

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**1 JANUARY 2025 – 31 DECEMBER 2025**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
**51<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

**1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

At last year's AGM

The for executive office positions continued to be held by Jenny Quin (president) Julianne Jackson (vice president), Aislinn Sederel (treasurer), Julie Fitzgerald (secretary). The remaining executive committee members of Sue Kinzett, Aroha Davidson, Antoinette Church, and Adele Child supported these positions.

Over the year the committee was also joined by Anna Wright and Rebecca Berney to help fill the vacant positions. We are very thankful for the skills and hard work they bring to our society so far and hope they will continue to be part of UHMT.

**2. PROPERTY:**

Another busy year in this area, thank you to all committee members and family members involved:

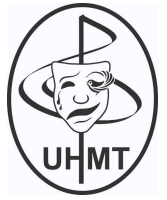
- Working bee to tidy up theatre and grounds before 50<sup>th</sup> celebration
- Trimmed the hedge twice.
- Sealant applied to areas of concern in Men's dressing room. To be painted after Sponge Bob
- Fixed leak to water mains on the western side of building and removed the remaining tree.
- Warrant of fitness inspection completed and passed.
- Stage was sanded and repainted.
- Installed a heat pump/aircon unit into the theatre – the benefits of which been enjoyed by the current cast during rehearsals
- Schedule of maintenance jobs that need to be carried out and placed in order of priority

**3. PRODUCTIONS:**

2025 saw three shows performed

*Alice in Wonderland* opened in April at Upstage. This was the directorial debut of Rachel Te Tau with Hayden Taylor as musical director and Aroha Davidson as choreographer. Rachel, together with her hardworking production team, cast and crew brought together a sellout season of this fantastic junior musical. This production went on to win several categories at the Wellington District Theatre Federation Antoinette Awards later in the year.

- Magic Moment Awards
  - Devin Stinton – for the white rabbits tap dance
  - Annie Treadwell – for the Mad Hatter's laugh
- Adjudicator Special Award
  - Flynn Berney – for seizing and owning a role as the Queen of Hearts
- Finalists for
  - Best youth production
  - Best technical
  - Best costume and makeup



- o Best ensemble

Congratulations to all involved, we are immensely proud of what you achieved. The future of musical theatre in NZ is in good hands.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration night was held in July at Upstage which was a magnificent night filled with fun, laughter, reminiscing, great food and drinks. Kerry Armstrong hosted the evening as MC. We had performances from our past and present members. It was wonderful to have a live band back in the theatre, and a fantastic time was had by all. There was one large piece of the jigsaw missing though with the loss of Jim Noice just three months earlier. However, we still were able to appreciate Jim's legacy with a video of him playing his much-beloved piano. A huge thank you to the committee for the hard work that went into making this evening a success.

To finish off the year, *Calendar Girls – The Musical* opened in November at Upstage. This too was another directorial debut. Sue Kinzett stepped up to the challenge and was ably supported by Andrew Beban as musical director. Sue and her diligent production team, cast and crew delivered a heartwarming, hilarious and deeply emotional production. Many of our audiences wiped away tears of grief and laughter. This production also won a magic moment award at the Wellington District Theatre Federation Antoinette Awards for the design and decoration of the foyer

#### 4. GRANTS:

Thanks to the following funding organisations for the ongoing financial support in the funding of our shows:

- Hutt Valley Theatre Trust
- Pelorus Trust
- Petone Workingman Men's Club
- Upper Hutt Creative Communities

#### 5. MEMBERSHIP:

Ongoing discussions will be needed on how we can retain and engage new members outside of our junior productions including having mentoring scheme for each of the production team roles and having junior representation on our executive committee.

Sadly, as mentioned earlier Jim Noice passed away last year. We extend our sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to Rosemary, Catherine, Vivienne, and Jim's extended family; his presence will be missed.

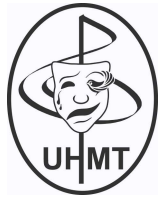
#### 6. GENERAL:

The Incorporated Societies Act 2022 mandated that all incorporated societies rewrite their constitution to comply with the new requirements under the Act and complete a reregistration process by 5 April 2026. The constitution has been rewritten and will be presented tonight for the membership to vote on. The reregistration will be completed online. I would like to personally thank Julianne Jackson for the many hours of work she spent on this extensive document.

We continue to have a regular contract with Bec Watson music tuition (during school terms), and we also have ongoing hiring of our costumes and props to local schools and theatre companies.

## UPPER HUTT MUSICAL THEATRE (INC)

26A Moonshine Road, Upper Hutt |  
www.upperhuttmusicaltheatre.org.nz



We currently have one show in rehearsal *SpongeBob SquarePants Jr*, this is due to open in April. A second show is in discussion and will likely to be a compilation show.

Financially things have become much tougher this past year with the loss of Pelorus Grants, increased rights holders' fees for named shows, higher cost of living, and an aging building/property. This has been reflected by the large loss showing in our finances. Going forward, we will need to make some changes to ensure UHMT remains relevant and financially resilient for another 50 years.

After considerable thought, both Julianne Jackson and I have made the difficult decision to step down from our positions on the committee. We are unlikely to return in the future but as life members we will still be supporting and guiding as needed from behind the scenes. UHMT has been our second home for nearly 27 years and it's time to pass the baton.

Finally, I would like to thank the executive committee for the considerable contribution each one of them has made in 2025. It has been another demanding year for the executive, and it is through their hard work that we continue to achieve our goals to make UHMT the premier producer of quality, affordable musical entertainment in the Wellington region.

Jenny Quin  
President