



CHRISTMAS EDITION



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Compliments of the season to all our Friends of the Theatre, performing arts groups and individuals South Taranaki wide! It has been another good year for our spiritual home, the Hawera Memorial Theatre.

After a short stall in bookings over the covid lockdown period, we have seen usage numbers heading steadily up over the last two years, with 2023 being a real success in terms of total usage, (i.e. number of shows performed), and the number of residents attending those shows.

The Trust has always been very proud of our fabulous theatre and over the past twelve years we have endeavoured to respond to and keep up with new trends and performers' requirements by constantly upgrading equipment and facilities in the theatre.

We have had Australian touring groups, comedians, business groups, bands and tribute groups, hypnotists and dance companies, along with Hawera's Repertory Society, school performances and rehearsals, and of course our own variety show fundraisers with the Theatre Trust Singers, all performing to South Taranaki audiences. These users of the theatre are always very complimentary of the theatre and it's facilities that allow them to present their best to audiences.

Over the last year we have upgraded the lighting desk, purchased some new microphones, and trained a batch of very keen new technicians! Very exciting! The Theatre Trust Singers, under the wing of Judy Brown, have had a very fruitful year also. Thanks and congratulations to all involved.

I would like to thank you all for your interest and support over the last 12 months, and wish you all a very merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year, while we continue to upgrade and inhabit our wonderful theatre.

Mike Bowell - Chair - Hawera Memorial Theatre Trust



SEEN FROM THE WINGS.....

... with paint brush in hand has been former Trustee, Russ Standing. Russ has been volunteering doing a few maintenance tasks around the theatre such as painting the hand rails, cleaning up, on and around the loading bay and one or two other jobs. Thanks Russ for your continued work - just goes to show...



"...you can take Russ out of the Trust but you can't take the Trust out of Russ".



THE THEATRE TRUST SINGERS

The Theatre Trust Singers farewelled their musical director, Emily Riordan, at the end of November. Emily has been a great asset to the Trust and has embedded in the singers a real love of singing and performance. Emily will be sorely missed but we all wish her well as she moves on.

Evon Willmont-Bradshaw will be taking over the baton from next year and you will learn more about her in future editions of *In the Wings*.

CAROLS IN *the Park*



The Theatre Trust Singers' next public performance will be on December 15th at *Carols in the Park*. Head off to Naumai Park for a 7:30pm start and be part of a lovely programme of Christmas Carols that will be sure to get you into the Christmas spirit.

Theatre Trust Fundraising Concert - 2024

The singers have also started rehearsals for the Trust's production to be staged in the theatre in March 2024, directed by Judy Brown. These productions serve several purposes for the Trust.

Firstly, it is a positive way of raising funds to put back into the theatre whilst at the same time giving our loyal audiences a great theatrical experience. Our other methods of fundraising include applying for grants and receiving donations from our "Friends". In putting on a performance we are able to provide entertainment and at the same time highlight the wonderful facilities of the theatre we are passionate about.

Secondly, our shows provide us with an opportunity to expose our Theatre Trust Singers to a wider audience. Our singers joined because they have a love of singing - the next best thing is to share that love of singing with others.

Thirdly, it helps us fulfil another goal which is to introduce new people to the theatre as performers, technicians, volunteers etc. Our shows give new performers the confidence to perform in public in a good, supportive environment.

So, put a ring around the 23 & 24th March and be sure to join us for another entertaining concert.

The HAWERA MEMORIAL THEATRE TRUST

presents

STAGE & SCREEN

SATURDAY MARCH 23 7:30PM

SUNDAY MARCH 24 2:00PM

featuring

THE THEATRE TRUST SINGERS



Look out for further information coming to your letterboxes and email in-boxes in the new year.



you've got mail!

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER EVENTS



Emily
Riordan
Recital
12
November

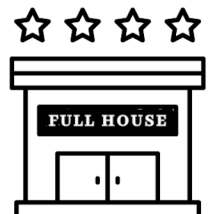


Hawera
Brass
24
November

The HAWERA MEMORIAL THEATRE TRUST was pleased to support both the MICHELLE GLOVER DANCE ACADEMY and NORMANBY SCHOOL in their recent productions in the theatre, through the Limited Sponsored Community Use of the Theatre programme. Funds were allocated for rehearsal time in the theatre. The sponsored use programme is outlined below. For full details and application information, go to our website www.haweratheatretrust.weebly.com



We are pleased to report that the Normanby School concert played to a full house on the 6th December. A great show and it is great to see these young performers in the theatre. Well done Normanby School!



LIMITED SPONSORED COMMUNITY USE OF THE HAWERA MEMORIAL THEATRE

Limited Sponsored Community Use [LSCU] of the Memorial Theatre is considered on an annual basis depending upon the availability of funds. Applications are to be made to the Hawera Memorial Theatre Trust.

LIMITED SPONSORED COMMUNITY USE of the Theatre is available for rehearsals, workshops, and practices ONLY where there is no entrance fee, paying or invited guests.

Criteria for applications is explained fully in the official document available on our website.

Registration and the allocation of sponsored theatre use is solely at the discretion of the Hawera Memorial Theatre Trust. It may not be possible to grant the full hours applied for, but all hours allocated must be used within the year funding was granted.

AIR CONDITIONING

on-going project

An update for you on our project of getting an air conditioning system installed in the theatre auditorium. We are pleased to say that, after more than three years of feasibility studies, researching and reporting, things are beginning to move. Funding has always been the issue and we have investigated several avenues of funding alongside the South Taranaki District Council - the owners of the theatre complex.

You may have noticed in the STDC's Annual Plan documents that there is now provision for a portion of the costs of the purchase and installation of an AC system in the auditorium. This is great news as it now opens the door for us to apply for funding for the remainder. We will keep you informed as we progress through this. We are committed to trying to make your theatre experience a comfortable one!



THANK YOU

Friends 2024

Thanks to all of our "FRIENDS" who have renewed their donation for the 2024 year. Your donations help us to keep operating to achieve our goals for the theatre. If you haven't yet renewed and would like to, our on-line bank a/c number is **15-3950-0651767-00**. In order for us to receipt you (your donation is tax deductible), please use your name and "FRIEND" in the reference sections.

If you are not a FRIEND but would like to be, head to our website to find the application form. Download, fill in and send back to us and you'll be all set.



Best wishes to you and yours - keep safe over the Christmas and New Year period.

...and thank you all for the Positive feedback we received after the revival Publication of our newsletter in October. It was great to receive the comments and we hope we can continue to keep you informed and entertained throughout 2024.