

# Regional News

Easton

Issue 239

March 11, 2025





# Jump to page

Music news 5

Close-up 9

Taranaki 11-13

Buy, build, renovate 14-25

Buy, build, renovate – Kapiti 24-25

Gallery news 27

Kapiti health and wellbeing 28-29

Manawatū 30-31

New Zealand Fringe Festival reviews 34-35

Kapiti news 36

What’s on 37-39

## News

### Bursting with razzle



The cow says “moo”, the chicken says “cluck”, and the pig says... “Dazzlehands!”

In a burst of colour and an explosion of cheer, the Royal New Zealand Ballet’s (RNZB) playful production of the beloved children’s book *Dazzlehands* by Sacha Cotter and Josh Morgan is perfect for tamariki. It follows the story of a rebellious little piggie who simply refuses to oink, opting instead to bring a bit of pizzaz to the farmyard with some dazzling dance moves and an infectious, fun-loving attitude.

“It’s fun, sparkly and groovy,” creative director Lauren Byrne says. “No matter your age, you’ll find yourself singing away in your seats. *Dazzlehands* has a whole range of music styles, along with a storyline that celebrates staying true to who you are, no matter what people say.”

Choreographed by RNZB principal Joshua Guillemot-Rodgerson, set to the original score by composer William Philipson, costumed by Victoria Gridley, and narrated in both English and te reo Māori, this season will include performances featuring New Zealand Sign Language interpretation and a relaxed performance for neurodiverse audiences.

“Putting on this show is such a joy, from creating the sparkly costumes and painting hay bales pink for the stage set, right through to the dancers having so much fun with the different characters,” Byrne continues. “Plus, our education team loves being out and about in the community, teaching choreography from the show and reading the book to tamariki in kindergartens and schools across the motu.”

Bright and bold, toe-tapping and laugh-out-loud, *Dazzlehands* is a riotous, raucous barnyard bash. Twirl into a seat at St James Theatre on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of April, Te Raukura ki Kāpiti on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of April, or Whirinaki Whare Taonga on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April. Find out more at [www.rnzb.org.nz](http://www.rnzb.org.nz)

### Doing it Darby



The man, the myth, the legend Rhys Darby needs no introduction. As one of Aotearoa’s biggest names, he’s graced movie screens, red carpets, and stages the world over. *What We Do in the Shadows*, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*, *Guns Akimbo*, *Our Flag Means Death*, *Jumanji: The Next Level*, the list goes on, and on, and on. That’s not including his prolific repertoire of voice acting credits or any of his off-screen antics, which include four books, New Zealand’s longest-running podcast *The Cryptid Factor*, or his Substack musings. Oh, and don’t forget *Flight of the Conchords* where he got his start as well-meaning but inept band manager Brian Nesbit, later Murray Hewitt.

Darby is one of Aotearoa’s most famous faces, and yet, in his newest comedy show, *The Legend Returns* to ponder whether a simple dad with slightly tight jeans can stay relevant in a world full of AI and robot tech.

Good news: ancient astronaut theorists say yes! With *The Legend Returns*, Darby hopes to prove that right now a touch of very human silliness is more important than ever. Perhaps his unique skills, once thought of as absurd, might just be useful after all.

“I’m so excited to return to the stage, a bit older, a bit wiser, but mostly a bit sillier than ever before,” he beams.

Darby’s *The Legend Returns* will hit Wellington’s Opera House on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March and feature his signature mix of astute observations and physical stand-up cocooned in a fantastical storyline that weaves through twists and turns, ups and downs, and over hill and dale.

Cover: *Blithe Spirit*. Photo by Lewis Ferris.

**All editorial pages are headed only in red, other colours are advertising features.**

The views expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect those of *Regional News*.

Available from stands at:  
**New World supermarkets**

Published by:  
**Empson Publishing Ltd**  
PO Box 15163,  
Miramar 6243.  
Sales Manager:  
**Frances King**  
**Ph: 04 384 5179**  
[frances@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:frances@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Sales Executive:  
**Sarah Collins**  
**Ph: 04 801 1111**  
[sarah@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:sarah@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Sales Executive:  
**Andy Nguyen**  
**Ph: 04 801 1113**  
[andy@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:andy@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Editorial Email:  
[news@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:news@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Editor:  
**Madelaine Empson**  
[madelaine@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:madelaine@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Journalist:  
**Alessia Belsito-Riera**  
[alessia@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:alessia@regionalnews.kiwi)  
Design & Layout:  
**Todd Hatten**  
**Cade Ogden**  
**RegionalNewsNZ**   
**[www.regionalnews.kiwi](http://www.regionalnews.kiwi)**  
ISSN: 2382-2384

"I will have poetry in my life. And adventure. And love. Love above all."

**Shakespeare is Love.**  
THE PLAY

BASED ON THE SCREENPLAY BY  
MARC NORMAN & TOM STOPPARD  
ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY  
LEE HALL  
MUSIC BY  
PAULY CURMEEN

Originality produced on the West End by Sherry Theatrical Productions & Sherry Theatrical Productions, directed by Simon Stammers and designed by Nick Brownell

**MARCH 19-29, 2025**  
GRYPHON THEATRE  
Book at [www.wellingtonrepertory.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonrepertory.org.nz)

**ROSIES REMOVALS LTD MASTERTON**  
NATIONWIDE SERVICE

*You're in safe hands with ROSIES REMOVALS*  
"We moved from Blenheim to Levin and it was seamless. Rosies went above and beyond with the move, packing and moving quickly and effectively. Would highly recommend." – Betty and Ron

**FREEPHONE 0800 46 76 74 or 0800 GO ROSIES**  
Phone 06 370 1258 | [office@rosiesremovals.co.nz](mailto:office@rosiesremovals.co.nz)  
[www.rosiesremovals.co.nz](http://www.rosiesremovals.co.nz) RosiesRemovals

**MOTOR TECH**

Contact Us  
14 Lonsay Street  
Melling  
Lower Hutt 5012  
Tel: 04 568 2853  
[motortech@gvtm.co.nz](mailto:motortech@gvtm.co.nz)  
[www.motortech.nz](http://www.motortech.nz)

**SUMMER SPECIALS!**

**20% OFF** Get 20% off your WOF now \$60+gst (was \$75+gst)

**50% OFF** Get 50% off your WOF with any Service that's \$37.50+gst (was \$75+gst)

Preferred auto repairer for:



# A refreshing antidote

by **Madelaine Empson**



**Photo by Lewis Ferris.**

A cocktail of magic and mayhem will be shaken up and served on the rocks with a spooky twist at Circa Theatre from the 19<sup>th</sup> of March to the 19<sup>th</sup> of April. Stylish and sharp, Noël Coward’s farcical masterpiece *Blithe Spirit* follows eccentric medium Madame Arcati, guest of honour at a dinner party hosted by a socialite novelist hoping to pick up a few ‘tricks of the trade’ for his new book. But after too many martinis and a schemozzle of a séance, Charles Condomine gets more than he bargained for when an unexpected guest materialises.

This modern and queer adaptation sees veteran director Colin McColl teaming up with the legendary Ginette McDonald and a cast of award-winning actors, including Phil Peleton as Charles and Simon Leary as his partner Rudi. I caught up with McDonald mid-rehearsal to chat about the comedy classic and her character, whom she is relishing playing and describes as “a bit of a fraud”.

“But only a bit.”

## **What do you think are the most interesting aspects of Madame Arcati?**

She’s supposed to be very psychic but is surprised when her limited skills actually work. She’s very vain and loves hobnobbing with well-to-do people and drinking their martinis. But then, who doesn’t.

## **How much fun are you having in rehearsals?**

I’m loving getting to do just a two-person scene with wonderful Circa actor Simon Leary who I’ve not worked with for about nine years and who is, despite his handsomeness, now one of our great character actors. Colin McColl has cast the whole play very well.

## **What does it mean to you to work alongside the Wellington Pride Festival for the presentation of this play?**

That *Blithe Spirit* is connected to the Pride Festival would warm the cockles of its playwright Noël Coward. That he was an openly gay Englishman, who also loved and respected his women friends, and who enjoyed success in England at a time when his sexuality was illegal, is something to be celebrated. As is the timing of the play... when the whole world is fractured and homophobia is being weaponised as a right-wing tool of attack, this play is a refreshing, if not entirely sane, antidote. We all need a bit of fun and this is the play that delivers.

# Love Actuary



**Photo by Tom Noble.**

A qualified actuary by day, an award-winning comedian by night, Advait Kirtikar has come to the conclusion that love is about taking calculated risks. The 2024 Billy T nominee’s new show *Love Actuary* will take Cavern Club audiences on a preview date on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March before going steady over the ditch at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

*Love Actuary* is about mixed messages and missed connections where finding love is about taking (calculated) risks, Kirtikar says, adding that finding yourself is hard, but finding your someone is harder! In the show, Kirtikar gets down on one knee with his heart on his sleeve to tell the tale of an adventure to find a beautiful girl he randomly met at his local climbing gym and bonded with over their shared love of SpongeBob socks. It’s a Cinderella-inspired story where he hopes to find her and her pink skates, live out his *Love Actuary* moment, then start a passion for the second love of his life.

The first love of his life is comedy, of course. The Wellington-based comedian first got into stand-up also by chance at the climbing gym when he heard a hilarious clip of Aziz Ansari on the radio. The rest is history; he has since performed in the Raw Comedy Quest and New Zealand Fringe Festival shows, on *Last Laughs* and the local Pōneke comedy circuit. Today, Kirtikar is known for his super-dry performance style and killer timing and can’t wait to make his Melbourne debut with *Love Actuary*.

Love, actually, is all around. Join Kirtikar on his quest to find it.

## SNIPS

### **Fares increase**

A Metlink fare increase of 2.2% and adjustment to the off-peak discount from 50 to 30% when using Snapper will apply from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. An adult travelling off-peak from Karori to the CBD will pay \$3.17, up from \$2.22. Travelling off-peak continues to be an affordable option compared to the \$4.53 peak fare for the same journey.

### **Public transport**

The draft Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 is open for consultation at [haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz) until the 28<sup>th</sup> of March. New regional bus corridors, paying for parking at train station Park and Rides, and pets on public transport are among the topics up for discussion.

### **Annual Plan**

Greater Wellington’s proposed Annual Plan 2025/26 focuses on maintaining core services and reducing pressure on ratepayers. The regional council is seeking feedback on the plan, with provisions for Local Water Done Well and the upcoming Māori constituency referendum. You can visit [haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz) until the 28<sup>th</sup> of March.



## Sharp teeth with a hard bite



According to Kiwi filmmaker and screenwriter James Ashcroft, there is real healing to be found in the dark. “If we never look there, how can we move forward into a future with greater empathy and hope”, he asks.

His latest film, *The Rule of Jenny Pen*, which is out in cinemas from the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, abides by this train of thought. Based on Owen Marshall’s short story of the same name, the insidious psychological thriller explores power dynamics, tyranny, and oppression, but not without some trace elements of black comedy.

“There’s genuine humour, delight, and humanity to be found in the darkest corners of this story,” Ashcroft continues. “It’s got sharp teeth and doesn’t pull its punches. And though at times horrific, it is absolutely not a horror film.”

Self-important judge Stefan Mortensen (Geoffrey Rush) suffers a near-fatal stroke that leaves him partially paralysed and ignominiously placed into care in a retirement home, his personal idea of hell on Earth. As he recuperates, he refuses to cooperate with the busy but disengaged staff or integrate with his affable roommate Tony Garfield (George Henare), a former sports hero.

However, Stefen and Tony soon find themselves growing closer as they become the target of ageing psychopath Dave Crealy’s (John Lithgow) machinations, who feigns dementia to covertly menace other residents with a sadistic game of wills he’s dubbed *The Rule of Jenny Pen*.

## Step into magic



Wish upon a star and venture into Wonderland at *Disney: The Magic of Animation* | Ngā Tāoreore Tūmatarau. Taking visitors to faraway lands and magical realms from Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre until the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, this internationally acclaimed exhibition features more than 600 artworks spanning almost 100 years of Walt Disney Animation Studios’ creative legacy.

Peek behind the scenes at what goes into creating the timeless Disney stories and characters that we all know and love. Curated by the team at the Walt Disney Animation Research Library, *Disney: The Magic of Animation* takes visitors on a journey from *Steamboat Willie* in 1928, a landmark in the history of animation, through to the modern day, offering in-depth looks into *Fantasia*, *Snow White*, *101 Dalmatians*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King*, *Frozen*, and more.

“We’re incredibly excited for guests to see how the filmmakers and artists develop our stories and work through different ideas and concepts as they create the films we know so well,” Walt Disney Animation Research Library managing director Mary Walsh says. “What’s unique to our Wellington iteration is that this is the first time we’ve been able to include artworks from *Moana 2*”. It’s also the first time this exhibition has been bilingual, with text panels in English and te reo Māori.

With interactive animation stations and projections, little and big Kiwis alike will be delighted to step into the magical world of Disney.



**Busy Aden Motel For sale**  
Southland - Address withheld - Hotels Motels Lodges B&B  
💰 \$595,000 Plus GST (if any) | 2656m<sup>2</sup> | Leasehold





Aden Motel is a 12-unit, ground-floor complex consisting of 7 studio units, 3 x 1-bedroom units and 2 x 2-bedroom units. 4-bedroom owners accommodation attached. Work and live - ideal for someone who also works from home. Fabulous family environment in Te Anau.

[www.adenmotel.co.nz](http://www.adenmotel.co.nz) | [info@adenmotel.co.nz](mailto:info@adenmotel.co.nz) | 0800 11 66 44






Located in the centre of Petone - Lower Hutt, Quest Petone connects you with Greater Wellington’s hidden gems, beaches, and restaurants.



**QUEST**  
PETONE

**Phone 04 282 1680**  
**40-42 Richmond Street, Petone**  
**[www.questpetone.co.nz](http://www.questpetone.co.nz)**

## Join the Pukeko family.

Since 2010, Pukeko Rental Managers have developed a strong reputation for excellence in property management; to become a trusted partner for property owners and investors throughout the country.

We have franchise opportunities available in Wellington, Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Kilbirnie, Newtown, Karori & Masterton.

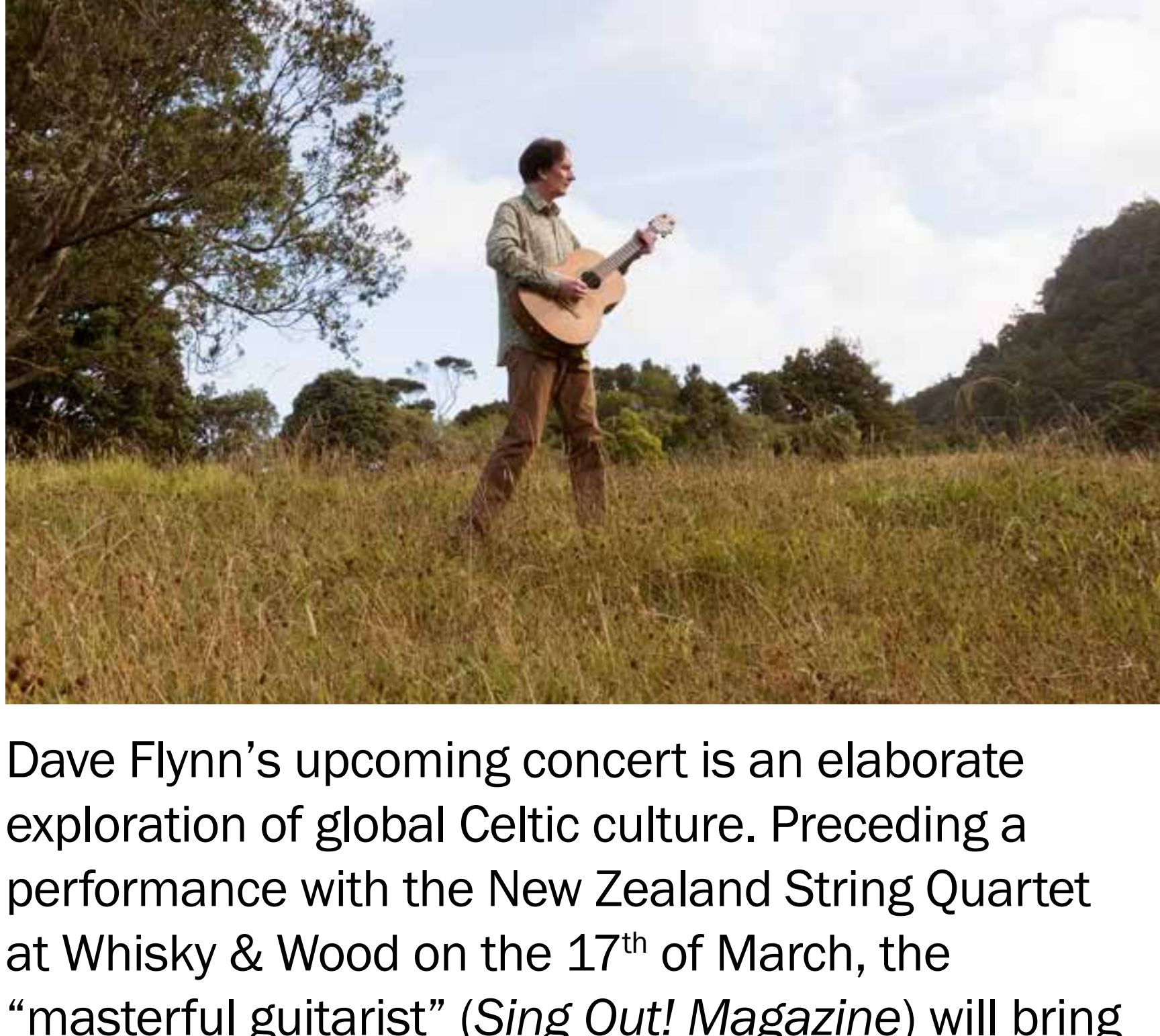
Contact us today / [joinus@pukekorentalmanagers.co.nz](mailto:joinus@pukekorentalmanagers.co.nz)





# No leprechauns here

by **Madelaine Empson**



Dave Flynn’s upcoming concert is an elaborate exploration of global Celtic culture. Preceding a performance with the New Zealand String Quartet at Whisky & Wood on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, the “masterful guitarist” (*Sing Out! Magazine*) will bring his acclaimed, expanded *Celtic Guitar Journey* to The Barn on North Street in Greytown on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March for St Patrick’s eve.

Explaining that Ireland doesn’t have the same kind of independence-focused national holiday as other colonised nations, Flynn tells me that St Patrick’s Day has become “very important for Irish people to celebrate our culture”.

“In the past 30 years or so, it’s become more like St Patrick’s Week than St Patrick’s Day, with parades, concerts, and parties throughout the world”, he delights.

Music sits front and centre during St Patrick’s Week, but there’s an expectation that loud, pub-style Irish songs make up most of the programming.

“I hope my *Celtic Guitar Journey* concert proves to be a nice alternative to the usual St Patrick’s music event that New Zealanders may be used to”, Flynn says. “Audiences can expect an immersive experience including beautiful harp-influenced music, toe-tapping jigs and reels, and adventurous new compositions that showcase the sophistication of modern Ireland. Audiences can also expect flavours from other nations with links to Ireland... there’ll be no leprechauns or drunken ballads at this show. Indeed, that’s one of the main takeaways: there’s a lot more to Ireland and Irish music than old clichés!”

## An extraordinary life



40 years ago, 50 giants of rock came together for one concert across two continents. The legendary likes of David Bowie and Queen, Madonna and U2, Elton John and Diana Ross played Wembley Stadium in London and John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 1985 for Live Aid, which was broadcast to the entire world and raised over \$140 million for famine relief in Ethiopia. Behind it all? Bob Geldof and Midge Ure, co-writers of the 1984 charity superhit *Do They Know It’s Christmas?*, which raised £8 million for Ethiopia within a year.

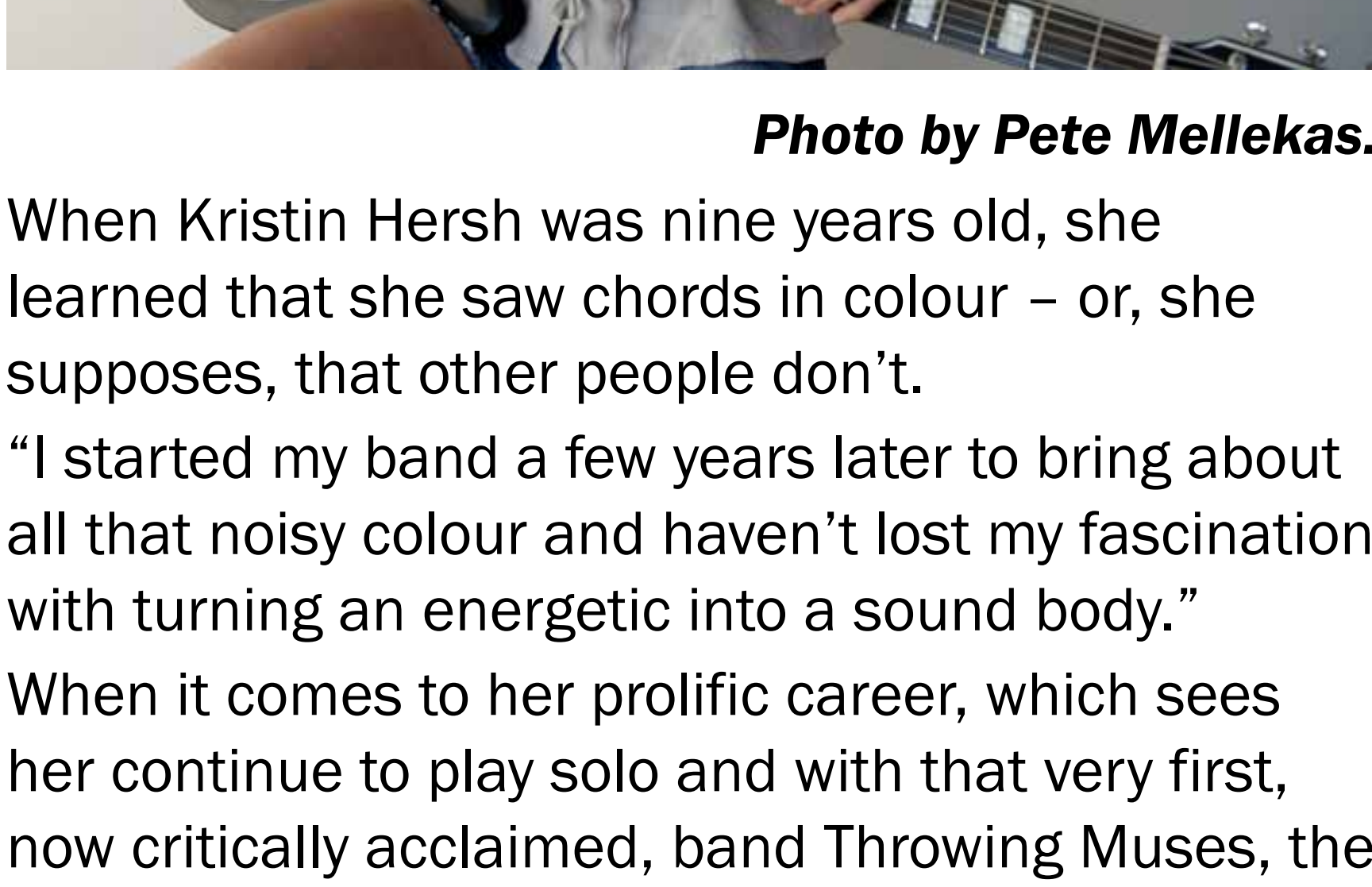
“We took an issue that was nowhere on the political agenda and, through the lingua franca of the planet – which is not English but rock ‘n’ roll – we were able to address the intellectual absurdity and the moral repulsion of people dying of want in a world of surplus”, Geldof said.

Not only is 2025 the anniversary of Live Aid, but it’s been 50 years since The Boomtown Rats formed in Dublin. Founded by Geldof, the iconic rock and new wave band came out of Ireland in 1975 to join the Sex Pistols, The Clash, the Ramones, and other perpetrators of the punk rock movement to change the face of music forever.

In honour of such huge milestones, Wellingtonians will have the chance to meet the man, the myth, the legend and hear *Songs & Stories from an Extraordinary Life* straight from the horse’s mouth in *An Evening with Bob Geldof* at Michael Fowler Centre on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March.

## Chords in colour

by **Madelaine Empson**



**Photo by Pete Mellekas.**

When Kristin Hersh was nine years old, she learned that she saw chords in colour – or, she supposes, that other people don’t.

“I started my band a few years later to bring about all that noisy colour and haven’t lost my fascination with turning an energetic into a sound body.”

When it comes to her prolific career, which sees her continue to play solo and with that very first, now critically acclaimed, band Throwing Muses, the American singer-songwriter and guitarist describes this initiation into songwriting as one of the most impactful moments. The other “was becoming listener-supported”.

After having fought her way out of the corporate recording industry, Hersh was on the road with her band when their tour bus caught fire and crashed into the woods. Thinking they couldn’t afford to go on without the bus, they got to the next show and found hundreds of emails offering help of all shapes and sizes.

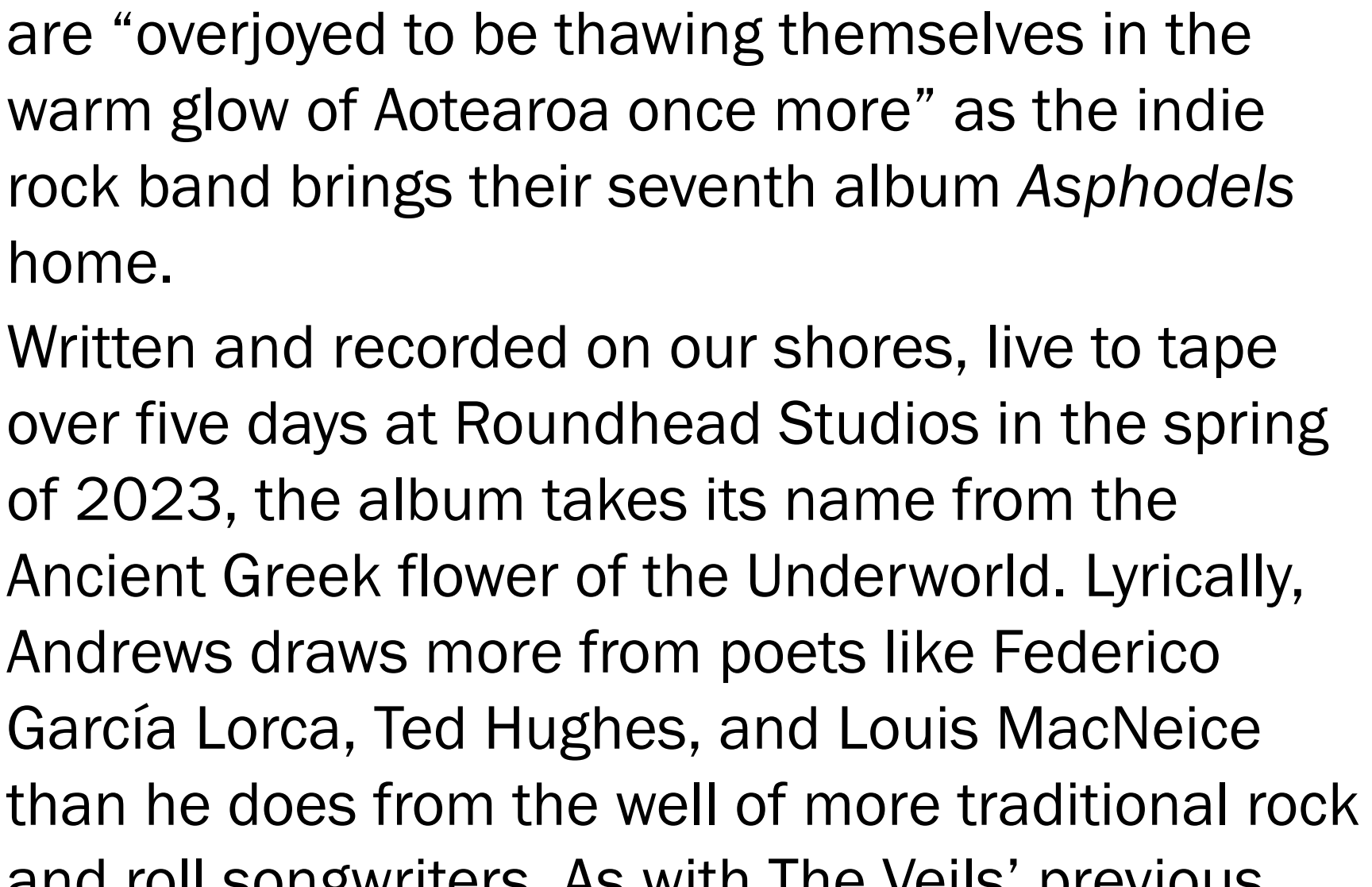
“It was astonishing. Not just the generosity, but the touching symbiotic relationship between musician and listener, both of us facilitating a sound we love.”

With Throwing Muses’ new album *Moonlight Concessions* out this month and Hersh’s recent solo album *Clear Pond Road* serving as a watershed moment in a career overflowing with creative firsts, the alt-rock luminary will play Old St Paul’s solo on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, joined by rising Ugandan singer-songwriter Jon Muq.

She describes Wellington as “a musician’s dream” and one of her most beloved cities – “honestly”.

“Last year, I arrived so jet lagged that I walked straight to the water, lay down in the grass, and fell asleep. When I woke up, I was surrounded by a dozen birds with their heads under their wings, napping alongside me! Such a magic place.”

## A howl to the heavens



**Photo by Katya Brook.**

Following their mid-winter European tour, lead singer and songwriter Finn Andrews says The Veils are “overjoyed to be thawing themselves in the warm glow of Aotearoa once more” as the indie rock band brings their seventh album *Asphodels* home.

Written and recorded on our shores, live to tape over five days at Roundhead Studios in the spring of 2023, the album takes its name from the Ancient Greek flower of the Underworld. Lyrically, Andrews draws more from poets like Federico García Lorca, Ted Hughes, and Louis MacNeice than he does from the well of more traditional rock and roll songwriters. As with The Veils’ previous album *...And Out Of The Void Came Love* (2023), exquisite string arrangements from Victoria Kelly serve as a central feature and bring the songs to life.

The result is a record that possesses the quiet, hard-earned confidence of restraint, even as it howls to the heavens, carefully choosing its moments to raise the roof and blow the lid off this joint.

With the band’s raucous debut *The Runaway Found* turning 20 last year, Andrews feels as though *Asphodels* “is the end result of a now disconcertingly long career in music”.

“I think after your seventh album, much like turning 40, you should really just stop counting. I’ve learned a lot along the way, which I suppose is the whole point, and I’ve really distilled it all into these nine songs.”

The Veils have some stellar festival and headline sets booked for New Zealand, with Wellington getting their turn at Meow on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.

[Back to contents](#)





# News

## A word from Maddi...

### What, real money?

by **Madelaine Empson**



Some weekends just stick with you. I reckon I'll remember my last one for a wee while yet.

It all started when, despite getting up at a crisp 5:50am, I very nearly missed my 10am flight. This will be a running theme, so watch this space. I

was staying up north with my cousin, who's a bloody good poker player and had entered a local tournament. I went to meet her at the club so I could watch her game, hoping to pick up a few tricks of the trade. But it turned out that it was a doubles tournament, and there was a player without a partner...

While I love poker for four reasons – the adrenaline, mind games, and mental arithmetic (my maths is always correct) – I've only ever played with one person at a time, and never in a competition setting. I was so nervous that I nearly said no! But in a moment of unhinged bravery, I sat down and tried my hand.

In a doubles tournament, you take turns playing off the same chip stack as your partner. If you get out, so do they. Steve knew I was a total newbie, so had zero expectations and kept telling me to go all-in, or "Send it, Maddi!" But as the tournament went on, he got his game face on... turns out we were crushing it! I started freaking out when I realised there were cash prizes for first, second, and third place and was overheard whispering, "What, real money?"

In the end, we came fourth, which I'm told is called 'bubbling'. Basically, we *just* missed out on winning said real money – what a claim to fame! I reckon that makes me the first and probably the coolest loser. I had a total blast, met some amazing people, and even made an arch nemesis. I've always wanted one of those.

Hold 'em and hold up: the weekend's shenanigans were not over yet. The next morning, for no reason whatsoever – no family emergency, no unfortunate series of events, not even traffic – I actually missed my flight. As the age-old adage goes, when you get stuck at an airport, drink rosé. And so, glass of wine in hand, I planted myself right by the gate for three hours so as not to miss the next flight as well. Because I was living my best life and feeling – shall we say, chipper, I made a brand-new friend on the plane who gave me not one, but five avocados as a parting gift.

A weird, wacky, and wonderful weekend all round then. Aces!

## Dare to dream



**Emily Beynon. Photo by Eduardus Lee.**



**Gemma New. Photo by Roy Cox.**

One of the world's best flute players is about to make her Aotearoa debut. Known for her "breathtaking virtuosity" (*The Times*), Welsh musician Emily Beynon will join the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and their artistic advisor and principal conductor Gemma New for *Pictures at an Exhibition* at the Michael Fowler Centre on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. Taking place in Wellington and Christchurch, the concert will see Beynon perform the world premiere of *Danses Concertantes* by celebrated French composer Guillaume Connesson, who will be in attendance in both cities.

Beynon, principal flute of the renowned Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam, says Connesson is a remarkable composer, "both inspired by the rich and colourful heritage of French composers like Ravel, Messiaen, and Poulenc" and yet "very much his own voice and of the 21<sup>st</sup> century".

"To be part of the world premiere of his *Danses Concertantes* and for it to be with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, is something I would never have dared dream of", Beynon continues.

The concert opens with New Zealand composer Gareth Farr's spectacular *From the Depths Sound the Great Sea Gongs: I*. Its namesake, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, is one of Modest Mussorgsky's best known and loved works. Inspired by the paintings of fellow Russian Viktor Hartmann and originally written for piano, its popularity soared after legendary French composer Maurice Ravel wrote a version for orchestra which audiences know today.



**V&S VEIN + SKIN**  
*Aesthetics*

**Discover The LOTUS Gynolaser For Vaginal Health**

The LOTUS Gynolaser provides a non-surgical treatment option for vaginal laxity/atrophy and urinary incontinence. A minimally invasive procedure that utilises laser technology to reliably treat vaginal dryness, helping restore and regenerate aging tissue. Overall, the treatment helps to maintain and support vaginal health.

**Free complimentary nurse consult**

www.veinandskin.co.nz | 0800 NEW YOU (639 968) | enquiries@veinandskin.co.nz | 38 Roxburgh Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington



**V&S VEIN + SKIN**  
*Aesthetics*

**Treatments we offer:**

- Anti-Wrinkle Injections
- Chin Fat Reduction
- Dermal Filler
- Collagen Stimulation
- Skin Boosters

Plus many more anti-aging treatments.

Come in and talk to one of our nurses about what will work for you. Car parking available!

www.veinandskin.co.nz | 0800 NEW YOU (639 968) | enquiries@veinandskin.co.nz | 38 Roxburgh Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington



## Travel to toon town



**Still from *The Colors Within*.**

Wellywood turns into toon town between the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March for the second annual Wellington Animation Film Festival (WAFF). Held in the iconic Roxy Cinema, the 2025 festival will feature New Zealand premieres, retrospectives, short films, and industry panel discussions celebrating the artform.

The five New Zealand premieres comprise acclaimed animated works *Living Large* (Czechia), *The Colors Within* (Japan), *The Storm* (China), *Exorcism Chronicles: The Beginning* (South Korea), and *Rock Bottom* (Spain and Poland). Three short film collections join the programme and include two award-winning selections from the world-renowned Annecy International Animation Film Festival, an official WAFF partner. Additionally, there will be a curated collection of student short films from France and New Zealand, a screening of the Kiwi classic *Footrot Flats*, and a retrospective on *Paprika*.

“As Wellington’s dedicated animation film festival, WAFF is a celebration of creativity, storytelling, and the vibrant world of animated cinema,” WAFF committee member Arthur Struyf says.

As the brainchild of Creative Aotearoa French Exchange (CAFE), who aim to further strengthen the relationship between French and New Zealand animation communities, WAFF will also feature several industry focus panels, including with screenplay writer Tom Scott from *Footrot Flats* and a sneak peek of the Māoriland Film Festival.

Embark on an animated adventure from Aotearoa’s film capital.

## Laughter and luminosity



Dubbed a “singer, songwriter, and guitarist at the height of his powers” (Consequence.net), MJ Lenderman kicks 2025 off with a New Zealand tour that will give Meow audiences a night to remember on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March.

It’s the first time the full MJ Lenderman & The Wind experience will be landing on Aotearoa shores, and comes hot off the heels of a super secret surprise show at Whammy Bar in Auckland earlier last year. Following his late-night television debut on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* and with a fully sold-out North American tour under his belt, the rising star is set to deliver a big, bold, and beautiful show here in Wellington alongside supporting act Vera Ellen.

The North Carolina-based musician will dive headfirst into his newest – and perhaps most celebrated – records during his Kiwi roadshow. *Manning Fireworks* rode high on 2024 best-of lists everywhere, with adoration stemming from all corners of the globe. Establishing MJ Lenderman as “a bright young star in the indie rock firmament” (NPR Music), *Manning Fireworks* continues to feature the sincere albeit unserious songs that Asheville’s favourite son is known for. The guitar playing is simple, the sound endearing, and the words both witty and dark.

MJ Lenderman’s “poignant songs pulse with humour and rays of light”, *The New York Times* praises. Get ready for a show as equally luminous.

12–13 Apr **St James Theatre**  
 15–16 Apr **T e Raukura ki Kapiti**  
 23 Apr **Whirinaki Whare Taonga**

**Book now**  
[rnzb.org.nz](https://rnzb.org.nz)

**TICKETS FROM \$25**  
Booking fees may apply.

**A curly tale for tamariki**

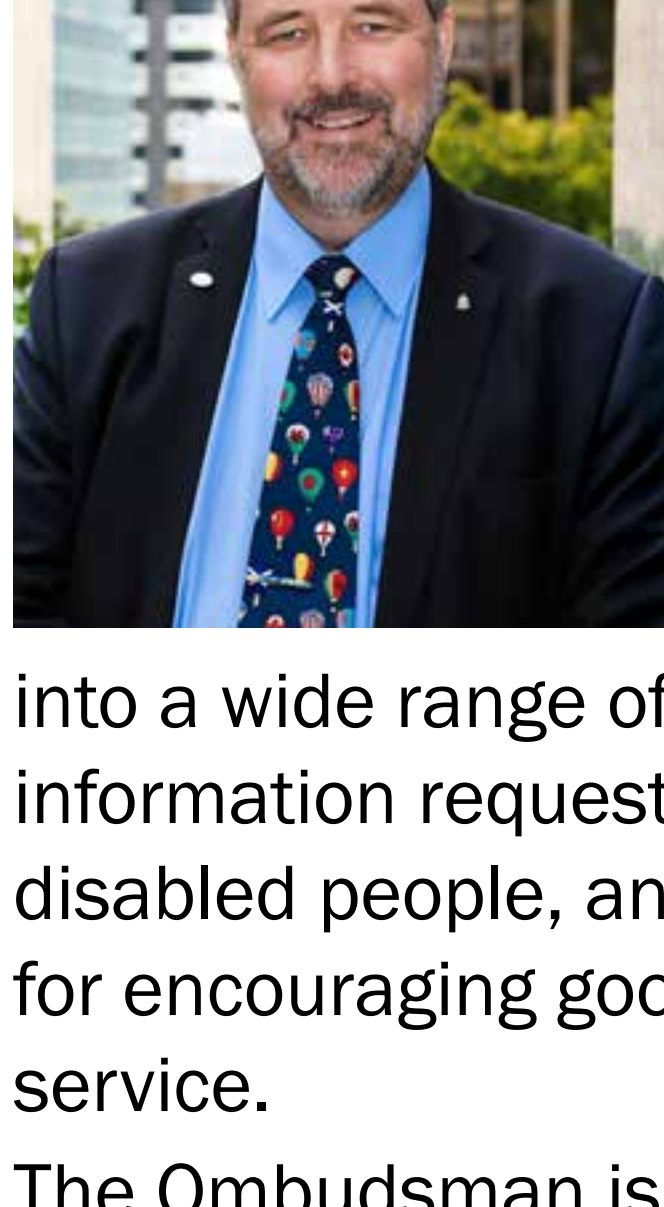
PRINCIPAL PARTNER



# News Advice from Alan

## The role of the Ombudsman

**by Alan Knowsley, consultant, Rainey Collins Lawyers**



If you have a complaint about a public sector organisation, then you can make that complaint directly to the organisation as a first step. If that fails to resolve matters, you can raise your complaint with the Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman can look into a wide range of matters, including official information requests, prisons, and the rights of disabled people, and generally has responsibility for encouraging good administration in the public service.

The Ombudsman is not part of the New Zealand Government and is instead an independent officer appointed by New Zealand Parliament. They have oversight of all the public service, including government ministries and departments, ministers, police, local authorities, Crown entities, state-owned enterprises, tertiary institutions, public hospitals, and state school boards.

The Ombudsman will investigate what has happened and why decisions were made as well as what information is held by the organisation. They can require information and documents, summon witnesses and examine them, and even enter any public sector premises.

If the Ombudsman decides to investigate, they will write to the relevant agency (usually the chief executive) to tell them about the investigation and to seek information that the agency has on the issue. Once the matter has been fully investigated, the Ombudsman will provide a copy of their provisional opinion to the agency to get feedback and perhaps further information. When that feedback and information has been considered, the Ombudsman will finalise their decision and recommendations.

The amount of complaints referred to the Ombudsman is very substantial and this causes resourcing issues as to which matters the Ombudsman will investigate and how long investigations take. It is unfortunately a long, slow process to get a matter dealt with.

If you have made an Official Information Act request, you must complain to the Ombudsman and they either decline to investigate or complete their investigation before you can take court action in relation to the actions of the agency. The delays in getting a decision from the Ombudsman can add substantial time to the process of getting a court decision.

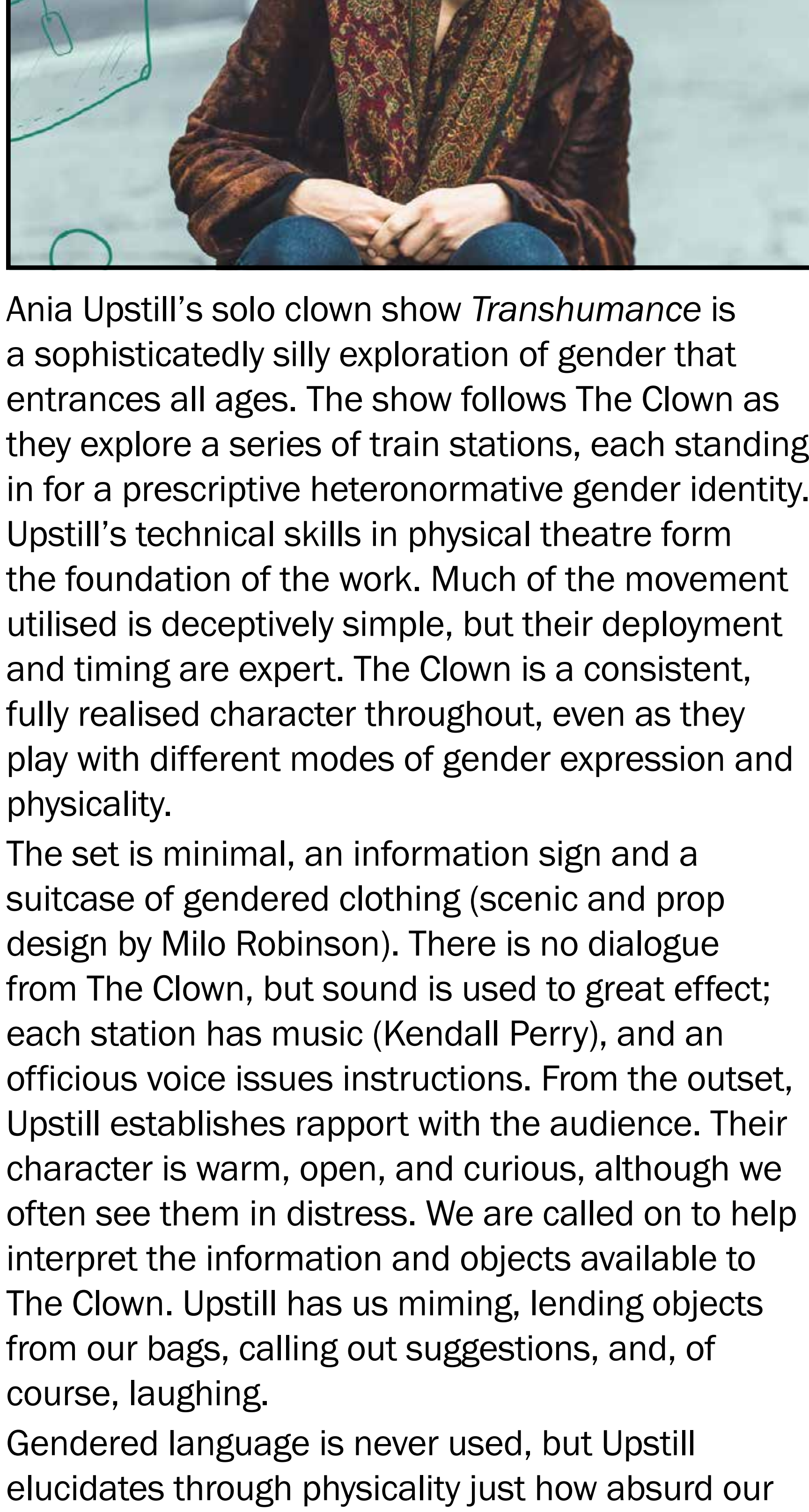
## Transhumance

**Created by Ania Upstill**

**Directed by SMJ**

**Gryphon Theatre, 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2025**

**Reviewed by Ruth Corkill**



Ania Upstill's solo clown show *Transhumance* is a sophisticatedly silly exploration of gender that entrances all ages. The show follows The Clown as they explore a series of train stations, each standing in for a prescriptive heteronormative gender identity. Upstill's technical skills in physical theatre form the foundation of the work. Much of the movement utilised is deceptively simple, but their deployment and timing are expert. The Clown is a consistent, fully realised character throughout, even as they play with different modes of gender expression and physicality.

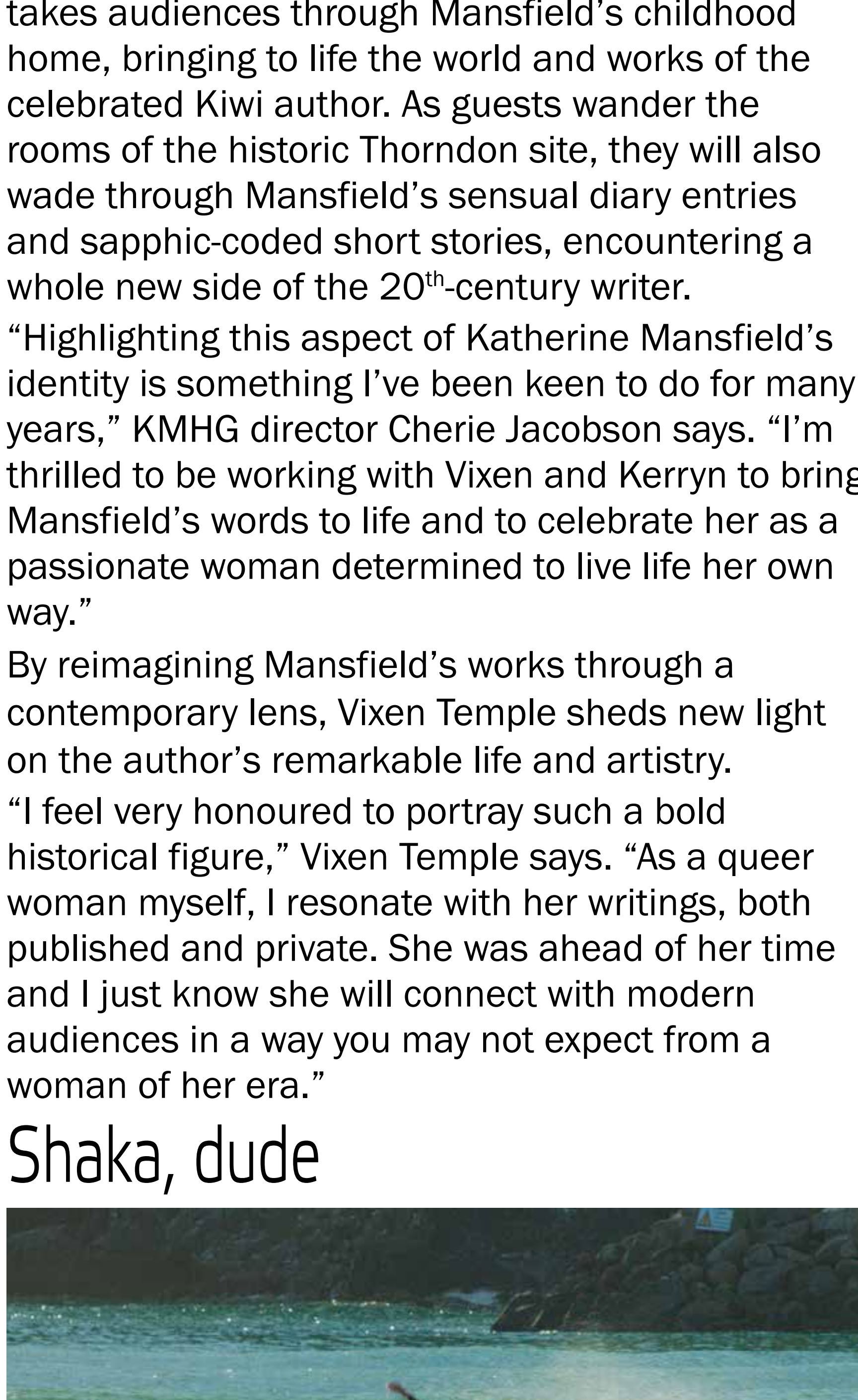
The set is minimal, an information sign and a suitcase of gendered clothing (scenic and prop design by Milo Robinson). There is no dialogue from The Clown, but sound is used to great effect; each station has music (Kendall Perry), and an officious voice issues instructions. From the outset, Upstill establishes rapport with the audience. Their character is warm, open, and curious, although we often see them in distress. We are called on to help interpret the information and objects available to The Clown. Upstill has us miming, lending objects from our bags, calling out suggestions, and, of course, laughing.

Gendered language is never used, but Upstill elucidates through physicality just how absurd our concept of rigid genders is, and how tiring it is to perform gender roles. Exhausted and troubled, The Clown rejects these narrow options, and boards a train once more.

In this third act of the piece, all the labour Upstill has put in thus far pays off in a series of simple, beautiful moves. The final station is peaceful. We all get some space to breathe, and The Clown shares a satsuma with us. The suitcase is cautiously opened once more, but this time it reveals a flourishing of flowers and birdsong. The sound of contentment that the audience makes in response is one of the loveliest things I've ever heard in a theatre.

The Clown leaves a circlet of these flowers at the information counter for whichever travellers come along next.

## Love and literature



**Photo courtesy of Katherine Mansfield House & Garden.**

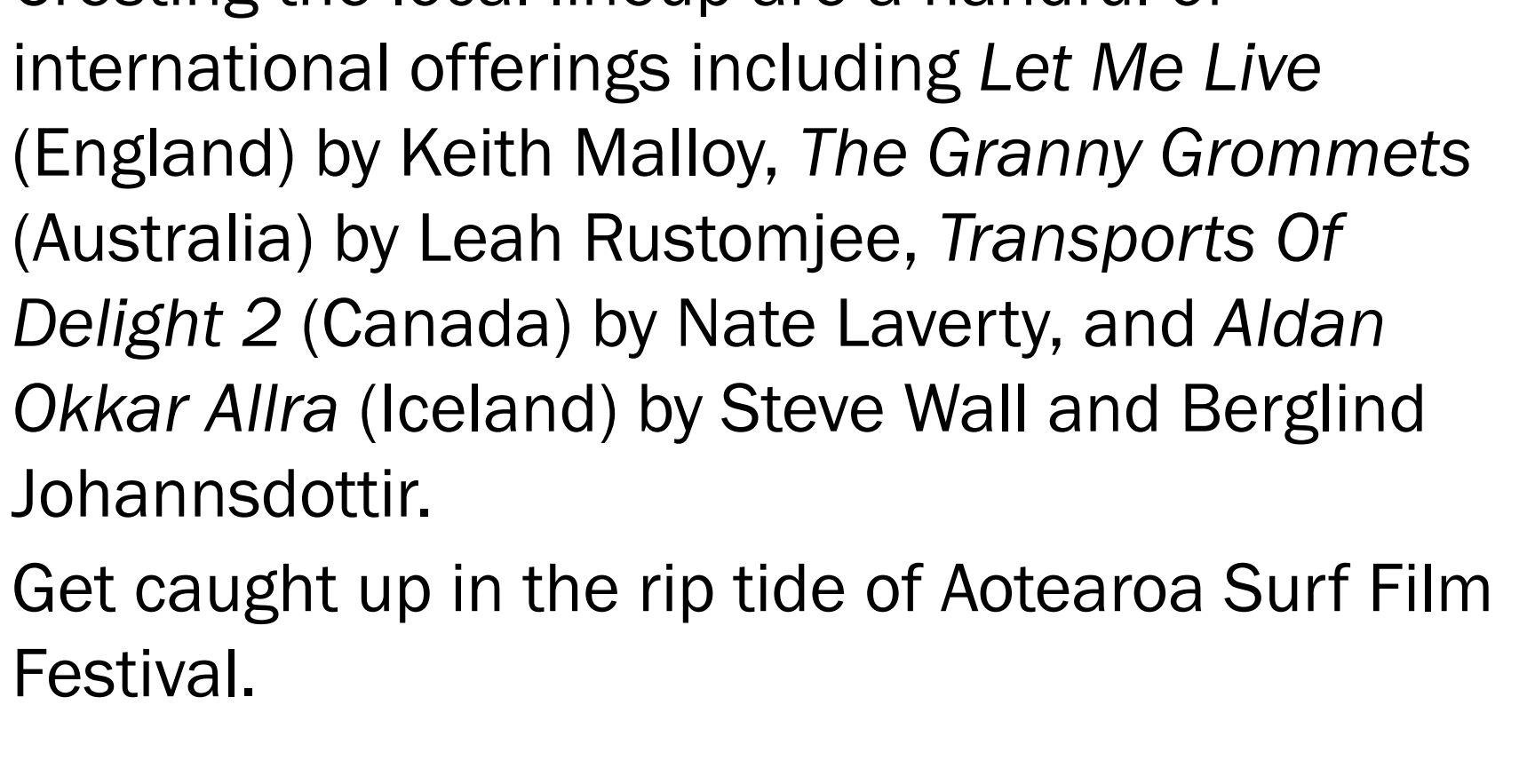
Delve into the life, loves, and literature of Katherine Mansfield with performance artist Vixen Temple and historian Kerry Pollock of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga at the Katherine Mansfield House & Garden (KMHG) experience *The Magic of Her Body*.

This Wellington Pride Festival event blends storytelling and education, inviting audiences to step into Mansfield's intimate world to explore themes of sapphic love, identity, and gender. Featuring several sessions between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of March, the evocative theatrical experience takes audiences through Mansfield's childhood home, bringing to life the world and works of the celebrated Kiwi author. As guests wander the rooms of the historic Thorndon site, they will also wade through Mansfield's sensual diary entries and sapphic-coded short stories, encountering a whole new side of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century writer.

"Highlighting this aspect of Katherine Mansfield's identity is something I've been keen to do for many years," KMHG director Cherie Jacobson says. "I'm thrilled to be working with Vixen and Kerry to bring Mansfield's words to life and to celebrate her as a passionate woman determined to live life her own way."

By reimagining Mansfield's works through a contemporary lens, Vixen Temple sheds new light on the author's remarkable life and artistry. "I feel very honoured to portray such a bold historical figure," Vixen Temple says. "As a queer woman myself, I resonate with her writings, both published and private. She was ahead of her time and I just know she will connect with modern audiences in a way you may not expect from a woman of her era."

## Shaka, dude



**Still from *The Jack Tyro Story* by Jonathan Smit.**

Hang loose with Aotearoa Surf Film Festival.

The cinematic celebration that marks the end of summer will carve into Wellington's Penthouse Cinema and Café on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March with a 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary lineup that will leave both kahunas and kooks stoked for next year.

Celebrating the best of surf culture, surf cinema, and our connection with the environment, Aotearoa Surf Film Festival presents a curated selection that showcases 12 international and Kiwi surf shorts, features, and documentaries. The official 2025 programme has been pared down from 52 submissions by a panel of surf industry personalities that includes Craig 'CPL' Levers, Gavin Bisman, Christy Prior, and Amber Jones.

The New Zealand contingent comprises eight epic films. *Catch Now You Have* by Cameron Haylock, *They Call Me Wazza* and *The Jack Tyro Story* by Jonathan Smit, *Solid Axle – An Aotearoa Surf Film* by Kyle Lusher, *Max's Perfect Day* by Josh Kennedy and Angie Gaebler, *Desert Dogs* by George Syme and Tom Butland, *Days Between* by Damon Meade, and *Bad Things Come In Three* by Finlay Woods.

Cresting the local lineup are a handful of international offerings including *Let Me Live* (England) by Keith Malloy, *The Granny Grommets* (Australia) by Leah Rustonjee, *Transports Of Delight 2* (Canada) by Nate Laverty, and *Aldan Okkar Allra* (Iceland) by Steve Wall and Berglind Johannsdottir.

Get caught up in the rip tide of Aotearoa Surf Film Festival.



## Fun, fruity, fabulous



Banana Jolie is a pun-slinging princess of peel who's been electrifying audiences across the Antipodean festival circuit for the past decade.

With her unique blend of witty comedy cabaret, dance, improv, riffing, and high-octane vibes,

she's the complete package, all wrapped up in one neat yellow peel.

'Neath the 'nana skin? One Joana Joy, who I caught up with ahead of her upcoming

appearances at Pōneke's vibrant street festival CubaDupa.

**First and foremost, why Banana?**

I was named Banana Jolie by Miss Friby (Elizabeth Dawson-Smith), who I worked with a lot in Australia. I lived in Melbourne from 2010 to 2021-ish, and she got me into the festival, carnie, vaudeville scene. Her and I did *Australia's Got Talent* together – we were in the final – and she was a solid mentor for a decent time in my life. We still have a great creative partnership. She directed my first one-woman show, and she named me Banana Jolie. Banana rhymes with Joana, and Jolie means pretty, happy. So, pretty banana in French! When she first named me that, I really didn't like it, but I'm embracing it more and more. It's great!

**You're now based in Wellington?**

In 2020 I came here and everything flowed so well that I have done several summers of performing around the North Island, and now I'm based in Te Whanganui-a-Tara. Zooming in from my house in Newtown.

**Ah, over yonder! How does the character Banana Jolie fit into your comedic career trajectory?**

Banana Jolie's probably the thing I've spent the most time in comedically. Sometimes it's the actual name of the character, sometimes it's a Banana Jolie production. If it's anything that's not stand-up comedy, it comes under Banana Jolie. She named me that in, I want to say 2014. I think 2016 was when I first made a fruit hat and started to really embody Banana. I started doing a lot of emceeing, festival gigs, and shows, and using that name in the title. As Banana Jolie, I've got several shows that I've done. *Spiritual Banana*, *Let's Talk About Peelings*, *Banana Jolie's History of Dust and Other Mysteries of the Home*, *Banana Baywatch*, *Changing Lives with Joy* – a street show that I initially did as Joy, a character who's an aerobics instructor and an alter-ego of mine, but now I just call that Banana Jolie doing aerobics. There's been 10 years of me making one-woman shows, and for the last two and a half, I've been mostly doing stand-up comedy. I still have all of these skills in circus and dance and cabaret, so it's really nice to still work in these domains. Which is what I'm doing at CubaDupa!

**Great segue. What does your CubaDupa set look like?**

Great question – I need to have a chat with Imogen [Stone, managing director of COLOSSAL] about that today [laughs]. I know that Banana Jolie will be hosting the Circus Hub Student Showcase on The COLOSSAL Container Stage. Within that I'll be doing some classic stuff, stuff from my street show, which involves the Handstand Walk of Life, and other clowning stuff. Banana Jolie shows, and anytime I'm onstage, I'm very interactive. So, we'll have some kind of activity for people to do together. And then I'm going to be doing Joyrobics, so I'll be in full aerobics getup, roving the site, going up to people, inviting them to participate in spontaneous aerobics sessions – or if people don't feel that energised, we could do motivational quotes with each other [laughs]. I've got funny names for the moves that we learn, like the happy crab, crazy frog, titties in the wind... There's also a dance group that I've choreographed for, who are going to be working with Crash Bandihoot.

I've actually never been to CubaDupa because I've been out of the country for the past two years at Adelaide Fringe, and otherwise not living here or touring in other parts of the country. So, pretty exciting! It feels really cool that this is my first one, and there are a lot of things that I've been involved in for the festival with the arts community here.

**What most excites you about CubaDupa as a first-time audience member and performer?**

I really hope I can get some time to be an audience member [laughs]. I've heard the streets are really alive; people from all walks of life just come together for these community events. I love site-specific work and am really excited by the crossover of different artforms. That's what excites me: a real sense of the city being alive, people enjoying culture and participating. As a performer, festivals invite a level of openness for participation. Crowds just have more openness and a higher level of generosity. A willingness to have this reciprocal energy exchange.

**A lot of your shows explore aspects of the human condition – like peelings/feelings! Why do you think comedy and Banana Jolie serve as such great gateways for accessing these big topics?**

It's interesting: I've been making more stand-up as myself because I've been feeling less like I need to have a character. But with the things I've been making lately as Banana Jolie, it helps me to explore the human experience because I can say things that are even more challenging, potentially, than what I might say as myself. I have this great jazz-singing shark character called Jaws Jolie. I'm wearing a shark mask, my face is poking through this head – I'm a shark, I'm not from here! I can say things I might not necessarily say, or things that I feel might need a bit more fluff or gentleness to get there for where I'm at in my career.

Banana Jolie is fruity, high-energy, ridiculously confident a lot of the time. Something people say is that watching those shows helps them feel bigger – like they can be like that too.

In terms of comedy – and this is part of the reason I'm moving more into stand-up – I see it as a great medium for helping us be comfortable with potentially uncomfortable things. As well as, I love experiences of collective effervescence: this feeling that we're all part of something. More and more, I'm just trying to say what is true, and what is real – to recognise how funny that is. And play! I'm a huge fan of it. That's why I do comedy.

**What words does Banana live by?**

If I was to answer that as Banana, I would say 'You can read about the words I live by in my book, *Calming Your Tit. But Leave the Other Tit, Because That's the Party Tit*. Or, you can try listening to my podcast, *Does it Hurt When You do That? Don't Do That.*'

**Photo by Angel Leggas of 3 Fates Media.**



**SAT 29 - SUN 30  
MARCH 2025**

Where Creativity and Celebration Collide.

visit [cubadupa.co.nz](http://cubadupa.co.nz) for more info

[Back to contents](#)





**Wellington**

Thu, 27 Mar, 6.30pm  
Michael Fowler Centre

**Christchurch**

Sat, 29 Mar, 7.30pm  
Christchurch Town Hall



New Zealand  
Symphony  
Orchestra

Te Tira Pūoro  
o Aotearoa

# PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

**AN EVENING OF VIVID PAINTINGS IN SOUND**

**Gemma New** Conductor

**Emily Beynon** Flute

**Gareth Farr** *From the Depths Sound the Great Sea Gongs:*  
*Part 1 – The Invocation of the Sea*

**Guillaume Connesson** *Danses Concertantes* Concerto No. 2  
for Flute and Orchestra (WORLD PREMIERE)

**Mussorgsky orch. Ravel** *Pictures at an Exhibition*

SUPPORTED BY



Ministry  
for Culture  
& Heritage

Absolutely Positively  
**Wellington** City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

**NZSO** THE NZSO  
FOUNDATION

TICKETS FROM \$25

BOOK AT **nzso.co.nz**



# Taranaki

## Cosy sophistication



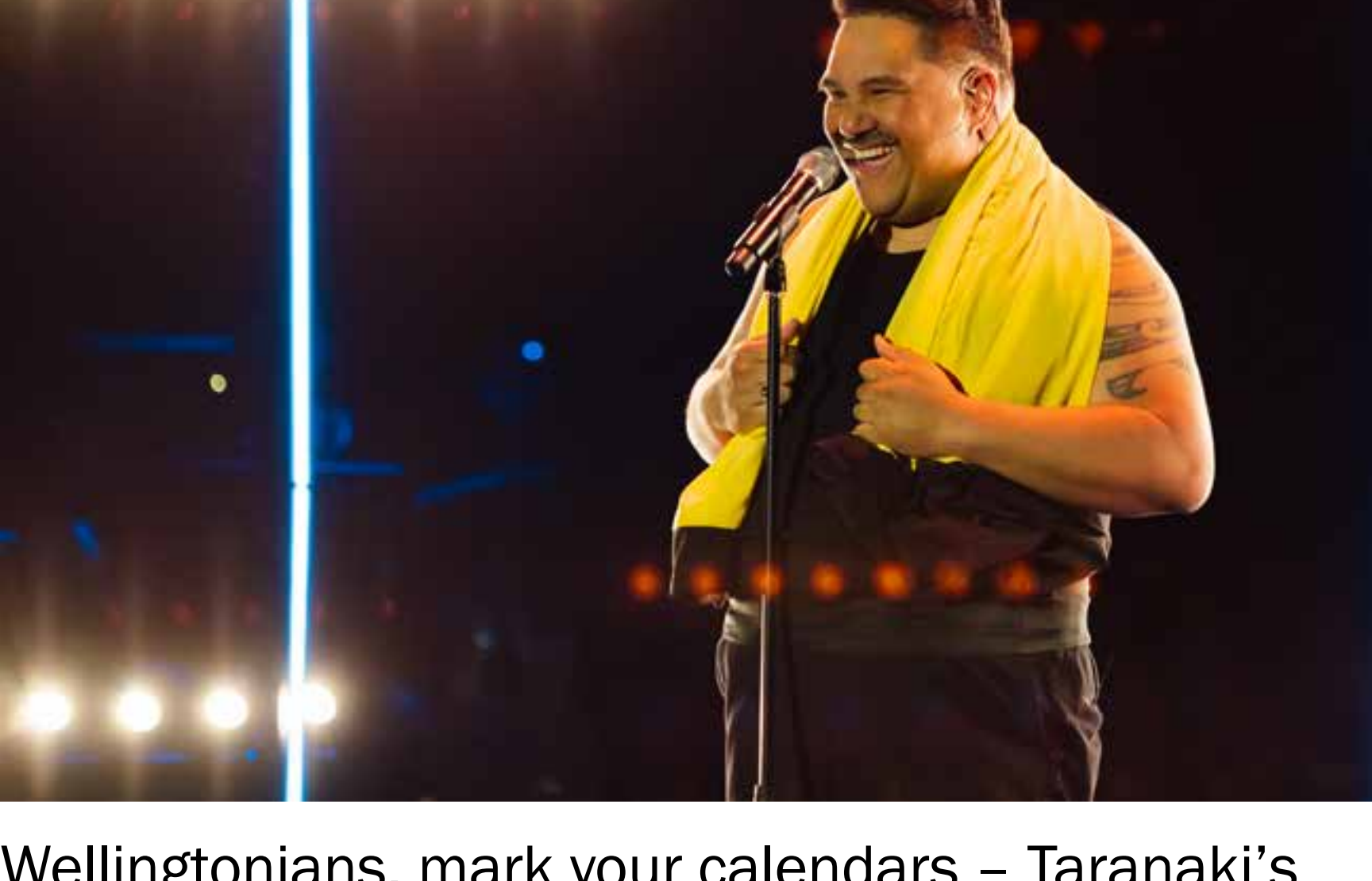
Dine in tune with the seasons at Quail’s Nest Eatery. Tucked away within the One Burgess Hill estate just outside New Plymouth, this breakfast, lunch, and dinner venue is where modern dining and Mother Nature converge.

Quail’s Nest Eatery is perched overlooking the Waiwhakaiho River valley. Featuring views for miles, seamless indoor-outdoor flow, and a relaxed vibrancy, the restaurant is overflowing with ambiance. Plush outdoor seating and a 100-square-metre covered deck overlooking the natural paradise surrounding the estate make Quail’s Nest Eatery the ideal spot to have a glass of wine while mulling over the sunset, a midday treat in the cool shade, or a hearty breakfast to get you going. You can even bask in the sun on the manicured lawn with a cocktail and play games with friends, whānau, or perfect strangers.

The ever-changing menu is crafted with seasonal produce, infused with a hearty drop of Taranaki flair, and made from locally sourced ingredients grown right here in the fertile Aotearoa soil. The menus include a wide selection of gluten-free, vegan, and vegetarian options, making Quail’s Nest Eatery accessible to all palates. Peruse the sassy wine list and zestful drinks menu to find the perfect beverage to complement your meal.

Dishes range from small to large, with share plates and platters suited for the corporate traveller, brunch with the crew, or a bigger function too. For the epitome of cosy sophistication, settle into Quail’s Nest Eatery.

## A must-see winter escape



Wellingtonians, mark your calendars – Taranaki’s most dazzling winter festival is returning! The Right Royal Cabaret Festival is set to electrify New Plymouth from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, bringing with it four days of world-class performances, laughter, music, and sheer spectacle.

Leading the charge is the festival’s hero show *Be Like Billy?*, a must-see theatrical tribute to New Zealand’s most iconic comedian, Billy T James. Proudly sponsored by Connect Legal Taranaki, this dynamic production stars award-winning entertainer Rutene Spooner, who takes audiences on a personal, heartwarming journey through his lifelong admiration for the man who redefined Kiwi comedy.

With all-star showband The Tekira Mutton Birds, *Be Like Billy?* is a lively mix of original waiata, nostalgic classics, and garage party anthems. This thought-provoking, deeply entertaining exploration of Billy T’s legacy asks whether we can truly embody the essence of the legendary comic without becoming the punchline ourselves. Critics are already calling it a “true taonga of Aotearoa’s theatre history”.

And that’s just the beginning. With a stacked festival programme soon to be revealed, the Right Royal Cabaret Festival promises to be the ultimate excuse for a midwinter getaway. Expect sultry cabaret, boundary-pushing theatre, riotous comedy, and soul-stirring musical performances.

So, why stay home this June? Pack your bags, head to New Plymouth, and prepare to be dazzled! Find out more at [www.rightroyal.co.nz](http://www.rightroyal.co.nz)

**TARANAKI WARS APP**

Heritage Taranaki has brought Taranaki’s troubled history to life with a free app for both Android and Apple smartphone and tablet users wanting to tour battle sites of the Taranaki Wars.

[www.heritagetaranaki.com](http://www.heritagetaranaki.com)

find the app on

[play.google.com](http://play.google.com) [app.store](http://app.store)

A stunning facility purposely built for the preservation and display of a private collection of Australian Holden cars and memorabilia.

The cars range from well preserved early models, meticulously restored models through to late model new cars.

**Café and Mini Putt on site.**

06 755 0044 | 683 Egmont Road, New Plymouth  
[www.hillsboroughholdenmuseum.co.nz](http://www.hillsboroughholdenmuseum.co.nz)

**A Perfect Coastal Getaway in Taranaki**  
Enjoy camping options for all budgets, from powered sites to cozy cabins all year round!

06 752 3838 | [urenuibeach.nz](http://urenuibeach.nz)  
148 Urenui Beach Road, Urenui

**RUTENE SPOONER'S BE LIKE BILLY?**

Thurs 12 June, 7.30pm  
TSB Theatre, TSB Showplace  
New Plymouth

[rightroyal.co.nz](http://rightroyal.co.nz)

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Discover the Mill House Country Retreat – Historical Haven in rural Pohokura, 50kms east of Stratford & just 15 minutes from Whangamomona.

Enjoy tranquility with a touch of luxury to explore the famous Forgotten World Highway!

[millhousevilla.com](http://millhousevilla.com)

After a lunch, dinner, catch up, or event that brings an extra sparkle? Just 5 minutes out of New Plymouth?

Perch yourself over the Waiwhakaiho river and enjoy the deliciousness of our cuisine, quenching beverages & Mother Nature.

**quail's nest eatery**

[www.oneburgesshill.co.nz/eatery](http://www.oneburgesshill.co.nz/eatery) | p. 06 769 6911



# Taranaki

## Hoppy days



If weekend beers sound like a bit of you, then come over to the sunniest region of New Zealand for the Taranaki Beer Festival on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May.

The Taranaki Beer Festival will showcase craft beers, ciders, and seltzers from breweries all around New Zealand, as well as the best of the best in Taranaki. Sample drinks from the big guns of the beer brewing community such as Fortune Favours and Garage Project, ParrotDog and Panhead. For cocktails and seltzer try Alchemist Mixology and Dirty Water, or even Zoa Vodka and Known Unknown Winery of Ngāmotu if brews aren't your style. Sip Lads Brewing Company or Roots Brewing if you want a taste of Whanganui, try Duncan's Brewing from Paraparaumu for something crafted closer to home, sample Brewaucracy from Hamilton for a taste of Waikato. If you're looking for some of Taranaki's own local favourites, stop off at Three Sisters Brewery, Forgotten 43 Brewing, Shining Peak Brewing, Mike's Brewery, and more! Whichever flavour you're fiending, you'll have 50 fine establishments to sip and savour from.

The festival is excited to announce that "all beer, cider, seltzer, and cocktails will be served in the official Taranaki Beer Festival cup", so you'll have a souvenir to remember your weekend at the festival. Expect live music, indoor stands, a food village, mingle areas, entertainment, games, and live music from local legends and Aotearoa artists from across the motu. If the fun gets to be a bit much, the festival even offers a safe zone, so you can rest up before heading out for more.

From well-known favourites to up-and-coming crafters, there is a brew for every tastebud at the Taranaki Beer Festival.

PARK. MEET. SHOP. EAT.

**CENTRE CITY**

**Your destination for fashion, lifestyle, and beauty.**

Centre City is home to over 50 specialty and big-brand stores, Taranaki's only indoor food court, and convenient 24/7 parking in the CBD, making it your go-to destination for all things **fashion, lifestyle, and beauty.**

**Shop the Centre when you visit New Plymouth.**

**centre-city.co.nz**  
11 Gill St, New Plymouth, Taranaki

Don't miss out on any of our promotions, events and offers.

**Pukekura MOTOR LODGE**

Your urban accommodation in the heart of New Plymouth

**0800 785 358**  
141 Coronation Avenue, New Plymouth  
[www.pukekuramotorlodge.co.nz](http://www.pukekuramotorlodge.co.nz)

**CLADY'S CHARTERS**

Award-winning New Plymouth tourism business who take care of the community & environment!

Wildlife Island Boat Tours  
Paddle Board Hire | Kayak & Bike Hire

**BOOK YOUR ADVENTURES 06 758 9133**  
[www.chaddyscharters.co.nz](http://www.chaddyscharters.co.nz)  
39 Ocean View Parade, New Plymouth

**elixir cafe**

With a warm and inviting setting, come and experience New Plymouth's #1 café

**OPEN 7 DAYS**  
06 769 9020  
[www.elixircafe.co.nz](http://www.elixircafe.co.nz)  
117 Devon Street East, New Plymouth

Proudly serving diners great food & coffee since 2019

**elixir west**  
café & catering

**OPEN 7 DAYS | 06 757 2340**  
[www.elixircafe.co.nz/elixirwest](http://www.elixircafe.co.nz/elixirwest)  
281 Devon Street West, New Plymouth

**Silverleigh ALPACAS**

Family fun at Taranaki's most loved alpaca farm. Feed the alpacas & bring home high-quality alpaca products from our on-farm shop!

**Open Wed-Sun 10am-2pm**  
156 Waitara Road, Waitara  
Phone 027 422 2672

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

**16 & 17 MAY 2025**  
TSB STADIUM - NEW PLYMOUTH

**eventfinda**

**TARANAKI BEER FESTIVAL - CRAFT BEER**

[taranakibeerfestival.co.nz](http://taranakibeerfestival.co.nz)



## Making mayhem



From the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, all of Stratford's a stage as the annual Shakespeare Festival makes haste to Taranaki with riotous reimaginings, raunchy romps, revered renditions, and raucous revelry in tow.

Opening the festivities on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April at the Percy Thomson Gallery is Vernacularly Shakespeare, a public talk from Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand CEO Dawn Sanders ONZM QSM exploring the language elements of the Bard's work. Following the discussion is *Eternal Women*, a small performance staged by local volunteers.

Acclaimed theatre-maker Penny Ashton storms the King's Theatre on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April with *Olive Copperbottom*, which brings the Dickensian world of orphaned hero Olive to life in song and dance with a saucy feminine twist. Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* creates a fun-filled comedic detour in this side-splitting show.

A highlight of last festival returns on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Baldrick's Big Day Out Medieval Festival and the ShakesBeer Garden bring the dark ages to present-day Aotearoa New Zealand at the Stratford Racecourse. For one day only, festivalgoers can step back in time to enjoy battles, horse displays, music, dancing, food, and all the fun of a medieval fair.

Enjoy an enchanting afternoon of Indonesian puppetry at the King's Theatre on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. Set against a backdrop of stunning visuals and epic narratives, Gamelan fuses music and movement to bring characters to life in an immersive performance.

The 8<sup>th</sup> of April sees Ugly Shakespeare Company take over King's Theatre with a high-speed, irreverent production of one of the Bard's most popular works, providing newbies with the perfect introduction to Shakespeare. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, King's Theatre will host a convergence of Taranaki's secondary schools as they compete in the SGCNZ Shakespeare Competition national qualifier round for their region.

The Barden Party returns with their signature chaos and charm to deliver a brooding and twisted rendition of *Macbeth* infused with bluegrass music and dark humour. Bring your picnic blanket to King Edward Park on the 11<sup>th</sup> for a murder served cold.

Music, Murder & Mayhem runs amuck in the Pioneer Village on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April as musicians aplenty fill the historic village with song and dance. Elizabethan-era band The Madrigal Companie, acoustic duo Mason Brothers, and sweet country singer-songwriter Liana Heart join the day's lineup before The Barden Party takes over the village green with their wicked *Macbeth*. Add delicious treats, train rides to boot, and beer in the barn and you'll be making a merry feast!

While in Stratford for the festivities, don't forget to try the nationally and internationally awarded whisky and gin from Fenton Street Arts Collective and Distillery. They use organically grown barley for their whisky, power from solar panels to ferment and distil, and recycled glass to make their Long Island bottles.

## STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL 2025

APRIL 2-12



**macbeth**  
Fri 11<sup>th</sup>, 7pm (KING EDWARD PARK)  
Sat 12<sup>th</sup>, 6pm (PIONEER VILLAGE)

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10.30am (PERCY THOMSON GALLERY)  
**DAWN SANDERS - VERNACULARLY SHAKESPEARE**

Fri 4<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm (KING'S THEATRE)  
**PENNY ASHTON - OLIVE COPPERBOTTOM**



**OLIVE COPPERBOTTOM**  
Fri 4<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm (KING'S THEATRE) (\$20)



Sat 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am (STRATFORD RACECOURSE)  
**BALDRICK'S BIG DAY OUT**



**GAMELAN AT THE KING'S THEATRE**  
Sun 6<sup>th</sup>, 2pm (KING'S THEATRE) (\$10)

Sun 6<sup>th</sup>, 2pm (KING'S THEATRE)  
**GAMELAN AT THE KING'S THEATRE**

Tue 8<sup>th</sup>, 5.30pm (KING'S THEATRE)  
**SGCNZ SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**

Wed 9<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am (KING'S THEATRE)  
**UGLY SHAKESPEARE - HAMLET**

Fri 11<sup>th</sup>, 7pm (KING EDWARD PARK)  
**THE BARDEN PARTY - MACBETH**

Sat 12<sup>th</sup>, 3pm (PIONEER VILLAGE)  
**MUSIC, MURDER & MAYHEM**

www.stratfordshakespearefestnz.co.nz

[f](#) Stratford Shakespeare Trust

[f](#) Baldrick's Big Day Out



Nationally and internationally awarded whisky



[Back to contents](#)




# Buy, build, renovate

## A fresh coat



Paradise Painting Services go above and beyond for their clients. No matter whether your project is big or small, commercial or residential, quick and easy or finicky and detailed, director and owner Marc Warterworth and his team of 20 will provide a reliable, top-shelf service.

Serving all Wellington suburbs, they are backed by 30 years of experience. Whether they're painting the entire exterior of your home or just one room, they'll complete all preparation work. The same goes for roofs. They follow a process of inspecting your roof for damage, mould, and moss, applying a sealer and base coats to ensure it's watertight, and finally, painting it using only the highest-quality products from brands. They are Dulux Accredited with wins from both the Master Painter's Awards and Wellington Regional Business Excellence Awards under their belts.

For all projects, Paradise Painting Services offer a warranty of up to 24 months (double the standard) and a free quote, which you'll receive within two days of them reviewing your job. Don't be afraid to inquire about any other work you need done, as the team are also adept at waterblasting, gib-board installation, gib-stopping, plaster skimming, staining and varnishing, paint stripping, and wallpaper hanging.

On New Zealand rating website NoCowboys, Paradise Painting Services currently have a 97 percent approval rating. Most reviews make note of the incredibly friendly and dedicated service and the high standard the team reach for.

## Anything and everything



Whether your fuses have blown or you're in the market for a new water pump, you need to rewire the house or test and tag your appliances, CMC Electrical provides wraparound electrical services across Wellington, the Hutt Valley, and South Wairarapa.

Craig August established CMC Electrical in 1998 with local electricians and quickly became the sole owner only a few years later. The master electrician has grown the business over the last 25 years, taking it from strength to strength while building up an excellent reputation. The CMC Electrical team now comprises a staff of nine professionals known for their dependability, flexibility, and accuracy.

Known also for their versatility and skill, the CMC Electrical team offer comprehensive electrical services across residential and commercial spaces. From small jobs to largescale projects, emergency callouts to informational phone calls, they're available for any job that comes their way, including residential renovations, electrical repairs, installation work, commercial maintenance, pump and wastewater solutions, home upgrades, and so much more.


As IQP qualified master electricians, CMC electricians think creatively to find a solution to whatever issue you may be facing and can often identify problems others may have missed thanks to their extensive experience. What's more, they always keep their finger on the electrical pulse of new technologies and breakthroughs in the field to provide the highest level of client satisfaction.



**Ask about Venetian Plaster**  
We create modern interiors and flawlessly turn the old into new!

- New Builds
- Renovations
- Skim Coat
- Gib Cove Installation
- Square Stopping
- Cornice & Fibrous Plaster

Call Tim 027 452 9649 | [tim@trplastering.co.nz](mailto:tim@trplastering.co.nz)  
[www.trplastering.co.nz](http://www.trplastering.co.nz)



**NEW BUILDING & RESTORATION - BRICK, BLOCK AND STONE**  
**NICOLAS PIVETEAU**  
**LE MAÇON**  
Artisan Stonemason  
[www.macon.nz](http://www.macon.nz)  
Now taking bookings for 2025  
Enquiries: 021 562 114

**Need Mortgage Advice? Talk to Donna Marks.**  
Buying your first home, upgrading, downsizing or considering an investment property?  
Call me today, to find out how I can help you.



**Donna Marks** 027 330 6623  
Mortgage Adviser donna@mx.co.nz  
*"Working for you, to help you get the advice you need, to achieve your goals."*  
Donna Marks gives financial advice through SMX Financial Solutions Limited that trades as Mortgage Express.  
[donnamortgageadviser.co.nz](http://donnamortgageadviser.co.nz) 

**FOR SALE!** **CROWS NEST ACCOMMODATION**  
CENTRAL OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND  
**ACCOMMODATION CATERING FOR ALL TASTES**



The bunkhouse can accommodate 13 people. Excellent kitchen, dining and lounging facilities.  
Two cabins ("Jack" and "Jill") that are set up with a queen bed in each and are completely self-contained.  
The "Transporter". A fully self-contained ex-race car transporter that can accommodate 5, attached to a large semi-covered deck.  
Powered sites for up to 8 caravans/motorhomes

 **FOR SALE! Price by negotiation. Call Bill 021 366 012**  
Home and business right on the Otago rail trail  
Buy and enjoy a new lifestyle in the South Island

3365 Ida Valley-Omakau Rd, Otarehua 9389, Central Otago  
M: 021-366 012 E: [crowsnestnz@gmail.com](mailto:crowsnestnz@gmail.com) | [www.crowsnestotago.co.nz](http://www.crowsnestotago.co.nz)





**Rated 97% by NoCowboys**  
**Free quotes within 2 days of reviewing the project**  
**30 years experience**  
**All work guaranteed**

We are happy to quote on all sized residential & commercial projects within the Wellington region.

We offer:

- Excellent & friendly service
- A large team of 20 people
- Value for money with projects finished to a high standard
- References from clients, if required



**Paradise Painting Services Ltd**  
**04 380 6377 | 021 393 772**  
**[www.paradisepaintingservices.co.nz](http://www.paradisepaintingservices.co.nz)**



# Buy, build, renovate



**sentinel**  
HOMES



VISIT OUR SHOW HOME IN  
*Wellington (Whitby)*

Since we first started, we've been focused on doing more than just creating beautiful houses – we want to help build a better New Zealand.

Sentinel Homes have a reputation for designing and building quality homes that are built to last. The Master Builders House of the Year awards are proof that when it comes to quality, we stand out from the crowd.



Let's get together for a free, no-pressure meeting with one of our team, at your place or ours. We can't wait to hear your ideas! Call 0800 456 321

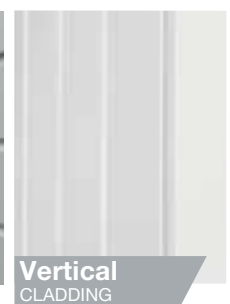
[www.sentinelhomes.co.nz](http://www.sentinelhomes.co.nz)



**A-align® by Claymark aligns natural sustainable timber to modern design needs – combining striking good looks with guaranteed high performance.**



Available in a range of cladding styles, **A-align®** by Claymark is a premium precision-cut timber weatherboard cladding solution. Designed to help builders install solid timber weatherboard cladding to the highest traditional craft standards, quickly and easily, the system comes pre-primed and undercoated to achieve significant time saving benefits.



- » Premium Cladding Solution
- » Primed and Undercoated
- » Fast Install & Less Waste
- » **BRANZ** Impact Tested
- » **BRANZ** Appraised
- » **NZBC** Compliant





# Buy, build, renovate

## Best of the best



If you've ever stopped to appreciate the pine weatherboard cladding on a Kiwi home, there's a good chance Claymark had something to do with it. Claymark is New Zealand's largest manufacturer and exporter of premium pine products, defined by consistency, precision, and a commitment to quality. Whether you're an architect, designer, builder, or homeowner, Claymark has all the pine cladding solutions you need. Garrison, researched and developed by Claymark, is the most advanced weatherboard system in New Zealand. It uses the latest technology to ensure an environmentally friendly production process and a superior finish that will weather our conditions. Plus, as a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified company, Claymark only sources trees from renewable resources.

For a superior precision-cut, full-component architectural cladding solution that allows builders to install weatherboards easily and quickly, consider choosing Claymark's A-align range. These quality boards look fantastic on classic and contemporary homes alike, providing both protection and kerb appeal. A-align is available in traditional horizontal rusticated and bevelback options as well as multiple vertical profile options, ensuring you can achieve the look you had in mind for your home. Treated to withstand termites, borers, and rot, and with a stringent BRANZ appraisal, the A-align range comes with a 15-year warranty.

Quality is paramount in everything Claymark manufactures. Find out more at [www.claymark.co.nz](http://www.claymark.co.nz)

## Up and away



Advance Scaffold has been a trusted name in the scaffolding industry for over 20 years, with its Wellington branch proudly serving the Lower North Island since 2014. What began as a small sales operation in a Seaview storage facility has grown into one of the region's most reliable and respected scaffolding companies.

At the helm is newly appointed manager Michael, who has over a decade of industry experience. His leadership ensures that every project is executed with precision and expertise. Over the years, Advance Scaffold Wellington has significantly expanded its services to offer a comprehensive range of scaffolding solutions, including mobile towers and static scaffolds. The experienced team is ready to safely install or supply scaffolding throughout Greater Wellington, confidently tackling any project.

Whether your project is large or small, Advance Scaffold has the right tools and expertise to get the job done efficiently and safely. From new builds and extensions to renovations, shrink-wraps, repaints, re-roofs, double glazing, and internal scaffolding, there's no project too complex for the skilled team. Advance Scaffold also offers flexible hire options, including aluminium and fibreglass mobile scaffolds, as well as access and stair towers. If hiring isn't an option, they can assist with purchasing scaffolding equipment to meet your needs. In addition, the team provides free site assessments and quotes, so get in touch with Advance Scaffold today to get started on your next project.

**Just Blinds**  
*Custom made Wellington Blinds*

**We are moving to Lower Hutt!**

Exciting new fabrics • Wide range of blinds • Colour consultancy • Installation • Repairs • 3 year guarantee  
**Showroom: 405 Hutt Road, Alicetown**  
 Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm  
[sales@justblinds.co.nz](mailto:sales@justblinds.co.nz) | Tel 04 472 9920 | [www.justblinds.co.nz](http://www.justblinds.co.nz)

**FREE measure and quote!**

New Wellington agent for Santea by Shutter

**NZ Rangehood Installers Ltd**

HAVE YOU EVER HAD THE UNFORTUNATE TASK OF CLEANING A KITCHEN THAT DOESN'T HAVE A RANGEHOOD?

Then you'll know just how much grease and grime can accumulate on the walls, cabinets, and bench tops, and how frustratingly difficult it is to remove! Let NZ Rangehood Installers help you out today.

0800 080 224

[www.rangehoodinstallers.co.nz](http://www.rangehoodinstallers.co.nz)

**ADVANCE**  
**SCAFFOLD**

**Advance Scaffold: Your experts in scaffolding and height access. We provide reliable scaffolding solutions to help you get your project off the ground—no matter the size.**

**Call us today for a no-obligation, free quote!**

**Unit 3 29 Parkway Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt**  
**Contact Michael: 027 825 5263**  
[michael@advancescaffold.co.nz](mailto:michael@advancescaffold.co.nz)  
[www.advancescaffold.co.nz](http://www.advancescaffold.co.nz)



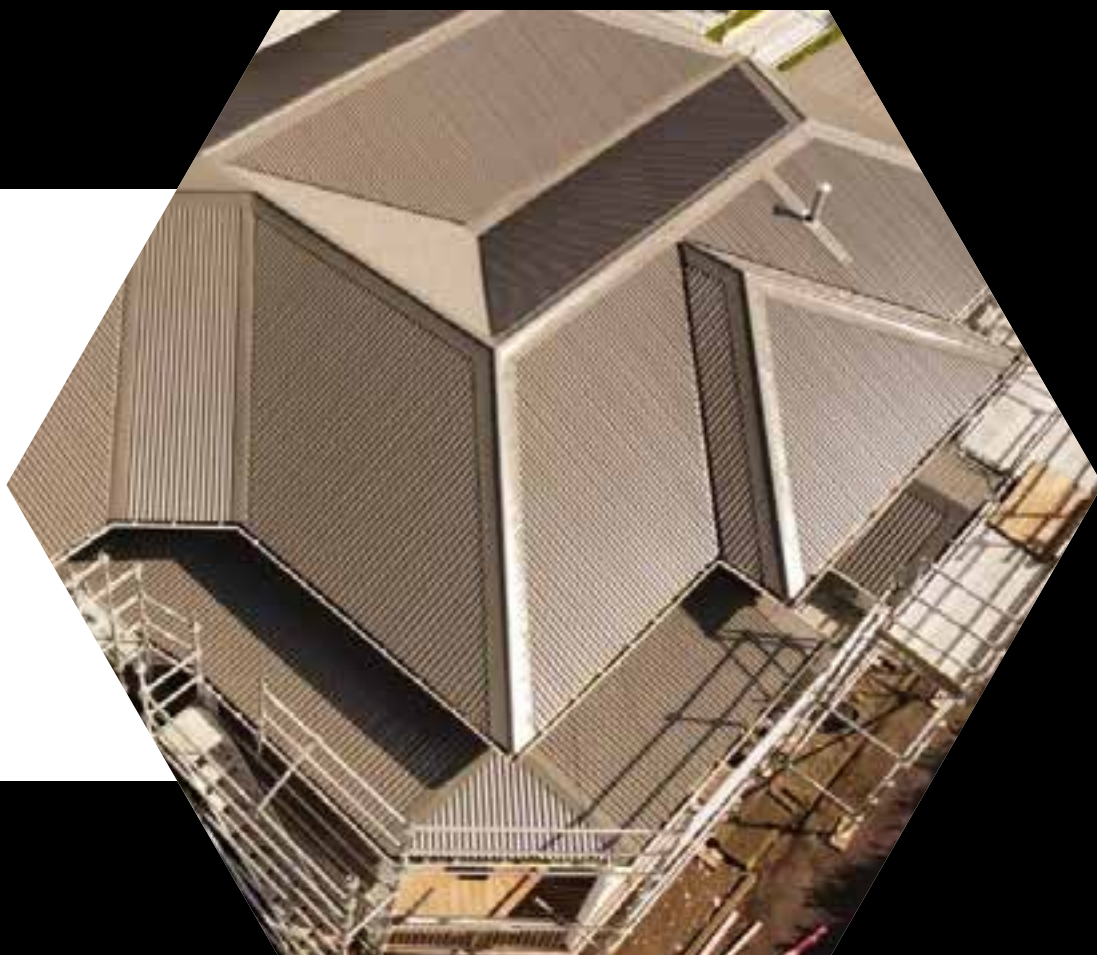


# WALLACE ROOFING

**Family owned experienced  
roofing contractors covering  
the Manawatu, Whanganui  
& Wellington area.**

## OUR SERVICES

- New roofs
- Re-roofs
- Pre-purchase Inspections
- Continuous Spouting
- Repairs & Maintenance



**0800 566 138**



**admin@wallaceroofing.co.nz**



**www.wallaceroofing.co.nz**



# Buy, build, renovate

## Exceeding expectations



Your roof sits like a crown atop your home, protecting you from the elements and keeping your home – and what's inside – safe and sound. Whether you're in need of a new roof or you're hoping to spruce up and repair your current one, Wallace Roofing is a family-owned and operated business that can help you protect what matters most.

Rob has been in the roofing industry for over 15 years. Starting from scratch, he worked his way up to managing other company's roofing services before finally deciding to go out on his own and establish Wallace Roofing. Striving to create a business that his own family could be proud of, Rob is dedicated to providing the highest quality work and excellent customer service. Working with his team ensures an easy and enjoyable experience.

With over 50 years of combined experience, there is almost nothing the team can't do. From new roofing on a new build to re-roofing your heritage building, transforming your home with a stylish louvre roof to fixing up the existing spouting on the family home, Wallace Roofing ensures every project will be completed on time, within budget, and to your satisfaction, no matter how big or small of a project you have on your hands. With pre-purchase inspection and maintenance services available too, Rob and his team offer the complete roofing package.

Connect with Rob at Wallace Roofing for a service that exceeds expectations.

## Keep winter out



Did you know that one of the biggest factors of heat loss in your home is warmth escaping through your windows and doors? Winter is just around the corner, so before the cold sets in and those energy bills start to climb, make sure yours are in tip-top shape.

Exceed understands that your windows and doors are the gateway to your home and, unfortunately, they do wear out.

They specialise in the repair, maintenance, and security of your windows, doors, and joinery, offering the installation of condensation channels and drainage, the assessment and remedy of leaks and re-glazing, and the replacement of damaged aluminium, faulty or broken locks, rotten timber liners, and worn, stretched, or broken hinges.

Led by Craig and Selena Burrows in Wellington and Kapiti, the Exceed team has the practical skills and the logical know-how for all your window repairs and security needs. They stand behind their workmanship 100 percent, so wherever you are in the region, you can expect expert service and quality work on time, every time.

The more draught-proof your home, the less you'll have to run the heater to stave off winter's chill. By investing in your windows and doors now, you'll reap the rewards in the future – namely, by reducing your power bills and even your carbon footprint.

Keep the cold out and the heat in by arranging a no-obligation home assessment with Exceed today.





# Buy, build, renovate

## Keep cosy



The benefits of double glazing are invaluable, especially during the winter months. Specifically designed to reduce heat loss from houses and block cold draughts, they also control condensation, reduce noise, and increase both privacy and security. Make the change this winter through R & B Glass & Glazing and you'll notice a difference in your home and in your power bill.

As a company that has specialised in retrofitting double-glazed panes to timber and aluminium frames for over a decade, R & B Glass & Glazing can be trusted to install better windows without compromising the character of your home. The team use the existing joinery or framing so the look of your colonial bars, double hung, or wooden sashed windows can be retained. You don't have to sacrifice kerb appeal for comfort!

The friendly, reliable, and highly skilled R & B team specialise in all things glass, including the design and installation of made-to-measure splashbacks, frameless mirrors, glass showers and tabletops, shelving, and bath screens. Even if you just need some everyday repairs done, they can help with glazing and glass repair and other regular maintenance such as re-putty work on timber joinery and re-rubber work on aluminium joinery.

Great in the summertime as well, double glazing can also maintain cool temperatures indoors while preventing UV rays from overheating your house. Why be too hot or too cold in your own home? Hire R & B Glass & Glazing this winter and you'll stay comfortable the whole year through.

## Peak performance



The front door is the gateway into your home or business – make a good first impression by engaging Prime Doors for five-star repair and installation services.

Prime Doors are your local Wellington experts with a wealth of know-how and experience under their belts in residential, commercial, and industrial projects. They cover an expansive area across the region, including Porirua, the Hutt Valley, and the Kapiti Coast.

The Prime Doors team prioritise affordability and reliability without compromising on quality, making them the ultimate door supplier. Delivering a professional service with every project, the company name is synonymous with peace of mind and a job well done. Garage doors, door automation or insulation, gates, roller doors, and digital locks are just the tip of the iceberg of all the services they offer.

If you're in the market for a new system, this is your one-stop shop. Prime Doors can help you find the perfect solution for your home or business based on your individual needs. Sectional doors are customisable, insulated, and stylish. Tilt doors come in many styles and colours and are great for spaces with low headroom. Made from New Zealand steel, roller doors can be motorised and come in a wide range of colours.

Prime Doors are available 24/7 for any emergency repair needs. Their quality technicians provide comprehensive solutions when you need them most. Schedule a Prime Doors maintenance callout to ensure your garage or door is in peak performance.

**RETRO DOUBLE GLAZING SPECIALISTS**

Double Glaze your existing single glazed timber and aluminium windows retaining the original look.

**DO ONE ROOM OR THE WHOLE HOUSE**

- Broken Windows
- Frameless Showers
- Mirrors

- Window + Door Maintenance
- Table-Tops

- Splash-Backs
- Pet doors

*Call today for a free onsite assessment and quotation!*

Phone: 04 934 0948   Jordan: 021 243 5223  
Email: sales@rbglass.co.nz   51A Victoria Street, Petone 5012

**R & B GLASS & GLAZING LTD**

**DOES YOUR TV RECEPTION GIVE YOU A HEADACHE?**

Get your TV reception problems fixed by our experts to ensure you have the best possible picture available using our professional test equipment.

- WE COVER THE GREATER WELLINGTON AREA**  
Wellington, Porirua, Hutt Valley and Kapiti areas. We have over 10 vans on the road.
- FREEVIEW DIGITAL/SATELLITE TV**  
We can provide you with local and around the world television and radio stations with no monthly charges.
- TV WALL MOUNTING AND SET UP**  
Not only do we provide a full warranty, but we also guarantee that you will be satisfied with the results!

PHONE 499 5353 **AERIAL MASTER**

www.aerialmasterwellington.co.nz

We have moved to Lower Hutt!

**Double glazing powered by uPVC joinery**  
 Free measure and quote! 04 974 8930  
[www.ecowindows.nz](http://www.ecowindows.nz) | Showroom at 405 Hutt Road, Alicetown

**LOU MACDONALD**  
 A TEAM REAL ESTATE  
THE WHOLE STANDARD IN REAL ESTATE

“Absolutely first class!”

- Rate my Agent Verified Review

**Awarded No.1 Residential team, Bayleys Wellington 2023-2024**

If you are looking to buy or sell real estate, Lou and her team would love to guide and support you through the entire process.

Receive a free market appraisal, a comprehensive report on past and present property prices in your local area, and expert advice on preparing your home for sale.

**Call Lou any time**  
 027 645 9170

**Lou Macdonald (LLB)**  
[lou.macdonald@bayleys.co.nz](mailto:lou.macdonald@bayleys.co.nz)

**Residential Range** At Prime Doors we strive to be your ultimate Door Supplier.

**Repairs 24/7** Prime Doors is a garage door service provider that provides comprehensive solutions for all your repair, installation, and maintenance needs.

**We specialise in:**  
*Sectional Garage Doors*  
*Tilt Doors*  
*Roller Doors*  
*Garage Door Automation*

4/253 Riddiford Street, Newtown, Wellington (By Appointments Only)  
 Phone: 027 270 0166 | Email: [office@primedoors.co.nz](mailto:office@primedoors.co.nz) | [www.primedoors.co.nz](http://www.primedoors.co.nz)



# Buy, build, renovate

## Nip it in the bud



Internal gutters were a popular aesthetic choice between the 1980s and 2000s. They were designed to hide the spouting on a property behind a metal fascia to create a clean visual line on the home's exterior. Unfortunately, the system comes with some design flaws that can, in certain circumstances, lead to water leaking into the house.

Gutterite, a partner company to Texturite, is located along the Kapiti Coast and offers a dedicated team of professionals across Wellington that can help you replace old internal gutters with a new spouting system. Knowledgeable and with years of experience under their toolbelts, the friendly and efficient team will ensure any job gets completed on time and within budget.

Replacing leaking and broken guttering is a specialised project and should never be ignored. A new fascia and gutter system eliminates the risk of further leaks developing while reducing maintenance costs in the long run. With a whole new system, you can have peace of mind.

Internal gutter systems will always be flagged by a building inspector when they are evaluating the condition of your home due to their known risks. A new, external system will reduce the risk of putting off potential buyers and could even enhance the kerb appeal of your home, making your property value increase.

Get your guttering sorted now before it becomes a problem by popping in touch with Gutterite for a free quote.

## Refresh your home



The new year has arrived, and with it new aspirations and intentions. Dream big in 2025 and give your home a makeover with Texturite. Whether you're thinking of refreshing your family home, or you're in the market for a new build, the professional team can help you achieve the finish you've always dreamed of.

Based in Kapiti and servicing Greater Wellington, Texturite is family owned and operated and specialises in solid plastering and cladding systems for new home builds and home remodelling. Plus, they also perform repairs on existing monolithic cladding. Helmed by managing director Steve Mackfall, the team are dedicated to providing superior service and making the process as straightforward as possible. They have a wealth of knowledge under their toolbelts, maintain an open line of communication throughout the project, and always keep their finger on the pulse of new technology and information.

The Texturite team are always happy to offer advice or provide a breakdown of their services. From plastering and cladding to repairs and repaints, they can make your home look great while ensuring it's protected from weather and the elements.

In fact, this is the best time of year to get your home sorted before the cooler temperatures and wetter days arrive. Give your home the facelift it deserves and keep your largest asset protected this year. Get in touch to organise a free quote from your local experts at [www.texturite.co.nz](http://www.texturite.co.nz)



**gutterite**  
GUTTER CONVERSIONS





Internal gutters were a very popular design option in New Zealand from the 1980s to the mid-2000s. The two leading supplier brands that are often failing today are Klass and Taylor fascia.


Taylor and Klass Fascia are two fascia brands that came on the market in the '90s and were designed to hide the spouting, or internal gutter, behind a metal fascia to create a clean visual line.

The system was popular on new builds for some time, but the system comes with some inherent design faults that can, in certain circumstances, lead to water getting inside the house.

**Benefits of a new fascia and gutter system**

- Eliminate the risk of leaks
- Reducing Maintenance Costs
- Increase your home's value
- Makes it easier to sell your home




FREE QUOTES ☎ 027 3413 454 ✉ [georgia@texturite.co.nz](mailto:georgia@texturite.co.nz)



**texturite**  
(Wgtn) Ltd.

**Exterior Plastering & Monolithic Cladding Specialists in Wellington and the Kapiti Coast**

“ We recently engaged Texturite to re-clad and repaint our beloved home. The transformation is nothing short of remarkable. The result is a testament to Texturite's commitment to deliver outstanding service and workmanship. We are very happy with our decision to hire them for this substantial home improvement project. ”

Contact Georgia today for a free quote on 027 341 3454 | [www.texturite.co.nz](http://www.texturite.co.nz)



# Buy, build, renovate

## From start to finish



When making a renovation or build a reality, it can be difficult to envision all the work that is required. A quantity surveyor or QS maps out all the nitty-gritty details, plus accounts for any unpredictable events, to give you an estimate of how much a construction project will cost. They are also responsible for making sure a project stays within that budget and your schedule, while checking in to make sure things are running as efficiently as possible.

My QS Consultants Ltd provides a range of tailored reports to suit clients' unique needs. Their dedicated team can offer everything from a rough order of cost to a detailed estimate, and part to full tenders. My QS specialises in residential property work, striving to ensure that everything is working to schedule and budget. Their goal is to keep your costs down to an absolute minimum.

Ciaran Clinton has over 30 years of experience as a quantity surveyor. He and the team at My QS have broad experience with different types of contracts, from residential, seismic upgrades, and earthquake repairs to leaky buildings and insurance rebuild costings. Ciaran thinks outside the box and finds creative solutions to ensure a project runs smoothly and efficiently.

My QS Consultants Ltd can assist with all your costings, helping you allocate funds in the right areas from the very start of the build right through to the last lick of paint.

## Here to help



Whether you're renovating the family home or moving into your dream house, skips can take a load off your mind by helping you manage your waste conveniently and efficiently. Abbott Bin Hire has been operating across Greater Wellington since 2016 with the goal of helping you direct your waste in the most economical way possible.

Owned and operated solely by Kat Smith, the recently relocated Abbott Bin Hire takes pride in always going the extra mile. Kat is dedicated to helping returning and new clients through whatever project they have on the go by providing the information and resources needed to get their waste removed from the property. She always adds her own personal touch, taking a compassionate and tailored approach to finding solutions for her clients.

Abbott Bin Hire offers a wide range of services, bin sizes, and hire durations to help you get any project you may have undertaken sorted seamlessly. Kat can help you find a size and create an emptying frequency schedule to suit your deadlines as well as help you separate your waste correctly according to regulations and requirements.

With options ranging from the two-metre miniskip all the way up to the nine-metre jumbo bin, Kat at Abbott Bin Hire can ensure your job gets completed effectively, efficiently, and easily. Get in touch today to see what choice would suit your project best.

**ABBOTT**  
Bin Hire Ltd

Available Sizes:

- 2.0mtr Miniskip
- 3.5 mtr Miniskip
- 4.5mtr Miniskip
- 7.5mtr Skip Bin
- 4.0mtr Dirt/Concrete
- 9.0mtr Jumbo Bin

FOR PROMPT & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE Call Kat: 04 528 7640  
www.abbottbinhire.co.nz | f abbott bin hire ltd

**PRENAIL**  
FRAMES AND TRUSSES

**We Design and Manufacture**

- Prenail Frames • Roof Trusses • Floor & Rafter Trusses • Beams & LVL Products
- Pre-cut Rafters & Roof Solutions

www.prenail.co.nz | 04 528 0599 | sales@prenail.co.nz

**My QS**  
Consultants Ltd

**COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION COST MANAGEMENT**

With over 30 years Quantity Surveying experience and a wide range of construction knowledge, we offer a variety of services for preparing estimates and schedules for all types of building projects from residential builds and renovations to large commercial and industrial projects.

- Insurance rebuild costings
- Building strengthening costings
- Tender preparation for builders
- Schedules for trades



# Buy, build, renovate

## Good bones for NZ-built homes



Have you ever heard someone say that a house has good bones? They're talking about the internal structure that keeps it standing upright. So, even if you remove wall, floor, and roof linings, the timber frame will still be structurally sound. Prenail Frames and Trusses are committed to designing and building good bones for new homes and additions across Greater Wellington and beyond.

Prenail are leaders in frame and truss design and manufacture. Owned and operated by the Broadley family for well over two decades, the company comprises qualified draughtsmen and designers, carpentry-qualified builders, innovative detailers, quality-conscious fabrication staff, and proactive office personnel who are dedicated to providing an exceptional product that will stand the test of time.

Whether you're an architect, designer, builder, project manager, or homeowner, Prenail can help at every stage of a project until your structure is on site and compliance is achieved. They take pride in providing structural feasibility at the early stages of a project, supplying buildable layouts for building consent, designing for ease of construction and material efficiencies, and manufacturing to the highest level of detail.

The team are highly experienced and follow comprehensive systems and procedures that are tailored to suit specific requirements. Prenail leaves no stone unturned when considering the complexities of each project, making it seamless from start to finish.

## Leaders in the field



In 1997, Steve Douglas decided to start a business with the aim of developing a scientifically tested range of premixed and rapid-set concrete that would meet the needs of the New Zealand construction industry. The result was Mastermix.

Based in Foxton, Mastermix delivers just what Steve set out to achieve over two decades ago and has now become the leading name in Kiwi concrete, whether that's for sewer repairs, manhole installation, slab pouring, or fireproofing. The team are still just as committed to innovation too, with new products constantly being developed.

Mastermix has a strong focus on offering a complete service to customers. From developing the best range of products to solve whatever problem you may have, to staff fully trained to advise you about concrete supply, the team provide expert advice and solutions that last. Choosing the right product to suit your project's needs can be difficult, but Mastermix is here to save you time and money by walking you through the entire selection process.

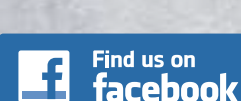
The company offers everything from premix concrete to coating and repair systems, waterproof mortar mixes to traffic management solutions. They work with construction companies across the country on everything from major projects to small repairs and their projects can be found across the motu.

If you're in the market for high-quality trade solutions from a dedicated and passionate team, look no further than Mastermix.



**The industry leaders when it comes to concrete products and supplies.**

- Waterproof and fire mortar mixes
- Waterproofing systems and membranes
- Fast setting & acid-resistant mixes
- High strength culvert bags & road sign retaining bags
- Products for sewer repairs and water treatment
- Water treatment plant repairs



**MASTERMIX & PACKAGING LTD | 21R BERGIN ROAD, FOXTON 4815**

Phone 06 363 5686 | Fax 06 363 7100 | Email [mastermix@mastermix.co.nz](mailto:mastermix@mastermix.co.nz)

**[www.mastermix.co.nz](http://www.mastermix.co.nz)**



# Buy, build, renovate – Kapiti

## Living in paradise



Boasting over 40 kilometres of unspoilt beaches, a warm microclimate, and a wonderful community, it comes as no surprise that the Kapiti Coast is considered one of New Zealand's best-kept secrets. With sun, sand, superb real estate, and speedy commutes by car or train, so many young people, families, and retirees call one of its coastal towns home.

If you're the lucky owner of one of the dreamy heritage cottages overlooking the sea, a beautiful parcel of land backing onto native bush, or a cosy home nestled into one of the charming towns, you'll be well aware of how idyllic life is on the Kapiti Coast. Whether you're looking to renovate, make an addition, or give your home a revamp, there are plenty of highly skilled local tradespeople who can fix up the bathroom and kitchen, install insulation, apply a fresh coat of paint, revitalise the garden, or add on that extra room.

Locals or out-of-towners looking to buy will be thrilled to know that Kapiti's real estate is more affordable than elsewhere in the country. What was out of your budget before can be financially viable here, and there are whole teams of real estate agents, brokers, and finance officers eager to help you take the leap. You can also consider building your dream home thanks to the many Kapiti-based building professionals who can manage your build from the ground up.

Live where you love along the Kapiti Coast.

## Tip-top shape



It's close to impossible to keep up with the rate of technological advancements. Whether you use the computer only when you have to or you're the proud owner of a complex tech set-up, IT Helpdesk powered by TechMan can help you manage all your devices.

IT Helpdesk provides Kiwis from Wellington to Levin and beyond with a proactive suite of solutions to help keep home tech systems secure and running smoothly. For a flat monthly fee, you'll receive a comprehensive service that will ensure you can stay online without ever having to worry about your computer.

Residential managed IT service plans include the entire Microsoft Office suite as well as a Cloud service that will enable you to access your files across all your devices. An automatic backup of all your files will be performed routinely so you can have peace of mind that nothing will happen to your precious photos or important documents.

IT Helpdesk plans also include regular device maintenance to ensure you'll get the most out of your tech for the duration of its lifespan. Plus, your devices will be equipped with anti-virus software and proactively monitored for security breaches. With a dedicated support line active Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm, plus 24/7 email support, the tech experts at IT Helpdesk will keep your devices working when you need them most.

Find out more at [www.ithd.nz](http://www.ithd.nz)

Free Measure, Consultation & Quote service!  
[www.coasttocoastblinds.co.nz](http://www.coasttocoastblinds.co.nz)

Timber blinds  
Roller blinds  
Sun filter blinds  
Interior shutters

[coasttocoastblinds@xtra.co.nz](mailto:coasttocoastblinds@xtra.co.nz) ☎ 04 298 1919 | 027 5546 650

**Jane Santos**  
**Mosaic Artist**

Original artwork depicting New Zealand themes including flora & fauna, people and the old villas of Wellington. Outdoor mosaics by commission only.

3 Kohokohe Road, Waikanae  
M 021 773 896  
E [janesantos@live.com](mailto:janesantos@live.com)  
[www.janesantosmosaics.com](http://www.janesantosmosaics.com)

Exhibiting at Wellington Cathedral as part of  
NZAF's Autumn Exhibition 25<sup>th</sup> March - 13<sup>th</sup> April

The go-to solar supplier for Kiwis

Residential Solar

Business Solar

Off-Grid Solar

As authorised SEANZ members we're approved to supply and install solar systems for renewable energy loans.

SEANZ

Ph 027 3255 078 | [www.stardelta.co.nz](http://www.stardelta.co.nz)

YOUR TECHNOLOGY HERO

**MANAGED IT SERVICES FOR YOUR HOME**

Managed IT services are no longer just for businesses! Whether you have a complex technology set up or a single computer at home, the IT Helpdesk powered by TechMan can help you better manage your devices.

**Wellington to Levin & Surrounding Areas**

We have put together a proactive suite of solutions to make sure your home technology is always secure, your data is safe and your systems are running smoothly. With one easy to follow invoice each month you can spread the cost of your IT support and save money at the same time.

[www.ithd.nz](http://www.ithd.nz) | 0800 115 229 | [support@techman.nz](mailto:support@techman.nz)

We are here to help you with all things property law

We have an experienced property team who make the legal process as simple as possible. Arrange an appointment today to learn how we can help.

- Property Law • Leases • Finance
- Commercial Law • Estate Planning
- Relationship Property • Family Law

Waikanae: 04 293 4469 | Foxton: 06 363 8382  
[www.bestlaw.co.nz](http://www.bestlaw.co.nz)

Best prices in Wellington with free, no obligation quotes. Servicing Kapiti Coast, Wellington, Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt.

- Roof Ridge Repointing • Roof Painting
- Roof Power Washing • Roof Moss Removal
- Roof Rescrewing and Leak Fixing • Roof Inspection

Phone 022 153 6476 | [vikingroofingnz@gmail.com](mailto:vikingroofingnz@gmail.com)  
[www.vikingroofingnz.co.nz](http://www.vikingroofingnz.co.nz)



# Buy, build, renovate – Kapiti

## Going the extra mile



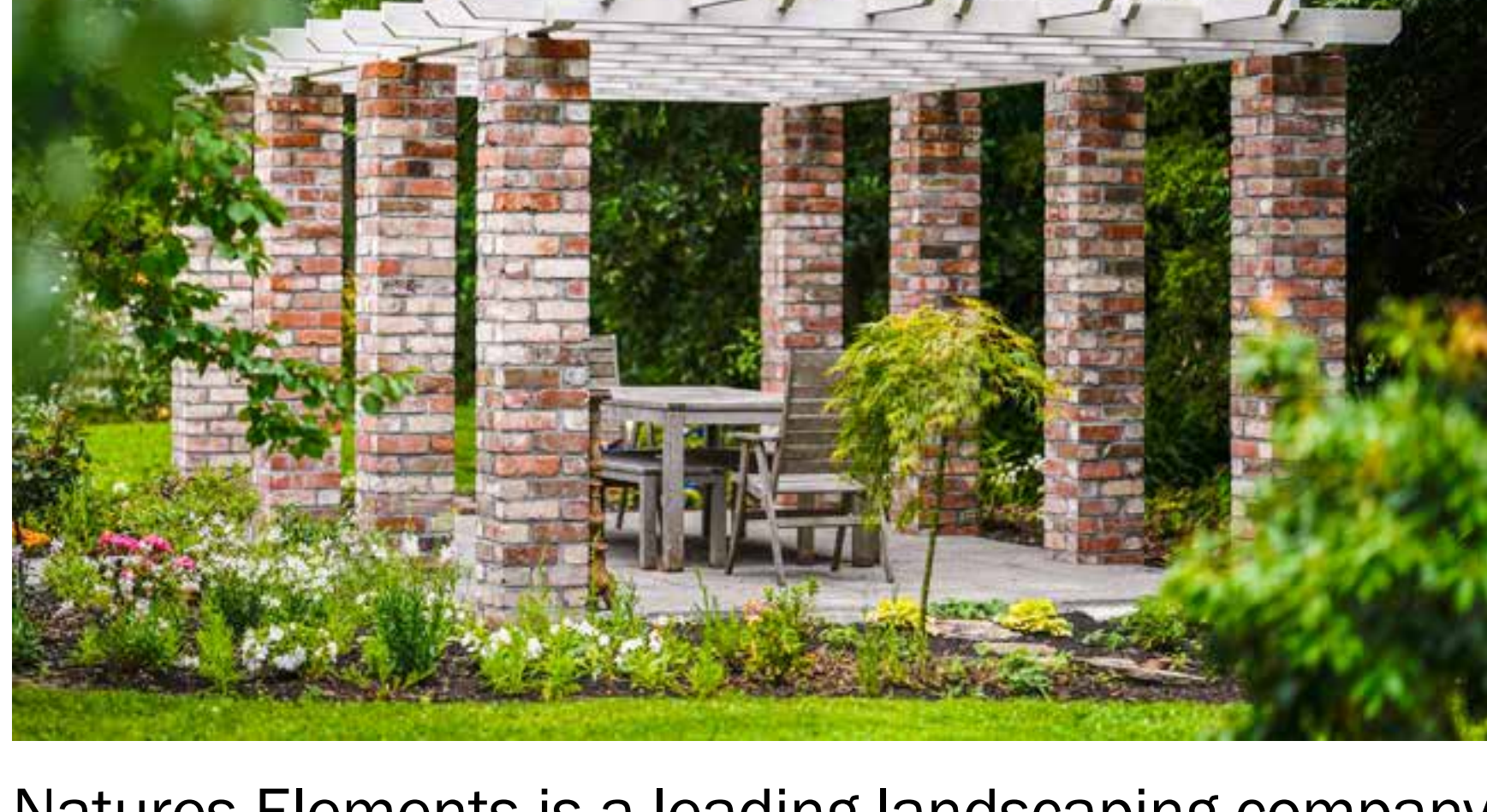
Jill Lampitt puts the real in real estate. A proud member of Tommy's Kapiti, she has been helping people make their property dreams come true in this beautiful corner of New Zealand since 2009. She is dedicated and passionate about her calling and has all kinds of awards to show for it, including 2009's rookie of the year award, 15 consecutive wins as the Top Agent for Tommy's Kapiti from 2009 to 2024, and Tommy's National Supreme Award-Winning Agent accolades from 2019 to 2023.

Jill and her family arrived in Aotearoa from the UK in 2005. She had been an estate agent in Stratford-upon-Avon, where she worked as the senior negotiator of a successful team selling everything from country mansions to thatched cottages. She has over 20 years of experience in the industry, which she draws on to help Kiwi and overseas buyers navigate the buying and selling process.

"I have real tenacity and never give up on my clients – buyers or vendors," Jill says. "It's the biggest buzz taking a buyer to a property and without them saying anything, I can just tell it's the right place."

Alongside her tenacity, Jill says her listening and communication skills, as well as her attentiveness, are key to helping people achieve their property goals. She always goes the extra mile to provide a tailored experience that will guarantee a successful outcome. Get in touch today to make your dreams reality.

## You're in safe hands



Natures Elements is a leading landscaping company with a proven track record of over nine years on the Kapiti Coast. They are focused on delivering structurally sound, quality workmanship with style and strong attention to detail.

Husband-and-wife owners Marty and Marie are passionate about their trade and local community. "We are a family-owned, Kapiti business creating stunning outdoor areas for clients, supported by our talented professional landscape team," they say.

They lead an experienced team that share the same passion and vision, ensuring a stress-free process and an end result to be proud of.

Marty has more than 25 years of landscaping experience throughout Wellington, Kapiti, and Horowhenua, as well as in the UK. This enables him to visit any outdoor space and visualise a stunning design.

Together, Marty and Marie take a holistic approach when walking through your outdoor area with you. Always considering the natural aspects of the environment, they suggest ideas alongside each client's vision and needs, budget, and preference of materials.

Their personable approach enables a thorough understanding between the homeowners and the landscaping team – who are reliable, open-minded, creative, adaptable, and highly skilled.

With Natures Elements, your outdoor area can become your personal sanctuary where you can slow the pace of life and embrace the natural world.

**elite**  
ARBORICULTURE  
SUPERIOR TREE MANAGEMENT

From Wellington, Porirua, Kapiti to Horowhenua, we provide qualified and professional arborist services.

**Our services include:**

- Tree trimming
- Pruning
- Felling
- Full waste removal
- Dismantling
- Tree health
- Hedging
- Planting

Fully qualified and totally insured, please get in touch to receive your free quote

027 343 8846 or [jade@elitearb.co.nz](mailto:jade@elitearb.co.nz)  
[WWW.ELITEARB.CO.NZ](http://WWW.ELITEARB.CO.NZ)

**Contract Air SERVICES LTD**

**Heat Pumps and Air Conditioning**

Contract Air is a family-owned local business installing heat pumps from high walls through to ducted systems, servicing your existing heat pumps and more.

**Call us for a FREE consultation:**  
Call Greg on 027 441 9544  
[www.contractair.co.nz](http://www.contractair.co.nz)

**Kapiti Stump**  
Grinding Services

Removal of all stump sizes  
**Prices starting from \$250**

Stump Grinding specialist in Kapiti. No stump too big or small. Firewood Supplier. Section Clearing. Green Waste Removal & Disposal Service. Wood Splitting Service. 7+ years experience. Fully Insured. Prompt Friendly Reliable Service.

027 211 3040 | [kapitistumps1@gmail.com](mailto:kapitistumps1@gmail.com) | [kapitistumps](https://www.facebook.com/kapitistumps)

**Paveway**  
TOTAL LANDSCAPING

PAVEWAY - COMPLETE PAVING & LANDSCAPING SOLUTIONS

**PAVING** **CONCRETING**

**POOLS** **RETAINING WALLS**

SERVICING PORIRUA | KAPITI | LEVIN  
☎ 04 293 2029 ☎ 021 449 941 ✉ [info@paveway.co.nz](mailto:info@paveway.co.nz)  
[www.paveway.co.nz](http://www.paveway.co.nz)

**Natures Elements**  
LANDSCAPING KAPITI & HOROWHENUA

**Fall in love with your home**

From small improvements to complete garden makeovers. The professional team from Natures Elements create your dream outdoor space and help you fall in love with your home.

**To chat about your landscaping, please contact us.**  
☎ 022 4444779 ☎ [hello@natureselements.co.nz](mailto:hello@natureselements.co.nz)  
[www.natureselements.co.nz](http://www.natureselements.co.nz)

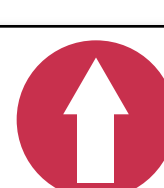
**Tommy's**  
Real Estate MREINZ  
Tommy's Kapiti Real Estate Ltd Licensed under the REAA 2008

**Award Winner**

**TOP SALESPERSON KAPITI 2009 - 2024**  
**TOMMY'S SUPREME AWARD WINNER 2020-2023**

**JILL LAMPITT** *Kapiti residential & lifestyle specialist*  
M: 0272 477 769 E: [jill@tommyskapiti.co.nz](mailto:jill@tommyskapiti.co.nz) W: [jillsellshouses.co.nz](http://jillsellshouses.co.nz)

[Back to contents](#)





# Embodying excellence



The Wellington Art Show has breezed in and out of Wellington, delivering a whirlwind of colour and design. As well as supporting the show's STUFF Aotearoa Gold Award, the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts (NZAFA) selected Kapiti artist Hamish Macaulay to represent them at the Show. The NZAFA will select a representative artist at each of the four shows across the motu in 2025.

Macaulay has exhibited his work around Aotearoa and in galleries across the world, including in London. His repertoire spans conceptual abstracts to figurative landscapes and seascapes, revealing a deep love of nature and his surroundings anchoring his creative vision. He blends traditional and modern techniques to craft works that offer fresh perspectives and evoke the natural world.

NZAFA's choices of artists at each of the art shows reflects a renewed focus on promoting excellence by the NZAFA that will see it present a major new prize for graphic art this year, with all entries being exhibited at Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre, and organise the presentation of the STUFF Gold Art Award.

NZAFA is also expanding its pilot exhibition of New Zealand artists within Hilton Hotels, with a much larger display of works being planned to open at Hilton Lake Taupo in mid-July.

Meanwhile, NZAFA's *Autumn Exhibition* returns this year in Wellington Cathedral. Artists have responded to the theme of autumn, submitting works across mediums, styles, and palettes. It runs from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March to the 13<sup>th</sup> of April.

## Inked and inspired



The Kapiti Coast is as creative and quirky, eclectic and eccentric as it gets, with artists aplenty calling this slice of heaven on Earth home. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, creatives of all kinds join forces with locally and nationally based tattoo artists, plus musicians and entertainers, at the first ever Kapiti Tattoo & Arts Festival.

Held at the Paraparaumu Memorial Hall from 10am to 6pm, this one-of-a-kind event will showcase over 40 talented tattoo artists, painters, sculptors, and craftspeople, creating live and exhibiting their work in a high-energy atmosphere. Live tattooing gives ink aficionados the chance to connect with new artists, discover new styles, and get that long-awaited or spontaneous design instantly. Local visual artists will also be showcasing their work, with displays for pottery, candle-making, painting, photography, book binding, and more.

The entertainment lineup stars DJ Finatik, DJ Harpz, James Stent, Tui, Bohan, and more. Plus, visitors can check out the local cuisine from the food vendors.

“The Kapiti Coast has a thriving creative scene, and we’re beyond excited to bring this festival to life,” festival organiser Daniel Panter says.

“Whether you’re looking to get tattooed by a world-class artist, discover unique handmade creations, or just enjoy a fantastic day out with amazing music and performances, this event has something for everyone.”

Celebrate an electrifying mix of ink, art, and culture at the inaugural Kapiti Tattoo & Arts Festival.

 <p><b>New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts</b></p>  <p><b>DOUBLETREE</b> by Hilton</p>	<p>Call us: (04) 499 8807   Find us: <a href="http://www.nzafa.com">www.nzafa.com</a> Follow us: <a href="#">f nzafa</a> <a href="#">academygalleries</a></p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="50 5179 494 5413">  <p><b>Toi i te Waru</b> Art in the heat of summer 20 December 2024 – 30 April 2025 Where: Te Papakura Gallery in the Beehive The New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, in collaboration with the Parliamentary Service, invited artists to respond to the theme of Toi i te Waru. This name has been gifted by Ngā Ratonga Ao Māori at New Zealand Parliament and reflects the warmth and joy the summer months bring. The exhibition runs to the end of April 2025 in Te Papakura gallery, located within the Executive Wing of Parliament.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="50 5413 494 5647">  <p><b>Artist Showcase</b> 13 November 2025 – 31 May 2025 Where: DoubleTree by Hilton Wellington The Academy of Fine Arts is excited by the opportunity to collaborate with the beautiful DoubleTree by Hilton Wellington to provide a superb platform for presenting the works by contemporary New Zealand artists to visitors to Wellington. Selected works by invited artists are on show within the public spaces within the hotel and available for purchase. The current showcase has been extended to the end of May, with watercolours by Jacky Pearson and oils by Svetlana Orinko on display.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="50 5647 494 5775">  <p><b>Autumn Exhibition</b> 22 March 2025 – 13 April 2025 Where: Wellington Cathedral The New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts is delighted to present a vibrant exhibition of art by member and non-member artists responding to the changing seasons and the theme of Autumn. The artists have responded in a bewitching array of media from oils, pastels, watercolour and charcoal to acrylic, alcohol ink, photography and found objects. Pieces in copper wire or ceramics add, figuratively and literally, an extra dimension.</p> </div>
--	--



## Rhythms of the Earth



**Rosa Allison. Photo by April Brimer.**

Transforming Page Galleries into a jungle until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, Rosa Allison’s exhibition *FLYING DREAMS* evokes the decadent entanglements of botanical bodies. The collection was inspired by the Kiwi painter’s recent journey to South America and plays sensually with colour and form.

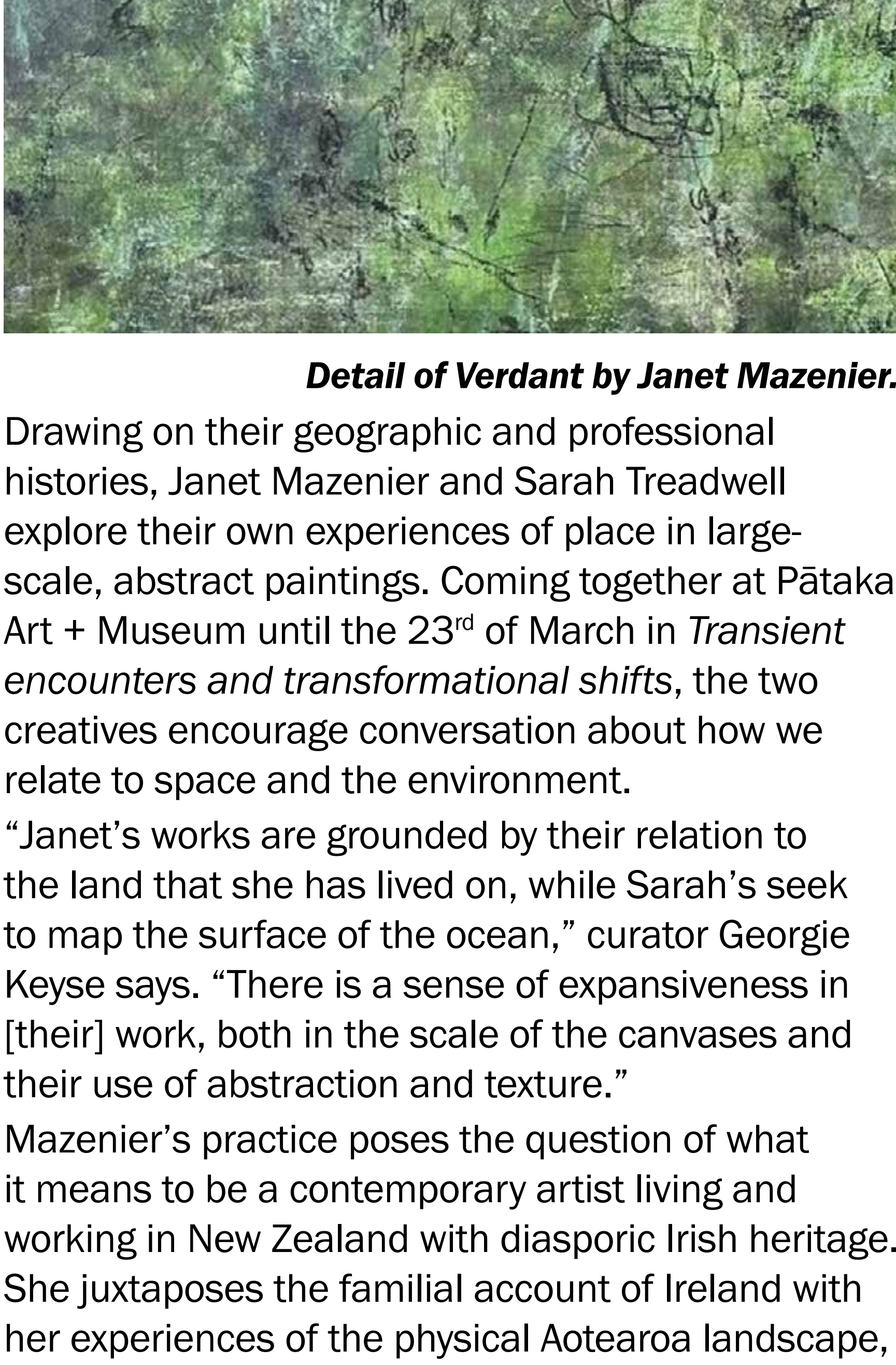
“I made the preparatory paintings in watercolours while I was backpacking through Central America,” Allison says. “As you will tell, I was influenced by the unrestricted colour palette in places such as markets and religious shrines and in textile design. It was also inspiring to learn about the spiritual meanings of trees such as the sacred árbol de tule – a giant Montezuma Cypress.”

*FLYING DREAMS* offers insight into plant life’s potential to unlock new understandings of embodiment. The floral and fungal forms flirt with humanoid shapes and other instruments of earthly pleasure but never completely conform with anthropocentric logic.

“I like that the intelligence of plants completely blows apart the idea that humans rule the Earth. Plants have an intelligence that we are only just starting to understand,” Allison continues, adding that in a rongoā class she was taught that plants come before us, therefore we must ask permission in karakia before harvest. “This makes sense because we will all be dead in a matter of days if we wipe out all the plants. This understanding inspires me to paint plants as powerful and spiritual beings.”

*FLYING DREAMS* celebrates the release of suppressed energies and frolics through the interconnectedness of a delicately balanced world.

## Feelings of place



**Detail of Verdant by Janet Mazenier.**

Drawing on their geographic and professional histories, Janet Mazenier and Sarah Treadwell explore their own experiences of place in large-scale, abstract paintings. Coming together at Pātaka Art + Museum until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March in *Transient encounters and transformational shifts*, the two creatives encourage conversation about how we relate to space and the environment.

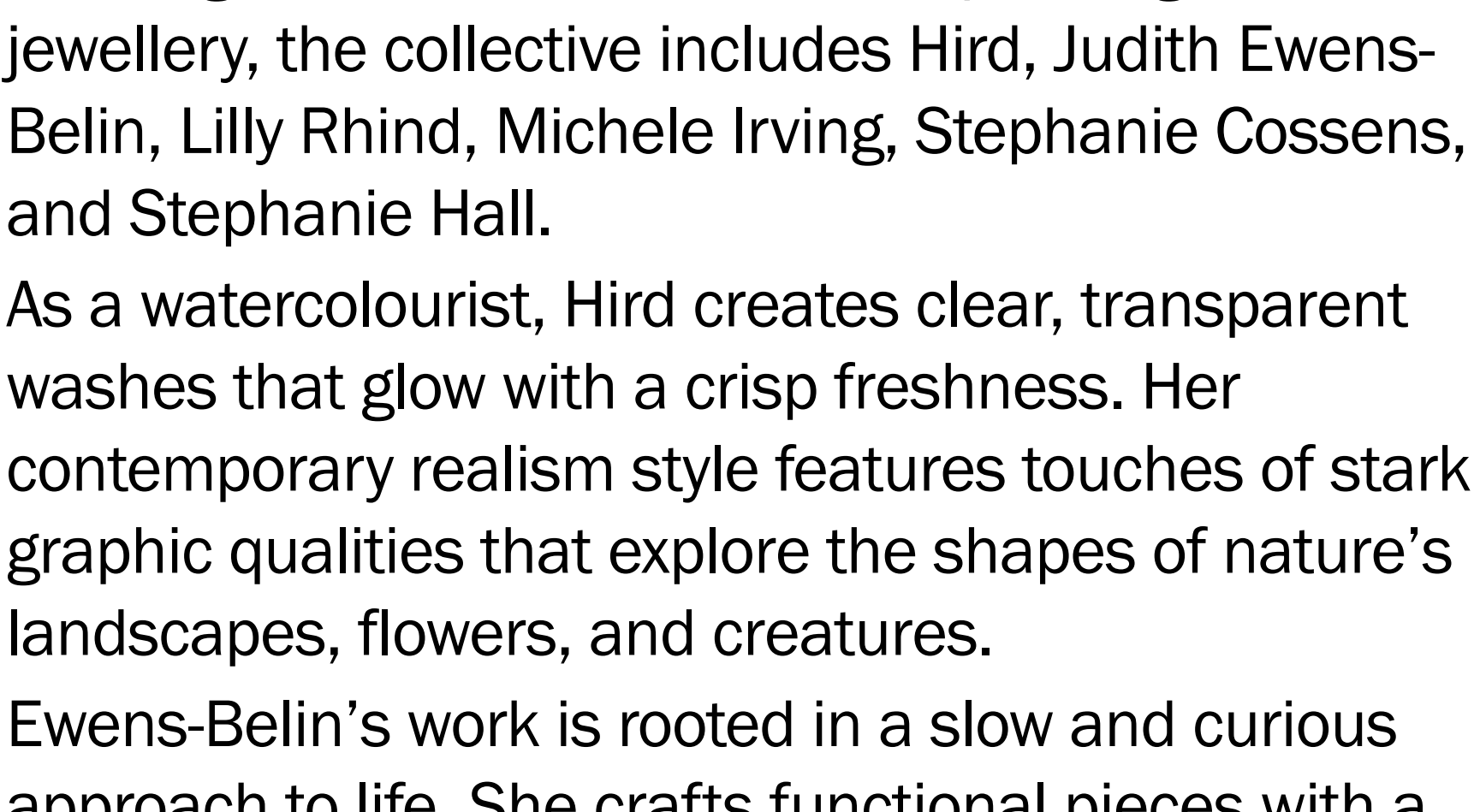
“Janet’s works are grounded by their relation to the land that she has lived on, while Sarah’s seek to map the surface of the ocean,” curator Georgie Keyse says. “There is a sense of expansiveness in [their] work, both in the scale of the canvases and their use of abstraction and texture.”

Mazenier’s practice poses the question of what it means to be a contemporary artist living and working in New Zealand with diasporic Irish heritage. She juxtaposes the familial account of Ireland with her experiences of the physical Aotearoa landscape, seeing and understanding place via an artistic lens. She captures the psychological perception and sensation of liminal memories and histories, romantic and un-romantic, physical and sensed.

Treadwell’s explorations of place are informed by her training as an architect. Architectural drawings have a spare elegance that belies the labour, physicality, and complications of the home. Her abstract paintings redress this gap, depicting wayward forces and desires, invisible scribbles, and unseen geometry.

Capturing the way in which we experience place, *Transient encounters and transformational shifts* aims to draw awareness of the environment around us.

## Feelings of place



**Playful Dolphins by Charlotte Hird.**

Playful Arts Collective, a group of six Wellington-based creatives, will come together at Thistle Hall from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of March with their newest exhibition *Playful Crafts*.

“Our goal is simple,” artist Charlotte Hird says, “create moments of joy, and opportunities for smiles, with each piece telling a story of passion and playfulness”.

Working across ceramics, textiles, painting, and jewellery, the collective includes Hird, Judith Ewens-Belin, Lilly Rhind, Michele Irving, Stephanie Cossens, and Stephanie Hall.

As a watercolourist, Hird creates clear, transparent washes that glow with a crisp freshness. Her contemporary realism style features touches of stark graphic qualities that explore the shapes of nature’s landscapes, flowers, and creatures.

Ewens-Belin’s work is rooted in a slow and curious approach to life. She crafts functional pieces with a quirky, playful element, giving viewers an opportunity to pause and appreciate the moment but also find a sense of connection.

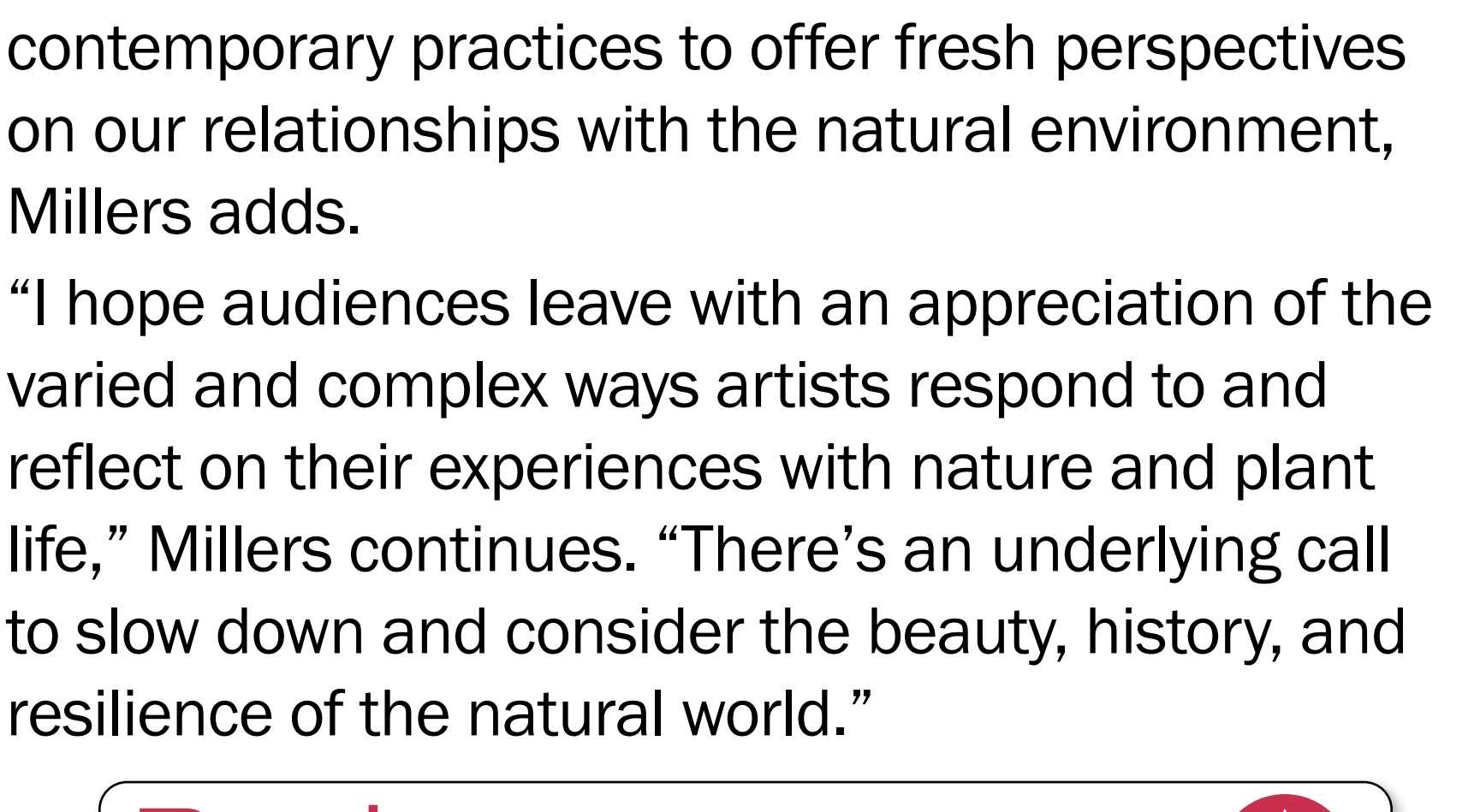
Rhind’s practice is driven by the joy of creation and spans mediums. “Primarily figurative, my work often focuses on the human form and face,” she says, adding that she uses bold shapes and vibrant colours to evoke a sense of childhood fun.

Sewing with colourful fabrics, embroidery, and applique, Irving creates a dream world of animals who play and celebrate life.

Cossens’ work revolves around sculpture, ceramics, and costume design. Finding joy in the relationship between surface, structure, and touch, her artworks are experiments that evoke emotion and narrative.

Exploring the different aspects of clay, Hall creates functional pieces while playing with glazes, textures, and carvings. She loves to create work that makes people smile.

## Cut Flowers



**Playful Dolphins by Charlotte Hird.**

United by their enquiries into nature’s many interpretations, Jaime Jenkins, Caroline McQuarrie, Ann Shelton, Ruby Wilkinson, and Erica van Zon present *Cut Flowers*, a collection of varied works that explore how human intervention, historical narratives, and material processes transform, reimagine, and reflect the natural world.

Occupying Jhana Millers Gallery until the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, the exhibition showcases creative pieces that span a range of mediums, styles, colours, and meanings, and yet that exist in conversation with one another to create an immersive and layered experience. “Ruby Wilkinson’s sweeping six-metre-long painting brings an ephemeral, sensory quality to the space, counterbalancing the weight of Jaime Jenkins’ intricate wall-hanging ceramic piece,” gallery owner Jhana Millers says. “Ann Shelton’s photographs have moved off the wall into a beautifully crafted cedar structure, engaging dynamically with the space. These larger works are balanced by Erica van Zon’s and Caroline McQuarrie’s smaller, intricate textile pieces”.

*Cut Flowers* engages with nature to present it as a dynamic, ever-shifting subject – continually reinterpreted and reshaped by human intervention and historical forces. The works create a dialogue between the organic and the constructed, the emotive and the concrete, merging past legacies with contemporary practices to offer fresh perspectives on our relationships with the natural environment, Millers adds.

“I hope audiences leave with an appreciation of the varied and complex ways artists respond to and reflect on their experiences with nature and plant life,” Millers continues. “There’s an underlying call to slow down and consider the beauty, history, and resilience of the natural world.”

[Back to contents](#)





# Kapiti health and wellbeing

## Bring your A game



Sports are a cornerstone of New Zealand culture. From our all-star rugby team and our gold-medal Olympians to our amateur and family athletes, our passion for being active and moving our bodies is second to none. Kiwis nationwide can find the highest-calibre fitness supplies and equipment at Hotshot Sports Equipment.

The New Zealand-owned sports equipment supplier manufactures and sells quality equipment designed to withstand the harsh Aotearoa outdoor environment. All sporting and exercise equipment is made in New Zealand and is fully backed by Hotshot Sports Equipment's three-year warranty.

Even if you're in need of something specialised, Hotshot Sports Equipment can design and manufacture custom-made products that suit your individual requirements. What's more, the Napier-based business ships nationwide, so you can receive what you've ordered delivered straight to your doorstep in a matter of days.

The passionate, friendly, and knowledgeable team at Hotshot Sports Equipment are dedicated to helping clients achieve their fitness goals. They value each customer as an individual rather than just a number, listening and adapting to your needs in order to help you find exactly what you're looking for. They are committed to offering tailored advice to ensure your investment will go the distance.

Hotshot Sports Equipment are as passionate as you when it comes to sports. Get in touch today to bring your A game tomorrow.

## Finding balance



Wild Wellbeing believes in balance between body, mind, and community. The Kapiti wellbeing studio located in Paraparaumu Beach offers a range of classes and serves as a local hub for anyone seeking to nurture their physical and mental health.

Founded by Kelly and Kasia, Wild Wellbeing embraces movement and fosters a community-minded approach to exercise and health. The pair offer a range of classes alongside some of the Kapiti Coast's best instructors.

Pilates has had a surge of popularity over the last few years. Set to awesome tunes, the mat-based class is a non-impact, full-body workout that focuses on core muscles, as well as toning for the legs, bum, and arms, increasing spinal mobility and flexibility. If you're after a high-intensity complete workout, pilates barre combines dance movement with weights, theraloops, chi balls, and a ballet barre, striking the perfect balance between cardio and strength training.

Wild Wellbeing offers a range of beginner, intermediate, and advanced yoga classes, including Vinyasa and Yin. Vinyasa is fun and dynamic, whilst incorporating creative sequencing, anatomical focus, and traditional teaching, while Yin uses ancient Taoist principles to release tension. There is even a yoga class for new mums with under-ones and prenatal yoga for mums to be.

Join a class or buy a 14-day pass to experience Wild Wellbeing to the fullest.

### NZ made Sports Equipment Built to Last

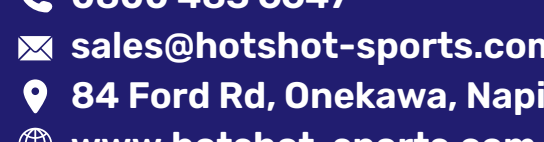
We are a proudly NZ owned and operated company that makes steel sports equipment and GymGuru outdoor exercise equipment. Our equipment is made to withstand the harsh NZ conditions and is fully backed with our 3-year warranty.

Forget the rest and buy the best steel sports equipment built to last.

• SPORTS EQUIPMENT • SPORTS NETS

• OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

• CUSTOM MADE SPORTS EQUIPMENT



0800 483 6647

sales@hotshot-sports.com

84 Ford Rd, Onekawa, Napier, 4110

www.hotshot-sports.com



*Committed to well-being, dedicated to you.*

Yoga

Pilates

Yin Yoga

Barre

Wild Wellbeing was created from a desire to help people with their physical and mental health.

We believe well-being consists of a balance of: body, mind & community.

We have 29 classes a week, plus a variety of courses.

**Special introductory offer! \$20 for 20 days until end of April**

**10% off all class passes and memberships\* when using code "wellbeing" or presenting this advert in-store.**

\*Excluding student and gold membership.

Level 1/345 Kapiti Road, Paraparaumu Beach, 5032

Phone: 027 313 0104 | [www.wildwellbeing.co.nz](http://www.wildwellbeing.co.nz)



## BONE DENSITY DEXA SCAN

As the gold standard in osteoporosis screening, DEXA provides a precise assessment of your bone density, helping you take control of your bone health.



04 298 7770

[www.sharpimaging.co.nz](http://www.sharpimaging.co.nz)

reception@sharpimaging.co.nz



# Kapiti health and lifestyle

## A new model



At Mātauranga Medical, your concerns are heard straight away. Located in Paraparaumu and founded by Dr Karl Geiringer, this Tier 1 health service offers care to locals through a new, more effective, more compassionate model of care that puts the patient first.

The Mātauranga Medical model of care removes the blanket approach to healthcare in favour of a more individualised approach. When a patient requests an appointment at Mātauranga Medical, they will first be called back by a doctor or a nurse practitioner to discuss their symptoms. This conversation will serve as a whakaaro (thinking) process for the senior clinician who will formulate a plan for the next step in your treatment.

From this conversation, patients may be offered either a standard GP consultation or a nurse-led awhi (embrace/cherish) consultation, depending on their needs. Awhi consultations are nurse-led but delivered by the entire general practice team, meaning the support or advice of a GP is always available. All Mātauranga Medical consultations place the patient at the centre of the equation. With a treatment plan devised on behalf of the patient over the phone, there is no need to book weeks ahead because your concerns will be at the forefront from the first moment of contact. This process enables Mātauranga Medical to work with you, taking into account your unique symptoms, medical history, and needs to find a solution that will have you feeling better as soon as possible.

## Happy and healthy



Passionate about supporting Kiwi communities with any and all their natural health needs, Health for Life have been making a difference in the industry for 25 years.

With locations in Feilding, Palmerston North, and Paraparaumu, Health for Life are dedicated to delivering the best supplement and natural skincare products to the lower North Island. Chris Torr and his team of professional natural health retailers are committed to their customers' needs. They take time to discuss and understand your individual circumstances and symptoms in order to help you make the right choices for your supplement programme and to provide you the best advice on the extensive range of in-store products.

Health for Life are constantly researching new products to stock in New Zealand, with many products exclusively available through their platform. By keeping their finger on the pulse and staying up to date on the latest research, the team can remain at the forefront of the industry and provide customers with updated advice to help them achieve their health goals. Products can be sent from any store straight to health club members free of charge, so you can access Health for Life no matter where in Aotearoa you call home. You and your wellbeing is the top priority at Health for Life. Stop by one of the three local stores or visit [www.healthforlife.co.nz](http://www.healthforlife.co.nz) to shop their extensive range of natural health supplements and beauty products.

**MĀTAURANGA MEDICAL**

Enrolling new patients now!

a general practice owned and operated by the charitable company Public Health Action Limited serving the Kāpiti community

5 Tongariro Street, Paraparaumu | 04 595 4769  
reception@mataurangamedical.nz  
[www.mataurangamedical.nz](http://www.mataurangamedical.nz)

### Vasectomy & Minor Surgery Clinics

Casual patients welcome to attend Dr Roger Jubert Rosich vasectomy and minor surgery clinics at Mahara Health in Ngaio Road, Waikanae.

Call us on 04 908 1000 for more information.

mahara health

### TIRED OF SNORING?

**STOP SNORING WITH SNOREX  
A CUSTOM MADE  
ANTI-SNORING DEVICE**

Services Wellington to Palmerston North  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[WWW.SNOREX.CO.NZ](http://WWW.SNOREX.CO.NZ)  
OR CALL 0800 766 739**

with Tricia Sampson

**ATTENTION: EXHAUSTED WORKING MOMS  
ARE YOU STUCK IN OVERDRIVE?  
UNCOVER MY 3 KEY SECRETS TO ACHIEVE  
PEACE, EMPOWERMENT, AND BALANCE**

**CHECK WOMENLOVINGLIFE.COM FOR  
MY FREE WORKSHOPS OR EMAIL ME AT  
[HERWAYHERLIFE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HERWAYHERLIFE@GMAIL.COM)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**BACKED BY 30 YEARS OF SCIENCE**

*Natural, healthy, and simply better products to help you on your health journey. Come and see us at any Health for Life store*

When it comes to cardiovascular health, it's time to get to the heart of the matter. If we don't take care of our blood vessels, they can't take care of us. Healthy arteries, veins and capillaries are crucial for supporting vitality and function of tissues and organs.

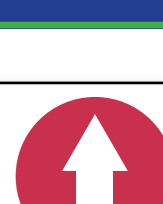
For this reason we are offering you cGP MAX \$150.00 for three months supply (usual price \$199.00).

**Get more out of Life!**

**SHOP TO WIN** **FREE DELIVERY**

Health for Life Paraparaumu Shop 27, Coastlands Shoppingtown, 150 Rimu Road, Paraparaumu | 04 296 1227 | [coastlands@healthforlife.co.nz](mailto:coastlands@healthforlife.co.nz)  
Health for Life Feilding 102 Ferguson Street | 06 323 0301 | [feilding@healthforlife.co.nz](mailto:feilding@healthforlife.co.nz)  
[www.healthforlife.co.nz](http://www.healthforlife.co.nz)

[Back to contents](#)





# Manawatu

## Bespoke and boutique



Welcome to The Clubhouse at Feilding Golf Club: a regional gem of a boutique 18-hole course set alongside the banks of the Oroua River and enshrouded by beautifully manicured mature trees, fairways, and greens.

The 18<sup>th</sup> hole leads you directly to The Clubhouse, which is serviced by a full bar operating on a club licence and fully staffed kitchen facilities operating Wednesday through Sunday delivering a seasonally appropriate and classy brunch, lunch, burger, and snack menu.

The Clubhouse seats 200 and delivers bespoke menus for local club events, tournaments, and private functions.

The Clubhouse team is spearheaded by award-winning Pasifika ambassador chef and *My Kitchen Rules* alumnus Aaron Freeman alongside 2023 Manawatu Hospitality Awards Bartender of the Year Lilli Daniel.

Aaron and his team's culinary offerings stem from his love of showcasing local produce, together with Indigenous Pacific cultural influences. Pair this up with award-winning and locally roasted Arrosta coffee, a newly revamped beverage selection that includes locally brewed beer on a Brew Union Brewing Company guest tap, and one of the most stunning views in the region and you have the most idyllic scenario for your next brunch, lunch, club event, tournament, or private function.

Make sure you take a trip to The Clubhouse at Feilding Golf Club for a bite to eat, a coffee, or an ice-cold beverage soon – it's an experience you won't regret.

## Kimbolton Sculpture Festival



New Zealand's premier rural sculpture festival is back on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April with more jaw-dropping sculptures and activities that will fill your day and keep the whole family happy. Expect true country hospitality by the bucket load, quality craft stalls, good food, and great coffee.

Located in Kimbolton, a little village that has a lot of heart and a big dose of rural spirit, the festival celebrates the creativity of rural people from throughout New Zealand. Built around the ethos that creativity is good for your wellbeing, makers are encouraged to think about their connection to the land and what it means to them before translating that into a creation. There is an emphasis on found materials – things from the shed, old iron, wire, driftwood, or even totara posts. Anything goes, and out-of-the-box thinking is encouraged wholeheartedly.

With more than 13 award categories, ranging from the Creative Cocky Award through to a Give it a Go Award for first-time sculptors, the prize pool is massive.

During your visit, you can vote for the People's Choice Award as well as purchase a unique sculpture that reflects your connection to the land or maybe some craft pieces that catch your eye.

Let the children enjoy the wool dive, rural trailer ride, imaginative playground, digger challenge, crazy Joe's hay slide, or all kinds of creative activities while you spend time watching demonstrations or relaxing and listening to local music.

Find out more at [www.ruralart.nz](http://www.ruralart.nz)





# Manawatū

## Autumn adventures



As the temperatures cool and the leaves turn shades of gold, russet, and umber, Manawatū comes alive with a crisp freshness that begs visitors and locals alike to get outside and explore. Brimming with cosy cafés, eclectic galleries, charming towns, and breathtaking natural wonders, this vast and varied district is the perfect place to adventure through this autumn.

Feilding is a vibrant hub filled with museums, antique stores, and opportunities to learn about settler culture and heritage. The Friday farmers' market has been going strong for over 10 years – chocka with local produce, it's the best place to put a picnic together. There are a number of nearby spots to sit back and enjoy nature's bounty.

The smaller settlements like Kimbolton are chocka with charm and things to do, plus many have fun festivals and events programmed for this time of year.

Creativity pulses through the streets of Palmerston North, which has a gorgeous centre dotted with restaurants, cafés, bars, and shops. Visit the art galleries or take a self-guided street art tour – Berrymans Lane is particularly impressive. Stroll around Bledisloe Park to see what the area looked like before the city was developed. Victoria Esplanade and Hokowhitu Lagoon are perfect for picnics, while the Manawatū River Pathway is a great cycle or walking track.

With nature, arts, culture, and plenty of activities for the whole whānau to enjoy, make the most of Manawatū by exploring every nook and cranny this autumn.

## Reframing the Active Eye



A compelling selection of 25 original photography works will be on display at Palmerston North's Te Manawa Museum for the first time since 1975, celebrating 50 years since this groundbreaking exhibition helped establish photography as a respected artistic medium in Aotearoa New Zealand. *Reframing the Active Eye* explores evolving themes such as identity, landscape, social change, and the interplay between tradition and modernity. Originally touring the country after its debut in Palmerston North, the touchstone exhibition holds national significance and was subsequently accessioned into the Te Manawa collection.

Lead collections manager Talei Langley says through the proliferation of smartphones and social media, photography has changed the way we share our experiences, unique perspectives, and worldviews. "We have always desired to capture moments, and this exhibition powerfully illustrates the early emergence of this style of visual storytelling."

Adding to this exhibition is the annual Toioho ki Āpiti graduate showcase. This year's iteration features works by Emily Lyall, Bridie Te Ahumairangi Potts, Frances Dawson, and Jordon Peterson.

Running Tuesday to Sunday from the 15<sup>th</sup> of March until the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, experience *Reframing the Active Eye* at Te Manawa Museum and witness the evolution of photography in Aotearoa, from its emergence as a fledgling artform in the 1970s to its dynamic modern presence.

## Reframing The Active Eye

50 Years of Art Photography

15 March – 13 July

FREE ADMISSION  
326 MAIN ST, PALMERSTON NORTH  
OPEN TUES – SUN 10AM - 5PM  
0800-4-A-MUSEUM | WWW.TEMANAWA.NZ

**te manawa**  
TE PAPAIOEA PALMERSTON NORTH

MUSEUM +  
GALLERY  
**PALMY**

[Back to contents](#)





# The nectar of the gods

by **Alessia Belsito-Riera**



Whether you pray to the ancient gods or the new ones, make offerings to saintly souls or bargains with devilish demons, step into a world where divinity meets darkness and celestial creatures share the stage with fearsome beasts at *Gods, Myths & Monsters: A Pride Drag Show*.

Prepare for a night of jaw-dropping performances, larger-than-life looks, and divine energy as queens, kings, and creatures channel the power of mythology. From Medusa's mesmerising stare to the untamed fury of a vengeful deity, the witchcraft of Hecate to the destructive energy of Kali, witness the legends of old reborn in glitter, glamour, grace, and glory.

Descending from the heavens and clawing their way up from the underworld to walk amongst mere mortals are Eddie D'amore, Faux Femm, Foxy Cleopatara, Myrtle Montgomery, Ms Leading, Pita Pocket, Rover Stimulation, and Yolanda. Will you worship them? Will you tremble? Or will you dare to dance with the gods themselves?

"*Gods, Myths & Monsters* honours and celebrates queer-coded figures throughout history and mythology," organiser Faux Femm says. "These performances pay tribute to religious pluralism beyond the constraints of colonialism, highlighting the countless deities who shift between genders and embrace canonically queer relationships. Queerness is embedded in the myths that seek to explain humanity's origins".

The stage spectacle of biblical proportions opens the Ivy Bar and Cabaret gates at 9pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Dressing up is encouraged, demigods are welcome, so bare your sigil, grip your talismans, and imbibe the nectar of the gods at *Gods, Myths & Monsters: A Pride Drag Show*.

## Paint the town green



Whether you pray to the ancient gods or the new ones, make offerings to saintly souls or bargains with devilish demons, step into a world where divinity meets darkness and celestial creatures share the stage with fearsome beasts at *Gods, Myths & Monsters: A Pride Drag Show*.

Prepare for a night of jaw-dropping performances, larger-than-life looks, and divine energy as queens, kings, and creatures channel the power of mythology. From Medusa's mesmerising stare to the untamed fury of a vengeful deity, the witchcraft of Hecate to the destructive energy of Kali, witness the legends of old reborn in glitter, glamour, grace, and glory.

Descending from the heavens and clawing their way up from the underworld to walk amongst mere mortals are Eddie D'amore, Faux Femm, Foxy Cleopatara, Myrtle Montgomery, Ms Leading, Pita Pocket, Rover Stimulation, and Yolanda. Will you worship them? Will you tremble? Or will you dare to dance with the gods themselves?

"*Gods, Myths & Monsters* honours and celebrates queer-coded figures throughout history and mythology," organiser Faux Femm says. "These performances pay tribute to religious pluralism beyond the constraints of colonialism, highlighting the countless deities who shift between genders and embrace canonically queer relationships. Queerness is embedded in the myths that seek to explain humanity's origins".

The stage spectacle of biblical proportions opens the Ivy Bar and Cabaret gates at 9pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Dressing up is encouraged, demigods are welcome, so bare your sigil, grip your talismans, and imbibe the nectar of the gods at *Gods, Myths & Monsters: A Pride Drag Show*.

	<div data-bbox="441 5439 654 5674">  <p>Climb &amp; Cut TREE SERVICES</p> </div> <div data-bbox="665 5439 994 5674"> <p><b>TREE REDUCTIONS &amp; REMOVALS</b></p> <p><b>PRUNING &amp; TRIMMING</b></p> <p><b>HEDGING &amp; SHAPING</b></p> <p><b>STUMP GRINDING</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="558 5674 994 5797"> <p>Free no obligation quotes</p> <p>Andy Trail 027 450 9207 trail@live.com</p> </div>
--	---



## Love above all



Who’s that throwing pebbles at the window? Who is strumming sweetly from below the balcony? It’s *Shakespeare in Love*, serenading audiences at the Gryphon Theatre from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> of March. Wellington Repertory Theatre is proud to bring the stage version of the Disney classic to Pōneke for the first time. Adapted for the theatre in 2014 by Lee Hall from the film that starred Gwyneth Paltrow, Joseph Fiennes, Geoffrey Rush, Judi Dench, Colin Firth, and Ben Affleck, *Shakespeare in Love* is a fun play for the whole family with plenty of drama, humour, romance, fighting, dancing, music, singing, and more.

This rendition of *Shakespeare in Love* will feature an all-star Wellington cast that sees Christopher Horne as the promising young Will Shakespeare, who is tormented by writer’s block until he finds his muse in the passionate noblewoman Viola De Lesseps, played by Yasmine Alani. As the star-crossed lovers forge a relationship, their forbidden romance incites all kinds of drama and inspires the young playwright to pen the greatest love story of all time: *Romeo and Juliet*.

Director Ewen Coleman has loved the story ever since he first saw the movie in 1998, saying that he appreciates the unique way in which it personalises the characters. “The writers have created a personal story around Shakespeare and Viola, together with a ‘behind the scenes’ interpretation of *Romeo and Juliet* and even a bit of history around how theatre actually worked during the Elizabethan period.”

## Ocean in motion



Photo by Alex Voyer.

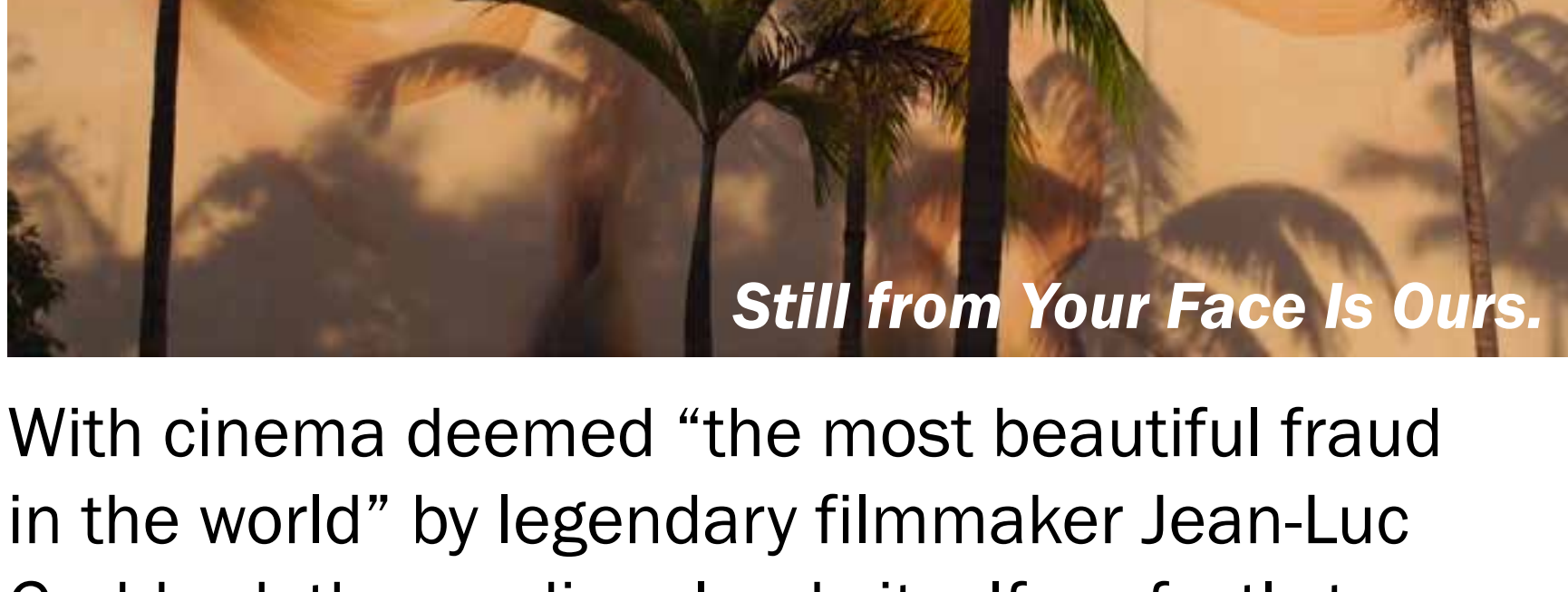
Take a deep dive into the heart of the sea at the Ocean Film Festival. Touring the world for over a decade showcasing the wonder and power of the briny deep through a curated selection of short films, the 2025 Ocean Film Festival splashes into the Embassy Theatre on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March.

“This year, we are especially thrilled to showcase the incredible New Zealand film *Turning the Tide*,” festival founder Jemima Robinson says. “It’s an inspiring story of blending Mātauranga Māori with cutting-edge science to revive mussel beds in Ōhiwa Harbour, and it highlights the remarkable efforts of local marine ecologist Kura Paul-Burke and her team. Films like this, alongside stories from around the globe, celebrate the ocean’s beauty, fragility, and the passionate people working to protect it.”

Joining *Turning the Tide* is *The Call*, which follows Mike Coots as he captures Hawai’i’s surf culture; French documentary *We the Surfers*, set in the coastal towns of Liberia as an unexpected cultural exchange transforms lives through surfing; Germany’s *Metropolis – A Day in Reef City*, which explores the wonders of a highly populated reef; *Astronaut in the Ocean*, an Australian film that follows bodyboarding pioneer Shane Ackerman;

a poignant journey of discovery in Alaska called *Footprints on Katmai* by Max Romey; *Aquaballet*, a mesmerising underwater performance starring dancer Marianne Aventurier; and Australia’s *Goddess*, a poetic love letter and profound tribute to the bond between humanity and the sea.

## Devious deceptions



Still from *Your Face Is Ours*.

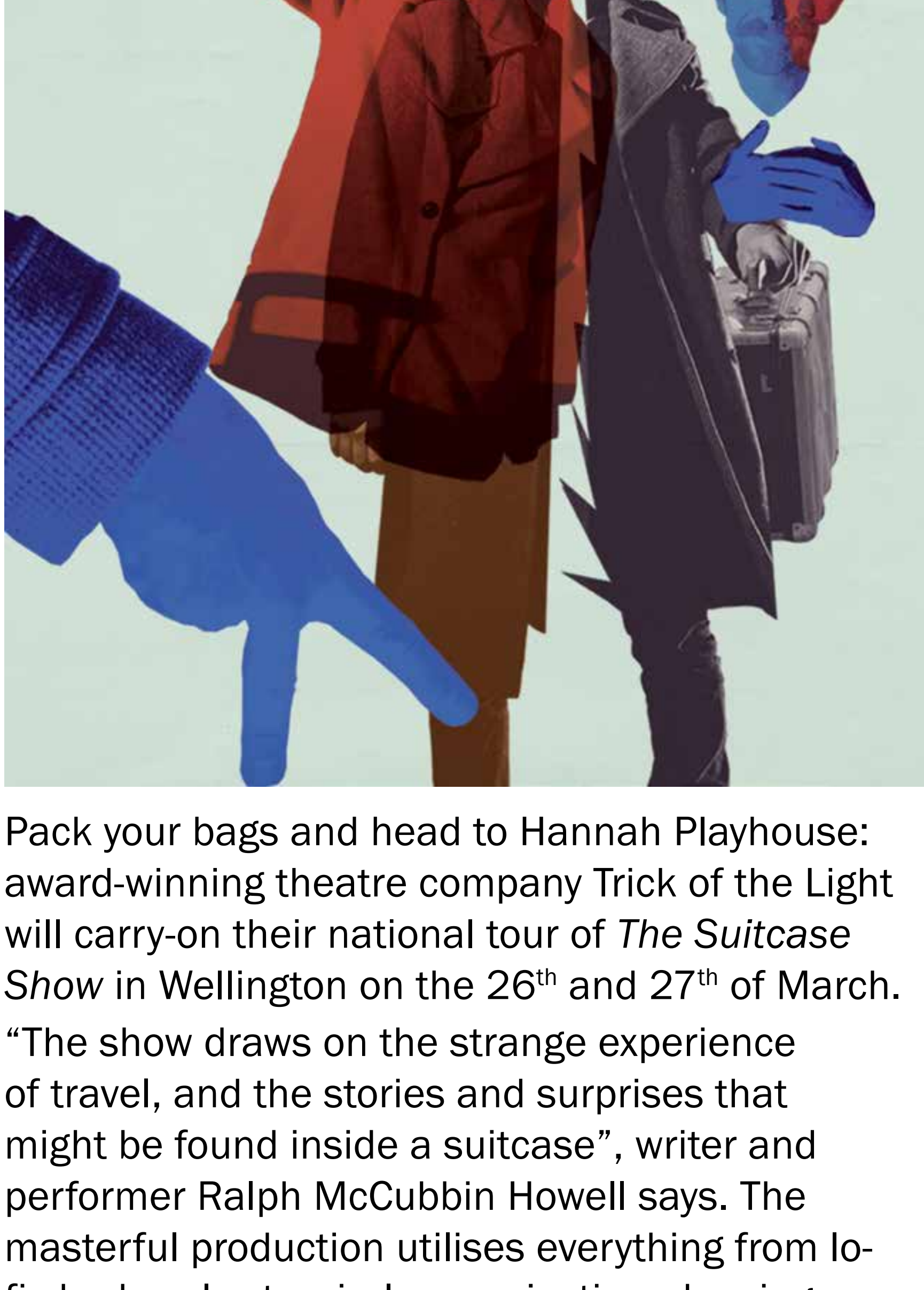
With cinema deemed “the most beautiful fraud in the world” by legendary filmmaker Jean-Luc Goddard, the medium lends itself perfectly to exploring the many iterations of fraud. Fraud Film Festival, coming to Miramar’s Roxy Cinema on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March, showcases documentaries dissecting some of the world’s most devious deceptions.

The 2025 programme will span whistleblowing, online scams, sport, cryptocurrency, romantic deception, facial recognition, and AI, sparking critical conversations, raising awareness, and examining strategies for fraud prevention in both the expert panel discussions following each film and the networking opportunities offered to those fighting fraud in the public and private sectors.

*Hackers: Identity Theft* delves into the insecure realm of cyberspace, where hackers exploit human error and technical vulnerability. *Lie to Me* is the story of how tech nerd and blockchain expert Bjørn Bjercke overturned the OneCoin pyramid scheme, the biggest crypto fraud in history. *The Man with a Thousand Faces* is a first-person investigation, with the help of a private detective, into an impostor with innumerable imaginary lives and romantic relationships. *Your Face Is Ours* explores the collection of biometric data and investigates the potential misuse of this technology. *Ticking Time Bomb: The Truth Behind Takata Airbags* follows a whistleblower and former engineers as they unveil a deadly corporate cover-up leading to the largest international recall in history. *Stasi FC* jumps back to the 70s, when East Germany’s secret service attempted to subvert the last remaining oasis of free speech in the country: football.

Follow the clues and sneak to your seat at Fraud Film Festival.

## Dark, spiky, comic



Pack your bags and head to Hannah Playhouse: award-winning theatre company Trick of the Light will carry-on their national tour of *The Suitcase Show* in Wellington on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of March.

“The show draws on the strange experience of travel, and the stories and surprises that might be found inside a suitcase”, writer and performer Ralph McCubbin Howell says. The masterful production utilises everything from lo-fi shadowplay to wireless projection, dancing disembodied hands, and crackling 70s stereos to present an eclectic boxset of short stories spanning climate change and astronauts, autocrats and the secrets we carry with us.

The result is, as *The Scotsman* calls it, “a bright, dark magic”.

*The Suitcase Show* reunites McCubbin Howell with company co-founder Hannah Smith and Emmy Award-winning composer and long-time collaborator Tane Upjohn-Beatson (*The Bookbinder*, *The Road That Wasn’t There*). In true Trick of the Light style, the team developed the work through a series of showings in site-specific spaces. A photography darkroom was one!

The Pōneke-based ingenious, imaginative inventors have spent the past decade touring works such as *The Griegol* and *Tröll* around the world, with the UK, China, Aotearoa, and Edinburgh on the list for 2024.

“It was so exciting to share our work with audiences from completely different cultures and countries and find that they still respond to the motor of a good story”, McCubbin Howell says of their previous performances of *The Suitcase Show*. “When we open a new suitcase and everyone gasps, it’s the kind of collective experience you can only have in a theatre.”



# New Zealand Fringe Festival reviews

## HAUSDOWN

**Written by Katie Hill and Ruby Carter**

**Directed by Katie Hill**

**Hannah Playhouse, 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025**

**Reviewed by Ruth Corkill**



*HAUSDOWN* is a farcical romp through regency tropes that manages to be both deftly crafted and delightfully silly. Our ensemble call on skit comedy, clowning, dance, and melodrama to tell the raucous story of seven queer aristocrats and their servant during a visit to the country seat of the Hausdown family.

The actors work wonderfully together to deliver expressive, committed performances. Energy and pace are maintained throughout, and the cast are strongly connected to each other and the audience. Much of the comedy hinges on precise tone and timing when delivering one-liners, which they pull off again and again. Even more impressive is the ensemble work and movement – the opening slow-motion tableau and the dance scene that switches repeatedly between a reserved country dance and sexually charged clubbing are hysterical.

All this tomfoolery is grounded by brilliant technical elements. Ruby Carter’s costume design does bounteous work establishing the fluid historicity and gender play that are at the core of this project. Carter’s skill as a seamstress and knowledge of the period is abundantly apparent. This reviewer was especially gratified by the arrival of gorgeous bonnets and hats when our characters headed outdoors to take in the country air. The costumes also support character work, communicating status and gender expression. Carter has developed a distinctive style for each character, and each costume was suited to the physicality of its actor.

The rest of the production team also deserves praise. The set design by Sam Hearps is simple but refined. The minimalism suits the contemporary theatrical conventions of this show, but the proportions, colours, and textures are period appropriate and executed beautifully. Likewise with sound (Joshua Lees) and lighting (Teddy O’Neill), which are both effective, clever, and in service of the on-stage action rather than being intrusive.

All elements of Inconceivable Productions’ *HAUSDOWN* cohere to form an exceptionally well crafted and joyful production. We eagerly anticipate an invitation to their next soirée.

## Edit the Sad Parts

**Written by Jack McGee**

**Directed by Lia Kelly**

**Circa Theatre, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2025**

**Reviewed by Zac Fitzgibbon**



**Photo by Andrew McGee.**

*Edit the Sad Parts* is Jack McGee’s romantic drama about Debi (Aimée Sullivan), who is writing a short story about a break-up, eventually collaborating with her boyfriend Keith (Jamie Cain). Through Debi’s fictional characters Theresa (Emma Katene, Ngāti Kahungunu) and Montgomery (Dryw McArthur), the couple discovers a lot about their relationship, with some truths harder to chew on than a crayfish’s claw.

This performance offers up heartfelt and hilarious moments in equal measure. One second, your feelings are hit deep and hard, and the next, you’re bursting into laughter. McGee’s script is incredibly witty and depicts romance so well. All four actors bring these characters to life and add a realism that sometimes hits a bit too close to home – in the best way. Not only that, but the cast’s vocals are great, especially in Katene and Cain’s hilarious singing number.

While there are many unexpected moments that make the audience laugh, the most impactful are the quiet, revealing ones between the characters. Just when you think this is an ordinary play reading, something unhinged happens. *Edit the Sad Parts* expertly balances reality and fiction.

I appreciate that there is no specific setting, as the plot is so universal it could happen to anyone in a relationship. However, it might have been helpful to place the story somewhere specific to ground it. I also love the technical elements towards the end, such as the use of Andrew McGee’s software and the total chaos of the final scene. However, it feels like there’s more of the story left to tell: the ending seems unresolved, as if something is missing.

All in all, *Edit the Sad Parts* strikes a harmonious chord on your heartstrings. Conceptually, it’s something special and has a lot of potential. I look forward to future renditions of this great play.

## Guy Gunn: Beast Basher

**Written and directed by Mitchell Botting**

**Created in collaboration with David Bowers-Mason**

**Gryphon Theatre, 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

**Reviewed by Stanford Reynolds**



Guy Gunn (played by Kevin Orlando) is the host of an online beast-hunting series where he tracks down and kills mythological creatures, monsters, and cryptids. When he discovers that the beasts he is hunting have a meeting planned, he infiltrates it with schemes to reveal and destroy them. However, he soon learns of the struggles of the monsters, and sees their true humanity.

The opening sequence of the play is manic and wild. Presented as an introduction to the web series, Gunn and his assistant (Sean Dugdale-Martin) give a frenzied exposition to the story, intensified by rock music, haze, flashing lights, slick projection, and vivid voiceover. Guy Gunn and his assistant have impeccable, hilarious chemistry – the highlight of the show. They are sensationally over-the-top, with hammed-up facial expressions, gratuitous physical comedy, and exaggerated southern accents that seem to be a zany parody of Alex Jones.

Lighting design by Madyson King adds dynamism to the production, which is already bursting with energy. Projection and sound (both by director Mitchell Botting) are used extensively, bringing the audience in as viewers of Guy Gunn’s show and fantastically punctuating the humour without becoming overwhelming or overdone.

The pace lets up as the plot progresses, but the humour remains high, with jokes that are witty and delightfully crass in equal measure. At times it is hard to catch the fast-paced dialogue and abrupt voiceover lines, which saps energy by making the characters’ emotions or motivations unclear. However, the audience is kept laughing and engaged by the hilarity of the script and the commitment of the actors to their antics.

*Guy Gunn: Beast Basher* is a delightful show with actors who have unwavering dedication to the silliness of the plot and their characters. It also delivers an earnest message about being open-minded and not fearing what we do not understand. The play has been put together by a clearly brilliant ensemble who have buckets of fun squeezing every moment for all the golden comedy they can get.

## Geesebumps

**Presented by Outfox Improv**

**Directed by Malcolm Morrison**

**two/fiftyseven, 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2025**

**Reviewed by Madelaine Empson**



**Photo by Nicolette Hurnen.**

Come in close: I have a tale to tell. Illuminated only by the torch glaring ‘neath my chin, my eyes blaze. The campfire crackles as the icy wind whips through the trees, carrying with it the secrets we hissed in the night. Blinding, the full moon rises behind the hilly horizon, crested with wisps of mist as a faint howl resounds in the distance. As fear shudders down your spine, the howl sounds again, closer this time. The beast grows hungrier.

Don’t you just love scary stories?

The narrator spinning tonight’s spooky yarn is one R. L. Stine, played by Malcolm Morrison, the director of this *Goosebumps*-inspired New Zealand Fringe Festival improv show. The beast in question? Stay tuned, reader.

*Geesebumps* kicks off when Morrison and a team of players from Outfox Improv – Tristram Domican, Guanny Liu-Prosee, Dianne Pulham, and Jem Palmer – ask the audience to call out something that evokes nostalgia from the 90s. Before I know it, I’ve yelled “Tamagotchi!” My suggestion is accepted and a famished and sinister handheld digital pet comes beeping into life.

The show takes the inherent unpredictability of improvised theatre to the next level, modelling itself off the *Goosebumps* choose-your-own-adventure spinoff *Give Yourself Goosebumps* and its iconic tagline ‘Reader beware... you choose the scare’. Tech plays a huge and brilliant part, with operator and producer Elliott Lam creating and projecting slides on the fly that determine the action. One such example is, typed in chilling, monstrous font, the scenario:

The new Tamagotchi starts singing. Do you:

A) Tell it to shush

B) Join in the singing

C) Give it to the ants

My highlight is when Morrison decides we’ve chosen the wrong scare and instructs the cast to repeat the scene until he’s satisfied with the outcome. My next favourite moment is when Domican ominously intones “nom nom nom” as the Tamagotchi. As to whether our beastly is sated in the end... drum roll please... the episode is cleverly titled *Tamagotcha*.

*Geesebumps*: where improv and innovations swarm into one heaving anthill of silly, spooky nostalgia.



# New Zealand Fringe Festival reviews

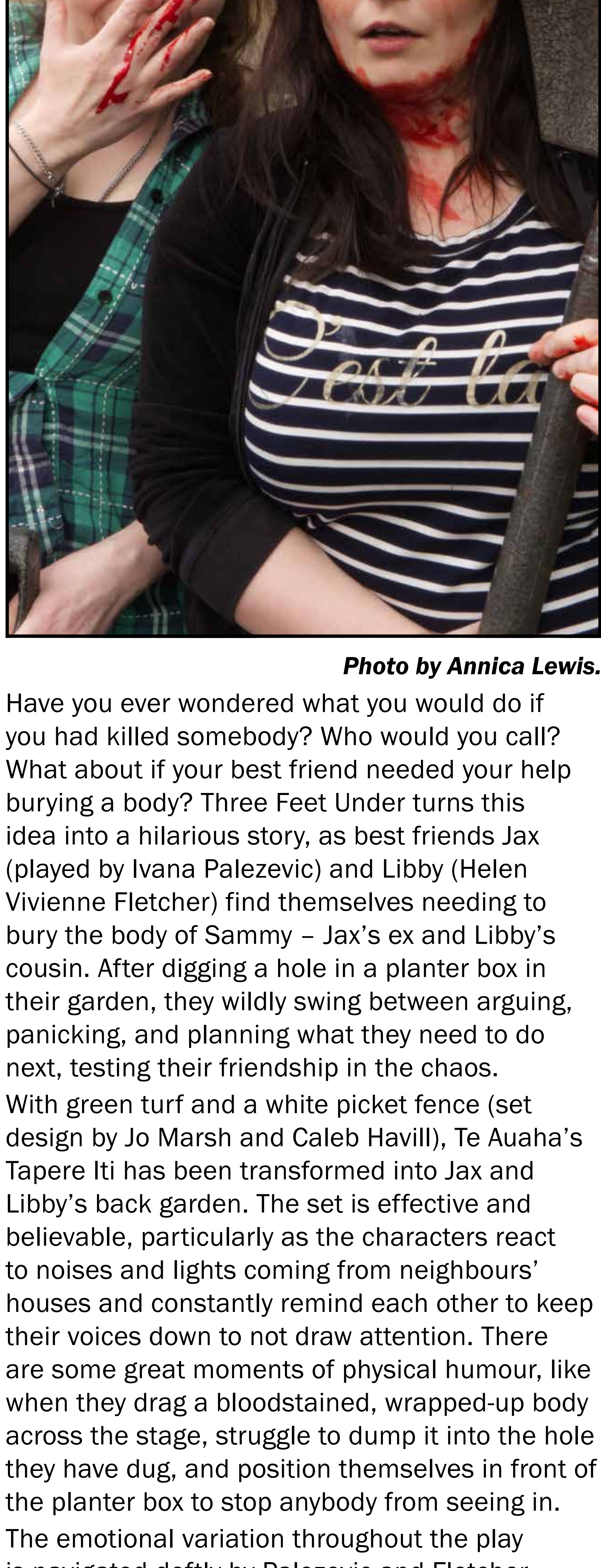
## Three Feet Under

**Written by Helen Vivienne Fletcher**

**Directed by Crystal Pulkowski**

**Te Auaha, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025**

**Reviewed by Stanford Reynolds**



**Photo by Annica Lewis.**

Have you ever wondered what you would do if you had killed somebody? Who would you call? What about if your best friend needed your help burying a body? Three Feet Under turns this idea into a hilarious story, as best friends Jax (played by Ivana Palezevic) and Libby (Helen Vivienne Fletcher) find themselves needing to bury the body of Sammy – Jax’s ex and Libby’s cousin. After digging a hole in a planter box in their garden, they wildly swing between arguing, panicking, and planning what they need to do next, testing their friendship in the chaos.

With green turf and a white picket fence (set design by Jo Marsh and Caleb Havill), Te Auaha’s Tapere Iti has been transformed into Jax and Libby’s back garden. The set is effective and believable, particularly as the characters react to noises and lights coming from neighbours’ houses and constantly remind each other to keep their voices down to not draw attention. There are some great moments of physical humour, like when they drag a bloodstained, wrapped-up body across the stage, struggle to dump it into the hole they have dug, and position themselves in front of the planter box to stop anybody from seeing in.

The emotional variation throughout the play is navigated deftly by Palezevic and Fletcher, whose characters sway between a detached hyperfixation on hiding the evidence and full-blown panic, taking turns freaking out, then forcing a calm and sensible response to placate the other. At times, some of the lines feel a little too anticipated, making the responses muted, and I find myself wanting to see more impassioned and impulsive reactions. However, the plot is woven into their conversation well: the script is hilarious, relatable, and structured in a way that compellingly doles out the story.

This is the perfect show to take your bestie to if you’ve ever wondered how you would support each other in a crisis.

## House of Ick

**Written by Nina Hogg and Megan Connolly**

**Directed by Mo Munn**

**BATS Theatre, 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025**

**Reviewed by Stanford Reynolds**



Wellington comedy duo Ginge and Minge (Nina Hogg and Megan Connolly) present their new show, *House of Ick*, the craziest whirlwind of outrageous, crass, and cringey sketch comedy that I have ever seen. This is my first time seeing Ginge and Minge and I’m not entirely sure what to expect, although I don’t think anything could have really prepared me for this. Hogg and Connolly interact with the audience as we enter, asking us if we have seen “Mike”. An infectious, charged anticipation fills the room, and as the lights go down and the show begins, there is raucous applause – clearly there are lots of fans in the audience tonight.

Hogg and Connolly perform with no boundaries or inhibitions, making a mess of various fluids on the stage and themselves. Sketches are frantic and even stupid at times, and often the second-hand embarrassment makes me unsure if I want to laugh or wince. The characters they play are inspired, engrossing, and irresistible, including Monster Energy drink-obsessed preteens Kyle and Kayden, Mike the inappropriately forward comedian from Facebook Marketplace, and a pair of talkative “horse jizz” saleswomen.

While it might simply sound like shock-value humour, the show is in fact expertly put together and performed by a phenomenal duo who make it look effortless. There is a cohesiveness to the sketches, where nothing is taken seriously, and our expectations are constantly subverted. In an effort to break away from “gross or overtly personal humour”, we are subjected to a dramatic reading of W. H. Auden’s *Funeral Blues*, accompanied by a transfixing, deliberately tasteless tap routine. The contrast here sums up the show for me – uncomfortable, unpredictable, and utterly hilarious comedy.

By the end of *House of Ick*, I am a converted Ginge and Minge fan. I want to see more of this type of theatre in Wellington – original ideas that can be produced under a massive budget, more stimulating than anything playing at the cinema. In fact, I want a visceral hour like this every week. Welcome to the House of Ick. Sit in the front row.

## ROADKILL:

## The Uber-Cool Musical

**Created by Tom Knowles**

**Hannah Playhouse (sort of), 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025**

**Reviewed by Madelaine Empson**



Terry Taylor has been an Uber driver for years and sure has a story or two to tell about life on the road. Luckily for us, he’s prepared to share as he ushers our audience of eight into his party van, parked outside Hannah Playhouse and fully kitted out with lights, cameras, and more action than we bargained for.

In the world premiere of Tom Knowles’ one-man show *ROADKILL: The Uber-Cool Musical*, Terry (Knowles) talks and sings us through his childhood dreams and major milestones, including marrying Mary (Knowles) and meeting her father (Knowles) during a serendipitous ride that changes the racecourse of his life forever.

A velvet-voiced Knowles, decked out with an earpiece mic in uber-driver-meets-tour-guide garb, revs up with a medley of popular vehicular-themed bangers (*Shut Up and Drive*, *Highway to Hell*, *Ridin’*, et al). Interspersing direct address and audience banter, he sings along to pre-recorded, full-throttle backing tracks (performed by Knowles and his band of Jed Parsons and Josh Logan) with a 30-strong choir (Knowles x30) behind him. The soundtrack largely comprises rockin’ originals (all by, you guessed it) accompanied by hilariously kitsch and melodramatic music videos (starring the one and only Knowles). What a mammoth effort from this one-man van!

The fitout inside said van is impressive and spans ceiling-mounted screens, speakers, and even a reverse camera that generates real-time footage so that the front-seat passenger can watch the back-seat action unfold. A fellow passenger is handed a remote to control the LED party lights and told she could well be up for a Fringe award for best lighting design (I’m voting for you, Olivia). With audience interaction a highlight of the musical, more of us are recruited for various tasks, from holding fans to pressing space bars and even singing “I do”. Did I mention the carpool karaoke? We all have a ball thanks to Knowles’ natural, easy grace that puts us at ease. A showman through and through.

I’d love to see the story more fleshed out, particularly around the shock twist (I suspect another three songs here would work a charm). But take that with a grain of wheat: ultimately, this is an innovative, funny, and highly original production. Buckle up for a rally of a riot!

## The Night Has A Thousand Eyes

**Presented by Borderline Arts Ensemble**

**Te Auaha, 6<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025**

**Reviewed by Ruth Corkill**



**Photo Jocelyn Janon.**

Borderline Arts Ensemble, the multi-disciplinary group co-directed by Lucy Marinkovich and Lucien Johnson, are known for their virtuoso dance productions. They return with a meditation on nocturnal themes that pairs the serene piano compositions of Johnson with the movement work of dancers Marinkovich and Michael Parmenter. Martyn Roberts’ lighting design is a crucial element of the production. The show is set against the black void of a profoundly dark stage, and lighting is used to construct positive spaces within that. Gauzy fabrics suspended from the ceiling become enormous vessels filled with illuminated smoke or water. Puppetry brings us birds and moons floating in black, empty air, while mirrors and shadow-work play with our depth perception.

As our dances explore these spaces, movement seems to be a secondary concern to imagery. There is minimal connection between the two dancers, or between the dancers and the audience. It feels more like visiting a series of art installations or watching a film than participating in a live performance. That said, this feeling of abstraction is part of the strange beauty of *The Night Has A Thousand Eyes*.

Indeed, much of the show explores imagery from early film. Parmenter dons an overcoat and watches the moon under streetlights before commencing a contemplative, slow tap dance worthy of the most stoic of film noir leading men. In a vignette reminiscent of Loie Fuller’s serpentine dance from the 1890s (which became a staple of black and white cinema), Marinkovich appears in a billowing tent of silk that hangs floor-length from her throat and whirls the fabric around into forms that evoke peonies, sea creatures, and birds. This early cinema aesthetic is supported by the minimalist and cool-toned lighting favoured by Roberts.

A quietly masterful show, *The Night Has A Thousand Eyes* is a balm and curiosity. Many from the audience linger in the foyer afterwards, marvelling softly, before moving off into the dark.

[Back to contents](#)





## Summer send-off



Sailor Harry Lyon. Photo by Chris Trail.



Mark Williams, Dragon.

Chase the April sun at Kāpiti Classic – Your Summer Festival on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March at Paraparaumu’s Southward Car Museum Amphitheatre.

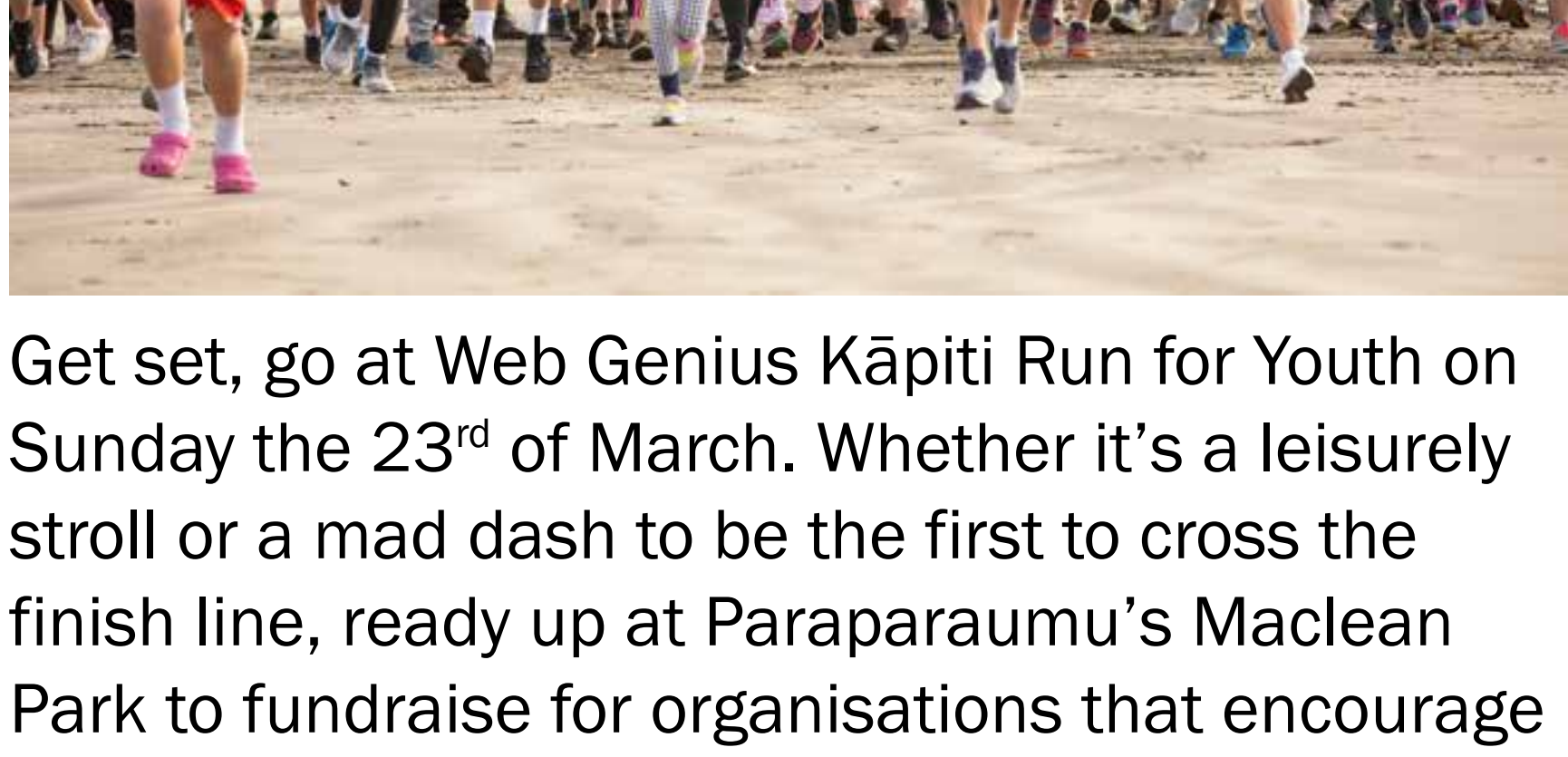
Kiwi icons Dragon will headline on the big day, playing beloved bangers for audiences to belt out like *Rain*, *Are You Old Enough*, and, of course, cult classic *April Sun in Cuba*. Formed in Auckland in January 1972, Dragon quickly reached Australasian stardom with their good-vibe hits and continue to deliver electrifying performances to this day. In 2025, the group comprises original member Todd Hunter (bass) alongside Mark Williams (vocals, guitar, keyboard), Bruce Reid (guitar), and Pete Drummond (drums).

Joining Dragon is an all-star lineup of Kiwi favourites who’ll bring the perfect feel-good playlist to your festival.

Legendary rockers Hello Sailor will bust out bops like *Blue Lady* and *Gutter Black*, while Jordan Luck Band, fronted by The Exponents’ lead singer, will deliver anthems from both bands’ catalogues, including *Why Does Love Do This to Me*. Rounding out the programme is Landslide – Fleetwood Mac/Stevie Nicks Tribute Show playing some of the 70s superstars’ greatest hits.

With complimentary shuttles ferrying guests between Paraparaumu Station and Southward Car Museum, ample space for picnics, plenty of food trucks, and an onsite bar, Kāpiti Classic is an inclusive and family-friendly event with something for everyone. Get hyped for an unforgettable day of iconic Kiwi music and unmatched vibes.

## On your marks



Get set, go at Web Genius Kāpiti Run for Youth on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. Whether it’s a leisurely stroll or a mad dash to be the first to cross the finish line, ready up at Paraparaumu’s Maclean Park to fundraise for organisations that encourage and uplift local young people.

Raising funds for rangatahi since 2011, the Web Genius Kāpiti Run for Youth website has gotten a refresh in 2025. Offering better ways to sign up as an individual or join a team, the new website makes it easier than ever to share your profile with whānau, friends, and colleagues for sponsorship.

There is no entry fee to participate as the organisation uses a sponsorship model, encouraging everyone participating to raise \$20 or more. All funds raised are split 70-30, meaning 70 percent is paid to the partner chosen by the participant at the time of registration and 30 percent is retained to go towards the costs of running the event.

There are 13 fundraising partners to support and raise funds for. Each one brings something unique to the table – from providing essential resources and mentorship to creating spaces where young people can thrive, they help foster a sustainable and interconnected community.

Whichever partner you choose, they work tirelessly to create a brighter tomorrow for young people, and by participating in the Web Genius Kāpiti Run for Youth six or 12-kilometre courses, you are too.

## Connect and celebrate



Elizabeth Bennett and Jenna Maguren.

During this time of uncertainty and change, People First NZ in partnership with Nikau Foundation recognised the need to support and celebrate Kapiti’s disabled community. The result is a full-day Kapiti Disability Expo at Waikanae Memorial Hall on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March featuring stalls, workshops, and performances from local services, providers, and groups.

“We are really excited to bring our local disability community, support services, and related organisations together in one place to showcase all the great opportunities available on the Kapiti Coast,” People First NZ regional coordinator Elizabeth Bennett says. “There will also be educational workshops aimed at empowering the public and professionals alike about specific disability-related topics. We also hope it will a fun day, with performances and craft stalls.”

From 10am to 3pm, stallholders will set up shop to showcase all kinds of services available across the district, including supported accommodation and residential care, employment opportunities, health information, and social and advocacy support. The Kapiti Disability Expo will also feature six workshops from three different providers:

Supported Decision Making presented by Personal Advocacy and Safeguarding Adults Trust and Volition at 10:30am and 12:45pm; Disability Funding presented by Manawanui at 11:15am and 1:30pm; and Disability Law presented by Aotearoa Disability Law at 12pm and 2:15pm.

The event will include a low-sensory quiet space available throughout the day alongside a low-sensory hour starting at 2pm, plus the venue is fully accessible, ensuring anyone and everyone can take part in Kapiti Disability Expo.

## Activated and inspired



Kōka.

Māoriland Film Festival (MFF) has grown to be the largest Indigenous film festival in the world. For its 12<sup>th</sup> annual celebration, which will run from the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of March in venues across Ōtaki, it will showcase 130 films and digital works from 86 Indigenous nations spanning 27 countries and 51 languages.

21 feature films and 104 short films make up the MFF programme, each one reflecting the 2025 theme *Ko te mauri, he mea huna ki te moana*, a whakataukī that speaks of the life force of the ocean and the life force within us all.

“Our planet is changing rapidly”, Madeleine Hakaraia de Young says, adding that many MFF entries evidenced natural shifts through an Indigenous lens. “We also saw stories of resilience, ingenuity, and courage informed by generations of knowledge. Indigenous communities have solutions, and we hope visitors to Māoriland will leave this year’s festival activated and inspired.”

Opening night sees the premiere of *Kōkā*, the debut feature from writer and director Kath Akuhata-Brown (Ngāti Porou), while Virginie Tetoofa’s documentary *Te Puna Ora* closes out the festival. In between is the world premiere of *Shrek – Kātahi Te Korokē* in te reo Māori and the New Zealand premiere of *The Lost Tiger*, with which Chantelle Murray makes history as the first Indigenous Australian woman to write and direct an animated feature.

37 rangatahi shorts join returning and first-time filmmakers at MFF, while audiences will have the opportunity to enjoy talks, Indigenous art showcases at Toi Mahara Gallery, live music, and more.

[Back to contents](#)




# What's on



**16<sup>th</sup> Mar. Waikanae Music Society Presents: Aurum Trio:** *Waikanae Memorial Hall, Pehi Kupa Street, Waikanae – 2:30pm.* Barbara Hill (flute), Michelle Velvin (harp), and Robert Orr (cello) perform a varied programme of chamber music trios and duos, including works from Georges Bizet, Ernő Dohnányi, and Heitor Villa-Lobos, as well as New Zealand composer Anthony Ritchie's *Fragrantissima*.



**21<sup>st</sup> Mar. Disney Channel Divas:** *Ivy Bar and Cabaret, Cuba Street, Te Aro – 10pm.* Get ready to party with your favourite drag divas Faux Femm, Bunny Holiday, Veronica Hart, and Foxy Cleopatrina [pictured] as they step into the shoes and sing the songs of Disney Channel's iconic teen queens: Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato, and Selena Gomez. **Foxy Cleopatrina. Photo by Lucy Pahina.**



**19<sup>th</sup> Mar. Dogs in Togs:** *Carterton Pool, Pembroke Street, Carterton – 4pm; 5:30pm.* Make the most of the pawsome weather and bring your pup to Carterton Pool. With an under-10kg session at 4pm and an over-10kg session at 5:30pm, Dogs in Togs welcomes your furry friends of all shapes, sizes, ages, and swimming abilities to make a splash!



**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Mystic Market:** *Thistle Hall, Cuba Street, Te Aro – 10am.* Immerse yourself in the metaphysical at The Spirit Connections NZ's Mystic Market, a place where psychic mediums, tarot readings, and crystal healing converge with pop culture stalls, art booths, flash tattoo stations, taxidermy creations, and so much more. **Artwork by Sass Grimoire.**



**21<sup>st</sup> Mar. Friday Laughs with Jeremy Elwood and Samantha Hannah:** *The Fringe Bar, Allen Street, Te Aro – 8pm.* Top talents headline this edition of *Friday Laughs*. From her homeland in Scotland to her new home in Welly, Samantha Hannah has made people laugh around the globe. Jeremy Elwood has headlined comedy clubs across NZ, his native Canada, and the world, with a slew of awards under his belt.



**23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Stand Up and Slay: Comedy and Drag:** *The Fringe Bar, Allen Street, Te Aro – 7:30pm.* Fierce drag and ferocious comedy collide at this fun and funny fusion show featuring a wonderfully gender-diverse array of Wellington's best comedians and drag artists. Brought to audiences by Neil D'Bear Thornton and JoJo Bellini, this show promises giggles and glitter galore. **Altra Violet. Photo by Shanea Walford.**



# What's on

## Wairarapa

**Until 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Kākano Wairarapa Arts Festival:**

*Carterton Events Centre, Holloway Street, Carterton* – various times. Take part in a wide range of engaging and beautifully crafted ticketed and free family-friendly events celebrating Wairarapa's arts scene.

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Castlepoint Races:** *Castlepoint Beach, Masterton-Castlepoint Road, Wairarapa Coast* – 11:30am. Picnickers, spectators, and jockeys collide at this epic horse-racing event.

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Featherston Pride Festival:** *Clifford Square, Birdwood Street, Featherston* – various times. Take part in Wairarapa's first-ever Pride celebration.

### Events

**23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Cuba Street Summer Series Presents:**

**CubaDupa Pre-Party:** *Glover Park, Ghuznee Street, Te Aro* – 10am. What better way to gear up for Wellington's free street festival than with a taste of what's to come? Expect music, art, and a high-energy celebration.

**29<sup>th</sup> Mar. An Evening with Sir Bob Geldof – songs & stories from an extraordinary life:** *St James Theatre, Courtenay Place, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. Bob Geldof of The Boomtown Rats and Live Aid fame will share his life story on stage accompanied by intimate acoustic performances.

## Music

**13<sup>th</sup> Mar. Guitar Wolf:** *Valhalla, Vivian Street, Te Aro* – 7pm. The masters of rock and roll mayhem are coming direct from Tokyo to send Wellington into overdrive.

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Dreamtone:** *Moon, Riddiford Street, Newtown* – 7pm. Be submerged in experimental music outfit Dreamtone's new EP *Unwinding*.

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Bojack Funkman:** *The Rogue and Vagabond, Garrett Street, Te Aro* – 9:30pm. Fronted by Ben Hunt, the hybrid L.A.B-Raw Collective horn section teams up with an all-star cast of rhythm section virtuosos for this funky concert.

**16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> Mar. Dave Flynn:** *The Barn, Greytown; Whisky & Wood, Wellington* – various times. Irish singer songwriter Dave Flynn tours Aotearoa with *Celtic Guitar Journey*. In his Wellington performance, he'll be joined by the New Zealand String Quartet.

**17<sup>th</sup> Mar. Hot Potato Band:** *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 7pm. With their new album *Far From Sure* released, Australia's Hot Potato Band stomps into Wellington.

**21<sup>st</sup> Mar. The Eagles Greatest Hits Show:** *The Opera House, Manners Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. A six-piece band led by Whalen Hughes and David Thompson as Don Henley and Glenn Frey bring the genre-defining music of The Eagles to Pōneke.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. The Veils:** *Meow, Edward Street, Te Aro* – 8pm. Globally beloved indie heroes The Veils return to Welly with their new album *Asphodels*.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Wax Mustang:** *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 9pm. The Dunedin-born rap-game renegade will bring a high-octane performance to Pōneke armed with the release of his new acclaimed EP *Mustang II*.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Kristin Hersh and Jon Muq:** *Old St Paul's, Mulgrave Street, Pipitea* – 6:30pm. American singer-songwriter Kristin Hersh returns to New Zealand to perform material from her mesmerising solo and Throwing Muses catalogue alongside Ugandan-born, Austin-based musician Jon Muq.

**27<sup>th</sup> Mar. New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Presents: Pictures at an Exhibition:** *Michael Fowler Centre, Wakefield Street, Te Aro* – 6:30pm. Flautist Emily Beynon joins the NZSO in a concert featuring music from Gareth Farr, Guillaume Connesson, Modest Mussorgsky, and more.

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar. MJ Lenderman & The Wind:** *Meow, Edward Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. MJ Lenderman's new album *Manning Fireworks* has swiftly been recognised as one of 2024's most significant alt-country, indie-rock releases. Catch it live in Welly.

## Kapiti

**16<sup>th</sup> Mar. Whareroa Farm Reserve Open Day and Picnic:** *Whareroa Farm Reserve, Mackays Crossing, Paekākāriki* – 10am. Explore the beautiful Whareroa Farm Reserve with guided walks and tours for all levels and abilities.

**16<sup>th</sup> Mar. New Zealand String Quartet:** *St Peter's Village Hall, Beach Road, Paekākāriki* – 2:30pm. One of New Zealand's most beloved classical music ensembles breezes through Kapiti with a moving programme.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Kapiti Tattoo & Arts Festival 2025:** *Paraparaumu Memorial Hall, Aorangi Street, Paraparaumu* – 10am. The Kapiti Tattoo & Arts Festival is a one-of-a-kind, action-packed celebration of creativity and local talent featuring more than 40 artists, painters, sculptors, and retail and craftspeople from across the region.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Kapiti Disability Expo:** *Waikanae Memorial Hall, Pehi Kupa Street, Waikanae* – 10am. Explore a wide range of service providers and enjoy informative workshops, performances, and showcases of artwork and goods created by disabled people and people with disabilities.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Kāpiti Classic:** *Southward Car Museum, Otaihangā Road, Paraparaumu* – 1pm. Dragon, Hello Sailor, Jordan Luck Band, and Landslide – Fleetwood Mac/Stevie Nicks Tribute come together at this inaugural Kapiti festival.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. The Web Genius Kāpiti Run for Youth 2025:** *Maclean Park, Marine Parade, Paraparaumu* – 8:30am. Boost off along the beautiful Paraparaumu seashore to raise money for local community youth programmes and initiatives.

## Performance

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Gods, Monsters & Myths – A Pride Drag Show:** *Ivy Bar and Cabaret, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 9pm. Whether you pray to Hecate, Kali, Jesus, or no one, watch as the gods and monsters of old congregate, celebrate, and party.

**19<sup>th</sup> Mar-19<sup>th</sup> Apr. Blithe Spirit:** *Circa Theatre, Taranaki Street, Wellington Waterfront* – various times. A dinner, a relationship on the rocks, a séance gone awry... what could possibly go wrong with eccentric medium Madame Arcati holding the reins?

**21<sup>st</sup> Mar. Advait Kirtikar Presents: Love Actuary:** *The Cavern Club, Allen Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. 2024 Billy T Nominee Advait Kirtikar performs his stand-up show about mixed messages and missed connections where finding love is about taking (calculated) risks.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. SLAY: A Pride Dance Party:** *Ivy Bar and Cabaret, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 10pm. Olivia Dreams is inviting you to indulge in an extravaganza where glamour, talent, and fierce performances collide.

**26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Mar. Trick of the Light Presents: Suitcase Show:** *Hannah Playhouse, Cambridge Terrace, Te Aro* – 6:30pm. A traveller arrives at a border with a stack of battered cases. From within them, whole worlds will emerge.

**26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Mar. The Magic of Her Body:** *Katherine Mansfield House & Garden, Tinakori Road, Thorndon* – various times. Join performance artist Vixen Temple and historian Kerryn Pollock of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga on a journey through Katherine Mansfield's sensual diary entries and sapphic-coded short stories while touring through her birth home.

**27<sup>th</sup> Mar. Rhys Darby:** *The Opera House, Manners Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. Kiwi icon Rhys Darby delivers his newest stand-up show *The Legend Returns* to Welly audiences.

## Sports

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Motor Sport Cars Presents Valiant Pro: Champions Challenge:** *Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, Logan Street, Upper Hutt* – 5pm. Expect a night of high-energy and hard-hitting action as champion wrestlers step into the ring to defend their titles.

**16<sup>th</sup> Mar. Wellington Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon 2025:** *Kilbirnie Park, Kilbirnie Crescent, Kilbirnie* – 7am. Kids of all sporting abilities are encouraged to swim, cycle, and run their way around age-appropriate courses, either as an individual or as a team of two.

## Galleries

**Until 15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Cut Flowers:** *Jhana Millers Gallery, Victoria Street, Te Aro*. United by their enquiries into nature's many interpretations, five artists explore how human intervention, historical narratives, and material processes transform, reimagine, and reflect the natural world around us.

**Until 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. Rosa Allison: Flying Dreams:** *Page Galleries, Victoria Street, Te Aro*. Allison draws inspiration from the forms, patterns, and structures she observes in nature, lyrically transposing them onto the canvas.

**Until 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Transient encounters and transformational shifts:** *Pātaka Art + Museum, Parumoana Street, Porirua*. Janet Mazerier and Sarah Treadwell both create large abstract paintings that draw on their geographic and professional histories.

**Until 13<sup>th</sup> Jul. Disney: The Magic of Animation:** *Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wakefield Street, Te Aro*. See 100 years of your favourite Disney film characters and experience the magic of animation at this interactive art exhibition featuring hundreds of original drawings.

**11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Mar. Playful Crafts:** *Thistle Hall, Cuba Street, Te Aro*. Come discover an array of creations encompassing paintings, textiles, and ceramics that spark joy and smiles.

## Festivals

**Until 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Pride Festival:** *Various locations and times in Wellington*. Get amongst the revelry to celebrate Te Whanganui-a-Tara's diverse Rainbow communities.

**14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Mar. Homegrown:** *Various location and times on Wellington Waterfront*. Catch the ultimate party showcasing Kiwi music in Wellington for the last time ever.

**16<sup>th</sup> Mar. St Patrick's Day Parade and Festival:** *Lady Elizabeth Lane, Queens Wharf, Wellington Waterfront* – 1pm. Join Wellington's Irish community in celebrating the cheekiest and greenest day of the year.

**17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Mar. Fraud Film Festival:** *Roxy Cinema, Park Road, Miramar* – 9am. Get stuck into two days of fraud-themed documentaries, panel discussions, Q&A sessions, and networking opportunities for those in the business of fraud prevention.

**19<sup>th</sup> Mar. Ocean Film Festival:** *Embassy Theatre, Kent Terrace, Te Aro* – 6:30pm. Dive into sublime footage taken both above and below the water's surface.

**19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Mar. Aotearoa Surf Film Festival:** *Penthouse Cinema and Cafe, Ohiro Road, Brooklyn* – 7:15pm. Catch ASFF as it rolls into the capital to celebrate surf culture and our oceans.

**21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. Wellington Animation Film Festival:** *Roxy Cinema, Park Road, Miramar* – various times. Come and discover a collection of short films by students from New Zealand and France, followed by a discussion around their creative process.

**26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Mar. Māoriland Film Festival:** *Māoriland Hub, Main Street, Ōtaki* – various times. Aotearoa's international Indigenous film festival celebrates communities and stories from around the world and features film screenings, interactive installations and art exhibitions, industry events, and more.



# 39 What's on

**For your inclusion in the what's on listings email: [whatson@regionalnews.kiwi](mailto:whatson@regionalnews.kiwi). Close off for the next issue's listings is noon Tuesday 18 March.**

**To the best of our knowledge, the information provided to us regarding the above events was correct at the time of press. Our company accepts no liability for events postponed, cancelled, sold out, or otherwise adapted.**

## Regional News

*Connecting Wellington*

### available now

in paperback and ebook from [amazon.com.au](https://www.amazon.com.au) or download through Amazon Kindle app.

### Voices in the Mist Neil Coleman

Imagine two groups of friends and family linked through two time periods, one in the 1870s Thames, New Zealand, and the other in post COVID Thames. What links them in this rainbow themed story? A clash of beliefs, culture, humour, tragedy, and mystery. The supernatural reaches across time to guide and protect the characters.

[neilcolemanauthor@gmail.com](mailto:neilcolemanauthor@gmail.com)



- Mobile brush touch repairs
- Spray paint repairs
- Buffing to a magnificent shine



**Call 0274 939 903**

**E: [autobuffntouch@gmail.com](mailto:autobuffntouch@gmail.com)**

Kapiti  
*Jewellery Design*

Manufacturers



Lasting family memories created by Artisans to restore or recreate your family Heirloom.

P: 04-298 7348

Shop 19 Kapiti Lights complex, Paraparaumu, Paraparaumu, New Zealand

View our creations on Facebook

A vibrant and  
**ECLECTIC**  
concert series

## MUSICAL PUNCH OVER LUNCH

Koha  
Entry



### Old St Paul's

8 May-24 July  
Every Thursday  
12:30pm



See [oldstpauls.co.nz](https://oldstpauls.co.nz)  
for details

### WELLINGTON - CHATHAM ISLANDS

Experience 8 days in one of New Zealand's most remote and unique places. The Chatham Islands are the closest most New Zealanders can get to international travel without packing their passport.

#### Tour #59

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025, depart Wellington 2:00pm - arrive Chathams 4:30pm (CI time)

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025, depart Chathams 9:30am - arrive Wellington 10:45am

**All inclusive costing per person** X Wellington.

SINGLE shared facilities.....	\$5,000
TWIN/DOUBLE with ensuite .....	\$5,100
SUPERIOR SUITES.....	\$5,200

**Make up your party now and take advantage of your preferred accommodation while availability lasts.**

Follow us on Facebook

Phone: (03) 249 8294

Email: [chathamislandtours@gmail.com](mailto:chathamislandtours@gmail.com)

Web: [www.chathamislandtours.nz](http://www.chathamislandtours.nz)



### KŌPI BUSH RETREAT



**As seen on Grand Designs New Zealand!**

Stay at our boutique accommodation to escape & uncover the wonders of life on this stunning remote Chatham Island!

405 Waitangi Wharf, Owenga Rd, Chatham Islands

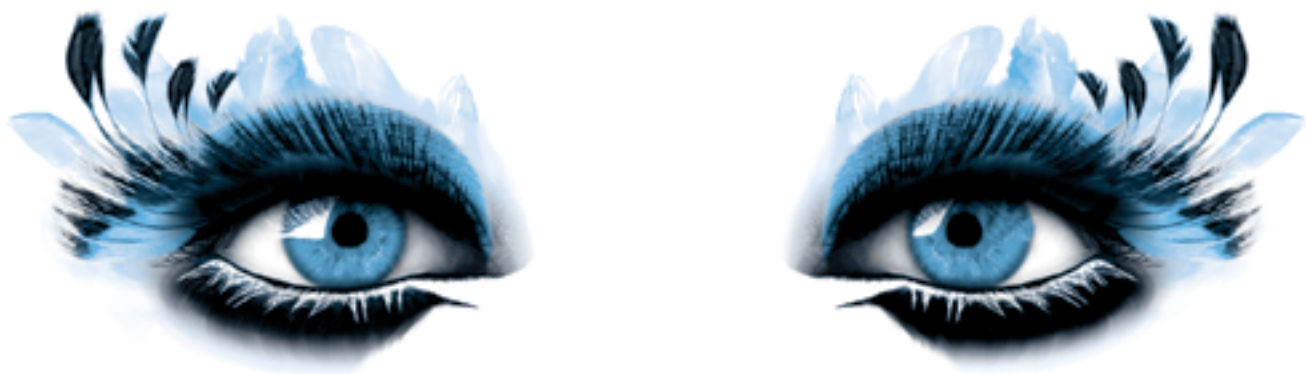
Phone 027 279 2797 | [kopibushretreat@gmail.com](mailto:kopibushretreat@gmail.com)

[www.kopiretreat.co.nz](http://www.kopiretreat.co.nz)

# Back to contents







# Regional News

## Eyes on Wellington

## We are expanding our readership!

### Pick us up from over 100 locations!

From January 2025 we will be doing limited home delivery.

We are environmentally conscious here at *Regional News* and while we do already print with vegetable ink on newsprint paper – both recyclable and sustainable – we are finding that more and more people are choosing to read us online and fewer want printed material in their letterboxes. We have decided to meet the needs of our readers and advertisers by creating a subscription model and increasing our pick-up points across Greater Wellington and beyond.

You can now pick *Regional News* up from more than 100 locations, which is a 25 percent increase on what we were previously able to offer. In the past, we couldn't keep up with the demand, with thousands of papers flying out of the

stands each fortnight. We used to run out of copies to refill these stands with and would hear from readers who were disappointed to have missed out. Now, we're diverting our stock where it's most wanted to ensure that every copy picked up is read and enjoyed.

Additionally, we have reworked our website to make *Regional News* much easier to read on your smartphone. Head to [www.regionalnews.kiwi](http://www.regionalnews.kiwi) to give it a go! Here, you can now subscribe to get the paper direct to your inbox free, or sign up to have each issue mailed to you for just the cost of postage.

We are so excited about these changes and hope to be gracing your emails soon – pick us up at a hotspot today or subscribe and we'll see you there!

**We will add new pick-up points in red every fortnight.  
Home delivered to Kapiti and Titahi Bay.**

### Available from pick-up points at:



**Four Square:** Kelburn, Raumati, Paraparaumu, Waikanae, Bulls



**New World:** **Wellington** – Newtown, Thorndon, Chaffers, Karori, Newlands, Churton Park, Tawa, Whitby, **Hutt** – Lower Hutt, Silverstream, **Kapiti** – Paraparaumu, Waikanae, **Wairarapa** – Carterton, Masterton, **Manawatū** – Feilding

**Libraries:** **Wellington** – Brooklyn Library, Miramar Library, Ruth Gotlieb (Kilbirnie) Library, Newtown Library, Johnsonville Library, Mervyn Kemp (Tawa) Library, Porirua City Centre Library, **Hutt** – Petone Library, Lower Hutt Library, Upper Hutt Library, **Kapiti** – Paraparaumu Library, Waikanae Public Library, **Wairarapa** – Carterton Library, Masterton District Library, **Manawatū** – Palmerston North City Library, Manawatū Community Hub Libraries

**Wellington Central:** FreshChoice Cuba Street, Wellington Sea Market Cuba Street, Unichem Cuba Mall Pharmacy, J & M Fastfood, Wellington Museum of City and Sea, Holey Moley Golf Club (Willis Lane), Wellington Railway Station

**Karori:** Marsden Books (Marsden Village)

**Kelburn:** Paradise Seafoods, Cable Car Museum

**Northland:** Zhou's Kitchen

**Brooklyn:** Nanking Takeaways, Penthouse Cinema and Café

**Island Bay:** Bay's Takeaway, Empire Cinema and Eatery, Island Bay Video

**Kilbirnie:** Hey George Café, Baycourt, Buba Café, Forever Young Hairdressing

**Miramar:** Strathmore Bakery & Café, Mr Bun Bakery and Coffee Shop

**Seatoun:** Seatoun Dairy

**Petone:** Bob Scott Retirement Village, Bin Inn, Peaches and Cream

**Lower Hutt:** ETC Lower Hutt, Easy Go Dairy

**Eastbourne:** **Chocolate Hair Company**, **Golden Palace Takeaway**, **Chocolate Dayz Café**, **Sea Salt Café**, **Days Bay Pavillion**

**Stokes Valley:** Kōraunui Stokes Valley Neighbourhood Hub

**Upper Hutt:** Muffin Break (Upper Hutt Mall)

**Johnsonville:** Twiglands Garden Centre, Johnsonville Shopping Centre

**Porirua:** Jaylons Cake & Coffee House

**Aotea:** Sushil's Musclechef Kitchen and Café

**Plimmerton:** Plimmerton Village Grocery

**Kapiti:** Coastlands Aquatic Centre, Kapiti Jewellery Design and Manufacturers, The Bookshelf, Tommy's Real Estate, Kapiti Knitting and Lotto

**Ōtaki:** RiverStone Café

**Featherston:** FreshChoice Featherston, Loco Coffee and Books, C'est Cheese, Pioneer Bakery and Coffee 2 go

**Greytown:** FreshChoice Greytown, Corner Café, The French Baker, The Lolly Jar, Greyfriars Motel, ASURE Oak Estate Motor Lodge

**Martinborough:** Martinborough isite Visitor Information Centre, Scotty's Meats

**Carterton:** Wild Oats Bakery Deli and Café, Almo's Café, Kāinga Eatery, Carterton Holiday Park

**Masterton:** Café Strada, Hospital Food Market, Noodle Canteen, Entice Café, Iberia Café, Masterton Railway Station, Wairarapa Masonic Village, BK's Chardonnay Motor Lodge, Kandahar Retirement Village, Ultimate Care Lansdowne Court, Lyndale Care, Masterton isite Visitor Information Centre

**Manawatū:** Ohakea Café Manawatū, Bulls BP