



***"A real witch could smell you across the street... to a witch, you would smell like fresh dog droppings!"***

Roald Dahl's scariest book is brought to life in a tremendously terrifying treat for the whole family. Witches absolutely detest children. They find them revolting and are planning to wipe them out like weasels! They want to squish them and squiggle them and make them disappear. But one brave young boy and his grandmother have a plan to get rid of the witches for good... if only they can avoid being turned into mice.

## TICKETS – shows 15 to 24 March

- 15 to 24 March at 8pm
- No evening performance Sunday 18 March
- Matinees Sunday 18 and Saturday 24 March 2pm
- No performance Monday 19 March

### HOW TO BOOK



#### BOOK ONLINE AT

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

or phone 09 361 1000

or 0508 484 2538 if calling from outside Auckland

NO booking fee/delivery fee

#### BY POST (cheque/credit card only)

Send to: ETS, PO Box 11432, Ellerslie, Auckland 1542.

#### IN PERSON (cash/cheque/credit card/Eftpos)

Booking office opens forty five minutes before performance.

TICKETS \$25 evening, \$20 matinee

CHILDREN AGED 14 YEARS AND UNDER:

Evening \$23, Matinee \$18



### OPENING NIGHT GALA THURSDAY THE 15TH OF MARCH

A complimentary glass of sparkling wine, or juice, and snacks will be served on the opening night performance.

Pre-booking is recommended to guarantee your seat.

STABLES RAFFLE WINNER'S CIRCLE

The 39 Steps — Lucy

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Ellerslie Theatrical Society Inc

P O Box 11 432, Ellerslie, Auckland 1542 Phone 525 3336

Stables Theatre (Ellerslie War Memorial Community Centre), Cnr Main Highway & Arthur Street, Ellerslie

email: [info@ellerslietheatre.co.nz](mailto:info@ellerslietheatre.co.nz) or [newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz](mailto:newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz) website: [www.ellerslietheatre.co.nz](http://www.ellerslietheatre.co.nz)



Farcical melodrama, or melodramatic farce? The programme notes seem to have stolen all my bons mots. Standing the test since 1915 this classic has morphed again into a wonderful two hours of escapism. It is no wonder the principal felt compelled to toughen up in the gym to reprise the role. Oft accoladed director James has extracted every nuance of dynamism from his diverse cast and melded all into a frenetic maelstrom.

Jason pushes, drags and hurls the indefatigable character of Richard Hannay on a whirlwind tour, all within a well lit and versatile Blakey set. His crisp swings of emotion and unlikely escapes from all manner of entrapments glue us to the edges of our seats. (A political future?)

With finely drawn and subtle elegance Amy extracts the essence of feminine allure (WoW) and yet shocks us with her unexpected worm turning betrayals. Ken leads us through a maze of impossible sidestepping characters, constantly challenging wardrobe and the upper register of his versatile voice by turn. (Counselling has been booked) Young, passionate mad hatter Vincent enchants us with his frequent forays into a plethora of plausible persona. (Eat yer heart out Alan Bennett)

Fluid swaps of dominance, energetic meshing of switching personalities, and tight sound and light cues gave us an evening of constantly challenging delight, one which I hope none of you allowed to slip by unattended.

*Reviewed by Rex Steele*

#### CAST

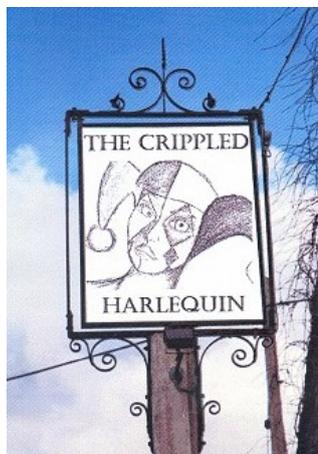
Richard Hannay ~ Jason Moffatt

Clown 1 ~ Ken Morrison

Pamela/Margaret /Anabella ~ Amy Maclaine

Clown 2 ~ Vincent Feng

Director ~ James Bell



### Informal Play Reading Evening - Wed 21 Feb

This informal group meets periodically to give members the opportunity to read or listen to both complete plays, and interesting excerpts. New participants are welcome, and play suggestions are also invited. There are plenty of parts for readers, and listeners are also most welcome. The reading will be 'At the Sign of The Crippled Harlequin' a thriller by Norman Robbins.

The informal play reading group will meet on:

Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 7.30pm

at the home of Rona Colbert, 40 Michaels Ave, Ellerslie

A case of mistaken identity leads to tragedy in this engaging thriller. In a snowbound guest house in the Peak District, Marjory Pike is wrongly identified by another guest as the author of a book declaiming certain mediums, one of whom had committed suicide as a result.

RSVP for numbers or enquiries to Jocelyn McQuaid telephone 09 626 3070 email [jossmcq@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:jossmcq@slingshot.co.nz). Taking a little something for supper would be appreciated.



## Ellerslie Business Association Santa Parade 2017 A KIWI CHRISTMAS

The sun was shining on Sunday the 6th of December creating the perfect backdrop for our Kiwi Christmas float. The cheery scene complete with pavlova, sausages and 'delicate' decorations was complimented by a cast of colourful characters including a sleeping grandfather! Thanks to the Ellerslie Business Association for organising another wonderful parade and congratulations to Renee Palmer and her talented Christmas float elves on your award for best float.

# COME AND PLAY WITH US

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The Annual General Meeting of the Ellerslie Theatrical Society Inc. will be held at **8pm on Monday the 16th of April 2018** at the STABLES THEATRE, 138 Main Highway (corner Main Highway and Arthur Street), Ellerslie.

All are welcome and supper will be served at the conclusion of business.

Written nominations are called for the following positions:

President  
Vice President x 2  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Committee Member x 5

- The elections for the above positions will be held in the order stated.
- A person can only hold one position on the committee.
- Nominees for the position of President must have been members of the Committee for at least twelve months immediately prior to the AGM.
- Nominees for the position of Vice President and Treasurer must have been financial members of the Society for at least twelve months prior to the AGM.
- All nominees must be financial members of the Society.

It is preferable that nominations are received no later than 16 March 2018. Posted nominations should be sent to: The Secretary, Ellerslie Theatrical Society, PO Box 11 432, Ellerslie. Late nominations handed to the Secretary at the meeting prior to the advertised starting time will be accepted at the Chairman's discretion.

### PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

#### Background

The Management Committee intends to change its principal method for payment to online banking. The current clause does not enable the Management Committee to do this.

Currently, clause 10(b) under 'Finance' in the Rules states:

All monies received by and on behalf of the Society shall forthwith be paid to the credit of the Society in such bank or investment accounts from time to time authorised by Resolution of the Management Committee and all cheques or withdrawal slips drawn on such account or accounts shall be signed by any two of the President, Treasurer and such other members of the Committee as it may from time to time by resolution authorise as signatories.

#### The proposal

The Management Committee proposes that the first part of this clause should be retained, as it relates to payments received by the Society, as clause 10(b), and that the second part of this clause should form a new clause 10(c), relating to payments made by the Society.

All subsequent clauses within section 10, Finance, will be renumbered, with the current clause 10(c) becoming 10(d), and so on.

Clause 10(b) will then be:

All monies received by and on behalf of the Society shall forthwith be paid to the credit of the Society in such bank or investment accounts from time to time authorised by Resolution of the Management Committee.

The new clause 10(c) will be:

All withdrawals on such account or accounts shall be authorised (whether by digital authorisation online or by signature on a cheque or other paper instrument) by any two of the President, Treasurer and such other members of the Committee as are from time to time authorised as signatories by Resolution of the Management Committee.

If you would like further information about the proposed rule change please contact David Blakey 027 495 3794 or [info@ellerslietheatre.co.nz](mailto:info@ellerslietheatre.co.nz).

## EARLY BIRD

### MEMBERSHIP DRAW

Renew or join ETS by Wednesday the 28th of February 2018 to go into the draw to win two tickets to any one of our productions this year (where seats are available).



## ETS MEMBERSHIP

As a member you will:

- Receive regular newsletters and audition notices.
- Be able to participate in ETS plays and social functions.
- Receive a discount on ticket purchases.
- Support your local, non-profit, theatrical society.

Membership forms can be found on the 'Contact Us' page on the **website** or by calling **Rona** on **09 525 3336**.

## HELP AROUND THE STABLES

Join us behind the scenes, on stage or in front of house. For more information see the website or contact our team.

*Membership & Bar* — Rona **09 525 3336**

*Hospitality* — Ros **021 182 8109**  
[hospitality@ellerslietheatre.co.nz](mailto:hospitality@ellerslietheatre.co.nz)

*Design Team* — Anna **021 137 4936**  
[newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz](mailto:newsletter@ellerslietheatre.co.nz)

*Crew* — Charlotte **021 102 8389**  
[stagecrewellerslie@gmail.com](mailto:stagecrewellerslie@gmail.com)

*Set Build* — David **027 495 3794**  
[davidblakey@gmail.com](mailto:davidblakey@gmail.com)

### Set Build Dates 2018

*The Witches* 17 Feb to 10 Mar  
*The House of Angels* 12 May to 2 Jun  
*Beautiful Thing* 28 Jul to 18 Aug  
*The Lady in the Van* 13 Oct to 3 Nov

**Members who volunteer for crew roles receive two complimentary tickets to the show.**

# AUDITIONS — Saturday 17 March from 1.30pm

# The House of Angels

written by Ruth Mayo directed by Sian Davis



7 TO 16 JUNE 2018

Essentially, the play is a character-driven comedy-drama in which eight disparate (and desperate) characters, all in the twilight years of their theatre careers, are unexpectedly 'rescued' from whatever happens to discarded, elderly actors. The why is what the play is about..... and how at the end they 'rescue' themselves. It is set in the present and in the lounge of an old boarding-house somewhere in Ellerslie, yet to be discovered by Auckland property developers; in need of attention but comfortable. The NZ playwright, Ruth Mayo, now lives in London but is an ex-Mercury actor from the 1970s- early '80s; she knows her territory well. Certain aspects of characterisation might well 'ring a bell'.

## About the director

The director is Sian Davis. She also has attachments to the territory and from much the same time. She has directed extensively throughout the Auckland am-dram scene, and is, hopefully, quite well remembered at 'Stables' for such offerings as THE FARM in 2002, through WIT, PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE, DOUBT, CHERISH, LOOT, to SOCIAL CLIMBERS in 2015. Sian says 'Not only about actors, THE HOUSE OF ANGELS is really an actors' piece and will only work through the strength of the characterisation. It will be an interesting challenge.'

## Contact Details — Sian Davis

Sian Davis  
email: [pigflopper@outlook.com](mailto:pigflopper@outlook.com)  
telephone: 09 483 4245

## Rehearsals

Commence Monday 2 April 2018, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week from 7.30pm, Sundays from 12.30pm

## Season

Thursday 7 to Saturday 16 June 2018 - 10 performances including 2 matinees

## Audition Address

Stables Theatre, 138 Main Highway, Ellerslie, Auckland

## Cast Required

- \* Players are all somewhere between late 50s to late 70s (actors outside this range definitely considered if I think you can get away with it). The ages are only suggestions and should only be treated as guidelines. If you are outside of this age range but feel you are perfect for the role, please come along to audition.
- \* Character descriptions are not definitive.

## Characters

- **Helen** female 50+ - slim, still limber (yoga). Reserve and dignity.
- **Wystan** male 50+ - (pron. Wisstin). Writer. Gay, reclusive, pompous and passionate but with an insulated self-sufficiency.
- **Gabe** male 50+ - ex-rocker guitarist (skilled guitar playing needed'). Hippie-ish, cryptic, aloof.
- **Gwen** female 50+ - plump. Compels attention. Flirty.
- **Ollie** male 50+ - introverted, anxious, but needs to control. Fastidious.
- **Angela** female 50+ - highly organised but strong impression of 'losing it' (vagueness is a product of medicinal 'dope'...headaches are something else). Fey.
- **Jack** male 50+ - overweight. Jocular, but also pernickety and petulant. Slippery but a charmer.
- **Binnie** female 50+ - energetic and bossy. An organiser. Spiritual element to her...psychic powers, apparently.

## Audition

Those auditioning for 'Gabe' will be seen at 1.30. He will need his guitar and be prepared to do his monologue, p.34 (can be read), but then perform an accompanied Paxton's "Last Thing on My Mind" as per script (p.36). Chords and lyrics can be googled. For the other roles, there will basically be a mix'n match process so please turn up at 2 pm. The audition should finish by 4pm at latest. There is no need to learn audition pieces but do please get an e-copy of the play from Sian Davis and read.

## Audition extracts (underlined is the character mainly being looked at):

- P 8. Helen "And he wouldn't know what to do with himself..... P10 Binnie "Just scones then".  
Gwen/Helen/Binnie
- p.13. Ollie "What's he talking about?..... p.15 Binnie "Not a soul on the planet doesn't....."  
Helen/Binnie/Ollie
- p.17 Binnie "Right, here's the refreshments on the table..... Jack "That's me. Can't be corrected, neither".  
Binnie/Jack/Wystan
- p.7 Gwen "Are we all done, Ollie? Am I safe to move?.....p.8 Angela "Oh yes".  
Gwen/Ollie/Helen/Angela
- P.10 Ang "Water, paracetamol, water..... p.11 Helen "Certainly!"  
Ang/Helen

## what's on at other theatres

Dolphin Theatre	<a href="http://www.dolphintheatre.co.nz">www.dolphintheatre.co.nz</a>	Hot Water by Roger Hall — <b>season:</b> 2 to 17 Mar
Howick Little Theatre	<a href="http://www.hlt.org.nz">www.hlt.org.nz</a>	Cruise Control by David Williamson — <b>season:</b> 17 Feb to 24 Mar
Titirangi Theatre	<a href="http://www.titirangitheatre.co.nz">www.titirangitheatre.co.nz</a>	The Savage Dilemma by John Patrick — <b>season:</b> 13 to 24 Mar
Mairangi Players	<a href="http://www.mairangiplayers.co.nz">www.mairangiplayers.co.nz</a>	Perfect Wedding by Robert Hawdon — <b>season:</b> 16 to 24 Mar
Company Theatre	<a href="http://www.companytheatre.co.nz">www.companytheatre.co.nz</a>	Popcorn by Ben Elton — <b>season:</b> 12 to 26 May

