

## WELCOME

from Linda Camplin

PRESIDENT OF COMPANY THEATRE

To round off a very busy year, our production of *LAST LEGS* is sure to relate to all people on some level. Director Sian Davis has matched a cast perfectly to the characters of this play set in The Cambridge, a fictional, upmarket retirement home. The characters have their own story to tell you, of their life that has led them here. It is a very poignant, black comedy so please sit back and enjoy. Thank you for supporting *Company Theatre* and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2019.

## THOUGHTS ON THE PLAY

from Sian Davis

DIRECTOR OF 'LAST LEGS' BY COMPANY THEATRE

It is Spring, 2017, in those halcyon days when Bill English still bestrode the world like a colossus, when plastic abounded and was jolly useful, when Baby Neve was a mere twinkle, and the Minister of Transport was pretty peripheral before inheriting...well!



The play is set in The Cambridge Retirement Village (somewhere on Auckland's North Shore), where Garry and Trish rule the roost (or, at least, 'The Rescom'.... which Trish will explain).

However, revolution is in the chook-feed and there are stirrings in the coop, which is actually not a free-range 'chook' farm, more a garden for reflection and contemplative wandering.

And perhaps it can be seen as a sort of microcosmic prefiguring of the 'Twilight of the Nats' and the blinking out of a star or two.





**TRISH**  
*Lynn Webster*

**KITTY**  
*Donna Franks*

**GARRY**  
*Max Golding*

**HELENA**  
*Sue Golding*

**EDNA**  
*Dianne Lamont*

**ANGUS**  
*Steve Wright*

## THE SCENES

**Act 1** - The action is set in The Cambridge, a well-to-do Retirement Village during the period that Bill English was Prime Minister in 2017.

*There will be an interval of 15 minutes.*

**Act 2** - The action follows on, a short time later.

**LOCAL EXPERIENCE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**  
Over 25 years combined experience selling property in Devonport and surrounding areas.



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**SIAN DAVIS**  
*Director of Last Legs*

Sian's involvement with theatre, amateur and professional, long predates her history with Company Theatre. It starts in NZ in the 60's in the Taihape Town Hall, performing in some Whitehall farce she'd probably like to forget (fun at the time, but!).

A seminal period was her involvement with Theatre Corporate in 1974, which meant,

eventually, actually getting paid to 'get up there and do it'. And eventually, that mutated into 'Hey, let's get others to get up there and... it's easier!' (No it's not!)

**Company Theatre** was the first theatre game enough to give her a 'shot' at directing with its production of *Hedda Gabler* in 1998. Subsequently nine other shows have followed at The Rose. Sian's preference has always been for plays that are 'classic' or 'New Zealand'. **Last Legs** is a Roger Hall New Zealand comedy that qualifies readily.

### PLAYS SIAN HAS DIRECTED FOR COMPANY THEATRE

- 1998 *Hedda Gabler* by Henrik Ibsen
- 2000 *Eugenia* by Lorae Parry
- 2001 *Arsenic & Old Lace* by Joseph Kesselring
- 2002 *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov
- 2005 *Trick of The Light* by Ken Duncam
- 2007 *The Bach* by Stephen Sinclair
- 2010 *Who Wants to be 100? (Anyone who's 99)* by Roger Hall
- 2010 *The Mousetrap* by Agatha Christie
- 2014 *A Shortcut to Happiness* by Roger Hall
- 2016 *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller
- 2018 *Last Legs* by Roger Hall



## MEET THE CAST



### MAX GOLDING

#### *Garry*

Veteran of a fair few plays at many venues dating way back into the middle of last century, Max has performed in several of Sian's productions including as Alan in Company Theatre's production of **Who Wants to be 100** by Roger Hall and then as Edwin in the same play at Titirangi. Max has done several of Roger Hall's plays twice – As Reg in **Spreading Out** at Company Theatre and then

at Dolphin Theatre playing Colin. He then acted

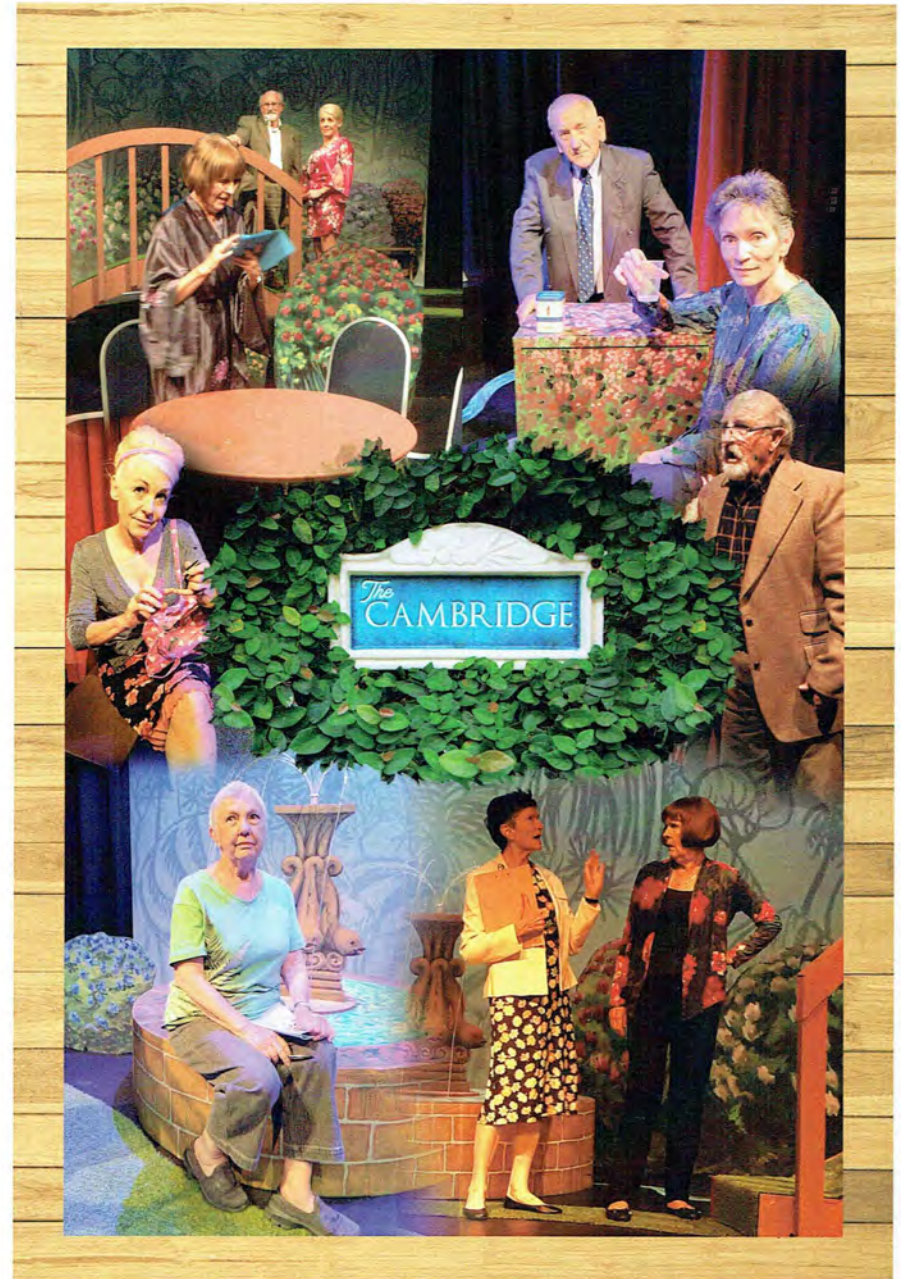
in **Four Flat Whites in Italy** at Company Theatre as Adrian and then at Titirangi Theatre as Harry. Max has also directed the 2016 production of **When Dad Married Fury** at Company Theatre. His last outing was in the Margot McRae reading of **Blood or Water** at the Vic in September of this year for NZ Theatre Month.

### SUE GOLDING

#### *Helena*

Sue has a performer's Speech and Drama LTCL, ATCL, and has worked with most Auckland community theatres. Roger Hall roles include Judy in **Four Flat Whites in Italy** and both wives in **Spreading Out**, Isobel at Company Theatre and Elizabeth at Dolphin Theatre. She has been directed by Sian several times, favourites being Sister Aloysius in **Doubt** by John Patrick Shanley, Shirley in **The Raft** by Carl Nixon, and Margaret McAdam in David Williamson's **Birthrights**.

In September this year, she and husband Max enjoyed being part of Roger Hall's great initiative NZ Theatre Month, performing at The Vic Theatre in the new play **Blood or Water** by Devonport writer Margot McRae.







**DONNA FRANKS**

*Kitty*

Great to be working under Sian Davis again. The last play I did with Sian was Roger Hall's **The Bach** (2007). I would not like to be type cast as the 'Dizzy Blonde' but am having a lot of fun creating the character, Kitty. My last acting role was in **Don't Dress For Dinner** directed by Elena Stejko. It was such fun! I followed up with acting classes with Elena and through The Robert Bruce Agency, I appeared in a T.V. drama about the **Pike River** mine disaster... Who knows what next?



**DIANNE LAMONT**

*Edna*

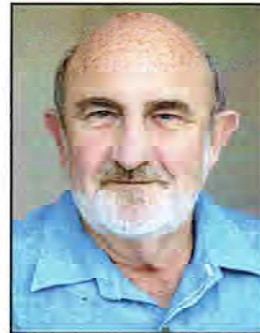
Dianne's working life has included radio, broadcasting, professional theatre, TV and film. Her more than 50 stage appearances have included twelve previous roles with Company Theatre. She finds great pleasure to be working again with Sue, Max and Steve, and also with Sian, our director. Dianne's last Company appearance was in **When Dad Married Fury** (by David Williamson, 2016)

**STEVE WRIGHT**

*Angus*

Steve is a big fan of Roger Hall's plays and has performed in and directed a number of them. He has performed in **Glide Time** (1978 Putaruru Theatre), **Take A Chance On Me** (2002 Company Theatre) and **Who Wants To Be 100** (2010 Company Theatre). Plays that Steve has directed include **Prisoners Of Mother England** (1987 Torbay Theatre), **Social Climbers** (1997 Company Theatre), **Market Forces** (2002 Howick Theatre) and **Taking Off** (2008 Howick Theatre).

Steve spent some time in Oxford, England playing some notable Shakespearean roles such as Stephano in **The Tempest**, (2005 at Trinity College). While there he also directed **The Memory of Water** by Shelagh Stephenson at Keble College for the Oxford Theatre Guild.



**LYNN WEBSTER**

*Trish*

Lynn is delighted to return to Company Theatre having appeared as the mother in Arthur Miller's **All My Sons** in 2016. Lynn received her theatre training at Northwestern University in the US and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Her professional career has taken her to Chicago, Toronto, London and New York; the highlight was being in **Guys and Dolls** at the National Theatre in London in the 80's. After moving to Auckland in 1997, she has played many leading roles in community theatre productions including **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest**, **84 Charing Cross Road**, **The Importance of Being Earnest**, and **Dolly** in **Hello, Dolly!** Last year's highlight was playing Sister Mary Lazarus, the rapping nun, in **Sister Act** at the ASB Waterfront Theatre.



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## CREW FOR LAST LEGS

<b>Production Manager</b>	Sherry Ede
<b>Director</b>	Sian Davis
<b>Set Design</b>	Sian Davis
<b>Stage Manager</b>	Linda Camplin
<b>Backstage Assistants</b>	Annie McGrath, Janet Lyons, Sofia Miernik
<b>Rehearsal PA/Prompt</b>	Kathy Gent
<b>Wardrobe</b>	Janet Lyons, Cathie Sandy
<b>Props</b>	Kathy Gent
<b>Set Building</b>	Max Golding, Ron Reichs, Phil Searle, James Carrick, Stephen Hood, Kay Williams, Alastair Fletcher, Sian Davis
<b>Lighting Design</b>	Scott Thomas
<b>Lighting Assistant</b>	Phil Searle
<b>Lighting &amp; Sound Operator</b>	Stephen Hood
<b>Set Dressing/Painting</b>	Caroline Parker, Maureen Kenny
<b>Publicity</b>	Sherry Ede, Kathy Gent, Katie Vincent
<b>Billboards</b>	Alastair Fletcher
<b>Graphic Design</b>	Hayley Atkins
<b>Programme</b>	Hayley Atkins, Sherry Ede
<b>Box Office</b>	Kathy Gent
<b>FOH Manager</b>	Lesley Hawkey
<b>Bar Manager</b>	Alastair Fletcher
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	Phil Davis, St Johns, Melissa Roberts, Gillian Lay (Majong) North Shore Bridge Club (Cards), Auckland Theatre Company (Pool Table)

### THANKS TO

A special thank you to the volunteers who look after front of house.  
 Thank you to our major sponsors Barfoot & Thompson Devonport,  
 The Ryman Foundation and Rowley Funerals.  
 Thank you to The Rose Centre.



There will be  
**ONE INTERVAL**  
 of 15 minutes  
 Refreshments,  
 Ice Creams, Chocolates and  
 a variety of drinks will  
 be available



Taken from the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book compiled by Scott Thomas

## THE HISTORY BEHIND



**COMPANY THEATRE** began in 1980 in St Michael's Hall, Bayswater.

They helped to lobby and fundraise for The Rose Centre as a community facility and moved here when it opened in 1992 as the **Resident Theatre** group.

**COMPANY THEATRE** has two members on The Rose Centre Board.

**COMPANY THEATRE** performs three times a year and their productions are the ones displayed on the walls of the foyer.

For information on Productions, Auditions, Newsletters and Fundraising opportunities for your groups, please visit our website.

[www.companytheatre.co.nz](http://www.companytheatre.co.nz)







**ROGER HALL** CNZM QSO  
Playwright of 'Last Legs'

Born 17 January 1939, Roger is one of New Zealand's most successful playwrights, arguably best known for comedies that carry a vein of social criticism and feelings of pathos.

A desire to write and to act was kindled by his father's talent as an impersonator, frequent family visits to the theatre, especially revues, and by his love of post-war British radio comedies such as 'Hancock's Half Hour'.

As an only child growing up on the edge of London, he became an avid reader, and occasional actor. Hall began working at an insurance company, but in 1958, aged 19, he sailed for New Zealand on an assisted passage scheme for migrants.

In 2015 he was awarded the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in Fiction.



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Located on Ngataranga Road in Devonport, the brand new William Sanders Retirement Village will be nestled amongst peaceful surroundings with views of Mt Victoria/Takuranga, Rangitoto, Auckland city and the harbour bridge.

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For more information phone  
Mark or Janet on 09 445 0909  
Ngataranga Road, Devonport



\* Terms and conditions apply

**NEXT WITH COMPANY THEATRE**

Our upcoming show 30 March to 13 April 2019

See [companytheatre.co.nz](http://companytheatre.co.nz) for details



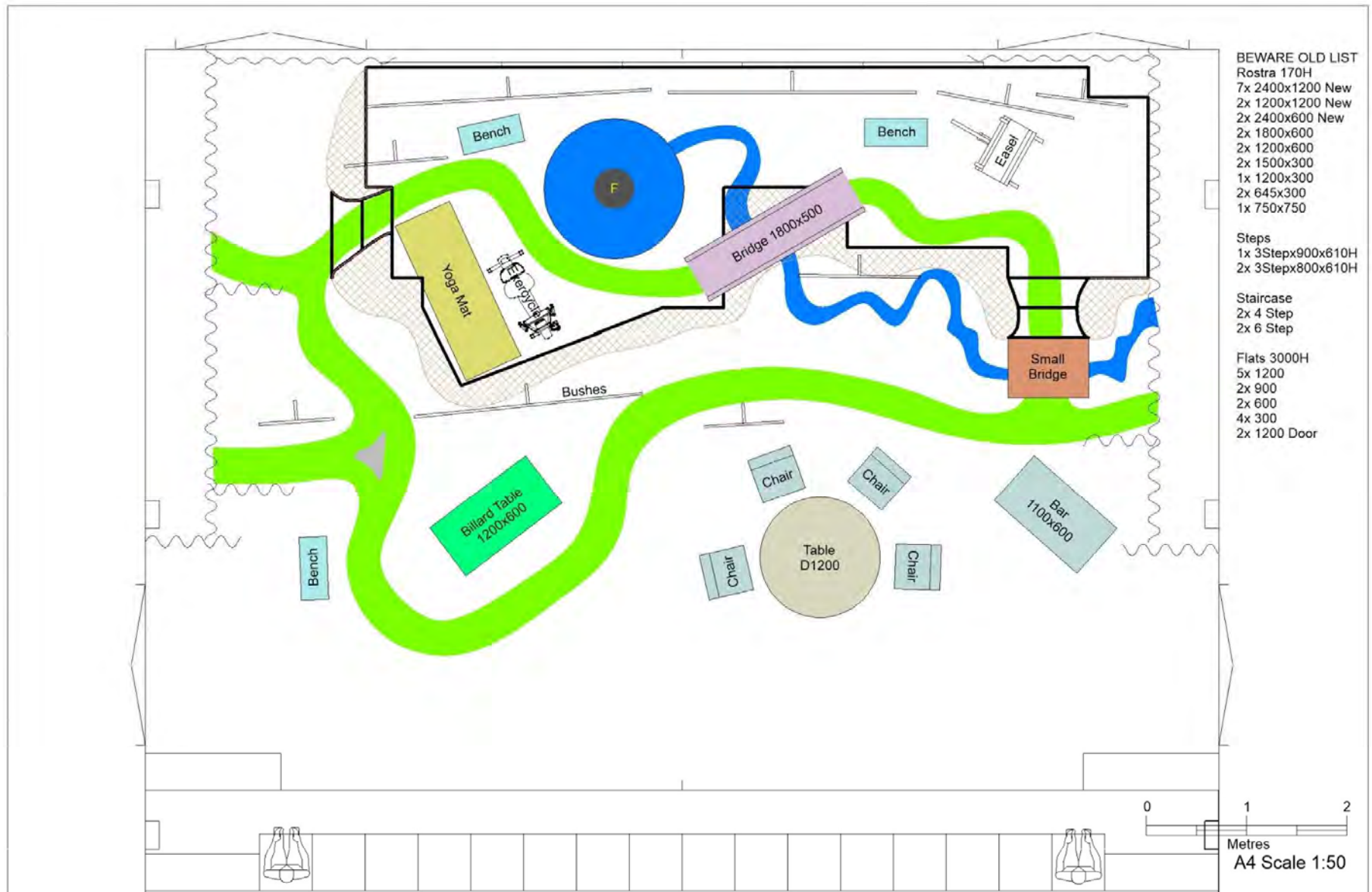
*"It is refreshing to know that two men on a stage can succeed in keeping a theatre audience fully satisfied for two hours. This is a pitch-perfect two hander that is entirely absorbing from start to finish."*

The Irish Times



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IN HIS  
POCKETS**  
by Marie Jones






- BEWARE OLD LIST
- Rostra 170H
  - 7x 2400x1200 New
  - 2x 1200x1200 New
  - 2x 2400x600 New
  - 2x 1800x600
  - 2x 1200x600
  - 2x 1500x300
  - 1x 1200x300
  - 2x 645x300
  - 1x 750x750
- Steps
- 1x 3Stepx900x610H
  - 2x 3Stepx800x610H
- Staircase
- 2x 4 Step
  - 2x 6 Step
- Flats 3000H
- 5x 1200
  - 2x 900
  - 2x 600
  - 4x 300
  - 2x 1200 Door

Event <b>LAST LEGS</b>	Drawing Set Plan View	Producer Company Theatre	Performance 17-1 Dec 2018	Date 24/08/18
	Director Sián Davis	Drawn by Scott Thomas	Venue The Rose Centre	Rev 2

Taken from the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book compiled by Scott Thomas






COMPANY THEATRE PRESENTS

# LAST LEGS

By Roger Hall

DIRECTED BY SIAN DAVIS 17 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 2018  
THE ROSE CENTRE, BELMONT 8.00PM WED - SAT  
SUNDAYS AT 2.00PM




Company Theatre is delighted to present **LAST LEGS** by Roger Hall

There's lots of life and laughter in this Retirement Home! Come along and enjoy

- A great night out
- Comfortable raked theatre seating
- Bar open from 7pm – eftpos available
- Ice-creams, tea and coffee
- Plenty of parking

*"The sharply drawn characters cover a range of recognisable Kiwi types. The entire package is neatly wrapped in a flawless dramatic structure with a frenetically funny finale"*

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## 2019 LAST LEGS

