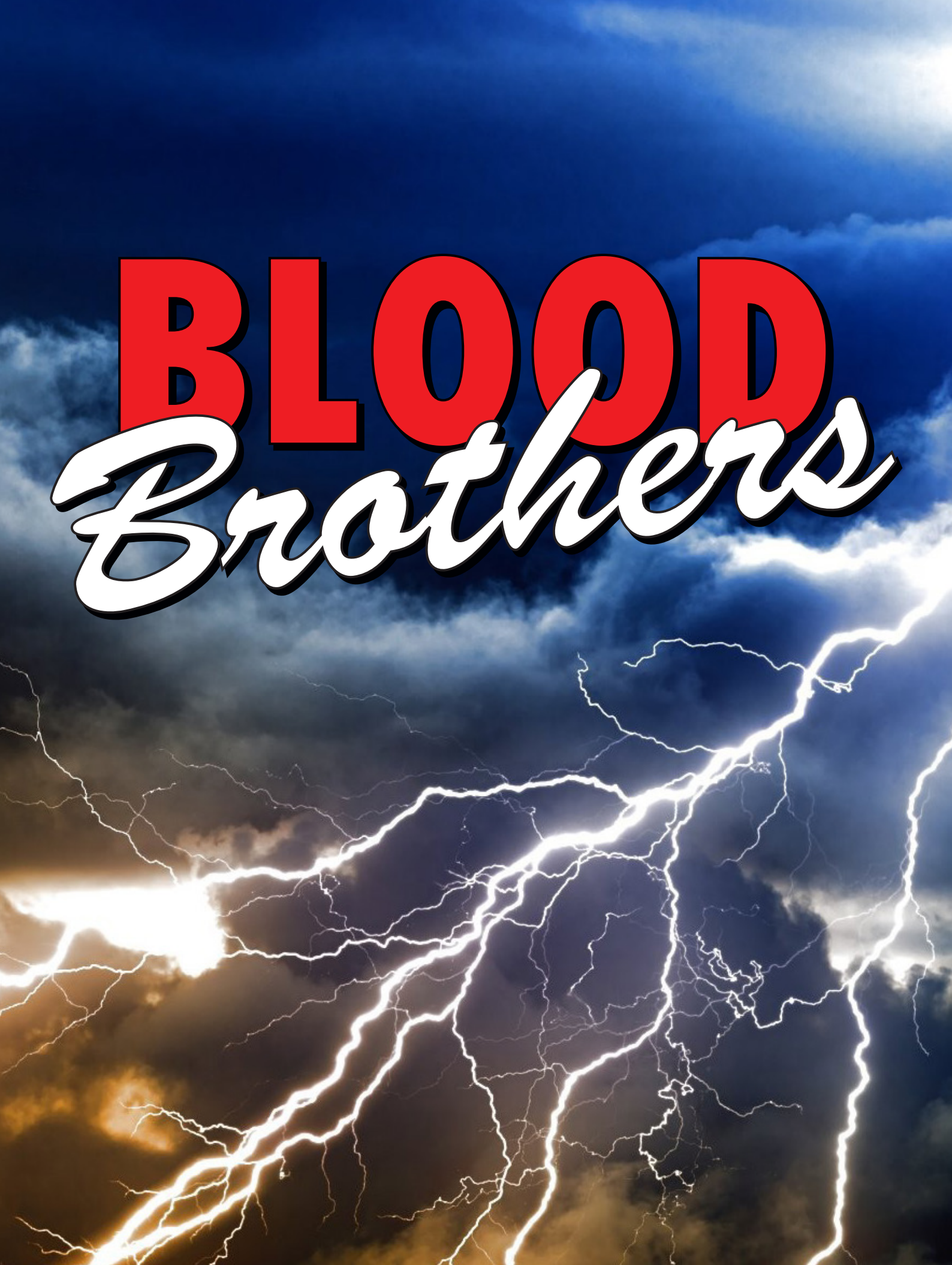


BLOOD *Brothers*



Book, music and lyrics
WILLY RUSSELL

Director
JENNY QUIN

Musical Director
STEVE MORRISON

BLOOD *Brothers*

16 - 26 MAY 2018

GILLIES GROUP THEATRE

Expressions Arts & Entertainment Centre
836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt



An Amateur Production by arrangement with
ORiGiN™ Theatrical on behalf of Samuel French Ltd

An Upper Hutt Musical Theatre Inc. production



PRODUCTION TEAM



DIRECTOR

Jenny Quin

In 1994 I had the great pleasure of seeing the Australasian tour of *Blood Brothers* at the Opera House here in Wellington. The story and music had a profound effect on me and I knew that one day I either wanted to be in it or direct it.

After joining Upper Hutt Musical Theatre in 1999, I have proudly performed in compilation shows such as *Leading Ladies*, *Broadway to Hollywood*, *Laugh Out Loud* and *Love Generation* to scripted shows such as *Twist and Shout*, *Be-Bop-A-Lu-La*, *Godspell*, *Nonsense* and *The Sound of Music*.

Over the years I have spent time learning about the many facets that bring a show together from other experienced directors and being on the committee in various roles. I have directed two shows; *Oliver!* in 2016 and co-directed *The Musical of Musicals - The Musical!* in 2017. Now it's time to tick *Blood Brothers* off my bucket list and bring this provocative, heart-warming and heart breaking story to you.

"Tell me it's not true.
Say it's just a story..."

Blood Brothers by Willy Russell, author of *Educating Rita* and *Shirley Valentine*, is a haunting rags to riches tragedy of our times. A woman with numerous children to support surrenders one of her new born twins to the childless woman she cleans for. The boys grow up streets apart, never learning the truth but becoming firm friends and falling in love with the same girl. One prospers while the other falls on hard times. A narrator warns that a price must be paid for separating the twins.

It has been a thrill and honour to work with such a talented cast and crew along with a remarkably driven production team. I am so grateful to each and every person who has contributed in any way to this production of *Blood Brothers*. It has been a mammoth collaborative effort by so many wonderful people and I am truly humbled by the unconditional support I have received.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR / BAND

Steve “Shack” Morrison

Shack has played in almost 50 Musical Theatre shows around the Wellington region. In 2015, he musically directed *Jesus Christ Superstar* for UHMT, and last year he musically directed *Rock of Ages* for Porirua Little Theatre. Outside of theatre, Shack enjoys a number of different musical outlets, from writing and arranging, to recording and performing. Outside of music, he works in the IT industry, where he likes to automate stuff.



VOCAL COACH / ENSEMBLE

Julianne Jackson

Julianne has been involved in Musical Theatre for almost 20 years. She has directed and musically directed a number of shows for UHMT including *Chicago*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Dusty: The Original Pop Diva* (MD). She has also musically directed shows for the Company of Musical Players and vocal coached more shows than she can remember! *Blood Brothers* sits firmly in her top three favourite shows and she has loved being involved as backing vocalist and vocal coach.



STAGE MANAGER

Callum Rolland

Callum has just moved to Wellington from Auckland and is thrilled to be involved with *Blood Brothers*, a musical he has loved for a long time. He has recently worked with Indian Ink Theatre company on their national tour of *The Pickle King* and Nightsong Productions' *Tē Po*. He has been a stage manager for over 10 years in Auckland. He hopes you love this production of *Blood Brothers*.



CHOREOGRAPHER

Sue Kinzett

Sue’s interest in Musical Theatre spans many decades. She has choreographed and appeared in many shows including *Spamalot* and *Footloose*, moving into wardrobe for *Dusty: The Original Pop Diva*, and co-directing *The Musical of Musicals - the Musical!*. Coming from the north of England, she jumped at the chance to choreograph *Blood Brothers*. This well written musical has been a joy for Sue, due to the commitment of the talented cast - showing human frailties and life in post-war England.



PRODUCTION MANAGER Tia Pyne
PUBLICITY..... Jacqui Watson
WARDROBE Anne Meyer
SET DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION..... Julianne Jackson
PROPS Cheryl Moeau
LIGHTING Kevin Adams
SOUND Peter Benner



BLOOD BROTHERS

ACT I

OVERTURE.....	Cast
MARILYN MONROE.....	Mrs Johnstone
MY CHILD	Mrs Lyons & Mrs Johnstone
EASY TERMS.....	Mrs Johnstone
SHOES UPON THE TABLE.....	Narrator
KIDS GAME.....	Sammy & kids
BRIGHT NEW DAY	Mrs Johnstone & ensemble
LONG SUNDAY AFTERNOON	Mickey & Edward

Mrs Johnstone is heavily in debt and cannot support her seven children after her husband walks out on her, so she takes a job as a cleaner for a local middle-class couple, Mr & Mrs Lyons. Soon she finds out she is pregnant, but she can barely afford to raise another child.

Mrs Lyons is desperate for a baby but is unable to conceive, and would like to adopt a child but her husband, who is away on business overseas, is not keen on adoption. Mrs Johnstone finds out that she is going to have twins and explains to Mrs Lyons that she cannot afford to raise two more babies. Mrs Lyons then suggests that Mrs Johnstone gives one of the babies to her. Mrs Johnstone apprehensively agrees to this and is made to swear on the Bible to keep to the deal.

Mrs Johnstone continues to work for the rich family, but Mrs Lyons soon feels that Mrs Johnstone is paying too much attention to the child that she has given up to her. She fires Mrs Johnstone, who wants to take the baby with her. Mrs Lyons offers her money which Mrs Johnstone refuses but Mrs Lyons plays on Mrs Johnstone’s superstitions by telling her that “if twins separated at birth learn that they were once one of a pair they will both immediately die”.

Mickey, the son of Mrs Johnstone, meets Edward, the other twin, by chance, and after learning they share the same birthday, the two boys make a pact to become blood brothers. Mickey is playing with some neighbourhood children including his friend Linda. Afterwards, he takes her to see Eddie, and the three of them sneak off to play, but are caught by a police officer when about to throw stones through a window. Mrs Lyons becomes worried about Eddie’s friendship with Mickey, as she has started to believe the superstition that she herself had made up. She decides to move and persuades her husband, who realises she is becoming ill and the sees the effect the poorer children are having on his son. When Eddie says goodbye, Mrs Johnstone gives him a locket with a picture of herself and Mickey, and the boys separate.

Soon afterwards, the Johnstone family are rehoused from the condemned inner city slum area of Liverpool to a new council house in the nearby overspill town of Skelmersdale.

ACT II

MARILYN MONROE.....	Mrs Johnstone
SHOES UPON THE TABLE.....	Narrator
THAT GUY.....	Mickey & Edward
I’M NOT SAYING A WORD	Edward
LIGHT ROMANCE	Mrs Johnstone
TELL ME IT’S NOT TRUE	Mrs Johnstone & cast

Act two re-joins the twins when they are 14 years old. The Johnstone family are enjoying a better life now they have moved to a new home and a new area, and they have not seen Eddie in all this time. Mickey has a crush on Linda, who is obviously interested in him too, but Mickey does not know how to act with her. Mrs Lyons sees Mrs Johnstone near her house and her worries are renewed. Eddie and Mickey bump into each other



in a field, but do not initially recognize each other. With each wanting to be like the other before finally realizing who the other is and become friends again. Four years later, an 18-year-old Eddie has feelings for Linda but hasn’t said anything, as he knows Mickey likes her. Eddie leaves for university, but not before encouraging Mickey to ask Linda out. During Eddie’s absence Linda becomes pregnant, she and Mickey are married and move in with Mrs Johnstone. Mickey is then made redundant from his factory job due to the recession, which forces him onto the dole. Eddie returns at Christmas ready to party and have fun, but Mickey realizes that they are now very different; after a small argument with Eddie, they part. Mickey is persuaded to assist his brother Sammy in a robbery, to earn money to support Linda and the baby. The robbery goes wrong, and he becomes an accessory to a murder committed by Sammy. He is sentenced to seven years in prison.

In prison, Mickey is diagnosed as chronically depressed. When released early for good behaviour, he is still dependent on anti-depressants. Linda, unable to get Mickey off the anti-depressants, contacts Eddie, who is now a councillor, and he gets them their own house and Mickey a job. Linda worries about Mickey and meets up with Eddie. Mrs Lyons sees them together and tells Mickey about it. Mickey, distraught over Eddie and Linda’s affair, grabs the gun that Sammy hid before he got arrested and then storms down to the council offices to confront Eddie. Does Mrs Lyons’s superstitious prediction come true, will the twins die together as they were born?



PRINCIPALS

MRS JOHNSTONE

Julie O'Brien

Julie has performed in New York, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Productions include, *Mamma Mia* (Donna), *Carrie the Musical* (Margaret), *Urinetown* (Little Becky) and *Hairspray* (Velma). She has appeared in concert with the late Rob Guest, and has performed her one-woman cabaret show *Julie & Friends* in Sydney.

Julie received personal praise from Cameron Mackintosh when she played the role of Felicia in *The Witches of Eastwick* in Melbourne. She also performed Rosie Greenwich in *Leader Of The Pack*, at Crown Casino, Melbourne. Julie is in demand as a director, singing coach and voiceover artist, and is a core member of The Improvisors.



NARRATOR

Peter Quinn

Peter is a 51-year-old father of two, who only found Musical Theatre three years

ago when he followed his wife Mary to auditions for UHMT's 2015 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Since then he's performed in *Annie* (Rooster), *Little Shop of Horrors* (The Plant) and *Hairspray* (Corny Collins). He was proudly part of UHMT's 40th anniversary review production, *Rhythm'n' Soul*.

Peter's also a singer/songwriter, often found at open mic nights around the town, and is recording an album due for release later this year. In his spare time, Peter works as a Team Leader at Workbridge Recruitment.



MICKEY JOHNSTONE

Felipe McDonald-Cuevas

This is Felipe's second show, and his first with UHMT (though he has been in three Hutt Valley Gang Shows). Last year he played Johnny Hearthrob in Hutt City Musical Theatre's production, *Be-Bop-A-Lula*, as well as

taking part in school drama at St Patrick's College, Silverstream.

Felipe is currently at Victoria University studying a BA majoring in Film and Media Studies and has aspirations to one day become a film director,

although acting is also something he is thinking about taking further.

Felipe was born in New Zealand, but is half

'Scouse' on his father's side, and

Chilean on his mother's.



EDWARD LYONS

Bentley Stevenson

Bentley was born and bred in Upper Hutt and last year graduated

from St Patrick's College,

Silverstream and is now studying for a Bachelor of Communications at Massey University.

He has performed in the Hutt Valley Gang Shows since 2010. In 2017, Bentley made his debut with Hutt City Musical Theatre performing in *Be-Bop-A-Lula*; and UHMT as Dennis in *All Shook Up*.

Bentley has always wanted to perform in *Blood Brothers* ever since he listened to the soundtrack when he was little.



MRS LYONS

Aislinn Sederel

Aislinn has been performing on stage since the age of five, competing in dance recitals and competitions, school productions and choir events. Since joining UHMT in 2003, she has performed in *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Oliver!*. She has also worked behind the scenes as choreographer, props co-ordinator and assistant stage manager. Aislinn describes the role of Mrs Lyons as her biggest challenge yet, and is incredibly honoured to work with such an incredible cast and crew.



MR LYONS

Murray Kinzett

Murray began Musical Theatre 14 years ago (although he admits to performing Pharaoh in *Joseph* while still at college) and has played Captain von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*, King Arthur in *Spamalot* and the Reverend in *Footloose*. Murray played with the Police Pipe Band for many years and during that time, won four NZ titles. He loves doing shows and the life-long friendships he has made through them.



SAMMY JOHNSTONE

Nicholas Achilles

Nick has been involved with Musical Theatre for over 20 years starting with a high school performance of *Oklahoma* as a member of the ensemble. This will be Nick's eighth show for UHMT. His most favourite and memorable show was in *The Musical of Musicals - the Musical!*, at Up-Stage in 2017 where he played the Narrator. Nick is very proud to be a part of UHMT and is especially proud to be performing at Expressions again.



LINDA

Abigail Hooper

Abby has always been passionate about Performing Arts. Growing up in England, she was a member of several youth theatre groups. In 2017, she played the role of Beadle Bamford in Wainuiomata Little Theatre's *Sweeney Todd*, and then Amber von Tussle in their production of *Hairspray*. Abby has always wanted to play Linda in *Blood Brothers* and is delighted to have this opportunity with UHMT.



ENSEMBLE

Carl Brieseman

Carl began performing at college appearing in *Daughters of Heaven*, *Revenge of the Amazons* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Other shows include *Footloose*, *All Shook Up*, and *Chicago*. Outside of theatre, Carl has received his Queen's Scout Award, flown a plane and has a Bachelor of Science in Biology.



Delwyn Monk

This is Delwyn's first foray with UHMT, but by no means her first show. In 2017, she appeared as Ida Malone in *Voices From The Front* at Hannah Playhouse. Prior to that she has performed in numerous shows with Porirua Little Theatre. By day, Delwyn teaches Animal Care.



Jacqui Watson

Jacqui joined UHMT in 2009. During that time she has been involved with 14 shows, performing in eight, directing three, compiling two and choreographing three (sometimes more than one role!). *Blood Brothers* makes 15. Jacqui is loving being a part of *Blood Brothers*. "It's another fabulous challenge!"



Julie Fitzgerald

Julie's theatre debut was in 1983 as a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*. Other productions include *Dusty: The Original Pop Diva*, *Rhythm 'n' Soul*, *Diamonds*, and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Julie also sings in her work band, Z Leppelin and was a member of The Company of Musical Players.



Paul Weaver

Paul's leapt around on stage for over 30 years in just about every musical going: *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Evita* and *Grease* (meeting his wife - yay). His last show for UHMT was *Oliver!* in 2016. In bands, choirs or elevators - any opportunity to sing, he'll take it.



Stephen Fletcher

Stephen has been performing since 1996. Shows include *Chicago*, *Twist & Shout*, and *Be-Bop-A-Lula*. He has performed in many plays for Heretaunga Players as well - *Off The Hook*, *For The Good of the Family* and *All's Well That Ends As You Like It*. By day, Stephen is a mechanical engineer.



Veronica Bardsley

Veronica is currently in her second year of Musical Theatre at Te Auaha and has studied ballet, tap, contemporary and jazz for the last 14 years. Shows include *Les Miserables*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Fame*. She was a finalist in the NZ songwriting awards and has performed on *What Now?* and at the Vector Arena.



BAND

Back row

GUITAR

Steve (Shack) Morrison

KEYBOARD 1

Neil Carroll

WOODWIND

Greg Rogan

BASS

Brent Weavers

Front row

DRUMS / PERCUSSION

Rebecca (Bec) Watson

KEYBOARD 2

Frances Potter



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upper Hutt Musical Theatre Inc., previously known as Upper Hutt Operatic Society has been a part of the Upper Hutt community for over 40 years. From its humble beginnings in 1975 with just a handful of inspired musical theatre enthusiasts, our society has grown in numbers and popularity and produced 80 shows in the last 43 years. This is an achievement that every past and present society member can be proud of. We acknowledge and thank the many individuals and families who have contributed to Upper Hutt Musical Theatre over the years and to those who are still involved in the ongoing success of our society.

Every two years we endeavour to bring to our community a large scale production performed at Expressions. In 2016 we produced *Oliver!* in celebration of our 40th anniversary which was a fabulous success. 2018 is no exception. Director Jenny Quin and her talented team have brought us this provocative, hilarious and heart-breaking multi-award winning musical that tells the unforgettable story of the Johnstone twins.

To the entire production team, cast, crew, executive committee and the many people who have assisted to enable this show to go on, especially partners and families, we thank you all. We are also very grateful to our funding partners for their ongoing support that enables us to keep our ticket prices down. It is only through the enormous voluntary sacrifice in time, expertise and effort, that we are able to stage such a large scale production like *Blood Brothers*. To you, our audience, without your patronage the shows we produce would not exist. We are enormously proud of shows we have produced over the years and *Blood Brothers* is no exception. So sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

Join us!

If you enjoyed this performance and would like to join our theatre, please contact us. We do more than perform... we amplify, build, clean, create, crew, dance, design, direct, enhance, light, maintain, manage, promote, sew and more! New members are always welcome!

info@uhmt.org.nz | www.uhmt.org.nz | www.facebook.com/upperhuttmusicaltheatre



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very fortunate to be supported by a number of community-minded businesses and individuals. Their support is very important to us.

Please make use of their goods and services when you can and let them know that you appreciate their support of the arts.

- Allan Bealing
- Cougar Scaffolding
- Creative Communities
- Denise Goldsmith
- Expressions Arts & Entertainment Centre
- Heretaunga Players
- Hilary Norris
- Hutt Mana Charitable Trust
- Jxdzine
- NZ Uniforms
- ORiGiN Theatrical
- Pelorus Trust
- Proegear
- Rob Romijn
- Smart Arts
- Taita College
- Trust House
- Upper Hutt Cossie Club
- Wellington City Council



COMING SOON

Are you an ambivalent Cinderella? A blood-thirsty Little Red Ridinghood? Prince Charming with a roving eye? A Witch... who raps?

These are among the cockeyed characters in James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim's fractured fairy tale, *Into the Woods*.

When a Baker and his Wife learn they've been cursed with childlessness by the Witch next door, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell, swindling, lying to and stealing from Cinderella, Little Red, Rapunzel and Jack (the one who climbed the beanstalk).

Everyone's wish is granted at the end of Act One, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later, with disastrous results.

What begins a lively irreverent fantasy in the style of *The Princess Bride* becomes a moving lesson about community responsibility and the stories we tell our children.

Characters

- Narrator / Mysterious Man / Giant
- Baker
- Bakers Wife
- Witch
- Cinderella
- Cinderella's Prince / Wolf
- Little Red Ridinghood
- Jack
- Jack's Mother
- Stepmother
- Florinda
- Lucinda
- Cinderella's Mother / Granny
- Rapunzel's Prince
- Rapunzel
- Steward
- Cinderella's Father / Cow 2
- Milky White / Snow White / Sleeping Beauty



AUDITIONS
16-17 JUNE 2018

INTO THE WOODS

music & lyrics **STEPHEN SONDHEIM**
book **JAMES LAPINE**

INFORMATION EVENING 5 JUNE

7:30pm @ Up-Stage Theatre
26A Moonshine Road, Upper Hutt

CONTACT JENNY

027 450 3291 or info@uhmt.org.nz

More details at www.uhmt.org.nz &
www.facebook.com/upperhuttmusicaltheatre

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine.
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

an UPPER HUTT MUSICAL THEATRE INC. production

