

*Sex, cake and the
perfect 1950s housewife*

Home, I'm Darling

**A COMEDY BY LAURA WADE
DIRECTED BY CARLEENA WALSH
SEASON: FEB 25 TO MARCH 18 2023**



HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE
SIR LLOYD DRIVE – PAKURANGA
HLT.NZ/HOME

BOOK ONLINE
ITICKET.CO.NZ OR
PHONE 361 1000



PRINT plus
www.printplus.co.nz
0800 377 466
Howick
Local Board

Please switch off cellphones before entering the theatre.

The taking of photographs and use of recording devices during the performance is forbidden by law.



Printplus people

**Fast full colour print,
design, labels and
signage**

0800 377 468 | www.printplus.co.nz **PRINT plus**

Judy's best devilled egg recipe

Hardboil 10 eggs, cool and carefully peel. Cut in half longways, remove the yolks and mash, adding 1/2 cup of mayonnaise, 1 tsp of Dijon mustard, salt & pepper to taste.

Pipe the filling into the egg whites and garnish with finely chopped chives and dust with paprika.

Option to add chopped pickles, curry powder, relish or butter. Refrigerate for 20 minutes.

DONATIONS

Our mission is to perform plays and hold workshops and acting classes, but we also spend a lot of time and money maintaining our building. You can help by attending productions, becoming a member or a sponsor or by making a donation. Every little bit helps.

Howick Little Theatre is a non-profit organisation registered with the Charities Commission (No. CC21274). Any donations are greatly appreciated. Donations over \$5 are tax deductible.


the paint the professionals use

PROUDLY
SUPPORTING
HOWICK LITTLE
THEATRE

Home, I'm Darling

From the Director

When I was given the script of *Home, I'm Darling* to read, I immediately knew I wanted the role of Judy, the ultimate 1950s housewife. Unfortunately for me, Judy is a great deal younger than I am and I was offered the extraordinary opportunity to direct the play instead.

As a first-time director at HLT, I feel very fortunate to be supported by such a creative and collaborative cast and crew. A huge amount of work goes into every production from the actors on stage, the backstage crew and production team. Rehearsals have been fun and I am thankful to everyone involved. I am hugely grateful to Nick Martin for generously giving his time to mentor me, as well as creating our beautiful lighting design.

Home, I'm Darling takes you into Judy's world, where she immerses herself in her role as the perfect 1950s housewife.

We see how Judy's world is challenged by the pressures brought about by the changing times around her. Will she be able to maintain her perfect life or will her world unravel around her?

Thank you, all, for coming to see *Home, I'm Darling*. I hope you enjoy tonight's performance and, who knows, maybe it will spark a conversation in the car on the way home.

A big special thank you to Roger Grice, for always going above and beyond the brief of a model partner and who, along with my mum, dad and Ruby, supports and encourages me at every hurdle, real or imagined. Thanks also to Anne and Steve Philipps, Jo Ryan from 77.Retro and Graeme Jones, who all pitched in and helped in so many ways.

Carleena Walsh
Director

The Cast

Judy
Joanne Lindsay

Johnny
Mark Snoad

Sylvia
Judy Rankin

Marcus
Richard De Luca

Fran
Ruth Edgar

Alex
Senica Calder

Standbys
Matthew Cousins
Rosheen Leslie

Production Creatives

Director
Carleena Walsh

Set designer
Ian Milnes

Lighting Designer
Nick Martin

Lighting Assistant
Nicole Ashley

Sound Designer
Nicole Ashley

Production Co-ordinator/ Rehearsal Prompt
Alison Mudford

Wardrobe Designer

Judy Rankin

Dresser

Katya Davidson

Choreographer

Ellie Barrow

Set Decor/Props

Elizabeth Amiss

Stage Manager

Trevor Hynes

Assistant Stage Manager

Bruce Wighton

Intimacy Adviser

Nick Martin

Lighting/Sound Operator

Stefan
Meadows-Allan

Graphic design

Emma Love

Photography

AJ Johnson

Set Builders/ Painters

David Gifford
(foreman),
Pat Hudson,
Roger Grice,
Davie Guthrie,
Doug Johnston,
Laurie Mills,
Chris Woodhouse

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Dolphin Theatre and Betty Oudney for costume assistance.

This community theatre production of Home, I'm Darling is by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd.



Carleena Walsh

DIRECTOR

Carleena has always thought of Howick Little Theatre as her home away from home (and it certainly has been lately) and has been in many plays with lots of highlights over the past 20 years. Some that remain absolute favourites are: *Backstage*, *Punch & Judy* and *Ladies in Lavender*. Other memorable roles were Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and Annette in *God of Carnage* for Piece of Work Productions, and multi-roling eight different characters in *The Laramie Project* at Ellerslie Theatre. Carleena also works at Macleans College in the Performing Arts faculty as a drama teacher.



Joanne Lindsay

JUDY

Joanne is grateful to be taking on her second principal role since landing on our shores in May. She landed with a solo question: "Where are the theatre people?" Which shortly emerged into: "Where are the theatre people, and why is the cost of cheese so high?" She is happy to have been welcomed into the theatrical community with open arms. Joanne works for our DHB as a nurse specialising in young people's mental health. She has produced, written, directed and performed in theatre in the UK, with a particular focus on musical theatre and developing new writing projects.



Mark Snoad

JOHNNY

Mark takes the stage a few years after playing Sherlock Holmes in *The Game's Afoot*, and is thrilled to be part of another superb HLT production. He says playing the character of Johnny is fun, but being waited on hand and foot is harder than it looks! He loves the different levels of humour and drama in this play and is in awe of Joanne, who plays Judy and never leaves the stage. Working with such a dedicated and talented cast and crew has been a privilege, he says, and he hopes you enjoy the show. Mark is also a writer and his debut middle-grade novel, *Maggie and the Mountain of Light*, releases in April.



Judy Rankin

SYLVIA

Judy spent her primary school years in 1950s New Zealand – a stark contrast to postwar England. However, she does remember rock and roll and stiff petticoats! Wearing two hats for *Home, I'm Darling* (Sylvia and wardrobe), she says it's been helpful being "someone who was actually there". She sends a big thank-you to Betty Oudney for adapting some of our frocks to facilitate very quick changes ...zip! zip! zip! Judy was last on stage in *The Game's Afoot* in 2019, and many times before that.

Richard De Luca

MARCUS

Richard is thrilled to be back at Howick Little Theatre after diving last year into the mind of Sam Spade in *The Maltese Falcon*. He says in some ways, Marcus is a modern version of Sam Spade in terms of his relationships with women; having a level of confidence not necessarily founded on a solid understanding of himself. Currently taking a year off teaching math at Pakuranga College, Richard says this year is about trying to focus on playwriting as well as taking some time to travel overseas. He says it's been a wonderful experience working with some good friends and new faces and particularly working with Carleena as she has brought this script to life. He hopes you enjoy the show, as it has so much to offer, not to mention the amazing choreography!



Ruth Edgar

FRAN

Ruth is delighted to return to Howick Little Theatre, and this is her fourth time performing here. She has been heavily involved in the theatre scene in Auckland, both on and offstage, over the past decade. When she isn't at the theatre, she can be found driving Mum's taxi after her four children and working as a project manager for the MoE. The challenging topic of feminism and the roles of women in the home is one that has resonated with Ruth and she is having fun portraying Fran. She says it has been a pleasure to work with Carleena and the team and HLT. Enjoy the show!



Senica Calder

ALEX

This will be Senica's second foray onto the HLT stage, after playing Miranda in last year's *NSFW*. She is thrilled to be in this production, playing the confident and professional Alex. She has enjoyed being part of the process and hopes to be involved much more with the theatre this year.



Ian Milnes

SET DESIGNER

Ian has designed, acted and directed quite a few times at HLT – most recently directing *The Viewing Room* (2021). He is thrilled to be once more working in the theatre with Carleena and would like to thank the set construction team for turning his ideas into reality.

Ellie Barrow

CHOREOGRAPHER

Ellie spent many years as a semi-professional dancer, both in NZ and the US. She's performed in almost every conceivable dance style, with lyrical, Broadway jazz and French cancan being her favourites. Despite being involved in HLT productions either on stage or behind the scenes since 2017, *Home I'm Darling* is her first opportunity to choreograph at HLT. She's enjoyed the collaborative process of working with the actors to create a routine that serves the story and characters while staying true to the dance style. She is so proud of what "her dancers" have achieved in such a short period of time, while taking on all the other aspects the show requires. They are champions!

The Play

Judy is a picture-perfect 50s housewife. She spends her days making the perfect devilled eggs, mixing the perfect Screwdriver and being the perfect homemaker to her husband Johnny. They're totally happy with their pastel-hued life. The only problem is, it's not the 1950s, it's now, and their dream world is about to come crashing down in hilarious style. In Laura Wade's smart and engaging *Home, I'm Darling*, nostalgia isn't what it used to be ...and it constantly collides with present-day realities.

Winner of the 2019 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy, *Home, I'm Darling* is full of big laughs, big skirts and big questions. How can we cope with the pressures of modern life? What do we lose in the present when we pine for the past? And can you get stains out of a shirt with just lemon juice and baking soda? This witty, highly original and thought-provoking comedy takes a look at the complexity of women's choices and the dangers of nostalgia through distinctly rose-coloured glasses. Full of playful, breezy charm, it also packs a considerable punch.

"Take 15 minutes to rest so that you are refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. He has just been with a lot of work weary people. Be a little gay, a little more interesting. His boring day might need a lift."

– Dr Nancy from *How to be a Good Wife 1950s Style*

The Playwright

Laura Wade

Laura Wade (born 16/10/77) is a playwright and screenwriter. Her recent plays include *The Watsons* and *Home, I'm Darling* (National Theatre), which won the 2019 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy. Film work includes *The Riot Club*, adapted from her play *Posh*. Laura's playwrighting career began at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, and developed at the Royal Court Theatre Young Writers Programme and Soho Theatre's Writer Attachment scheme.

Laura's plays have been performed in many countries, including New Zealand, the US, Australia, Germany, Mexico, Sweden, Slovenia and France. She is developing a feature film with support from the BFI Film Fund, and made her broadcasting debut in February 2020 as presenter of the new BBC Radio 4 narrative history series *Equal As We Are*.

2022-2023 Management Committee

Deborah Lind (President),
Andrew Gordon (Vice-president),
Roger Mudford (Treasurer),
Judith Clarke, Trevor Hynes,
AJ Johnson, Senica Calder,
Ellie Barrow & Alison Mudford

Founder

Alma Woods, MBE

Co-Patrons

Irene Fryer, Barry Spring

Membership

Sign up online at hlt.org.nz or ask for a membership form at the office. A year's adult fee is \$20; it's \$15 for those aged 25 or under. Reduced fees apply later in the year.

Showcard Subscriptions

Subscribe to receive discounted

tickets and priority bookings. Showcards also make ideal gifts. See hlt.org.nz for details and payment options.

Information

Office hours:
9.30am-1.30pm Tues-Fri,
ph 534-1401 (general enquiries),
email info@hlt.org.nz.
PO Box 82-003, Highland Park,
Auckland 2143
Website: hlt.org.nz.

Bookings

Book at iticket.co.nz,
or phone 361 1000.

Costume Hire

HLT hires costumes.
Phone office for details.

HLT Studio

The HLT Studio, supported and developed by HLT, is a platform

for new works and creatives. Short seasons of plays and play readings are staged each year. For more details see: facebook.com/thestudiohlt

Fundraising and Group Bookings

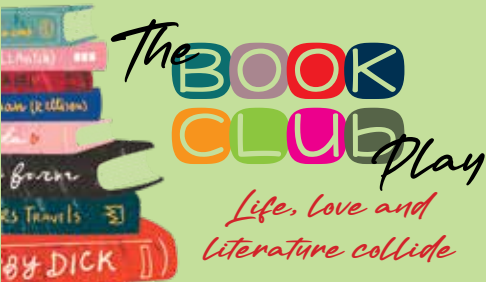
PlayDate nights are available for your group, school, office or club for fundraising or socialising. A PlayDate booking reserves all the theatre for a performance, and guests will enjoy the friendly social atmosphere before the show with our full bar facilities. For details, including catering options, contact the office.

Acting Classes

HLT offers acting classes, taught by a leading professional, for all ages. For details, see hlt.org.nz or call the office.



HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS 2023



A COMEDY BY KAREN ZACARIAS. DIRECTED BY DEB LIND
SEASON: MAY 6 TO 27, 8PM.
MATINEES: MAY 7 & 14, 2PM.

A hit comedy about books and the people who love them. When the members of a book club become the subjects of a documentary and accept a provocative new member, their long-standing group dynamics take a hilarious turn. This delightful new play is about life, love, literature and the side-splitting results as friends start reading between the lines.

A community theatre production of The Book Club Play by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd

A MURDER MYSTERY BY AGATHA CHRISTIE.
DIRECTED BY MATTHEW COUSINS

SEASON: JULY 8 TO 29, 8PM. MATINEES: JULY 9 & 16, 2PM.

In Agatha Christie's most ingenious murder mystery, the villagers of Chipping Cleghorn, including Miss Jane Marple, are perplexed by an advertisement in the local gazette that reads: "A murder is announced and will take place on Friday October 29th, at Little Paddocks at 6.30pm." A crowd begins to gather at the appointed time when, without warning, the lights go out...

A community theatre production of A Murder Is Announced by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd.

A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED

MISS MARPLE,
ARE YOU THERE?



A THRILLER BY FREDERICK KNOTT,
ADAPTED BY JEFFREY HATCHER
DIRECTED BY CARLOS LEHMANN

SEASON: SEPT 9 TO 30, 8PM. MATINEES: SEPT 10 & 17, 2PM.

In this adaptation of the 1966 classic, Susan Hendrix, a blind yet capable woman, is terrorised by a trio of men in her apartment in Greenwich Village in 1944. As the climax builds, Susan discovers her blindness might be the key to her escape, but she must wait until dark to play out this thriller's chilling conclusion.

By arrangement with Music Theatre International Australasia Pty Ltd, on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

WAIT UNTIL DARK

SHINES A LIGHT ON
THE POWER OF DARKNESS

A COMEDY BY NORM FOSTER.
DIRECTED BY TRACEY HOLDSWORTH
SEASON: NOV 11 TO DEC 2, 8PM.
MATINEES: NOV 12 & 19, 2PM.

A story of courtship, rekindled romance and the indomitability of hope, *Old Love* spans three decades, and half-a-dozen meetings between Bud, a salesman, and Molly, his boss's wife. One of them is smitten from the first, the other less so. Another hit from Canada's Norm Foster, this clever and witty heartwarming journey celebrates the never-ending pursuit of love – old and new.

OLD LOVE

*Broken hearts and
second chances*



**hlt
studio**

Supported and developed by HLT, the Studio is a platform to encourage new creative talent and scripts. For details of the 2023 Studio line-up see hlt.nz.

**PRECIOUS
LITTLE**

LOVE, LANGUAGE
AND IMPOSSIBLE
DECISIONS

MAY 31 TO JUNE 3

**Howick
Little
plays**

A SERIES OF VERY SHORT
AWARD-WINNING PLAYS

OCTOBER 4 TO 7

COMING SOON TO HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE

The
BOOK
CLUB
Play

*Life, love and
literature collide*

A COMEDY BY
KAREN ZACARÍAS

DIRECTED BY
DEB LIND

SEASON
MAY 6 TO 27



HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE
SIR LLOYD DRIVE – PAKURANGA
HLT.NZ/BOOK

BOOK ONLINE
ITICKET.CO.NZ OR
PHONE 361 1000

