



January 2021

A new year has begun and lots to be getting on with for NCMS. Fingers crossed 2021 sees us fulfill what we set out to do in 2020. COVID-19 has certainly created a new normal for the world, but it's fair to say that New Zealand is a great place to be right now, and we are grateful to reside here.

Rehearsals for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat resume in February. Auditions are happening very soon to replace a few cast members who have, unfortunately, been unable to continue because of other commitments. We are needing to fill three spots for Joseph's Brothers and two for off-stage female backing vocalists. Auditions are on Saturday 30th January. Please follow these links to book an audition time, if interested. Please share these links with your talented musical theatre friends, or see our posts on our facebook page and website.

Auditions for Joseph's three new brothers: <https://auditions-5.youcanbook.me>

Auditions for female backing vocalists: <https://auditions-5-0.youcanbook.me>

The MTNZ Conference is on again this year, this time in Napier. Our vice president, Gavin, will be attending in his role with MTNZ, but it has been decided that the society will watch its pennies very carefully this year and therefore, unfortunately, we will not be sponsoring any members to attend. The MTNZ conferences are a fantastic opportunity to upskill in all areas of musical theatre and have proven to be very beneficial to our membership in the past. As members of Musical Theatre New Zealand, any individual member of North Canterbury Musicals is welcome to attend the conference if they choose to cover their costs independently.

We hope to resume sponsorship for attendance in 2022. We will keep you posted on this front, and how to apply when the time comes.

Speaking of MTNZ, we are joining in their nationwide celebration of theatre in February, with an open day at the rooms.

The Big Theatre Open Weekend: February 13 and 14, 2021

MTNZ encourages societies to throw open their doors and invite the wider public in, in a nationwide event promoting community theatre.

Theatrical societies offer so much opportunity, passion and entertainment to New Zealand's communities – so after a challenging 2020, MTNZ thought it might be a great time to establish this national celebration.

We will be ‘throwing open our doors’ on Saturday 13th February from 10am - noon.

Please join us to celebrate our little community society, but also to be a welcoming face to newcomers. Bring along friends, family or colleagues who have always been curious about what NCMS is all about. We'll have all the rooms open - set, props, costume, rehearsal room, so that people can wander about and chat to members. It would be great to see you there.

Some of the committee members, unfortunately, are not talented at baking (ha ha), so if you would like to ‘do your bit’ by bringing in a bit of home baking to put in the greenroom, that would be very much appreciated. Please let Rachel (at rachel.may@ncms.co.nz) know if you intend to do this so she knows what to expect.

Progress is being made on choosing our major show for 2022. After a lot of discussion around what would be best for NCMS, and our wider musical theatre community, we are narrowing down our options and are hoping to apply for rights within the next month. The rights process can be a long one, so it may still be some time before we can announce our final decision.

Discussions are also happening around putting on a concert type show (similar to Retrospective) later this year, and what that might look like. We will have more details regarding this in the next few months, along with an outline of the application process for creatives. So keep your eyes on ‘What’s the Buzz?’

Wishing you all a super 2021. We hope to see you all on Saturday 13th February!

“I don't need a life that's normal, that's way too far away.

But something next to normal would be okay.”

- from the musical ‘Next to Normal’