



## **Notice of general public costume hire**

As part of our strategic plan to focus on our core mission of bringing Musical Theatre to the Waikato, the Board has made the decision to temporarily suspend our general public costume hire.

This will give us the time and space to carefully curate our sizeable wardrobe collection for production hire to educational institutions, local theatre and community groups, and of course for our own productions.

Analysis of our wardrobe/costume hire department over the past few years has shown that the cost required to outfit, alter, mend, wash and iron our costumes for a relatively low number of costume hires per month far outweighs the income received. While we regret not being available for the general community, the Board is mindful of our available budget and so we have decided to focus on the wider creative community, ensuring that they receive the supply, personalized attention, extensive wardrobe collection and bespoke fitting services that they have come to expect from the Society.

We will be encouraging individual hirers who are looking for a special one-night party event hire to visit Tracey at Waikato Costume Hire where she and her team will be more than helpful with their costume requirements.

Due to the summer break and the heat upstairs in our wardrobe/costume area, we do not normally reopen for the year until early March; this year the opening date is 1st March so this new development will effectively come into play from then.

For any enquiries re costume selections and fittings for theatre companies and other community and educational groups, simply email [hireage@hamiltonoperatic.co.nz](mailto:hireage@hamiltonoperatic.co.nz).

We hope that you will understand the reasoning behind this decision and trust also that you will support both the Society and the Waikato Costume Hire in this new approach for 2024.

Many thanks to you all and as always, we would be pleased to hear any feedback that you may have for us. Simply email [admin@hamiltonoperatic.co.nz](mailto:admin@hamiltonoperatic.co.nz).