

**Minutes of Zone 5 Musical Theatre New Zealand meeting  
Held Cromwell Fine Thyme Theatre Group Rooms  
Saturday 16 May 1.30pm**

**Present:** Helen Horsnell MTNZ/Dunedin Operatic,  
Fine Thyme Theatre Company – Kerry Horsnell, Megan de Joux. Sharon Smid  
Invercargill Musical Theatre – Kim Forsythe, Leisanne Fraser  
West Otago - Barbara Hanna  
Oamaru Operatic – Pat Gunn , Bronwyn Waldron  
Showbiz Queenstown – Alex Derby  
Alexandra Musical Society – Trevor Gouldie, Claire Gouldie  
Fiordland Players – Kathy Gray

**Apologies:**

Apologies were received from  
South Otago Theatrical Society  
Taieri Musical  
Hugh Spiers  
Ranfurlly Musical & Dramatic  
Roxburgh Musical  
Wanaka Theatre group  
Dianne & Graham Phillips  
Clyde Theatre Group  
Gore Operatic

**Matters Arising from last minutes:**

Cromwell is not struggling with 5 or 6 members

Invercargill would still like to host a directors school at some stage, to train local people to direct shows. They have good source of funding through ILT but had used quite a bit for Cats, so will wait an appropriate time then apply again.

Discussion was held regarding this:

This would help struggling groups, new/ budding directors be given small show to direct to see how they manage before committing and being contracted to bigger show. Appoint assistant directors to learn and absorb off more experienced director.

Have MENTOR directors that could set scene and leave assistant to continue with continued support.

Alex suggested a list of people who are prepared to direct shows/ whether they will travel, costs, extras required etc be made available to societies, as some directors may have passion for particular show and be willing to travel to direct such a show. Helen to follow up.

Need to change culture of shows by not putting others down, offering more support both internally and externally. More open communication between societies about plans etc and sharing of resources. Form consortiums!

Website- tries to keep updated information but only as good as information forwarded to editor.

Newsletters – send onto other societies – generic e-mail

### **Shows Report:**

**Fine Thyme Theatre : Grease 27<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> May, 5 performances and the season is already sold out. This is there first major production.**

**Invercargill Musical theatre: 'My Fair Lady' August 7<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**

**West Otago Theatrical Society : 'The Mikado' 19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June**

**Oamaru Operatic : 'Cats' 17<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Sept**

**'Les Miserables' 2010**

**Fiordland Players: 3 1 act plays Labour weekend**

**Alexandra Musical Society : 'Oliver'**

**Showbiz Queenstown : 'Les Miserables' in the middle of their season**

**Dunedin Operatic: 'The Producers' 13<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

**' Nonsense' Nov**

**'Dusty' April 2010**

**' Miss Saigon' Sept 2010**

**Taieri Musical : 'The Buddy holly Story' 6<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Oct**

**Gore Operatic: 'Jesus Christ Superstar' 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Aug**

**South Otago Theatrical Society: 'Dads Army' 4<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> Aug**

### **CONFERENCE REPORT**

Great turn out of Zone 5 societies

Awards – Patrons Encouragement – Daniel Martin – Oamaru

Show bill Competition – Invercargill Musical theatre

Programme Comp multi B – Taiari Musical for 'Honk'  
Website Winner – Invercargill Musical theatre

Very Positive feedback re most forums and seminars. Committee will look at Friday night as this did not work well and improve for Auckland Conference.

2010 Conference 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MTNZ to be held at Rydges Auckland 19-21 March 2010.

Masquerade Ball on the Saturday night. Limited to 300 people so book early. Packs out early September.

It was discussed at the meeting and rep to ask executive if 2 spaces could be held for each society to uplift for a limited time before.

Any old show photos, etc you would like to have in 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publication please send to Kate with relevant information

Nelson successful applicant to host 2011 conference. Wearable art the theme.

Awards – needs to be clearer criteria for eligibility. Leisanne asked that all name of nominees be announced for patrons encouragement awards and a tighter criteria. Comments passed onto patron for her consideration.

## **Health & Safety**

Pat will send through Risk management & EOTC templates for societies to modify to individual needs.

## **CAF Loans**

These are available to assist with capital projects. Interest free loan for those who have contributed for 10 years or more

## **MTNZ website**

Need to keep Kate informed of what's going on in your society [kate@musical.org.nz](mailto:kate@musical.org.nz) or PO Box 1413 Wellington. 04 479 5911.

Photo's needed for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication- will be sent back if return address provided.

MTNZ \$25 Individual Membership now available- will receive Spotlight via post or e-mail. Contact kate or [www.musical.org.nz/images/INDIVIDUAL%20%20MEMBERSHIP.pdf](http://www.musical.org.nz/images/INDIVIDUAL%20%20MEMBERSHIP.pdf)

Taiari Musical would like Waterfall Drop fro Buddy 8m x 5m drop. Contact Bruce Clark [bruceclark@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bruceclark@xtra.co.nz)

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Norfolk Island theatre festival 3 -10 October.  
For further info [theatre@norfolk.nf](mailto:theatre@norfolk.nf)

Variety Theatre Ashburton have part of a Les Mis set for sale and some mens suits. Contact Jo 03 308 1225

Website is a successful tool for announcing upcoming auditions better response than from paper ads.

A discussion followed re the use of Facebook and similar sites. Remind cast and crew of copyright responsibilities. Need to make sure not posting images of people without their permission. No after show party photos. Each society needs to have their own

South Island Meeting to be held in Ashburton Oct 4th

### **Production Management Discussion Notes**

Producer should be decided on first before other HOD's  
Work on a " No Surprises Policy", have good relationship with Director, Musical director and Choreographer. Have clear timeline and an expectation that HOD's will adhere to it.

Hold regular Production meetings, train others up and have clear notes or guidelines so that someone can fill the role in "unexpected circumstances"

Recognise those who work in the background – encourage the "stars" to appreciate their roles also. Hold in house meetings of theatre protocols for cast and crew.

Producer controls the budgets, look and purchase orders and keep check on spending.

Don't be afraid to stand up to outside Directors.

Next meeting:  
Check with Taieri to see if they will host during Buddy in late Oct

Meeting Closed at 4pm.  
Thank you to Kerry for the afternoon tea and Fine Thyme for the use of their rooms.