

# Papakura Theatre Company (Inc)

## NEWSLETTER

Patrons: Bruce and Jessie Pulman

September 2023

Hello, it is many months since I put out a newsletter and I apologise for the lack of news, although I hope the odd email alert has helped to keep you in touch with what's been happening in our theatre world. So, now time for a bit of a catch up!

Barb

Papakura Theatre Company is delighted to announce the cast for our November production! We welcome some familiar faces and some new and look forward to bringing you this heartwarming play.



Tim Firth's hilarious play is based on the true story of eleven W.I. members who famously posed nude for a calendar to raise money for the Leukaemia Research Fund in 1999.

When Annie's husband John dies of leukaemia, she and her long-standing best friend Chris resolve to raise money for a new settee in the local hospital waiting room. With varying levels of encouragement, they persuade fellow members of the Women's Institute (W.I.) to pose nude with them for an "alternative" calendar. This is much to the horror of their local W.I. chairman, Marie. The success of the calendar goes beyond their wildest dreams and they soon raise the money needed and much more. With success however comes challenges, with Chris and Annie's friendship being put to the test under the strain of their new-found fame.

The play follows the experiences of six of the calendar girls, exploring their different motivations for participating, often with hilarious exchanges but also some very sobering realities of life.

Contains partial nudity. Parental guidance recommended.

By arrangement with Play Bureau NZ on behalf of Samuel French London

**PERFORMANCE SEASON: 18<sup>th</sup> November – 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE – online with iTICKET or phone 09 361 1000 or pop along to Off Broadway where from Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October our ticket office will open every Saturday & Wednesday from 11 am to 2 pm.**



What a fabulous time we had with our cabaret! Starting the evening with Lisa Lorrell and her “Songs from the Great American Songbook” certainly set the mood. Lisa’s performance was superb and she chatted between songs, telling us some of the history of the songs and the singers of those songs.

After interval came **Blue Eyes**! Thank you to the wonderful cast, the band and the crew and everyone who helped to make **Blue Eyes** such a success. We had so much wonderful audience feedback – the music was marvellous (I’ve always loved Sinatra and his music), the singers had fun, the band was superb, Sharnie as Frances raised an audience tear or two, and our crew, techies and wardrobe had everything sounding and looking great.

Special thanks to our platter-making team too. The platters proved very popular and they made over \$3000 worth of platters over the 10 performances – that’s a lot of prep! Many thanks to Donna Pemberton who offered her invaluable advice and help and who pointed us in the right direction for supplies; Robert Mitchell and Shirley Child who were the main “preppers” and Susan and Marie VK who kept the supplies coming and others who helped in the kitchen when they could. Great (but exhausting!) team effort!

I loved working on this show. Thank you Paul for making the music happen – as always, superb! Those songs are still going round and round in my head and probably will for a long time!  
Barb



**CLUB NIGHT – FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

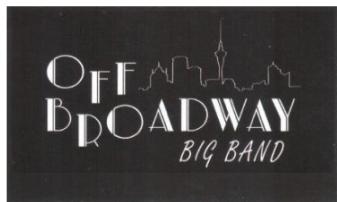
**COME AND WATCH THE RECORDING OF BLUE EYES – ALL WELCOME**

Bar will open from 7 PM

PIZZA - \$5 per person if you would like to share in a pizza dinner.

Pizza order placed by 7.15pm - txt Barb 027 252 8265 if going to be late but want to eat

We'll hit the start button at 7.30 pm



COMING UP ON SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER – 10.30 am

Off Broadway Band will be playing at the Papakura Library on the above date so pop along and enjoy some great music whilst you browse among the books. Our local library is a great place, with helpful and knowledgeable staff. The selection of books is huge but if you can't find the one you want, you can browse on line at [www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz) and request your choice and you will receive an email when it is ready for collection. A great service! There's actually quite a lot goes on at our library; for instance, did you know they have a ukelele group that anyone can join? Anyway, pop along to the library and support them and our band on 30<sup>th</sup>!

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#### OUR NEW DIGITAL SIGN!

Many of you will have noticed the very sad-looking electronic sign outside Off Broadway. It hasn't worked for well over a year now and has just been standing up there looking very drab! It has been repaired several times but is now beyond hope with rain getting in and rust starting to take hold.

Well, we are delighted to let you know that thanks to grants from our Papakura Local Board of \$7,000 and from the Trillian Trust of \$5,400 we will very soon have a bright new up-to-date sign in its place.

Many thanks to Allan, Robert and Gary who took down the old sign – a good morning's work in the sunshine!

The new sign will be up and operating very soon – the first thing to go up will be CALENDAR GIRLS!



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#### PEOPLE NEWS



Louise Parker & Blair Patterson

Michelle Thorne & Jordan Mac Aodha

Lillian Geddes & Cameron Howe



Wonderful to have happy news and PTC wishes you all a very happy future

#### AGM & LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Way back in April when PTC held its AGM, we are delighted to say that Robert Mitchell was presented with a well-deserved Life Membership in honour of his contribution to the life and well-being of our Club. Robert has served on the PTC committee for many years, held the role of President for 3 years, is a keen member of our set building crew, has stage managed, production managed, designed and run the sound for many of our shows, run the bar, and turns up just about every time help is needed. We invited Robert's wife Bronwyn to join us for the presentation and President Paul asked Allan Wyatt to make the actual presentation to Robert, which he was really pleased to do.

*(If anybody has a photo of this event and happy to share it, please forward to Barb)*

## BACK IN MARCH – At Musical Theatre NZ CONFERENCE

Each year MTNZ invites societies to put forward their nomination for the MTNZ Merit Award and your committee decided they would like to acknowledge President Paul Radden with this special award.

Here's an excerpt from nomination sent to MTNZ:



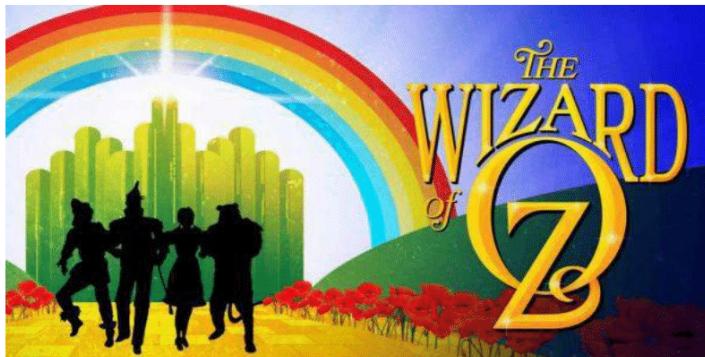
Paul has been involved in musical theatre since he was around 13 years old. He has played in show orchestras around Auckland and has been Musical Director for many and found instrumentalists for other MDs. Paul encourages young musos by bringing them into his bands and orchestras to play alongside more experienced players, thus building confidence.

Approximately eight years ago he formed the Off Broadway Big Band which is now recognised and acknowledged locally and at other venues around Auckland.

Since becoming PTC President in 2019 Paul has led from the front – always encouraging our team to do their best and try new things. He is caring and generous as a person and as President and he never fails to thank people for their efforts. He came into his element when Covid-19 struck and our theatre had to close during the lockdowns. When we were able to re-open Paul put in measures to keep both our cast and crew safe as well as our audiences. Although we did operate with reduced “socially distanced” audiences, with Paul’s measures in place we were able to keep our shows going and PTC survived the epidemic and in fact came through in reasonably good shape.

Paul didn't attend Conference but we were pleased to surprise him with his Merit Award at supper on Opening Night of **Noises Off**.

## COMING UP SOON – HAWKINS YOUTH THEATRE presents



To book: <https://www.hawkinstheatre.co.nz/.../hawkins-youth.../> or phone 09 297 7712

- Wed 27 Sep 2023, 11:00am
- Thu 28 Sep 2023, 11:00am
- Fri 29 Sep 2023, 11:00am
- Fri 29 Sep 2023, 7:00pm
- Sat 30 Sep 2023, 3:00pm
- Sat 30 Sep 2023, 7:00pm
- Sun 1 Oct 2023, 2:00pm

Some performances already sold out

Some of the young cast from previous PTC shows are in this and some of our PTC team are working as crew. Why not get your family together and take a walk along the Yellow Brick Road!

Directed by Rueben Su'a with Choreographer and Musical Director Chanelle Bulluss

Papakura Theatre Company

# MEGA SALE

COSTUMES, CLOTHING & GARAGE SALE

**SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**8.00am – 12pm**

Off Broadway Theatre, 41 Elliot Street, Papakura



**Multiple Tables, Multiple Vendors**

**Everything from *clothes, costumes, hats, old theatre stock, household items plus so much more...***

**CASH please but limited Eftpos Available**

**OR DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN JUNK TO SELL?**

**TABLES \$15 each**

If you would like to book a Table please

email [garagesale@ptc.org.nz](mailto:garagesale@ptc.org.nz) or text Susan on 027 2519549 for further info

*So, start clearing out those wardrobes and cupboards! Get into that garage or shed! You know what they say...*

***One Person's Junk is another Person's Treasure!***

That's it for now!

Don't forget the Blue Eyes Club Night on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct and make sure you book your tickets for Calendar Girls – this is going to be very popular!

Cheers

Barb