



Matamata Dramatic Society Inc.

ON-STAGE NEWSLETTER

February 2022

"All the World's a Stage"



President's Message

Your committee has been working hard to ensure that "the shows can go on" during the red light setting of the COVID

Protection Plan and still keep everyone feeling as safe as possible. Therefore future events will go ahead with the following restrictions besides the usual COVID signing in via your mobile or manually:

- Masks to be worn in the foyer and in the auditorium until seated.
- Vaccine Passes will be checked. Scanned or sighted.
- Tickets will be sold as 'General Admission' and limited to a total of 50.
- 1-meter Social Distancing in the foyer.
- Seats will be allocated on arrival.
- Ushers will assist people in being seated in the auditorium correctly.
- Only a designated person from each group is permitted to obtain drinks for the group, from the bar, then take the drinks immediately to the auditorium and sit down.
- Groups may sit together in the auditorium and will be separated from the next group or individual by one empty seat.
- Individuals attending alone will be seated in the auditorium separated from others by one empty seat.

We trust you can accept our decisions and will attend MDS Events like the upcoming Improv-ables (17th Feb) and Friday Flicks (18th Feb).

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Korstiaan

'THE IMPROV-ABLES'



Another popular Live Show is to be staged on Thursday 17 February at 7.30pm TICKETS: \$10 The above conditions will apply of course.

The groups popularity is growing as new members are joining all the time. Because of this it was decided to purchase T-shirts which will be sponsored by our society. Sponsorship for the printing of these has been generously donated by Gary and Megan Jeffcoat's company -

**MATAMATA FURNITURE
MOVERS AND STORAGE
LOCAL OR NATIONWIDE**

This monthly group not only have fun but one of their members, Megan Jeffcoat, has written a poem about their fun times together.

IMPROV-ABLES



Up on the stage I love to be
making folk laugh – yup that's me
all of us in the improv crew
made up of me, you and you

We bring laughter and gasps of shock
as we poke fun at a man's little....sock
or whatever else we think we can say
to give you a laugh – to make your day

This group of ours is so much fun
as after the rain comes the sun
we are up on stage to brighten up your life
to bring much laughter to you and your wife

To make all of Matamata
have a giggle or a smirk
cause we poke the fun at some little jerk
or a chap with tourettes or a fat lady or two
nothing is sacred to the improv crew

Committee Notes

'Any Port in a Pandemic': Rehearsals started on Tuesday 1st February and Ron, Bob and Korstiaan have volunteered to help with set building.

MID-WINTER PRODUCTION: Colin confirmed we have a bar license for this in June.

Korstiaan suggested 2 x one-act plays, and he is happy to direct one. Julie has some one-act plays in mind too and would also be happy to direct one. The committee decided on the following dates: **June 22 – 26.**

FUNDRAISING: for the bathroom upgrade and 75th Anniversary: The subcommittee will meet again due to the uncertainty around holding a fundraiser under current COVID restrictions.

JUMBLE SALE/OP SHOP: The decision was to wait for September for an opportunity in the Community Op Shop.

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY MANUAL:
Thank you to Greg for working on updating this policy manual. Copies will be available at the theatre and on the MDS website.

All thespians know the term 'From Page to Stage' and now we have 'From the Floor to the Décor'!



With thanks to our Maestro set builder Murray Weal. Well worth waiting for I say and all they need is a coat of paint! Our grateful thanks once again to Matamata Glass and Joinery who have donated the materials.

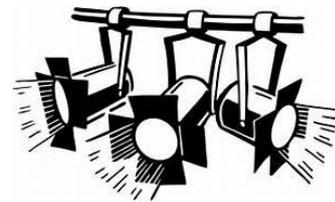
WELCOME BACK TO OUR FRIDAY FLICKS



Friday 18 February
2022 at 7.30pm

NB: Vaccine passports will need to be shown as mentioned previously

Spotlight On



Hilton Woodroffe

"When you come and see a play, what you see on stage is the tip of the iceberg. Of course, there are people in the lighting box, the sound, props, backstage. The actors get all the kudos, but it takes backup people to make them look good," said Hilton when interviewed about the play he directed in 2015 'Suddenly at Home'.

Joining Matamata Little Theatre at the tender age of 18 Hilton has had a long and respected history with the society. In the early years he was more of an actor than a director but moved into directing in the latter years. However, he has taken some great character roles in such plays as 'Wanted One Body, 'Allo Allo' and more recently acting and directing in 'Laughter is the Best Medicine.'

Hilton has always been keen to encourage new, young actors and is delighted to have Daniel Addlington and Theresa Hopson who take to the stage in their first full-length play with Matamata Little Theatre in 'Any Port in a Pandemic'.

Hilton chose and cast the play in early December with rehearsals starting early this month. Hilton believes that being in plays teaches you discipline. *"You've got to be there, on time and knowing your lines. You've got to be reliable."*

Hilton is the first to agree that getting a play to opening night is quite a process. First a director has to find a play that would be suitable, that ticks all the boxes. *"Not a problem when we have Richard our resident playwright especially if he asks if you would direct his latest comedy,"* says Hilton. *"You normally tend to choose a play that you know you can cast, and I was sure that wouldn't be a problem".*

All theatres in New Zealand have suffered by having to change or cancel production dates over the past few years due to the pandemic So Matamata theatre is delighted that even with the red light rules we can still go ahead with our plans for 'Any Port in a Pandemic.'

With Hilton at the helm we are sure that this play will be plain sailing for such an experienced director.



Hilton and Greg in thoughtful mode in "Rinse the Blood off my Toga" last year



Are you suffering Pandemic Fatigue?

Then we suggest you follow the wise advice of the one and only Dr. Dunn . . .

A GOOD DOSE OF LAUGHTER WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN AT LEAST TWICE DAILY!

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER TO LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE!

**I'm bi-tech-sual
I do lights and stage management**

Guess who was overheard to say this in the wings!



Lockdown can only go 4-ways. You'll come out a monk, a hunk, a chunk or a drunk. Choose wisely. 🤔



Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to locate a roll of toilet paper.

This message will self-flush in 5 seconds. Good luck.



Now to get the old grey matter to work!

Can you spot 5 differences?



“Acting is not about being someone different. It's finding the similarity in what is apparently different, then finding myself in there”.
Meryl Streep

The most difficult character in comedy is that of the fool, and he must be no simpleton that plays that part.

- Miguel de Cervantes -

Life beats down and crushes the soul and art reminds you that you have one.

- Stella Adler -

Special Announcement



Due to COVID
Te Aroha Little
Theatre's production
of **Death & Taxes**
has been

Postponed indefinitely

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR SUBS OR WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US THEN MEMBERSHIP DETAILS ARE ON THE WEBSITE www.mds.org

Yours Theatrically
Wanda

