metro Productions Ltd an equipment hire and technical production company serving the theatre, television, corporate entertainment and events industry. When time permits this enables him to obtain a reality check on what industry and technology is doing to allow this to be fed back into the design and functionality of venues.

Rachael Wiseman's (Amici Productions Limited) professional background lies in graphic design and marketing. She proudly runs a successful freelance design and marketing business, which allows to fulfil her number one role as solo Mum to her five year old son. With 12 years of hands-on involvement in local theatre groups throughout Auckland, including past positions on Centrestage and North Shore Music Theatre committees, Rachael has a realistic insight into the role of marketing for amateur theatre. Management of marketing campaigns has included *Beauty* and *The Beast* for North Shore Music Theatre, and most recently *CATS* at The Civic for Harlequin Musical Theatre. Rachael has developed techniques and gleaned ideas and knowledge she is keen to share to help local theatre groups maximize their marketing campaigns.

Reece Preston is one of the founding directors of iTICKET, and has a background in computing systems and web based programming. He also specialises in the area of R&D and business strategy in order to focus on the ongoing development and innovation of the iTICKET software platform. Over the five years that iTICKET has been in operation, web technology has changed drastically and keeping at the forefront of this is key to being a leader in the industry. Reece has also been involved in Musical Theatre onstage and front of house over the years so is very aware of what societies and amateur groups require in terms of web technology and online ticketing. iTICKET's systems are therefore optimised for providing a level of service that meets these needs perfectly.

Richard Marrett is Head of the NASDA programme based at CPIT in Christchurch. He is also in demand as a musical director and is also an accomplished pianist, arranger and composer. Richard's degree is from Victoria University of Wellington and he has also gained his Licentiate from the Royal Schools of Music. Well-known for his work in music throughout the country, Richard is also a sought-after teacher and vocal coach. He has lectured at the Christchurch Jazz School, conducted and arranged for Christchurch Symphony, Wellington Sinfonia, Showbiz Christchurch, The Court Theatre, Wellington Musical Theatre, ARTCO, Dunedin Operatic, Canterbury Music Theatre, NASDA and the Choral Federation. Several of his orchestrations have been recorded with the NZSO and he has a busy schedule working as producer and arranger on a number of recording projects. Richard's close involvement with musical theatre began as pianist for shows such as *Anything Goes*, *42nd Street*,

Chess and Singin' In The Rain. Since then his numerous musical direction credits include *Mame*, *The King And I*, *Sweet Charity*, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Tell Me On A Sunday*, *West End To Broadway (I, II and III)*, *My Fair Lady*, *42nd Street*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Annie*, *Grease*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *Cats*, *Chicago* and *Miss Saigon*. The latest Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin seasons of *Les Miserables* were conducted by Richard, and at The Court Theatre he has been musical director for their productions of *My Fair Lady*, *South Pacific*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Sound of Music*, *Jerry's Girls*, *Oliver!*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Producers*, *Anything Goes*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and *La Cage Aux Folles*. Richard also regularly appears as musical director and arranger for the popular ASB Starry Nights, staged in Hagley Park with Christchurch Symphony as part of the city's Summertimes programme, and in cabaret performances with Ali Harper and Juliet Reynolds-Midgley. For ARTCO he created the score for the musical version of *Once Were Warriors*, and productions for NASDA include *Lil' Abner*, *Into The Woods*, *Urinetown*, *The Witches Of Eastwick*, *Oklahoma!* and *Side Show*. In January, 2009 he directed the Musical Theatre programme at the NZ National Singing School in Napier, and he enjoys regular appearances as guest conductor with Christchurch Symphony Orchestra bringing the music of Broadway to the concert stage.

Rob Peters began his theatre career at the Mercury Theatre in Auckland in 1986 as a member of the technical department and after leaving in 1988 has been responsible for lighting design and set construction of shows throughout New Zealand for companies which include the Auckland Opera Co., Opera New Zealand, Auckland Theatre Company. The most recent lighting design was for the NBR NZ Opera's 2006 production of *Faust*. At the end of 1988 Rob, with Graham Munford (also ex-Mercury Theatre), formed Third Stage Ltd. The company was involved in all forms of theatre; Opera, Drama, Dance, Musical theatre, Corporate theatre and product launches; lighting design, building sets, production management and providing special effects. While working at Third Stage Ltd Rob has been involved with many major set builds which include *The Flying Dutchman & Rigoletto* for Opera NZ, *Chicago* for the Stetsons Group and *Who is Afraid of Virginia Wolf* for ATC. In 1989 Rob had the opportunity to study lighting design at the Banff School of Fine Arts in Canada and worked in Edmonton with one of the foremost Canadian lighting designers, Louise Guinand. In 1990 Rob was responsible for the installation and implementation of the lighting for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games in Auckland. In 1991/1992 Rob worked in Seville, Spain to realise the lighting design for the New Zealand pavilion at the 1992 World Exposition. During the early 1990's Rob became involved with the design, manufacture and installation of theatre rigging systems. To date Rob has been responsible for stage engineering installations in over 30 theatres throughout New Zealand and Australia, including counterweight flying systems, winch (manual and electric) rigging systems, multiple chain motor operated systems and hand line rigging systems. Rigging maintenance and inspections in many other venues throughout New Zealand are undertaken also. In 2005 Rob set up Theatre Systems and Design Ltd, which is now based in Christchurch. Project work is undertaken throughout New Zealand on a large number of theatrical projects from Invercargill to Kerikeri. Currently Rob is involved with committees responsible for the Health & Safety Guideline for the Theatre and Entertainment Industry, Entertainment Rigging, Skills Active, Training and is chairman of ETNZ, Entertainment Technology New Zealand. Rob has been working as contract Production Manager for Southern Opera, a new Opera company based in Christchurch, since 2007.

Ross Benbow was born in Takaka, Golden Bay, and his family came from South Canterbury and his Mum sang in the Anglican Church Choir in Ashburton and his Dad played in the brass band in Temuka. Both Ross' parents became involved with the Takaka Drama Society and the Motueka Dramatic Society when they lived in Motueka. Ross moved to Nelson when he was eight and was involved with church pageants etc. The first show he remembers seeing was *The Tinder Box* produced by Nelson Repertory in the 1950's. His next memorable show was the Scots College (Wellington) production of *Ruddigore* in 1960 – it made him want to get involved in theatre, which he then did the very next year in Nelson's *Oklahoma*. His first show was in 1965 with Nelson Operatic and he has been involved ever since. Ross has done everything from chorus to spotlight operator, painting sets, hanging lights to being the MTNZ Zone Four representative for the past 10 years. For his sins, he has also been production manager for many shows. A little bit of directing has come his way and he has also been on the Nelson Musical Theatre Executive for a number of years including President, Vice President, Secretary and has also been made a life member. Ross says he enjoys the theatre life and although it can be frustrating at times, it is always interesting. In his other life he is a real estate salesperson in Nelson.

Sherrin Scelly has spent many years performing and directing shows around Auckland. Her last appearance was in "La Cage Aux Folles" as Jacqueline for Auckland Music Theatre. Last year she performed in "Titanic" as Charlotte Cardoza & as Judy Garland in "The Boy from Oz" for AMT. She has obtained NAPTA nominations for her roles as Dorothy Brock in "42nd St" & Mrs Higgins "My Fair Lady" NSMT at the Bruce Mason Theatre. In 2007 she was nominated for best director for "Ragtime" in concert for AMT. Other roles include Giulietta "Aspects of Love" "Gigi" "Jerry's Girls" Mrs Medlock "Secret Garden" Stepmother "Into the Woods" Mrs Malloy "Hello Dolly" Eliza "My Fair Lady" Housekeeper "Man of La Mancha" Elizabeth "Robert & Elizabeth" Linda Porter "Red Hot & Cole" Rosalinda "Die Fledermaus" Amy "Company" Yum Yum "Mikado" Nina "Song of Norway" Velma "Chicago" Kate "Kiss Me Kate" "Follies" and many others. Some of her direction credits include: "A Little Night Music" "Gondoliers" "My Fair Lady" "Nunsense" "Fiddler on the Roof" "Sweet Charity" "C'est Magnifique" & "Ragtime" A past Chairman of Auckland Music Theatre, Sherrin now sits on the Trust Board of the Auckland Musical Arts Trust.

Terry Molloy founded Redd Acoustics in 1985 to supply audio for musical theatre. By 2007, the company had grown to a staff of twelve and systems up to large arena and outdoor concerts such as Christchurch's 'Classical Sparks', with audiences in excess of 100,000 people, although still with a strong emphasis on corporate and theatrical work. In 2007, Terry decided to take a step sideways by selling the hire side of the business to Glen and Bill Ruske and concentrating on sales and consultancy. Terry continues to trade as Redd Acoustics Sales and Redd Acoustics Consultancy with the hire company now called BounceNZ. With 25 years experience in designing theatrical sound and extensive experience in indoor and outdoor events in many parts of New Zealand, Terry is always keen to share this knowledge with venue management/architects and operators/designers and has continued to be involved in designing audio systems for both hire and permanent use. Terry has been involved with many of the musical theatre groups and Musical Theatre NZ since starting with Showbiz Christchurch in 1983 and looks forward to continuing these relationships

Terry O'Connor's (Amici Productions Limited) background lies in overall strategic project management with key influences in finance, marketing and looking for the point of difference to ensure success for all parties. Terry has been involved in many facets of business, and is currently on the executive of a multi-national corporate. He has chaired public companies and national sporting organizations. Terry was the creator and driving force in the establishment of The NAPTA Trust (Northern Area Performance Theatre Awards) which is structured to promote and support musical theatre in the upper North Island and assist young and up-and-coming artists. Most recently Terry was a key driving force in areas of business development, sponsorship and marketing for the recent successful season of CATS at The Civic, Auckland.

Opening Speaker – Helen Medlyn



This girl loves to sing...and dress up...so the stage was where she was meant to be!

From relatively quiet beginnings, performing with local amateur dramatic societies throughout Auckland, she's now no stranger to treading the boards in such places as the Sydney Opera House, the Symphonia Hall in Osaka and Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers.

An accomplished actress, an ever-popular opera diva, an acclaimed musical theatre songstress and a celebrated cabaret artiste, Helen's a self-confessed "Jill of All Trades"...and loves every moment of it!

On a more formal note, however, Helen, a 2002 Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate, has been variously described as "a national treasure" and "New Zealand's favourite mezzo". She takes major roles in operas, oratorios, vocal symphonic works, musicals and plays; she appears on the concert platform singing both classical and Broadway repertoire; and she creates and performs her acclaimed 'hell' cabaret shows with pianist, Penny Dodd.

In New Zealand, she is a popular and regular guest artist with NBR New Zealand Opera, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Festival, Auckland Philharmonia, Auckland Theatre Company, the Court Theatre, Vector Wellington Sinfonia, Christchurch Symphony and Southern Sinfonia. Helen's overseas work has included appearances with Opera Australia, State Opera of South Australia, Queensland Opera, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Canberra Symphony Orchestra, English National Opera, London Philharmonic Choir, Chandos Symphony Orchestra (UK), Eugene Symphony Orchestra (USA), Malaysian Philharmonik Orchestra (Malaysia) and with the NZSO in Osaka, Japan.

Website: <http://www.hellhq.co.nz/>

Contact: hellhq@cosmo.co.nz



Keynote Speaker – Craig Fisher – sponsored by Musikmakers Hamilton

Craig Fisher FCA

Chairman, Audit Director – Hayes Knight

Craig Fisher is an Audit Director and the Chairman of Hayes Knight New Zealand. Hayes Knight is an innovative chartered accountancy practice that works beyond the numbers to keep its clients' businesses future fit. Based in Auckland, it has a team of approximately 130 professionals with a wide range of technical expertise to assist clients in meeting the challenges of business.



Craig is an experienced, passionate and pragmatic presenter of local and national presentations on such topics as auditing, accounting updates, fraud prevention, and governance matters. With a special interest in the not-for-profit sector, he has co-presented Charities update seminars for accountants nationwide and was the key note speaker for the Charities Commission at their 2009 AGM.

Craig has considerable audit experience across a wide variety of clients spanning commercial clients, not for profit organisations and schools. He acts for a large number of charities and not-for-profit organisations in his capacity as an audit partner at Hayes Knight Audit. Craig is a regular technical author helping translate accounting and auditing issues into accessible information for users. From 2001 to 2008 Craig chaired the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand's Professional Standards Board responsible for all professional and ethical standards developed by the Institute other than the financial reporting standards. In this capacity he has represented New Zealand internationally in audit and assurance standard setting.

Craig is passionate about ensuring organisations are sustainable and successful. This requires them being transparent and accountable. Organisations need to be aware of the implications of proposed accounting related changes and Craig seeks to translate the sometimes confusing issues into the easily understandable. He also aims to break the boring accountant stereo type.

Craig can be contacted on:

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For more information on Hayes Knight visit: hayesknight.co.nz

Keynote Speaker – Steve Spiegel



President and CEO, Steve is the founder of Theatrical Rights Worldwide, a new company dedicated to representing musicals on behalf of their authors for presentation by theatre organizations throughout the world.

Steve recently worked for R & H Theatricals and, prior to joining R & H, was an agent at William Morris Agency. Preceding his tenure at R & H and WMA, Steve was President of Music Theatre International (MTI) from 1994 to 2002, culminating his 23 year career which began there in 1979. As President, Steve built MTI into the leading company in the field of worldwide musical licensing through innovative marketing and promotional enterprises in conjunction with sales and managerial programs aimed at enhancing the value and experience of musical theatre presentation and performance. Steve introduced unmatched licensing strategies and developed innovative new products and services including Broadway Junior, to heighten the value of theatre participation and revenue opportunities.



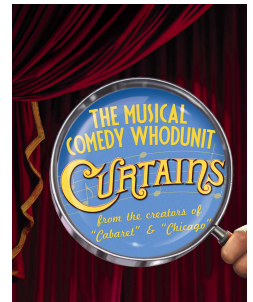
Steve has worked extensively with elementary, middle and high schools, colleges, universities, civic and religious groups, youth theatres, tours, professional companies, dinner theatres, regional and community theatres, and Broadway producers.

In 1996, Steve received the Distinguished Merit Award from the American Association of Community Theatres for Outstanding Service to Community Theatre in America and in 1998, The New York State Theatre Educators Association honored him with their award in recognition of advancement in theatre education.



In 1999, Steve received the Florida Association For Theatre Education Arts Advocate of the Year Award. In 2000, Steve received the Educational Theatre Association's Founder's Award, the Ohio Community Theatre President's Award and the US Army, European Division's Outstanding Support of Theatre award. In 2001, The American Association of Community Theatres once again honored him with their Business Partner Award. In 2008 the Tennessee Arts Academy presented him with their Partner in the Arts Award and in 2009, Steve and TRW received the Corporate Leadership Award from the American Association of Community Theatres.

Steve is an advocate for the Arts and his pioneering efforts and expertise have nurtured educational, community and professional theatre throughout the world.



Theatri©al Rights
WORLDWIDE

Website: <http://www.theatricalrights.com>

Australasian Agent: Kim Ransley, Origin Theatrical - <http://www.origintheatrical.com.au/>

