



3 Cargill Street, Mosgiel 9024
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Summer Newsletter

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter.

It is sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Life Member, Denis O'Connor. Denis has had a long association with the Taieri Dramatic Society. His family have donated a framed photograph of Denis to the Society, for our Remembrance Wall.

It has been an extremely busy, successful and exciting year for the Taieri Dramatic Society.

Our final production for 2018

'Christmas Is A Time...', opened on the 15 December. (Review ODT, Elizabeth Bouman, 15 December).

There were 4 Shows - 15 and 16 December at 2 pm, followed by 22 and 23 December at 2 pm. Admission was a gold coin donation which hopefully made the production accessible to everyone in the Community. It was also a way of giving back to the Community for their support of the Theatre during the year. Donations from the first Show, on 15 December, (\$141.50), are to be given to the Salvation Army to acknowledge their support of the Theatre by loaning furniture etc for our productions. We are extremely grateful for their ongoing support.

'Christmas Is A Time ...' written by Society Committee member, Rosemary Chalmers. The cast included a large number of very talented young actors and it is very pleasing to welcome them to the Society. Unfortunately we were unable to obtain any grants for this production and it has been funded largely by Rosemary & Ian Chalmers, Heidi and Murray Rixon and Brian McCormack. We believe it is vital for the longevity of the Society to bring young people into the Theatre. We have had the support of a very willing crew which included, Christine Wilson, Ama Veltman, Matt Brennan, Cadyne Geary, Rachel Wilson, Debbie Lawson, Judy Spillane, Annette Littlejohn, Gloria Harris, Ella-Grace Coudret and Mitchell Hay. We gratefully acknowledge and thank **Aurora Cafe** for their ongoing support of the Society. They supported Geoff Smith's play by making their 'special' lunch-time meal, Bangers 'n' Mash. They also donated lucky seat prizes.

For 'Christmas Is A Time...', Aurora Cafe generously donated 100 baked wrapped cookies to distribute to the final performance audience. Plus they gave us a large tray of club sandwiches for our After Party. Sponsorship of \$50.00 was received from Countdown, Mosgiel, and this went towards the purchasing of ice creams etc for 'Christmas Is A Time...' and also for the Play Reading, 'An Inconvenient Christmas'. Countdown's generosity has been very helpful and very much appreciated. Domino's also supported us by discounting pizza's for our After Party. Bernadette Hay donated free half time ice creams for lucky seat winners for 'Christmas Is A Time'. Thank you to everyone who supported this production in any way. We had excellent audience numbers at each performance with people from as far away as South Africa, Tauranga, Hokitika, and Invercargill attending.

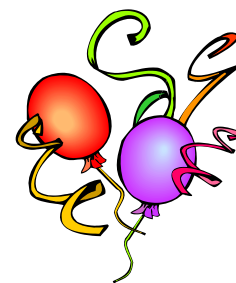
Play Reading

A Play Reading of 'An Inconvenient Christmas', written by our own members, Tabitha Littlejohn and Emerald Ottley, both students at Taieri College, was held at the Fire Station Theatre on 7 and 8 December. The play is a cynical take on Christmas stories and suitable for teenagers and above. It was very well received with excellent audience numbers. Presenting plays as a Play Reading has proved to be a valuable tool in preparing a play for staging. 'An Inconvenient Christmas' also did not receive any grants and all sponsorship and support is acknowledged and greatly appreciated. The play reading was excellent and the Society can be extremely proud of the talent on display.

Performances 2018

- Two One Act Plays - **Snip/ Bonking James Bond** - Directed by David Thompson.
- **Bangers 'n' Mash** - Written and Directed by Geoff Smith.
- **The Dragon Princes** - Written and Directed by Brian McCormack.
- **An Inconvenient Christmas** -
Written and Directed by Tabitha Littlejohn and Emerald Ottley.
- **Christmas Is A Time...** Written and Directed by Rosemary Chalmers.

It is interesting to note that four of the above were written by Taieri Dramatic Society members.



Newsflash

We have just been notified that Bangers 'n' Mash, which was submitted to be judged for the OSTA's (Otago Southland Theatre Awards), received seven nominations.

- Best Properties.
- Best Set.
- Best Supporting Female In A Play.
 - Stacey Gribbon - Evelyn.
 - Gloria Harris - Marion.
 - Kay Masters - Gwyneth.
- Best Supporting Male in A Play.
Peter Whigham - Gerald.
- Best Leading Male In A Play.
Keith Richardson - Dan.

Dunedin Theatre Awards

The Taieri Dramatic Society also received an award at the ninth annual Dunedin Theatre Awards held on Monday, 10 December, in Dunedin. The award was for special achievement, acknowledging the 70th Anniversary Celebration year of the Taieri Dramatic Society. (Refer page 4, ODT, 11 December 2018).

Quiz Night

A Quiz Night was held at the Mosgiel R.S.A, on Tuesday, 27 November 2018 as a fund raiser for the Taieri Dramatic Society. We had a small but enthusiastic crowd and we all had a very enjoyable evening. We raised \$788.10.

Committee

Our Secretary, Rachel Parmee is on leave at the moment and Tim Pettengell is our Acting Secretary, until Rachel's return. Contact Tim by emailing- firestationtheatre@gmail.com.

New Treasurer

We welcome, Mrs. Paula Wilson as our new Treasurer. Paula is an Accountant and is willing to act as Treasurer for the Society but does not wish to serve on the Committee.

New Members

We welcome our new members :

Anne-Marie Turnbull, Meredith Turnbull, Halaina Sparks, Hermione Sparks, Tahlia Mortimer, Alice Johnston, Grace Johnston, Effie King, Nate Wilson, Andrew Wilson, Chicane Woodward .

Membership Renewal

Reminder that membership renewal is due.

Membership Subscription: \$10

Membership term: 1 January to 31 December or any part thereof.

A membership form is at that end of this Newsletter.

Help Wanted

Membership Coordinator

We would welcome the support of a member or job sharing team to update and keep undated our membership records. Please let Ian know if you are able to help.

Ian Chalmers - email, ian.chalmers64@gmail.com or Mobile: 021 501 861

Job Description for Membership Coordinator

Updating the email addresses of our present members and adding our new members. Also updating postal addresses of those members who do not have computers. Emailing and posting out the membership renewal applications at the end of the year. Liaising with the Treasurer, Mrs. Paula Wilson, re membership payments.

This job does not include writing the Newsletter.

There are many small jobs within the Society as well as bigger ones, that we would greatly appreciate help with. The old adage many hands make light work is true, as it spreads the load so everyone can enjoy being involved.

It may be that you like -

- putting up posters,
- putting up or taking down advertising signs,
- preparing the cuppa and washing the dishes at rehearsals,
- or spoiling the cast by baking for their rehearsals,
- being a chaperone at rehearsals to younger members of the cast,
- maintenance and repair,
- archiving - Archiving Team.
- hairdressing.
- advertising or grants application guru.

We are very willing for you to write your own job description.

All job applications are to be submitted to the Committee for approval.

People are very busy and the idea of having a job description, is that you know exactly what you are doing and don't get landed with a huge workload and/or encroach on other people's jobs. Some people like to work on their own and that is respected but others love company and prefer to work as part of a team. We are all passionate about the Theatre and we all have different strengths and talents that we can give, to keep the Theatre running for another 70 years. If you are able to help out in any way, your support would be greatly appreciated.

We are striving to keep the Society alive and vibrant but also welcoming and accessible to everyone. The Society is a volunteer organisation and we all want to have the fun of being involved but at the same time build on our reputation of presenting high quality productions. As mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, the demise of the Fortune Theatre has been a huge blow to professional and amateur theatre and is a warning to Theatre in general. Gaining funding grants is a major concern for small theatre company's. We have a wonderful asset and it would be a shame to under utilize it or lose it.

Wardrobe

Our Theatre Wardrobe hire is very successful, thanks to Judy Spillane and her dedicated team of volunteers. The Wardrobe is open every Thursday between 6-7pm and by appointment with Judy, telephone 489 1539.

Theatre Guideline Manual

As mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, we are working toward compiling a Theatre Guideline Manual showing all the different roles in the Theatre and what is required to fulfill each role. It means that if you are taking on the role of e.g. Front Of House Manager, you have a basic framework to work from, as to your responsibilities, duties etc. How to work the cash register, float, banking cash, Eftpos, purchasing stock i.e. ice creams etc.

If you would like to submit a guideline to be included in this Manual, please email it to our Acting Secretary, Tim Pettengell.

Productions planned for 2019 include

Home Invasion - Directed by David Thompson.

Rehearsals are under way and this Play will be staged late March.

The Vicar of Dibley - Directed by Gloria Reid and Geoff Smith.

An Inconvenient Christmas - Written and Directed by Tabitha Littlejohn and Emerald Ottley.

Staging this play is dependent on their School commitments, exams etc.

Other productions to be staged include an end of year **Christmas Production**.

Theatre Workshops

We are also planning to hold a series of Theatre Workshops-dates to be confirmed. Please register your interest by emailing, rosemary.chalmers64@gmail.com.

Theatre Open Day

It has been suggested we hold an Open Day to welcome the Public to the Theatre.

Social Evenings

There has also been interest expressed in holding social evenings throughout the year at the Theatre, which could include:

Poetry Readings, Theatre Sports, Play Readings, Whose Line Is It Anyway? etc.

We would welcome your ideas and support.

Please ring Ian Chalmers - Mobile: 027 589 3088 or 021 501 861.

Annual General Meeting

Please note date in your diary:

**Annual General Meeting - 7 February 2019 at
The Fire Station Theatre - 7 p.m.**

We look forward to your attendance and support.

Thank you

Special thanks to everyone who has supported the Theatre during the year, your help is very much appreciated.

On behalf of the Taieri Dramatic Society Committee, I hope that you have had a very Merry Christmas and we wish you good health and happiness in the year ahead.

Rosemary Chalmers

*Happy
New Year*

Quote:

The theater is so
endlessly fascinating
because it's so accidental.
It's so much like life.

Arthur Miller





YEAR: 2019
 NEW MEMBER/
 MEMBER RENEWAL

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TAIERI DRAMATIC SOCIETY
NEW MEMBER APPLICATION/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership subscription: \$10

Membership term: 1 January to 31 December or any part thereof.

Membership benefits:

- Newsletter sent out by email approximately every three months - includes information on upcoming auditions and productions.
- Voting rights at the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting during the subscription year.
- Advance notice of when bookings open for all Taieri Dramatic Society productions.
- One discounted ticket per member for opening night at any **major** Taieri Dramatic Society production.
- Discount on costume hire.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

Please fill out the form below and either post or email to the Taieri Dramatic Society.

Payments can be made by bank deposit or internet banking.

If you would like to pay cash, please telephone 027 589 3088, to arrange payment.

PAYMENT DETAILS: Taieri Dramatic Society 12-3485-0013558-00

Please include the following to ensure we can match your payment to you:

Particulars: Membership **Reference:** Surname, Initial

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile/s _____

Email: _____

Membership type (circle one): Adult / Under 18 years old

Payment method (circle one): Cash / Bank deposit / Internet banking