



NEWSLETTER

A Story to be Told

A sea of faces greeted Ivy Rutter and Gail Hall last Monday 8th June at the Rotary Cub Hall Otaki for a Probus Club meeting.

In previous weeks Brian Frampton President of the Otaki Probus Club had been given my name and contacted me to see if there was a possibility that I or some one could talk to their meeting on The Otaki Players Society, it was to be about 30 minutes long in total.

With plenty of material on hand, photos, paper cuttings and programmes of years gone by, the precious minute books and a very good brief history of significant happenings put together by Ivy. Events in the history of the *Civic* and *The Otaki Players* were about to be revealed, we were ready.

Recognising some of the faces in the audience, we promptly brought back memories to many, by just mentioning some of the names of our earlier recorded committee members and theatre actors and actresses; it was a walk down memory lane for many. It was also encouraging to see that many of

these people have and are our audiences supporting live theatre now and in previous years.

It was a reality check when we pointed out with one of our newspaper features, that the Businesses' / Advertisers who supported us then in one of our Productions, that out of those eight show, only one existed today in 2009 and that was Edhouses. It was a good opportunity to then thank Margaret Featherston sitting in the front row, who when her and her husband Jim had the Featherstone's book shop, were always supportive in many many ways. She responded with a big smile and said that had made her day.

Thirty minutes went into forty five minutes, so much to say in such little time, but overall with the peg board that we had with cuttings and photo's and also our own personal albums to browse through it was a good ending to an attentive audience of about eighty people.

I have since been approached and told it was a great informal look into the past of the Theatre and those who went before us and exciting as to what lies in the future.

About Our Organisation...

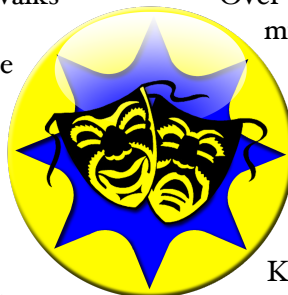
Otaki Players is a vibrant group of locals that enjoy putting on live theatre. We boast a current membership of over 80 people from all walks of life.

Each year we endeavour to perform three productions, performing both theatre and musicals. This is firstly to meet the needs of our society members who enjoy performing the different genres of theatre, but also it provides, for our community, a range of different live theatre opportunities for them to attend. As a group we do endeavour to perform New Zealand stories. "A Trick of the Light" written by Ken

Duncum was an example of this, but we also enjoy the humour of Roger Hall.

Over the years we have performed numerous musicals including many of the great West End Stage shows. Highlights for the theatre have been: "Evita," "Jesus Christ Super Star" and "Fiddler on the Roof". These musicals have had up to 90 people involved and reached a good few thousand people from all along the Kapiti Coast.

We are a fun group that takes pride in our on stage achievements and enjoy the social aspect of a belonging to a theatre society





New Editor Appointed



The air was electric as the committee of The Otaki Players waited to hear from the lips of Peter Carr his reaction to being nominated as the new assistant editor of their regular newsletter.

Carr (left) was visibly moved.

To the huge relief of everyone present he accented. A wave of applause rolled around the room and shouts of "Hallelujah" were heard.

Sources close to Carr at the time said that a new era of truth and reconciliation was dawning.

Carr has previously served the Otaki Players as rookie committee member, usurper, constitution fiddler, appalled bystander, treasurer, secretary, coup leader, president, wannabe actor, deluded director, dissenting voter, assistant set builder, bridge rigger and poly merchant Among other things.

Current Editor in Chief, Matt Hadfield was unavailable for comment.

We're on the Web!

See us at: www.otakiplayers.org.nz

One Act Plays Fail to Fly

Several years ago a visionary member of the committee articulated that it would be a noble expression of our support for the arts in our community if we were to solicit and produce a performance of locally written "One Act Plays"



general agreement that the event should be nurtured, developed and matured.

Good idea But .. It seems the selection of local playwrights and the quantity of finished plays is very limited.

"There are numerous folk in and around Kapiti/Horowhenua who are writing plays and would love the chance to see them performed." We said.

And so the first season was collated, directed, rehearsed and performed.

They received mixed reviews (who can forget "the cranes are flying"?) however there was

This year we did manage to assemble a program of sorts but failed to clear the next hurdle, being the securing of directors.

A locally written one act play season remains an appealing idea. Perhaps what is needed is a highly motivated director to start working towards it now in preparation for next year. Perhaps one of the playwrights?

Disabled Access Ramp at last



Alan and Malc have recently completed a portable access ramp for the Civic. For too long folk with disabilities have had to suffer the indignities of side access, and wheel chair lifting, to see our productions. Now, thanks to the time and effort of these good men, we have an attractive and worthy ramp for the ease and convenience of all. Thanks guys, well done.



Facelift Superb!

If you haven't already noticed, the timber and glass presentation cases at the entrance to the Civic have been beautifully restored by Allan Marsden.

Following on from the huge restoration efforts in the foyer, it is good to have a building we can be increasingly proud of in which to stage our productions, and to host others.

Civic well used

The Civic Theatre has seen a lot of hireage activity recently.

Psychic Lady, KCDC and The Meadows Church are the latest to take advantage of our wonderful facilities.

We feel this is good for us in that it raises our profile in the community and lets a wider audience know what lies behind the familiar façade.



Goldilocks is Go!!



Otaki players is performing Goldilocks and the three bears from October 8 – 17 in what is their first production specifically aimed at young in years. The play, a pantomime is written by well known New Zealand playwright Carl Nixon. It is a modern version of the old fairy tale with a few extra characters thrown in for good measure. Goldilocks parents make an appearance for the first time and of course every good fairy tale needs a prince and a not so wicked queen. The tale is a silly romp with lots of fun and audience participation.

"The main aim of the show is to provide an opportunity for the young people of Otaki to experience what is involved in performing a show of this nature" says director Rob Heather. Rob has been involved with the Players

for nearly 20 years in both acting and directing. He hopes it will be a rewarding and fun time for all those involved.

Audition dates are Sat and Sun , 22nd and 23rd of August from 2pm to 5pm at the Civic theatre in Otaki. The play is aimed at 8 to 14 year olds. Any queries can be put to Rob on Ph 36 47759.

What else is on around here?



Levin Little Theatre 'FORGET ME KNOT'

July 31, Aug 1,2,6,7 & 8.

A comedy by David Tristram

Directed by Julian White

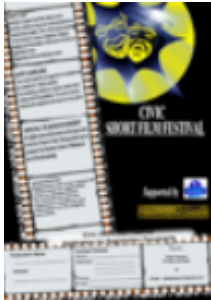
Foxton Little Theatre

Our latest offering 'Look. No Hans!' will now start on 21st August and will run on Friday and Saturday nights for three weeks ending on 5th of September.

Prices are – Show only \$15.00: Dessert & Show \$20.00 and Dinner and Show \$30.00 (available Sat Only). There is an opening night only special of 2 for the price of 1, (for show only) so please get in early if you would like to take advantage of this. If you desire to have Dessert and Show, with this special, there will be an additional charge of \$5.00 for each seat booked. Bookings are now open at FURNITURE COURT



Film Festival ready to roll



The inaugural running of the "Civic Film Festival" is launched.

You are all invited to submit a short film (up to 15 minutes) you have made.

We are grateful for the enthusiastic support of both the Shoreline Cinema in Waikanae and of Access Radio 104.9FM in this project.

You may ask why an amateur theatre group is getting involved in films? The answer is simple and three fold.

- 1) We wish to encourage the performing arts. Films involve actors and directors, lighting and sound, costumes and set Much the same as a play, only without a live audience but performance never the less.
- 2) We wish to promote the Civic Theatre and an entertainment venue.
- 3) We wish to encourage and promote film makers and their craft

"Of all of our inventions for mass communication, pictures still speak the most universally understood language"

Walt Disney

Wardrobe News



Come and view our selection of costumes.
We can help you if you have a themed party to go to.

Open

1st Monday of the month 7pm - 8.30pm

3rd Saturday of the month 9.30pm - 12.30pm

\$25 per costumes Adults

Wigs from \$2- \$20

\$15 per costume Children

Dates to Remember

15 July

Peter Carr appointed as Newsletter Editor

1 - 8 August

Forget me knot
on at Levin Little Theatre

21 August

Look, No Hans
opens at Foxton Little Theatre

22 & 23 August

Goldilocks (the Auditions)

8 - 17 October

Goldilocks (the Production)

Otaki Players

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