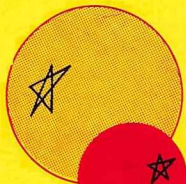


# NAPIER FRIVOLITY MINSTRELS



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THE NAPIER FRIVOLITY MINSTRELS INC.

present their

***77th MINSTREL SHOW***

Producer — Shirley Jarrett

---

FOLLOWED BY THEIR 1973 PRODUCTION —

PANTOMIME



WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY SID HENNEY

MUNICIPAL THEATRE, NAPIER, AND EXTENDED TOUR OF TAUPO AND HAWKE'S BAY

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## *A Message from the President*

GOOD EVENING, and welcome to our bright and breezy show, hoping you enjoy it as much as we all enjoy presenting it to you. This being my first year as president I wish to thank the secretary, John Ferguson, committee and members for all assistance, guidance, and advice I have received.

To Wally Ireland, our first patron, I give a very special thanks for the wealth of knowledge you have given to myself and all members.

Wally, we pass on a big thanks for your tremendous work and service of 25 years as president of the Frivs, and being an active member for 57 years, a theatrical record that we think is unequalled in New Zealand, and one of which we are really proud.

To all members I say thank you for the hard work you have put in to make the show a success, and to you, our audience I say thank you for your continued support.



MICHAEL SMITH,  
President.

---

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**Wally Ireland**  
(Patron)

## Our Patron —

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the "Frivs" for giving me the honour of being their first patron, an honour that I will always cherish.

I would also like to pay tribute to Michael Smith who became president when I stepped down this year, and John Ferguson our new secretary.

These two young members have done a great amount of work since they took over the administration, especially most of the negotiating in the purchase of our new hall.

After 77 years the "Frivs" now have a home of their own, and I am sure they will get stronger and in 23 years from now will have the pleasure of celebrating their 100th jubilee.

## Producer — Minstrel Show

Bright, vivacious producer for the Frivs, Shirley Jarrett is a real behind-the-scenes worker in the company. The results of her imagination and ability are seen in the dance and chorus routines introduced this year.

Highly qualified in all fields of dancing Shirley Jarrett teaches in Napier with great success.

Her originality in her approach to stagework is well known and it is the sincere hope of the company that this popular member will continue the outstanding contribution which she has already made, for many years to come.



**Shirley Jarrett**  
Producer  
(Minstrel Show)

## Producer — Pantomime

"All At Sea" was written and produced by Sid, the original version having been performed by the Frivs many years ago, but has been revised with additional music.

It is good to welcome Sid back to the production team, after his recent extended overseas tour.

Sid also is well known for his writings, for radio, these taking the form of sketches and children's plays, etc.



**Sid Henney**  
(Producer-Pantomime)

## Hon. Secretary

In his second year as secretary, John has been of most value to the company, especially with the changes of administration.

The knowledge gained by John over the past seven years with the "Frivs" has helped him in this important position.

He also, would like to thank every member of the entire company, for their continued co-operation.



**John Ferguson**  
(Hon. Secretary)

---

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# ON STAGE

## 1973



Roger Williams  
(Mr Sambo)



Merv Oemcke  
(Mr Bones)



Alan Emery  
(Mr Interlocutor)



Richard Shadbolt  
(Mr Moses)



Neil Faulkner  
(Mr Rastus)

### The Girls

STELLA ASTWOOD  
MARGARET ATKINS  
KAY BISSELL  
JOAN DAVY  
LYNETTE FOSTER  
DIANE JOLL  
JUNE LAWRENCE  
PAM MELLOR  
SUE MELLOR  
JOY OEMCKE  
CORRI TAYLOR  
VANESSA WOOLLEY

### The Dancers

WENDY EAGLE  
BRENDA RICHARDSON  
KAY STEVENSON

### The Boys

JOHN FERGUSON  
GLYNN LAWRENCE  
KEN SMITH  
MICHAEL SMITH  
JOHN TAYLOR  
DICK WOOD

### Committee for 1973-74

Mesdames STELLA ASTWOOD  
FAY ROGERS  
Messrs MAURICE BARTLETT  
HARRY KOEFOED  
MERV OEMCKE  
RICHARD SHADBOLT  
ROGER WILLIAMS

VICE-PRESIDENT and HOUSE MANAGER, NORM ETHERIDGE

## The Ladies Of The Circle



L to R: PAM MELLOR, JUNE LAWRENCE, JOAN DAVY,  
SUE MELLOR. Seated: CORRI TAYLOR  
(Inset: KAY BISSELL)



L to R Back Row: VANESSA WOOLLEY, DIANE JOLL,  
JOY OEMCKE  
L to R Front Row: MARGARET ATKINS, LYN FOSTER,  
STELLA ASTWOOD

## The Men Of The Circle



Left to Right: KEN SMITH, GLYNN LAWRENCE, JOHN FERGUSON, DICK WOOD, JOHN TAYLOR, MICHAEL SMITH.





The 1973 "Frivs"  
present their  
**77th MINSTREL SHOW**

PRODUCER — SHIRLEY JARRETT

OVERTURE SOUTHERN MELODIES — "FRIVS" ORCHESTRA

1. The show opens "COMEDY TONIGHT" — The Entire Company.
2. The cast wonder "WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD"
3. Stella Astwood sings for us "VIENNA, CITY OF DREAMS"
4. We say "I WANT TO BE IN DIXIE", "KENTUCKY", and "SWANNEE" featuring Mr Rastus
5. Our dancers with Joy Oemcke feature in "SHE WAS ONE OF THE BACKROW GIRLS"
6. "EARLY IN THE MORNING" featuring Mr Sambo, Mr Bones, Mr Moses and Mr Rastus
7. The Frivettes entertain with "THEME FROM LOVE STORY"
8. The men sing "RED ROSES FOR A BLUE LADY" followed by "KNEE DEEP IN DAISIES"
9. Dick Wood sings for us "SONG OF THE CLYDE"
10. Back to school again with "RHYTHM IN MY NURSERY RHYMES"
11. Our action song "POLLY WOLLY DOODLE" and "OH SUSANNA"
12. "WHEN MY SUGAR WALKS DOWN THE STREET", "SUNNY SIDE", "BYE BYE BLACKBIRD"  
Company and Dancers.
13. Mr Interlocutor sings everybody's favourite "TRUE LOVE" from High Society.
14. Back to Dixieland with "DOWN IN DIXIE", "MAMMY", "SHUFFLE OFF TO BUFFALO"
15. "CHINA TOWN", "CHINA BOY MEETS CHINA GIRL", "YELLOW RIVER" — Entire Company.
16. What a world!!! we sing "WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD", "AROUND THE WORLD", "IT'S A MAD,  
MAD, MAD, MAD WORLD" — The Company with our Grand Finale.

C U R T A I N

The Napier Frivolity Minstrels  
Present A Sparkling Musical Comedy



An original version, written and produced by Sid Henney

Ballet and Dance Routines — Shirley Jarrett

Musical Arrangements — Bill Mayo

Wardrobe — Fay Rogers and Judy Anderson

**Cast (in order of appearance)**

POLLY PERKINS	..... (Chief Mate of the Leaky Louise) ....	MARGARET ATKINS
CAPTAIN KIDD	..... (Captain of the Leaky Louise) .....	ALAN EMERY
SUSAN SNIPPETT	..... (Daughter of Dame Snippet) .....	JUNE LAWRENCE
RICHARD HAWKINS	..... (A member of the crew) .....	GLYNN LAWRENCE
DAME SNIPPETT	..... (Cook of the Leaky Louise) .....	SYD HARDGRAVE
DON SEBASTIAN	..... (The shipwrecked mariner) .....	DICK WOOD
CINDY	..... (One of Chief Oompah's daughters) .....	PAMELA MELLOR
LINDY	..... (One of Chief Oompah's daughters) .....	LYNETTE FOSTER
CHIEF OOMPAH	..... (Chief of the native tribe) .....	NEIL FAULKNER
MOOLU	..... (The witch doctor) .....	ROGER WILLIAMS
LOOLU	..... (The medicine man) .....	MERV OEMCKE
ROSITA	..... (Spanish girl) .....	STELLA ASTWOOD
DOLORES	..... (Spanish girl) .....	KAY BISSELL

(Also Sailors, Inhabitants of Santa Reno)

**Chorus**

STELLA ASTWOOD, KAY BISSELL, JOAN DAVY, DIANE JOLL, SUE MELLOR, JOY OEMCKE, CORRI TAYLOR, VANESSA WOOLLEY, JOHN FERGUSON, KEN SMITH, MICHAEL SMITH, RICHARD SHADBOLT, JOHN TAYLOR.

**Ballet and Dancers**

WENDY EAGLE, BRENDA RICHARDSON, KAY STEVENSON

**Scenes**

- Scene 1: On board "Leaky Louise" — Somewhere on the Spanish Main — Early afternoon.  
Scene 2: Shipwrecked on the Cannibal Islands.  
Scene 3: The island. — Sunrise next day.  
Scene 4: The town of Santa Reno on the Spanish Main, that evening.

~~~~~

**Scene 1**

- |                                                  |                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. ENTRACTE .....                                | THE ORCHESTRA                           |
| 2. Opening Number .....                          | SHIP'S COMPANY                          |
| 3. Solo and Chorus .....                         | CAPTAIN KIDD and Company.               |
| 4. Duet .....                                    | SUSAN and RICHARD, with help from crew. |
| 5. Dame Snippet in "Hard To Get Gertie" .....    | and the Ships Company.                  |
| 6. Captain Kidd, Dame Snippet and Crew are ..... | Back again To Happy Go Lucky Days.      |
| 7. Reprise .....                                 | Bring Your Smile Along THE COMPANY      |

**Scene 2**

- |                                                                                                                                                 |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 8. Don Sebastian, Cindy and Lindy, assisted by Chief Oompah, Moolu and Loolu in<br>"Where did Robinson Crusoe go with Friday on Saturday Night" |                                         |
| 9. Solo .....                                                                                                                                   | "Nobody Cares If I'm Blue" CAPTAIN KIDD |
| 10. Solo and Chorus .....                                                                                                                       | Scatterbrain POLLY PERKINS and Crew.    |

(Between Scenes 2 and 3 "Beyond the Reef" — The Orchestra)

**Scene 3**

- |                                             |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 11. Ritual Dance .....                      | ISLAND GIRL DANCERS.                            |
| 12. Cindy and Lindy tell Captain Kidd ..... | "I wouldn't Leave My Little Wooden Hut For You" |

(Reprise "Beyond the Reef" — The Orchestra)

**Scene 4**

- |                                                                                               |                            |                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 13. Evening in Santa Reno and "Blue Spanish Eyes" ....                                        | Rosita ....                | STELLA ASTWOOD                    |
| 14. Duet .....                                                                                | The Breeze                 | ROSITA and DON SEBASTION          |
| 15. Chief Oompah, Moolu and Loolu are advised to "Enjoy Yourself", It's Later Than You Think. |                            |                                   |
| 16. Reprise .....                                                                             | Enjoy Yourself             | CAPTAIN KIDD and Villagers        |
| 17. Susan and Richard are pleased in ...                                                      | That Happy Feeling ....    | Helped by passers by.             |
| 18. Reprise .....                                                                             | A Wonderful Day Like Today | CAPTAIN KIDD, POLLY and Villagers |
| 19. Closing Number .....                                                                      | Bring Your Smile Along     | THE COMPANY                       |
| 20. Finale Number .....                                                                       | Call It A Day              | THE COMPANY                       |

CURTAIN



Names L to R: BRENDA RICHARDSON, KAY STEVENSON,  
CORRIE TAYLOR, WENDY EAGLE.



Names L to R: ALAN EMERY (Captain Kidd), MARGARET ATKINS  
(Polly), SYD HARDGRAVE (Dame Snippet).

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## MEET THE FRIVS ORCHESTRA



Back Row (l to r): CLIFF HOWELL (Trombone and bass) ALAN LANGE (trumpet), CRAIG ASTWOOD, MAURICE BARTLETT (drums), LEON SPEAKMAN (double bass), PHILL JENNINGS (trumpet).  
Front Row (l to r): TED COLLIER (violin), NGAIRE DALLIMORE, A.T.C.L. (pianist, 2nd half), GEORGE STUART (violin). Inset: JOY COULAM (pianist, 1st half), MICHAEL SIMKIN (clarinet).

---

## A home of our own

In July this year the Frivs purchased what was known as the Buffalo Hall, Waghorne Street, Ahuriri. This has been a major step forward in the 77 years the Frivs have been performing.

We were fortunate in obtaining a loan from our bank for this venture and our hall is now being used for rehearsal, property, and social activities. Being freehold this property has become an asset for the "Frivs".

---

The Napier Frivolity Minstrels Incorporated, reserve the right to change the programme, if necessary due to sickness or other causes.

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## Credits

SPECIAL THANKS to Mr A. H. Norrie (help with chorus work), Maurice Bartlett (programme cover design), Napier Intermediate School (use of hall), Mrs Awatere (making men's trousers), Hatfield Instruments Ltd. (supplying sound system), Martin and Tester (cabinet-making), Mr Bickerstaff, Kingston's (costume material), Langley, Twigg, Doole and Cowley (hon. solicitors), John Warman and Committee Buffalo Lodge (co-operation in purchasing hall), H.B. Motor Co. (Management and drivers), D. McLachlan (publicity photos), John Ferguson, Michael Smith (compiling programme), Daily Telegraph, N.Z.B.C. (publicity), Nola Atkin, Bill Mayo (musical arrangers), N.Z. Plumbers Merchants Assn., Mrs R. Mardon (music), Clare Manning (help with wardrobe), Denis Maunder (help with scenery painting), Jock Stevenson (lyrics early in the morning).

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HELEN SMITH  
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ROBYN SHARPE  
(Prompt)



Back Row (l to r): Philip Anderson, Harry Koefoed, Steve Kirby, Lester Sherlock.  
Front Row (l to r): Kerry Single (sound), Richard Manning, Colin Goble. Absent: Arthur Bluck (lighting effects).

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"Snow" Rayner

Programme Supervisor "Snow" has been on the Municipal Theatre door since 1923, and has been associated with the Frivs in that time although only an active member for the past six years. Snow's motto: "I'm not hard of hearing, I'm ignoring you."

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## How the Frivs Prepare for a Production

Each year the season commences with the Annual General Meeting, which is usually held in March. At this meeting plans for the coming theatrical year are discussed and requests for visits by the company are considered, the itinerary for the new production is then finalised.

For the last few years this itinerary has included some 21 performances, ranging from as far afield as Taupo in the north, to Levin in the south. Performances are usually given to assist schools and school committees, and although financial returns are not kept by the "Frivs", all moneys raised go to the organisation that the company plays for.

The only exception to this is the Napier performances, which are shared by local schools, organisations, and the "Frivs", as this is the only way the company is able to finance each new production. The "Frivs" believe that if they are able to budget for each year and break even they have performed their function, and this is achieved without a single performer receiving any remuneration whatsoever.

Each new production is prepared before the new rehearsal period starts in March. Musical numbers are searched for and in this the Minstrel Show portion of the programme gets more difficult each year as the "Darkie" type of numbers are hard to find.

What is regarded as the pantomime section of the production, is prepared locally and later on in the rehearsal, this, too, is prepared with much thought and tribulation. Rehearsal periods are from March to August and usually occupy one night during the week (Monday) and nearer the first performance are stepped up to one extra rehearsal over the last two or three weeks. Production of the show is more leisurely than some Societies but for all that does not seem to blunt the enthusiasm of members and the longer season seems more enjoyable.

The work involved with the orchestra, ballet, and chorus is quite formidable as, for the orchestra some 50 numbers have to be scored, and for the ballet and chorus a similar number of concerted and dance routines have to be thought out and arranged. All work to one end, the first performance — the orchestra attends most rehearsals, the chorus members throughout the 5 month rehearsal period, backstage and other helpers usually find some excuse to attend on a Monday night; such is the feeling of belonging that every "Friv" member is conscious of.

The reward is the satisfaction of a show well performed and the goodwill and affection that all our audiences seem to have for the company. An affection built up over the past 76 years, by other "Frivs" . . . and we like to believe, the efforts of the present Frivolity Company.

---

## SIMMONDS

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