

Wellington District Theatre Federation

festivals@wdtf.org.nz

FULL LENGTH PLAY FESTIVAL FEBRUARY – NOVEMBER 2025

ADJUDICATOR: Ruth Sarratt



In common with many of us. I was “into” my school drama productions, then jobs and family took over my time. I returned to theatre when my children were older and was thoroughly hooked. Then followed many years involved in local community theatre groups – acting, stage crewing, directing, set building and designing, making props, making the tea – you have to do it all in community theatre. More recently, accreditation as an Associate of New Zealand Drama Adjudicators (ANZDA) seemed a logical way of passing on some of my experience and sharing the knowledge.

I have come to believe that live theatre is a very special way of experiencing being human, and that it should be available to us all. I also firmly believe that we can always learn something new and improve our theatrical endeavours; a bit of timely advice or a thought-provoking question from an objective observer can do wonders to elevate a performance.

I have a particular interest in basic stagecraft (the elementary stuff that is so easy to get slightly wrong and thereby annoy your audience) and encouraging actors to use their whole body to support the script. It still awes me when I see a script really brought to life by a team effort – the “magic that is live theatre” never fades.

Societies must provide two complimentary seats for the performance of Ruth’s choice. Her adjudication will be emailed to the Festival Manager who will then forward it to the society’s nominated contact person.

The Gala Evening and Awards Ceremony will be held on 7th December 2025. Further details will be advised nearer the date.

Please note: you should provide an original copy of the script (and music where relevant) unless you have a licence to copy from Playmarket. If the play is from the Internet please provide evidence of permission. Permission for any script changes must be provided. If the script is hired from Play Bureau please note that you can send all but the adjudicator’s script back to Play Bureau, informing them that the final copy is with the WDTF adjudicator; we will post it back directly to Play Bureau.

Please be aware that the WDTF’s expectation is that adjudications will be shared by the society as a minimum with all cast and crew members of the entered production.

Please complete the electronic form on our website (preferred method) or complete the following form clearly and in full.

President:
David G. Cox
021 02542861
president@wdtf.org.nz

Secretary:
Margaret Robertson
04 4792436

Registered Charity:
CC37021

[Type here]

Name of Group.....

Play.....

Playwright.....

Director (and musical director if relevant).....

Contact Person.....

Contact person's: email.....Mobile

Address of Venue.....

Dates and Times of Performances

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PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS:

1. How would you classify your production: drama, comedy or musical? **DRAMA**
COMEDY **MUSICAL** (please circle correct answer)

2. Is this a youth production (all cast members must either be 18 or under or still at school/college)? **YES or NO** (please circle correct answer)

3. Is this the first time the director has directed a play? **YES or NO** (please circle correct answer)

4. Is this a 'short play' [no longer than 60 minutes] **YES or NO** (please circle correct answer)

Please fill in this entry form and send it together with an **original script** (with any changes and/or cuts authorised) to Manager, David Cox, festivals@wdtf.org.nz

or 130 Ashton Fitchett Drive, Brookly, Wellington 6021

The entry fee is **\$140 [\$85 for a short play]** for a WDTF member-society/school and is to be paid directly into the Wellington Branch account: 03-0502-0179709-02. Please use the name of the play as the reference.

Your entry must be received at least two weeks before the production opens but preferably earlier.

Signed.....

DatePosition.....