



The Play Bureau Newsletter

December 2016

PO Box 9013, St Clair
Dunedin 9047

Tel: +64 3 4559959

info@playbureau.com | www.playbureau.com

Merry Christmas



The Play Bureau will be closing for the holiday season on December 16th and reopening on January 9th. The PO Box will be cleared occasionally and emails will be answered if necessary.

Here at Play Bureau we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We look forward to working with you in 2017.

Regards Helen



Season's Greetings...



What's New?

HOT OFF THE PRESS!!

❖ **Wonderland:** Alice's Rock & Roll Adventure

Musical by Rachel Rockwell and Michael Mahler

6 M 4 F expandable

Carroll's beloved, poetic tale of self-actualization is brought to life by a cast of actor/musicians who create an eclectic, live rock soundtrack as 7-1/2-year-old Alice searches for her own inner musical voice. Along the way, Alice faces challenges and fears, but she meets the ultimate test in the form of the Jabberwocky, an insidious monster made up of the dark thoughts and self-doubt that lurks inside us all. In learning to believe in the impossible, Alice learns to believe in herself. Throughout her journey, the actors surround Alice in a live musical tapestry ranging from classic rock to punk to ska and even a little bit of Bollywood. Rock concert meets live theatre as Alice reflects the vulnerabilities of all kids and then confidently finds her own inner voice.

❖ **The Patsy** Translated/adapted by Greg Leaming from

Georges Feydeau's *Le Dindon*

7 M 6 F 1 – 5 either

Lucienne Vatelín is being pursued by the ardent and love-struck Eugene Pontagnac, but the virtuous and faithful woman believes in fidelity. Only when her own husband strays would she pursue a lover of her own. The arrival of Marta Ziegler, an old lover of Lucienne's husband, brings chaos into the household, and Lucienne throws herself into the arms of her husband's best friend to wreak revenge. But on the boulevard, nothing is ever this simple! A prize-winning German boxer, his love-sick wife, an elderly American couple traveling to Paris for the first time, and an assortment of managers, servants, bellboys and ladies of the evening all arrive on the same night at a local hotel where a horrible night of mistaken identities and slamming doors keeps everyone from getting what they need. In a last act of desperation, Lucienne now seeks revenge in the arms of a family friend, making sure that her husband will catch her in flagrante delicto! But when all seems hopeless, true love untangles every bit of mistaken identity, leaving one very happy couple and some very frustrated young suitors.



❖ *The Inn at Rose Harbor* ADP by Joseph Robinette

6 - 7 M 8 F +

Jo Marie Rose, widowed as a young woman, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of her purchase of the Inn at Rose Harbor, a local bed-and-breakfast in the town of Cedar Cove, Washington. She has invited many of her former guests (us, the audience) to join her as she reminisces about her early days as owner of the inn. Joining Jo Marie with their own stories are her very first guests, Josh Weaver and Abby Kincaid, who, at the time, were in their early 30s. Neither, however, was eager to return to the picturesque town where each was raised, but necessity had brought them back—Josh to care for his ailing stepfather, from whom he was estranged, and Abby for her brother's wedding, though hiding a painful memory from her youth. Thus, the threesome leads us through their intriguing stories, while younger actors portray them as they were when the inn was new. This unique theatrical device of then-and-now guides the audience through a myriad of engrossing episodes, both humorous and serious, and introduces us to an array of fascinating characters who inhabit the town of Cedar Cove. Based on the novel by acclaimed author Debbie Macomber, this dramatization brings an added dimension to the esteemed author's captivating novel.

❖ **Adult Entertainment** by Elaine May

3 M 3 F

There is a cloud over porn queen Heidi the 'Ho's usually cheery cable TV show. Her guests are wearing armbands to mourn the passing of their employer and mentor, a legendary porn filmmaker. Tired of working for others, this motley group of adult video veterans decides to write and shoot their own extravaganza, an "art" film. The script doesn't live up to their expectations so they bring in a new writer, one who insists they read the classics to prepare for their roles. Unexpected ideas develop as the hilarity escalates bringing the play to a raucous and riotous conclusion.

Suitable for School or Youth Productions:

❖ *Sherlock Holmes : The Baker Street Irregulars* ADP by Eric Coble

5 - 10 M 5 - 10 F

Sherlock Holmes is missing, and the streets of London are awash with crime. Who will save the day? The Baker Street Irregulars—a gang of street kids hired by Sherlock himself to help solve cases. Now they must band together to prove not only that Sherlock is not dead but also to find the mayor's missing daughter, untangle a murder mystery from their own past, and face the masked criminal mastermind behind it all—a bandit who just may be the brilliant evil Moriarty, the man who killed Sherlock himself! Can a group of orphans, pickpockets, inventors and artists rescue the people of London? The game is afoot!

❖ *Hello, Mrs Piggle-Wiggle* ADP by Chad Henry from books by Betty MacDonald

4 - 6 M 4 - 6 F (Musical)

Hello, Mrs Piggle-Wiggle! brings the uproarious stories of Betty MacDonald and her heroine, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle, to the musical stage. Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle lives on the outskirts of town with her parrot, Penelope, in an upside-down house built by her husband, a pirate—a house which is usually overrun with children playing, painting, digging in the yard, playing dress-up, and generally having a wonderful time. Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle loves children, and she especially loves helping children and families who are having such difficulties as fighting and quarrelling, interrupting, displaying bad table manners, clumsiness, rudeness and problems with picking up their rooms or taking a bath. Mrs. P. understands kids in a way that no one else can, and her pirate's chest of magical cures and her imaginative and slyly humorous ways to solve problems never fail to save the day. Rousing songs, dances, dream sequences and high comedy make this a family favourite—a show that appeals to parents almost as much as children. Your family will share laughter and music together and will surely recognize themselves in at least one of these hilarious episodes.



❖ **Jane of the Jungle** by Karen Zacarias music Deborah Wicks La Puma

4 M 8 F plus (Musical)

Jane is an ordinary girl, complete with a really nice mom and a bratty little brother, Milo. But Jane and her best friend, Kayla, are on the verge of some big changes. Middle school is looming, and that is both exciting and a little scary. And what could be a better way to end the summer than getting a pretty purple letter in the mail inviting them to very popular Nicolette Miller's "Too-Cool-Almost-Middle-School-All-Girl-Party"? And yet nothing compares with the jolt Jane gets when she wakes up the next morning to discover she has acquired spots, furry ears and a tail, and Kayla is transforming into an exotic bird! Not only that, but her neighbourhood seems to be turning into a jungle! As Jane, Kayla and tagalong brother Milo begin to navigate the jungle to Nicolette Miller's house, they run into several "packs" of friends (both girls and boys) not invited to the party. Should they invite them along? At every turn, Jane is confronted with fun, awkward and difficult choices, but none as tough as when Kayla urges her to ditch her little brother Milo at the corner to be "cool" enough to go to Nicolette Miller's party. Is everything about Jane changing? Why is her best friend not acting like a best friend anymore? Why is her silly neighbour Steve suddenly so interesting? How can she tame all these conflicting wild feelings inside of her? This delightfully inventive musical takes a wild and wonderful approach to everything kids have to go through before they're truly "grown up."

❖ **Fairy Tale Courtroom** by Dana Proulx

2 M 4 F 21 boys or girls

This extremely adaptable comedy shows the other side of several familiar fairy tales when two of their biggest villains, the Big Bad Wolf and the Wicked Witch, are brought to trial. Both the Wolf and the Witch have been frolicking from fairy tale to fairy tale wreaking havoc as they try to prevent the general public from living happily ever after. Hear the personal accounts of what happened, told in testimonies and flashback sequences, from characters such as Snow White, Dorothy, Sleeping Beauty, the Three Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and many others, including the Witch and the Wolf themselves, as each trial unfolds. The audience is the jury, so each trial has two endings depending on the verdict.

❖ **The Surprising Story of The Three Little Pigs** by Linda Dougherty

18 M & F

Three classic fairy tales (*The Three Little Pigs*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*) begin in their usual "once upon a time" fashion; however, this time things change on the way to "happily ever after" as the pigs wonder what life would be like if the wolf were not always at their door, the billy goats gruff decide they can't face another trip-trap over the troll's bridge, and Papa Bear has had enough of the meddlesome little Goldilocks! Assisted by The Voice (struggling to narrate the changing stories) and three Stagehands (desperately trying to juggle sets to keep the stories straight), the three trios join forces to rewrite their stories, ridding themselves of their respective villains by exchanging them.

❖ **The Awesome 80's Prom** by Ken Davenport

12 M 8 F

The Awesome 80s Prom is a brand new blast-from-the-past party in the style of Tony 'n Tina's Wedding and The Donkey Show set at Wanaget High's Senior Prom... in 1989! All your favourite characters from your favourite '80s movies are at THE PROM, from the Captain of the Football Team to the Asian Exchange Student, from the Geek to the hottie Head Cheerleader, and they're all competing for Prom King and Queen. And just like on "American Idol", the audience decides who wins! Come back in time and join the break-dance circle or just sit back and watch the '80s drama unfold.



Most Popular Plays this Year for Play Bureau:

1. Love and Information by Caryl Churchill
2. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl adp R George
3. The Fox on the Fairway by Ken Ludwig
4. Forget-Me-Knot by David Tristram
5. Under Milk Wood by Dylan Thomas
6. Calendar Girls by Tim Firth

Most Popular Authors Produced in NZ 2016:

1. Caryl Churchill
2. David Tristram
3. Roald Dahl
4. Ken Ludwig
5. Devon Williamson
6. Alan Ayckbourn
7. Tim Firth
8. Agatha Christie
9. Tom Stoppard
10. Tim Kelly

Popular New Plays:

Quartet

The Supermarket Sisterhood

Ladykillers

One Man, Two Guvnors

Nell Gwynn

Central Otago Man

Moonlight and Magnolias

The Full Monty:

Set and Costumes available to buy. Stored in Dunedin, if you are contemplanting producing this show in the future I can put you in contact with the seller of these items

info@playbureau.com

NB: We do not hold the performing rights for this you would need to contact Hal Leonard in Australia.



All the best for your 2017 productions