

Otaki Players Society

Incorporated

The Civic Theatre
16 Main Street (PO Box 26)
Otaki

Tel: (06) 364 6491

www.otakiplayers.org.nz

Newsletter

January 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

As we come to the end of the year it's no bad idea to reflect on what has been a busy and highly successful 2019 for the Players. Production-wise we have seen 3 highly successful and well-received productions – a play, a “seniors” musical, and a “juniors” musical to end the year. On top of that there has been much activity in and around the stage and auditorium. There has been considerable investment in sound and lighting and audiences will reap the benefit of these much needed improvements. And, at long last, we have made a start on stripping out the old seats in the balcony and replacing them with seating acquired following a Circa theatre refit a couple of years ago. The ‘new’ seating will mirror what we already have in the main auditorium. Much of the work has been done by the Thursday morning crew and by a mix of Committee Members and friends on Wednesday evenings. There is still considerable work which needs to be done so if you can give up a couple of hours on **Wednesday evenings (7.00 until 9.00 p.m.)** your assistance would be appreciated. **The first working bee for 2020 will be on Wednesday, 22nd January.**

And so we look ahead to upcoming activities in the New Year.

First up is the **Maoriland Film Festival** which will run from **18th to 22nd March.**

Following on is the play - **THE PINK HAMMER..... *Four women, a handful of tools and a whole lot of trouble.*** Production dates will be **21st to 30th May.**

Written by the late Michele Amas, The Pink Hammer resoundingly hits the mark as a comedy with pathos that brings flawed and very real characters together for the benefit of all.

A disparate group of women, unknown to each other (except this is NZ so there is but one degree of separation in at least two cases) are attracted to a woodwork course believing it will be run by Maggie Taylor in her husband's workshop. But Maggie has gone AWOL and her unwitting husband, Woody, is lumbered with them, to everyone's mutual dismay.

CAST LIST. 4 women, 1 man

Annabel late 40s – 50s

Counsellor in private practice. She also runs the Dickens Book Club. Was an active feminist in the early 80's.

Wants to build: a Victorian-style display cabinet for her complete works of Dickens.

Louise 50s

A nurse. Moved home to care for her parents. Has many dark shadows in her life and is easily spooked.

Wants to build: a small house one day.

Helen late 50s - 60

Prefers horses to people. She has two grown-up sons to different fathers, both of whom were jockeys. She never married.

Wants to build: a coffin.

Siobhan 30 – 40s

Irish. Sings. Lives with her cousin. Works at the local vet clinic and is in love with Martin, a vet, who has extraordinary hands but is married.

Wants to build: a luxury dog kennel to snugly house Martin's labradoodle.

Woody 30 – 40s

A carpenter recently made redundant. Married for four years to Maggie. Woody may know about tools but to him empowerment sounds like something you plug into a wall socket.

Wants to build: a way to get these bloody women out of his workshop.

Auditions for *The Pink Hammer* will be at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 23rd January 2020.

(Further details concerning *The Pink Hammer* auditions are contained in the poster below)

The final production for 2020 (thus far) will be the main musical **HAIRSPRAY** with production dates of 10th to 26th September.

Auditions dates/times for *Hairspray* will be as follows:

Saturday, 20th March from 1.00 p.m. and
Sunday, 21st March from 1.00 p.m.

(Further details concerning *Hairspray* auditions are contained in the poster below)

Otaki Players Society



By Michele Amas

Five unhappy people in a shed full of tools.
What could possibly go wrong? !!!!!

AUDITIONS

Thursday, 23rd January 2020 at 7.00pm

Otaki Civic Theatre

For further information please contact the Director:

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
PLAYMARKET
AGENT. ADVISOR. BOOKSHOP

Peter Carr on 021991045

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH
PLAYMARKET
AGENT. ADVISOR. BOOKSHOP

Otaki Players Society presents

hairspray
BROADWAY'S BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT

AUDITIONS

Saturday 28th March 2020 from 1.00pm

Sunday 29th March 2020 from 1.00pm

OTAKI CIVIC THEATRE

For an appointment contact Graham on 027 244 9724

Director & Choreographer: Tracy Wills-Wright

Musical Directors: Graham Orchard & Andrea King

Show Dates: 10th September to 26th September 2020

hairspray

"Broadways big fat musical hit"

As always if there is anything which warrants publication in the Newsletter please contact the editor/compiler: Peter Edwards by email. The Newsletter is currently published bi-monthly and the next version will be in March 2020. Items for publication should be forwarded to pandjedwards@yahoo.co.uk by 22 Feb 2020.

And finally, a very Happy New Year to everyone. Let us hope 2020 is at least as successful as 2019.

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And a footnote:

I'm sure most of you will be aware that a new version of "CATS" is currently doing the rounds in local cinemas. It has not received good reviews in many newspapers from so-called critics. That said I have seen a number of comments from theatrical friends in UK who feel the film is being unfairly lambasted. With this in mind I feel certain many of you, and maybe some fellow cast members from 2013 will want to see the latest offering and decide its merits for yourselves. I am going to see it at Waikanae's Shoreline cinema on **Sunday, 5th January – 6.15 p.m. showing.** Anybody care to join me?