



Hamilton Playbox

... playing up since 1933

One of New Zealand's longest running dramatic societies

Keep an eye out on our FB page or website <https://www.playbox.org.nz> for more information on our shows in 2024.

Hamilton City



24hr Play Challenge, Riverlea Theatre in association with CCS.

Teams of up to four actors per team write and rehearse a play in 24 hours. They then perform it to a public audience on Saturday night, have adjudication and a winner announced. For more information, please contact Lee Owens at playbox@playbox.org.nz.

Dates: 16 and 17 February 2024

The Twits, Hamilton Arts Festival, Hamilton Gardens, licenced by NZ Play Bureau.

Directed by Lorna Ashton

Based on the book by Roald Dahl. Adapted for the stage by David Wood.

Set in a circus and bored with playing silly tricks on one and other. The grotesque, revolting Mr and Mrs Twit turn their attentions to capturing and training a family of monkeys, the Muggle-wumps.

Three performances between 23 February – 03 March 2024.

Auditions: 4 November 2023 – Group Audition at Riverlea Theatre, 83 Riverlea Road, Hamilton in the lounge at 9am. **All Welcome.**

The Borrowers by Mary Norton adapted for stage by Charles Way, Riverlea Theatre presented with the permission of Keylight Inc.

Directed by Glen Mathews

The Borrowers is about the Clock family, Pod, Homily, and their daughter Arrietty, who live under the floorboards and survive by “borrowing” what they need from the “human beans” who live above them. Their world is put in danger when a boy arrives in the house.

Auditions: 25 and 26 November 2023 / Season Dates 6-20 April 2024



Theatre New Zealand TheatreFest 2024

If you are interested in participating or being part of this nationwide competition run by Theatre NZ. For more information, please contact Lorna Ashton at playbox@playbox.org.nz.

Jersey Girls – Farmed and Dangerous by Lynelle Kuriger - Playwright, Riverlea Theatre.

Directed by Jayden Watkins

Should a heifer devote herself to just one bull? Never! But that doesn't stop Bub falling for the first bull she ever meets. Love is a dangerous game when you're a Jersey Girl if you're not in calf with the rest of the herd it can only mean a one-way trip... on the works truck!

Follow Bub and the rest of the herd on Mr and Mrs Farmers block. It's been a whole year since Bub, Sooky and the rest of the heifers last saw the herd, leaving the farm as young calves. Upon re-joining the herd ruled by the cunning matriarch, Grandma, they have to quickly come to grips with behaving like a good cow! Easier said than done when there are a couple of randy bulls vying for their attention, and it looks as though Mrs Farmer (the best thing around the farm) might be sent away herself if she's not pregnant!

Can Bub and the rest of the herd get Mrs Farmer in calf while saving themselves from Mr Farmer and the cull?

Auditions: TBC / Season Dates: 8-22 June 2024

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Dale Wasserman, licenced by NZ Play Bureau.

Directed by Lawrie Johnson

The story of the devil-may-care rogue who has committed himself temporarily to a mental home rather than work in a prison. He transforms the home, charming everyone, except the fierce martinet of a head nurse, and works wonders with a presumed deaf-and-dumb Indian. However, he is condemned by the nurse to a frontal lobotomy, which will leave him a vegetable, and to save him his fellow inmates smother him.

Auditions: TBC / Season Dates: 12-26 October 2024