



Hi Theatre Family,

And just like that, it's over. After weeks and months of planning, auditions, rehearsals, set building, costuming, media promotion, front-of-house magic and finally treading the boards, the curtain has come down on **The Sound of Music**. The entire season sold out before we even opened, and every extra performance we added was snapped up just as quickly. There's no doubt about it — nostalgia sells.

It's one of those rare musicals where even if you walked in not knowing a single song, you'd still leave humming, whistling or belting out one of the showstoppers on your way to the car. My personal favourite? **The Lonely Goatherd** — an absolute delight every time.

Huge congratulations to director Kelly Reid, whose vision shaped a production that was nothing short of spectacular. Equal thanks to musical director Linda Gilchrist and choreographer Emma Wellum-Smith — three of Hawke's Bay's finest creatives, and a powerhouse trio when it comes to bringing a show to life.

And then there was the cast — what a fabulous ensemble. The stage was absolutely brimming with the crème de la crème of Hawke's Bay acting and singing talent, a lineup that reminded us just how deep the well of creativity runs in our region. One thing that really stood out was the number of younger performers in the company. Their energy, confidence and sheer joy in performing were unmistakable, and it's a sure sign that the future of local theatre is in very good heart.

And of course, we can't forget our wonderful patrons. I had the pleasure of meeting and greeting audiences on three separate occasions, and every single person I spoke to was positively glowing. They raved — genuinely raved — about how good the production was, how much they enjoyed themselves, and how excited they were to see such talent on display.

A cast that shone, an audience that adored them, and a season that will be remembered for a long time.

And just when you thought, "Phew! Time for a rest!" ... well, not quite. The pause button is staying firmly untouched. We're already buzzing with excitement as we dive straight into our next production, **Sleighed to Death**, directed by the talented Stephanie Drew.

Auditions are set for August 9, and before you know it, we'll be raising the curtain again in November. A brand-new show, a brand-new creative team, and a whole new adventure on stage.

Can't wait!!

See you at The Playhouse

Cheers, Ken (Ed)

'Scene on Stage'



Theatre Hawke's Bay

PRESENTS

The SOUND of MUSIC

ITICKET

Music by RICHARD RODGERS
Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE
Suggested by "The Story of the Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp



**Thanks to Hayley Munro and Kelly Reid for
the fab Photos**

Sleighed to Death

written by **Peter Gordon**
directed by **Stephanie Drew**



Auditions: Sunday 09 August 4.00pm

In this prequel to the Inspector Pratt trilogy, *Sleighed to Death* reveals the hilariously disastrous beginnings of Pratt's policing career as he attempts — and spectacularly fails — to uncover a would-be murderer before a body turns up.

Cast:

Sir Walter Gates	Mid 50s, wealthy upper class, very self-important
Morag McKay	60s, strong Scottish accent, secretary to Walter Gates, intimidating
Grace Gates Sir	Walter's wife, 35ish, elegant, sophisticated
Emma Gates	Sir Walter's daughter, 20s, gushing, excitable, wears rather Bohemian clothes
James Washington	Mid 30s, handsome, sporting, very confident, an adventurer
Sergeant Pratt	Slightly younger looking than previous plays
Constable Potter	Female 20s-30s, intelligent, feisty, but gawky and lacking in confidence
Archie Gates	Around 50, no nonsense, garrulous, Australian accent plus English accent

For more info please email director **Stephanie Drew** - stephanie@drew.co.nz
or Production Manager **Jeannette Mackenzie** - usherwood33@gmail.com



Costume Hire – Theatre Hawke's Bay

Open Fridays, 4 pm – 6 pm Step into our treasure trove of costumes — hundreds to choose from!

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By arrangement with
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Presents a new production of BOULLE and SÉBASTIEN



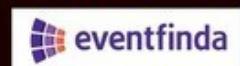
Les Misérables

Presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International &
CAMERON MACKINTOSH LTD

Directed by Madeleine Howard & Musical Direction by Alex Walker
Choreography by Wendy Waldrom

CHB Municipal Theatre
19-30 August 2026

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Friday 28th Aug @ 7pm

\$5 Per Person - Teams of 6

Great Prizes & a Raffle Too!

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REGISTER YOUR TEAM NOW!

Text 0274 244 100

At The Playhouse

AI-Generated poster

Snippets



If you came along to our recent production of *The Sound of Music*, you might have spotted something new — a tempting range of tasty ice-cream treats now available at the theatre!

They were an absolute hit with audiences, and we're delighted to say they'll be sticking around for future shows as well.

Because let's be honest, nothing pairs better with a great night out than a sweet treat at intermission. It's the perfect little moment of indulgence before Act Two sweeps you away.

So go on — grab an ice-cream and make your night at the theatre even sweeter.

Volunteers of the Month



This month's nomination comes from *The Sound of Music* production secretary, Sheree Osborne, who has chosen to recognise the incredible backstage crew from the show.

This hardworking team brought professionalism, fun, and absolute dedication to every rehearsal and performance. From quick-change chaos to seamless scene transitions, they kept the engine of the production running with skill, calm, and a

whole lot of heart. The photo features just some of this amazing crew — a small snapshot of a much larger group who helped make the season shine.

A huge thank-you to all of you. Your behind-the-scenes magic truly makes the theatre world go round. (Thanks for the pic Sheree)

A wonderful season of The Sound of Music has come to an end, and what a journey it's been. My heartfelt thanks to our Front of House and Bar team for your hard work, reliability, and good humour throughout the run.

Your dedication makes every performance smoother, warmer, and more welcoming — I truly appreciate each of you.

As always, there's room for more helping hands. If you've ever thought about joining the Front of House crew, we'd love to have you.

Or, if costumes are more your style, our

Costume Hire team would be thrilled to welcome new volunteers too.

Both departments are running a little light on numbers at the moment, so please get in touch if either role sparks your interest.

During the season we also ran a raffle for tickets to the opening nights of our next two productions — congratulations to **Alison Winmill**, our lucky winner. Alison has been contacted and is already looking forward to seeing what's coming next.

Once again, thank you all for your support, your energy, and your enthusiasm. It means the world to us.

Jeannette Mackenzie

Front of House Manager

THB Vice President.



Thank you!!

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