



Spotlight

November 2012

Volume 8 issue 5

“The Mousetrap” is suitable celebration for new venue

Auditions

Sunday 9th Dec
see back page

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There’s a pleasant sense of occasion about our next play. It’s the end of a momentous year for Titirangi theatre, and the beginning of an era.

What a happy chance then to have one of the stalwarts of Titirangi Theatre, Christine Nash, directing this special piece of theatrical history, Agatha Christie’s “The Mousetrap.”

Mounting this show has been a Herculean task,

and Duncan’s article gives you some idea of what has been going on.



He has led his committee team superbly, with sustained contributions from a host of members, young and old, fresh faced to white-haired,

some more agile than others up ladders, all willing to make some sort of contribution to this enterprise.

It’s shaping up to be a marvellous theatrical space, with the huge bonus of being so much more accessible than our beloved Lopdell garage theatre.

Do be there for our official opening 2pm Saturday 24th November, behind Kohu Rd Café.

Last play at Lopdell House (for a while!)

“some girl(s)” by Neil La Bute, directed by Richard Purro

Our last production in Lopdell House as we know it, was “some girl(s)”, a trendy New York style play by one of America’s leading contemporary playwrights. Director Richard Purro and

his cast brought the characters truthfully to life, with Kristof Haines leading the charge, ably supported by the four women in his (past) life.

This was truly entertaining theatre, by turns thoughtful, serious and humorous which deserved much bet-

ter attendances. Congratulations Richard, “some girl(s)” cast and production team.



**Official opening
2pm Sat
24th Nov
Denise Yates
chair local board**

As always, a big thank you to our sponsors and helpers: Titirangi Pharmacy, Hunt & Gaunt, Glovers Real Estate, the Trusts, Hardware Café and Go West Music

Spotlight

Release of “The Mousetrap” rights suits Titirangi Theatre fine

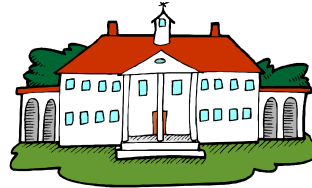
Our first production in our new theatre opens November 27th

Agatha Christie’s classic whodunnit “The Mousetrap” comes to Titirangi Theatre on Portage.

Directed by Christine Nash, “The Mousetrap” features Ashleigh Thomas, Paul Kershaw, Chad Edwards, Carol Seay, Charles Pierard, Rachel Dunning, Zane Fleming and Michael Allen playing Christie’s eccentric characters trapped together

in an isolated snowed-up manor house.

“The Mousetrap” has played continuously in London for 60 years, and the rights have been released for one year only.



Although many now know “who dunn it”, the game still entertains!

Be sure not to miss it:

8pm Tuesday to Saturday 27th November to December 8th.

2pm Saturday 1st
4pm Sunday 2nd

\$25 Opening Night, other nights \$20 adults, \$15 concession.

\$12 Saturday matinee.
\$5 gold card Wednesdays and Sunday.

Book at Titirangi Pharmacy phone 817 7658 or on line www.titirangitheatre.co.nz

Committee

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Victorian melodrama strong 2013 opening

The original Victorian Melodrama by Gorge Dibdin Pitt (1842) has been edited and republished many times.

Our version by Austin Rosser comes from 1971 but retains the flavour of the original.

Pitt, says one editor, is a little like Shakespeare. He was a prolific writer but we know very little of his life.

About 15 of Pitt’s plays are listed, but apparently twice that number remained unpublished.

Pitt wanted to write “Domestic Drama”, perhaps something like what we now call “kitchen sink drama,” tender, passionate, about low life and the people he knew.

But his managers demanded something dif-

ferent: Napoleon, Dick Turpin, for example.

“Sweeney Todd” perhaps represents a reconciliation between opposites, the first out-and-out crime play.

But whatever its background, “Sweeney Todd” is great entertainment, especially if the audience respond.



So don’t hesitate to hiss the villain, cheer the hero, and add appropriate (or inappropriate) shouts of “Shame!”, “You cad!”, “Harrah!”, “Bravo!” etc, etc.

The play opens in March next year.

Cast required:
Sweeney Todd, the demon barber: villain, 50s

Tobias Ragg, his apprentice, 10 years old; played by young woman

Mark Ingestrie, hero; young merchant seaman

Joanna Oakley, heroine; young woman 20s

Dr Aminadad Lupin, 50; has villainous designs on Joanna

Mrs Lovett, 40s - 50s; bakes pies of dubious content

Jonas Fogg 50s; fastidious businessman

Flo and Henry: young lovers, doubled from Tobias and Lupin

Boy, Labourer, policeman: doubled from above

President Duncan reports on developments on Portage Road

Dear friends of Titirangi Theatre, Years of planning and fundraising and months of hard work are about to come to fruition as we approach the inaugural production in our new theatre space.

Titirangi Theatre on Portage, as we've named the new theatre, is looking great and we are very excited about welcoming an audience into our new temporary home.

And what better play to open our new home than "The Mousetrap," by Agatha Christie, directed by Christine Nash. I've seen some rehearsals and the play is shaping up to be a great night's entertainment.

The set is looking stunning and the backstage team are working hard, so all it needs now is an audience! So please make every effort to support theatre in your community.

"The Mousetrap" opens on Tuesday 27th November and runs for two weeks. Bookings can be done on our website or at the Pharmacy.

And don't forget that we're not at Lopdell House - please come to the right theatre!

We are on Portage Road, next to the Kohu Rd Cafe, not far from the end of Astley Ave, in the old Astley tanneries building.

Don't park on Portage Rd though: we have lots of free parking by the theatre entrance at the rear of the building. The entrance is off McWhiter Place, which is the wee road next to the orange VTNZ testing station.



But before you come to the play, please join us to celebrate the opening of our new venue and to thank all the people and organisations who have helped us.

It's on Saturday 24th November at 2pm, again in the big carpark by the main entrance at the rear of the building.

After the opening, there will be an opportunity to take a look around and see what we've wrought.

This is also a chance to locate our new home during daylight hours, so you'll know where to go for the play. All are welcome, so please join us. Lastly, and speaking of openings, you may have heard that the restoration of the Treasure House AKA Lopdell Hall AKA the Judo Hall is complete.

We are thrilled to be able to announce that this lovely old character building will provide a

temporary home for our wardrobe and costume hire, as well as storage and rehearsal space.

We hope to move in soon, so look out for our signs in the next couple of months, and for our much-loved costume hire to be open in January, or possibly even late this year.

So as you can see, Titirangi Theatre is flourishing in our new environment! Please support local theatre by attending performances and encouraging others to do so - and see you all at the opening!

"The Big Rethink"

This show took place at the beginning of October at Q Theatre. It was an awareness show to destigmatise mental illness, achieved by dance, visual art, live music, comedy and 12 short plays.

Some of our members involved were:

Taimi Allen: creative director and producer

Stuart Allen: Musical director.

Vikki Cottingham: Director of the play "Mad O Phobic" for which she was audience voted best director.

Well done to all involved! A show well worth seeing.
Lynn Cottingham

Book at

**Tgn Pharmacy
817-7658**

or online www.titirangitheatre.co.nz





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Committed to
presenting high
quality live theatre in
a unique and
intimate setting

AUDITIONS

1.30pm Sunday December 9th

for

“Sweeney Todd, the demon barber”

George Dibden Pitt’s classic

Victorian melodrama

edited by Austin Rosser

directed by Lindsay Nash

Cast required:

3 women (20s—50s)

4 men (20s—50s)

Audience participation is compulsory

Season: 12th to 23rd March.

Auditions: Theatre on Portage

Please phone Lindsay 817-1419 email landcnash@pl.net

Changes of address &
membership:

Ian Harvey
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835-9557

**See you
2pm 24th!**

Titirangi Theatre presents

“The Mousetrap”

by Agatha Christie

Directed by Christine Nash

Season: Tuesday 27th Nov to Saturday 8th Dec

Bookings at Titirangi Pharmacy ph 817-7658

or online www.titirangi.theatre.co.nz