

# **"The Bach"** by Stephen Sinclair Directed by Sian Davis

What could be more Kiwi-iconic than a bach! Situated on the Coromandel's Thames coast, "The Bach" is the perfect venue for the weekend away to 'chill-out', get a few personal 'probs' sorted, do bit of work away from any distraction...that sort of thing. The new council-built, less than discreetly sited public 'dunny' is perhaps the only blot marring the perfection. Excepting, of course, what the characters themselves might offer....a rocky marital relationship, a treacherous and unscrupulous brother, and a naive 'waif' seeking to connect with her Maori heritage. These diverse elements provide the fun as four very divergent and 'exciting' temperaments collide.

Simon, a lawyer, once a Russell McVeagh heavyweight is now languishing in conveyancing. His wift Sally is a producer of TV commercials with aspirations to producing a *significant* feature film. Their marriage is precarious, and, looking to salvage it, they plan a weekend at the bach.

Unfortunately flamboyant younger brother Michael, a once promising scriptwriter but more recently a newspaper 'hack' in the UK, has unexpectedly 'come home'- and invited himself along with the intention of revisiting the past. Miffed for reasons other than simple resentment at the intrusion, Sally arrives with Hana, her production assistant. Hana it is who has conjured up the 'perfect' vehicl to help achieve Sally's industry ambitions, but first there is a funding submission to prepare.

And then, there is the less-than-benign shadow of the now-deceased, famous-poet father .....

'The Bach' is not only a significant and quintessentially NZ play, it is a guaranteed intelligent 'good laugh' with some thought-provoking perhaps even painful moments.

Sian Davis, Director

The Bach is set on the Thames coast of the Coromandel in 2004

ACT I - Early afternoon October 2004 ACT II – Mid-morning the next day

NB. The play runs for 1hr 30mins and there is no interval

# **CAST** (in order of appearance)

Simon Michael Sally Hana Richard Parmée Malcolm Jordan Donna Franks Kelly Morrison

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### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director Production Manager/PA/Prompt Stage Managers

Prompt Set Design Set Construction

Set Dressing Set Painting

Lighting Design/Operation Sound Design Sound Operation Properties Wardrobe Publicity Poster Design Photos & Billboards Programme Front of House Manager Bar Manager Box Office, Front of House & Bar Staff

Sian Davis Sue Gross, Molly Clarke Katie Macdiarmid. Sheila Stevens Molly Clarke, Sue Gross Sian Davis Phil Davis with Richard Parmee. Alastair Fletcher, Steve Moss. Jim Murphy Sian Davis Sian Davis, Janet Williamson, Maureen Kenny, Sue Gross, Nadine Gibson. Katie Macdiarmid Phil Searle Terry Smith Graham Wagstaff Maureen Kenny, Sue Gross Nadine Gibson Kathy Gent Emma Love, Sian Davis Sherry Ede **Richard Parmee** Sheila Stevens Alastair Fletcher Members of Company Theatre

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Torbay Dramatic Society Inc, Phil Davis Builders Ltd, Northcote Tavern, Atlas Concrete, Maddy Amor Tony & Cathie Sandy, DB Breweries Ltd

## **CAST PROFILES**

#### Richard Parmée

Richard, who directed "Noises Off" for Company Theatre at the end of last year, is back on stage for the first time in over year having last appeared in 2005's "Ghost Train". "The Bach" says Richard "has been a fascinating journey because of the many relationship similarities to my own family. It has made even more aware of how miscommunication causes so many problems in so many lives!" A big "thank you" to Sian for the opportunity, to my fellow cast members for their patience and to you, the audience, for your anticipated enjoyment.

#### Malcolm Jordan

This is Malcolm's first production with Company Theatre, having previously been involved with Torbay Dramatic Society and in theatre in Christchurch, Invercargill and Wellington. Long hours at Radio Sport and family has meant only spasmodic appearances during the 10 years he's been in Auckland, but as all actors will tell you the bug eventually gets the better of you and you're compelled to leap back into it. "I've enjoyed the challenge of getting to grips with "Michael" a character who's very different to my own personality and that's why being on stage is such fun."

#### Donna Franks

I am really looking forward to performing the role of Sally. I have long wanted to play a more serious role having been previously cast in quite a few farces. My next challenge would be to do a musical. It's always a pleasure to work at Company Theatre being so close to home and friends. Thank you so much Sian for giving me this opportunity!

#### Kelly Morrison

I have been a Speech and Drama teacher for the past ten years and studied a Drama degree at the University of Waikato. It's my first stage play in a number of years and I've enjoyed working under the direction of the amazing Sian Davis with a talented cast in an exciting play.

### AUDITIONS AUDITIONS AUDITIONS

Auditions for DAUGHTERS OF HEAVEN by Michelanne Forster Directed by Mary Cavanagh At 2pm at The Rose Centre on Sunday 15 April 2007 Enquiries phone Mary on 483 6111 or 021 881118 Production Dates 27 July – 11 August 2007

#### COMPANY THEATRE MEMBERSHIP Phone Steve on 634 6313 or email <u>companytheatre@gmail.com</u> <u>www.companytheatre.co.nz</u>



#### **2007 THE BACH**

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# Baching it – Kiwi drama at its best

Summer weekends at a beach on the Thames coast of the Coromandel. What could be more idyllic - the pohutukawa, the fishing, the late night skinny dips, the sand between your toes ... until the council intervenes and starts to spoil things, and relationships at 'The Bach' become fractious to say the least.

'The Bach', a quintessentially Kiwi play written by Devonport playwright Stephen Sinclair, is presented by Company Theatre from now until March 31 at The Rose Centre. In the photo we see

what could be a holiday

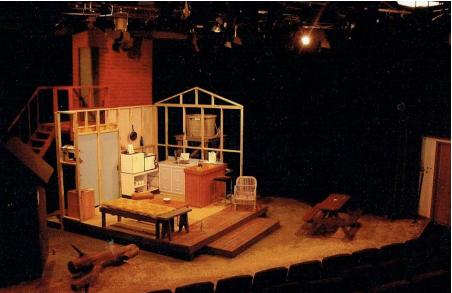
picture postcard, but relations sour as the



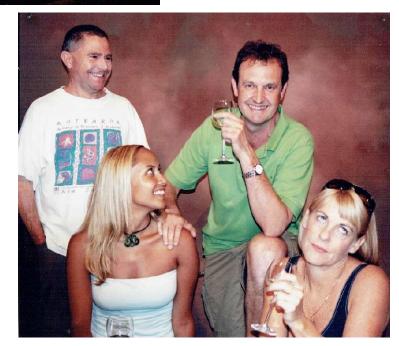
Happy holidays...but there's a serious undertow

brothers Michael (Malcolm Jordan) and Franks), and Hana (Kelly Morrison) tackle toilets in one fell swoop. To book to see 'The Simon (Richard Parmee), and Sally (Donna the combined problems of infidelity and Bach' phone Kathy Gent on 445 6447.









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