

## **REPORT – ZONE 4-5 COMBINED MEETING IN HOKITIKA**

We had 18 people representing 11 societies plus President John Antony and John MacGibbon from ML Consultants in attendance.

Hokitika made us very welcome with a cup of coffee, scones & muffins on arrival at their rooms. Meeting commenced at 10am with the usual roll call, apologies and reading of notes from last years meeting.

Conference 2008 - Timaru – Discussed change of format, Seminars, Theme, Transport, encouraged early registration.

2009 Conference – Queenstown

2010 Conference – 50<sup>th</sup> to be in Auckland

Society Reports started with:-

Showbiz Chch. reported that a strategic plan was in place for the next 5 years which includes volunteers, shows, sponsorship for bigger name shows.

Consortiums are good and they are exploring possibilities of how a consortium would work with regard to a 2 tier system. Marketing has to be on target for shows. Funding and sponsorship getting easier. Also talked about volunteers vs paid staff. Shows coming up for them – Chicago.

Nelson reported that they are still working on their buildings. They will be getting a bar/shop in the facility. Next show – JC Superstar. It is their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year.

Ashburton told us their new theatre was started in February and is due for completion in April/May 2008. Cost will be \$7.5 million. Plan to open the theatre with a Robert Young production “Blast From the Past” They have done 1 Act plays for children. Successfully creative but financially not. Have problems with venues. Have rebranded to VTA. Have strategic planning happening. Also looking at committee structure. Next show “Thrown in the Deep End”.

Dunedin Operatic did Chicago with 100% occupancy. Cats in the Regent next year. Lots of pull on Arts money for people. Turning their hall into an auditorium with a big workshop out the side. Next show is Ma Bakers Tonic. Taieri Musical do one show a year. Good profit last year. They have a lovely theatre and it is booked for June/July next year. Next show is Grease.

Blenheim Musical Theatre had success with Funny Thing. Chicago this year was a success also. Bar facilities are in place now. Blenheim built RSA and WMC as a new facility and are looking at a conference centre and theatre on the new facility. Next show Robyn the Hood.

Showbiz Queenstown have just finished Wizard of Oz. Rent was not successful. They have to compete against other professional companies for their audience. Had a big committee change this year. Problems with theatre as it has no fly floor and only wings on one side. Next show is Grease.

Greymouth Operatic are playing Annie at present. Had director problems and had to put the show on hold for 3 weeks. Have sponsorship for each night of production. Got funding from Pub Charities and Creative Communities. Also have changing committee problems. Hard to do big shows every year.

Hokitika Dramatic Society have two shows per year. Small group. Aware of need to have back up for all positions. Have discussed with High School re sharing facilities. Upgrading buildings. Have grants for repairs. Great Facilities. Next show Playtime.

Fine Thyme have just finished their 4<sup>th</sup> show. Focus is having fun. Made a little bit of money. Also have success with grants and sponsors. Have a bar and buffet meal. Cast was double in size this year. A lot had not been on stage before. Committee is stable. Have signed a 5 year lease on building. Having a working bee soon. Next show Christmas in the Park with a choir from Perth.

Ross then briefed the meeting on CAF, Merit Awards, Programme, Poster and Website Competition and John A briefed us on Patrons Award. Public Liability Insurance was discussed as well as the Junior Musical Catalogue. Small consortiums and John MacG spoke about the success of Dannevirke and Kapiti, Masterton and Te Awamutu consortium which was developed at conference.

Upcoming shows was next with discussion on Show and Music Rights. Health and Safety reminder along with Minors in the theatre document. A reminder for societies to register with the Charities Commission.

Sets, costumes and props:-

Showbiz Christchurch have Full Monty set and costumes

Showbiz Queenstown have Wizard of Oz Score

VTA have Sound of Music wardrobe set

Blenheim have Jekyll and Hyde set.

Blenheim have lost 1 Glitter Curtain.

Ross advised the meeting of ETNZ lighting courses and workshops.

Dunedin invited us there next year. Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September so that we can see their production of CATS.

Kate in NY – she saw Drowsy Chaperone and Wicked. Met with a representative from Tams Witmark – they are not interested in an Australasian Agent or in having an email address.

Origin have a new MD. Congratulations Kim.

DANZ email regarding rights to use dance.

APRA song rights.

PPNZ re sound recording rights.

UNITEC meeting re what we require – refers to Auckland area only.

ML Consultants – John has good deals on theatrical equipment He is willing to travel anywhere and does consulting as well. Had a good deal going for the meeting.

CCMT – If you are able to, then go – Auckland in January.

MTNZ – Is the name right for us? Maybe should include Community Theatre?

Brochures are being reprinted.

Ross thanked Hokitika for their wonderful hospitality – lovely morning and afternoon tea and fabulous lunch. Also thanked John A and John MacG for coming all the way to Hokitika.