

MUSICAL THEATRE NEW ZEALAND

ZONE 1 MEETING 1/11/09, 10:30am @ NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE

MINUTES

PRESENT: John Antony (MTNZ), Richard Bryham (WTC), Andrew Comrie (NSMT), Coralie Maddern (PLOC), Kevin Maddern (PLOC), Rachel Oldham (PTI), Sue Rossiter (HMT), Pat Shanks (CTC), Lorraine Simmons (MPA), Delwyn Smith (MTNZ), Bill Tupp (OTR)

APOLOGIES: Mark Betty (NSMT), Clive Dixon (MPA), Lyn Dorreen (NSMT), Dayle Hall (HMT), Ann Tupp (OTR) Emma Bishop (PTC)

PREVIOUS MINUTES: **RESOLVED:** That the previous minutes be accepted as a true and correct record.
Kevin Maddern / Andrew Comrie

MATTERS ARISING: Pat asked if Pauline Vella has got anywhere with the withholding tax issues with Tams Witmark. It sounds like sending the scripts and scores back in a different box is a cheaper option.

NAPTA NOMINATIONS: The NAPTA Nominations will be held on the 13th December 2009 at 3pm at Manukau Performing Arts.

The NAPTA Awards ceremony will be held on the 27th February 2010 at the Bruce Mason Centre. Ticket prices are still to be confirmed. The NAPTA team is looking for people to sell raffle tickets. Please contact Delwyn with suggestions.

MTNZ EXECUTIVE REPORT: A reminder that the Nola Speir Patrons Encouragement Award and the Merit and Achievement awards are available for application. If you have people involved with your society take advantage of these awards. The criteria for these awards are on the MTNZ website. These applications need to be in by 31st January. Poster and Programme competition entries need to be submitted to Kate by the 31st December.

Conference 2010 will be held in Auckland on the 19th, 20th and 21st of March 2010. The Rydges Hotel will be the main venue for the conference. Friday night is a dinner at the hotel, on Saturday night there will be a masquerade ball. There is a limit of 300pax at the conference meeting itself. The seminars can be attended on their own, Delwyn will check out pricing details for the Friday night function.

Lyn Dorreen has asked that societies advertise the seminars and forums to their members. There are some really good seminars and they are only \$20 for both. Also, tickets are available for just the masquerade ball for \$140.

Conference organization is progressing well. Lyn asked societies to get behind the fundraising with chocolates. We are currently seeking a photographer and an MC for the whole weekend. Contact Lyn with suggestions.

Any cheques that need to be sent to MTNZ should be made out to MTNZ (not to CAF unless it is a CAF contribution or payment).

Use the MTNZ website www.musical.org.nz and updates. Please contact Delwyn with your show dates so that these can be posted to the show calendar on the MTNZ website. The show calendar is very popular in terms of hits on the site.

The 2011 conference will be held in Nelson. The theme is Wearable Arts.

Thank you to all societies who have paid their contributions to the CAF Fund.

The CAF fund is available as an interest free loan for contributors of 10 years or more.

Aon has a very good offer of Public Liability Insurance for \$154 per year which covers up to \$4M. Kate has the contact details for Aon.

Stage Whispers Magazine discounts are available from MTNZ – this is a good publication from Australia and it does have a New Zealand section.

Please forward Spotlight on MTNZ to the members of your society.

PPNZ (who manage background music) Phonographic Performances NZ. It affects people who have theatres. The theatre owners need to hold a PPNZ license. Delwyn will distribute PPNZ information.

Delwyn asked the meeting for interest in a North Island Meeting. There was interest.

REPORTS FROM SOCIETIES: PUKEKOHE LIGHT OPERA CLUB

This year Pukekohe Light Opera Club produced 'A Little Night Music', which was a challenging show and we made a small loss on this show. We also did three nights of 'Old Tyme Music Hall'. On the 14th November we open with a play The Birthday Party. On the 13th December we are doing a small production for the local lions club.

Next year we are doing a youth show, probably over the April/May school holidays. We are also doing 'Noodle Rat Rotting Hat'. A story similar to little red riding hood with a wolf with a speech impediment.

In August/September we are going to do an 80's revue show and again in November we will probably do a play.

HARLEQUIN MUSIC THEATRE

Harlequin is celebrating its 50th year this year which started off with a life member dinner in May. We had our first president there who turned 100 in April. Before that we packed the rehearsals for 'Cats' into the Harlequin Theatre. 33,000 people went through the door at the Civic during the season. After 'Cats' we did 'A Day In Paris' which went well – it was nice to be back home and in the theatre. The incoming funds for Cats took a while and we now have a GST review coming up.

We also had a jazz band evening which was great again as a part of the 50th.

'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow' opens this month to finish off the year with a big bang.

We are looking at putting air conditioning in the theatre and are currently obtaining funding.

Next year we are doing 'Witches of Eastwick' and a pantomime at the end of the year.

MANUKAU PERFORMING ARTS

It has been an interesting year for Manukau Performing Arts. We have now completed our renovations.

We moved back into the theatre in August and we did 'Seussical the Musical' as soon as we were in. 'Seussical' was our only show this year and we struggled with finances until we had some incoming money from ticket sales. We had a few technical issues but that was mostly due to the new space. The show was also well attended. The gantries are almost complete which completes the technical fit out.

The theatre will be officially opened on 14th November and there will be entertainment and the mayor will be opening the building.

Next year we have a play in April, yet to be confirmed but looking at 'Social Climbers'. In the middle of the year we will be doing 'Disco Inferno'. Later in the year we are doing 'Blood Brothers'.

WHANGAREI THEATRE COMPANY

Whangarei Theatre Company has had a good year. We recently finished 'A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum'. We had good sales a great cast and good feedback on the production. We are currently doing a play called 'Dirty Dusting'. We are doing this instead of 'Forbidden Broadway' as the auditions didn't bring the right people to the table. The season dates for this is 20th November – 5th December.

The junior theatre has gone into recess for the fourth term as we have had a problem sourcing tutors however we will be starting this up again next year with a new person running it.

Next year we have a quiet spot up till May/June when our big show normally is. We are doing a comedy called 'Penalty, Pints and Pirouettes' Our musical next year is 'Hot Mikado'. Later in the year we are doing 'Disco Inferno' and at the end of the year we are looking at other shows.

CENTRESTAGE THEATRE COMPANY

At our recent AGM I was elected President replacing Bruce Murray. Financially the club had a successful year and a bequest allowed for some much needed upgrading of the theatre. 'Les Miserables' was a great success, both artistically and financially though the year's profit from production was only a little higher than the previous year.

In September the week's season of 'Stepping Out' attracted reasonable audiences.

Our final production for the year is 'Old Tyme Music Hall' opening in a fortnight.

Although we asked for expressions of interest from Directors for 2010, the new ones were only interested in 'Little Women'. We also do not want to use a director without a proven track record for a major production, although catch 22, how do directors get this experience?

MD's are an even greater worry and we have not got them for all of our 2010 shows, although we are in negotiations with two. Fees for Musical Directors who are professional musicians tend to be out of proportion with all the other production costs, but there isn't always a choice – either pay, or don't have an MD.

Because of our challenges of obtaining direction teams, our programme for 2010 has changed;

27 th February – 13 th March 2010	'The Railway Children'
12 th April – 16 th April	Junior Production
26 th June – 10 th July	'The Scarlet Pimpernel'
18 th – 2 nd October	'The Boyfriend'
13 th – 27 th November	'Little Women'

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE

We completed our season of 'Little Shop of Horrors' which was a fantastic show. We found this hard to market and fill, however, we tried some new tricks like radio advertising and a midnight show which worked in some respects.

We are currently in production with 'High School Musical Jr.' which is going extremely well. Again, surprisingly a hard sell. We have found that our show times may not be the best as our matinees are FULL and the evening shows are very light.

'Big Top Cabaret' has been cast and rehearsals are about to start. This is our clubroom show and is an exciting project.

Work has also started with 'Into the Woods' and 'Miss Saigon' for late 2010 and 2011.

OTAMATEA REPERTORY SOCIETY

Earlier in the year we produced 'Faulty Towers' which ran for three weeks. Our main show was 'Fiddler on the Roof'. There is a pantomime coming up which opens in two weeks. Next year we are doing a cricket show – name escapes me. Main show next year is the 'Sound of Music'.

PLAYHOUSE THATRE

'Funny Money' was our play at the beginning of the year. The lead actress was ill and we weren't able to stage all of our shows. We also did, 'Dirty Weekends' and we put this on at fairly short notice. We were going to 'The Mikado' but couldn't get the men. We then did 'The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe' which was very successful.

We had a theatre open day as well which was great with theatre tours, costume sale, a rehearsal, and gained new members and volunteers out of it.

With regards to Fair Go – thank you to Ian’s media recommendation. This issue going to the disputes tribunal.

We are looking at running an auction evening as a fundraiser for conference also.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Rachel Oldham asked if any other societies have been required to submit credit card details to rights holders in Australia. – Other societies have and do so regularly.

Rachael Oldham also asked that Playhouse’s costume department could be included in the offer for costumes for conference.

NEXT MEETING: TBA

CLOSURE: The meeting was closed at 2:30pm

CONFIRMED:

DATE: