

HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE

presents

THINGS I KNOW TO BE TRUE

A drama by
Andrew Bovell

Directed by
Emma Love

NEVER LEAVE IT TOO LATE
7 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2024



iTICKET

HLT.NZ/THINGS

**Howick
Local Board**
Auckland Council



Please switch off cellphones before entering the theatre.
It is strictly forbidden for audience members to make any form of recording of this production.

ROOF RENEWAL FUNDRAISING

2024 celebrates the 70th anniversary of our beloved theatre and the 50th anniversary of our home here at Lloyd Elsmore Park. It also marks a need for us to complete vital repairs and improvements to our roof. In short, we need a new one!

We are making great progress through grants and fundraising, but we need your help!

Your donation will not only help us renew the roof but also protect our equipment, sets, props, and extensive wardrobe, and ensure the theatre continues to put on quality productions for another 70 years.

Donate online by scanning the QR code, visiting hlt.org.nz/donate or simply spread the word. Thank you for your support.

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



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THINGS I KNOW TO BE TRUE



FROM THE DIRECTOR

As an actor, director, and audience member, I am drawn to raw and honest stories such as this that challenge and force us to question what we ourselves “know to be true”. The themes are profound but entirely relatable: the values we live by, the pain that can accompany any of life’s transitions, the complex relationships within a family, and the bonds that must sometimes be broken to move forward.

I would like to thank my cast. They are all talented, committed and truly lovely people who have been an absolute pleasure to

work with. But also, please do cast an eye over the list of the creative team, because they are equally talented and dedicated, and have spent many hours contributing to this production. I am so grateful to them all.

And thank you to all of you. I’m not sure that “I hope you enjoy the play” are the right words for this – it’s a tough one! But I hope you can relate to these characters and this story in some way. May it move you, make you think, and perhaps in some way, alter you.

Arohanui
Emma Love

Setting: The play is set primarily in the Price family’s suburban home in Hallett Cove, in the southern suburbs of Adelaide, a provincial Australian city not unlike any working-class suburb in any provisional city in the western world. The play takes place over the course of a year.

There will be a 20-minute interval between Acts One and Two.

There will be a brief sequence of flashing lights.

THE CAST

Fran Price

Jo Crichton

Bob Price

Richard De Luca

Pip Price

Lyndsey Garner

Mark Price

Nicole Ashley

Ben Price

Benjamin Wickers

Rosie Price

Eve Depledge

Stand-ins

Arthur Young

Emma Love

Lauren Wilson

George Everts

PRODUCTION CREATIVES

Director

Emma Love

Production Co-ordinator

Carolyn Loader

Stage Managers

Bruce Wighton

Trevor Hynes

Assistant

Stage Manager

Sho Okumoto

Set Design

Emma Love

Ian Milnes

Lighting Design

Nigel Windsor

Sound Design

Lauren Wilson

Technical Assistant

Sho Okumoto

Décor

Laurie Mills

Rose Construction

Julia Banks

Trevor Banks

Costume Design

Avril Hunt

Wardrobe

Assistant

Abby Lane

Properties

Alison Mudford

Rehearsal Prompts

Carolyn Loader

Ngaire-Ann Hobson

Technical Operators

Tony Simmons

Bailey Livingston

Intimacy Adviser

Lauren Wilson

Graphic Design

Emma Love

Photography

AJ Johnson

Set Construction Team

David Gifford

(Foreman)

Doug Johnston

Ian McMahon

Dan Vlad

Andrew Walden

Chris Woodhead

Judy Rankin



EMMA LOVE

Director

Emma has been involved in community theatre across Auckland for many years as a performer, director and creative. She has most recently appeared on stage in *Clue* at Dolphin, and *Calendar Girls* and *Anne of Green Gables* at Papakura Theatre. Her directing credits include *Kimberly Akimbo* at Dolphin Theatre, which won the Dolphin Award for Best Direction and the ACTT Award for Best Production in 2023, and *Steel Magnolias* for Papakura Theatre Company, which won the ACTT Awards for Best Direction and Best Production in 2022.



RICHARD DE LUCA

Bob Price

Richard is delighted to be back at HLT after doing *Home, I'm Darling* in 2023. Last seen on stage in Dolphin's production of *Ocean Star* earlier this year, Richard is wondering why he is suddenly being cast as the father of troubled children. He is also thrilled to finally be working with Emma, a mission long in the planning. Feeling huge love for the director, cast and script, Richard hopes you enjoy this deeply dramatic examination of life as part of a family where everything does not always go according to plan. Outside of the theatre, Richard teaches math at Glendowie College.



JO CRICHTON

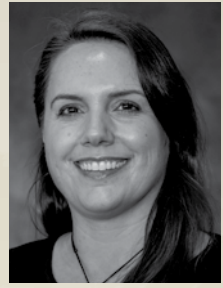
Fran Price

Things Jo knows to be true: 1. First play at HLT was *The Dresser* in 1987, most recent was *A Murder Is Announced* in 2023, with many others in-between; 2. She lives with her husband and two teenagers and works as a freelance copy-editor; 3. She is loving working with this amazingly talented cast and being directed for the first time by Emma, whom she shared the stage with in *Seven Year Twitch* and has always hoped to work with again; 4. She has always wanted to act in an Andrew Bovell play and hopes she does his incredible writing justice.

LYNDSEY GARNER

Pip Price

A finance admin by day, Lyndsey can otherwise be found performing on stilts or with fire on evenings and weekends. She loves being on stage and has performed a few times at Dolphin and MPA theatres. Her favourite show so far was *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. Lyndsey is excited to be performing at Howick for the first time. She says the team has been amazing to work with and everyone is putting in their all for this production. What a script to open here with.



NICOLE ASHLEY

Mark Price

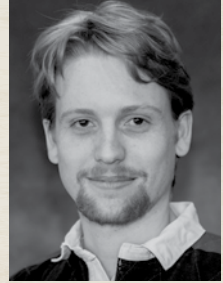
Nicole was last on the HLT stage eight years ago in *Ladies in Lavender*, playing a young Polish refugee washed up on the shores of sleepy 1930s Cornwall. Since then, she has focused on sound and lighting design, on shows such as *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Wait Until Dark*, *A Murder Is Announced*, *Home*, *I'm Darling*, *Shepherd*, *The Maltese Falcon*, *The Girl on the Train*, *Dead Simple*, and *Dial M For Murder*. Nicole's role in *Things I Know To Be True* is a very important personal story, making it a perfect fit for her return to the boards.



BENJAMIN WICKERS

Ben Price

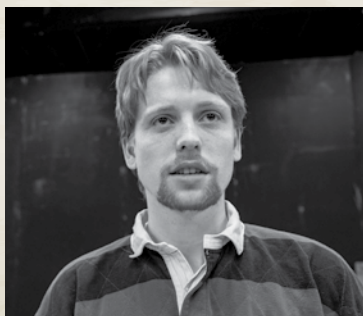
This is Benjamin's second show with Howick Little Theatre after completing his season of *Grand Horizons* earlier this year. His other credits include *Kimberly Akimbo* (Dolphin, 2023) and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Company Theatre, 2024). Outside of theatre, Benjamin is working towards a creative writing and journalism degree, while dedicating free time to novel and playwriting. This is Benjamin's second collaboration with Emma Love as director, and he can't wait to bring yet another fantastic production to Auckland audiences.



EVE DEPLEDGE

Rosie Price

Things I Know to be True marks Eve's debut performance at Howick Little Theatre. By day, she balances being a Bachelor of Arts student at the University of Auckland and tutoring children's performing arts classes. Although she is new to HLT, Eve has been involved with acting as long as she can remember. Her experience includes performing in productions such as *The Crucible*, competing in Sheilah Winn Shakespeare, and various acting training, including completing a summer intensive acting program at NYCDA in New York in 2023. Eve is thrilled to be playing Rosie and hopes you love watching the Price family as much as she does!





THE PLAY

A funny, honest account of life in the suburbs, where Fran and Bob Price have built a home, brought up four kids and still managed to keep their sense of humour. It should now be time for them to stop and smell Bob's precious roses. But just when things look like slowing down, the lives of their wildly complicated adult children come crashing through the back door.

THE PLAYWRIGHT

Andrew Bovell

Andrew Bovell is an Australian playwright and screenwriter. He gained prominence with his play *Speaking in Tongues* (1996), which was later adapted into the award-winning film *Lantana* (2001). His original play *When the Rain Stops Falling* (2008) premiered as part of the Adelaide Festival of Arts and won both the Queensland Premier's Literary Award and the Victorian Premier's Literary Award.

Some of his other plays include *Things I Know To Be True* (Frantic Assembly and the State Theatre Company of South Australia, 2016); *The Secret River* (Sydney Theatre Company, 2013, Sydney Festival and 2016 national tour, winner of six Helpmann Awards including Best Play, as well as Best New Work Sydney Theatre Awards).

Andrew has adapted *Things I Know To Be True* into a miniseries for Matchbox/Amazon/Blossom Films for production this year. He is currently adapting *When the Rain Stops Falling* into an opera for Opera Australia, with music by Quentin Grant.

His screenwriting credits include the films *A Most Wanted Man* (2014), based on John Le Carré's novel, and *Edge of Darkness* (2010), directed by Martin Campbell and starring Mel Gibson and Ray Winstone. He also adapted Kate Grenville's novel *The Secret River* for the stage with the Sydney Theatre Company and later for a miniseries on ABC.

Bovell has received numerous awards throughout his career, including recognition from the Australian Writers' Guild and the Helpmann Awards. His writing often addresses complex human relationships, family dynamics, and societal issues, establishing him as a significant figure in contemporary Australian theatre and film.

His plays continue to be performed throughout Asia, the UK, the US and Europe.



Acknowledgements:

Thank you to Karen & Le-Min Legg of Avenrose Florist, Howick, for their assistance with the roses, and Papakura Theatre and Dolphin Theatre for the loan of plants.



COMING NEXT TO HOWICK LITTLE THEATRE

WORST WEDDING EVER

DREAM MARRIAGE PLANS DASHED

9 - 30 NOV

A comedy by Chris Chibnall
Directed by Ashton Brown

Rachel and Scott are getting married. They are also buying a house together – never the easiest of things to do at the same time. When house prices go up, their plans for a dream wedding have to be downsized accordingly. However, Rachel's mother has other ideas. What if their family could join forces to make it a wedding to be proud of?

2024-2025 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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INFORMATION

Office hours

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