

# Project report form

Mackenzie District



<b>Creative Communities Scheme</b>	
All recipients of funds from the Creative Communities Scheme must complete this form within <b>two months</b> after their project is completed.	
If you do not complete and return this form you will not be eligible for future funding through the Creative Communities Scheme.	
Please return the completed form to:	
<b>Mackenzie District Council</b> <b>P O Box 52</b> <b>FAIRLIE</b>  <b>Attention: Arlene Goss</b>	

**1. Project name: The Polar Express**

**2. Name of applicant: The Mackenzie Theatre Group**

**3. Location of project: Fairlie**

<b>4. Date of project:</b>	<b>29th Nov - 2nd Dec 2023</b>

**5. Amount received from the Creative**

**\$3,500**

**Communities Scheme:**

Application form 1 of 3

**6. Please give details of how the money was spent. Your contribution to the project and the Creative Communities Scheme funding you received must be accounted for.**

Please see accounts attached	\$
	\$

	\$
	\$

**7. Please provide details about the project or activities that were supported by the Creative Communities Scheme. Explain what was successful, and what didn't work so well.**

The Mackenzie Theatre Group were extremely happy with how the Polar Express show came together, and how it was received by the community. We had a large cross section of the cast get involved, from 12 or so high school students to our retired members. The involvement of the MenzShed in set design and build was a fantastic partnership, and saw many new faces get involved with a theatre group production. We had a very high percentage of ticket sales over the four nights, with the last two nights selling out. We do feel like this was the right balance however, adding an extra show would have increased hire costs but not necessarily brought in another full house. The official review printed in the Accessible was full of praise, as were those heard anecdotally.

Whilst we had a fantastic array of ages get involved, we were still very unbalanced on the gender front; an age old conundrum. The Theatre Group will look at staging our next show in May as this should allow for the involvement of more male cast members, especially those committed to the seasons of farm work.

**8. . Give a brief description of the highlights of your project, including the number of participants.**

**We had a total of 37 cast members, and a dedicated crew of 16. There were also roughly 10 from the MenzShed who helped with set construction, and another 10 who assisted with Front of House.**

**Highlights include 11 of our cast participating in a Mackenzie Theatre Group show for the first time.**

**9. How did your project benefit your community?**

**We believe this show brought a lot of Christmas cheer to Fairlie and the wider Mackenzie. For those that played a part in its creation, a huge amount of fun, friendship and upskilling was had. To those that came to watch, they were treated to a night of top local talent and a professionally staged show.**

*Application form 2 of 3*

**10. What, if any, are the next steps (for your project, for you and/or for the people involved)?**

**The Mackenzie Theatre Group are planning a series of workshops for the community to participate in, later on in 2024. These will involve acting workshops, but will also aim to teach 'behind the scenes' skills such as sound and lighting, and make-up. At our recent committee meeting we decided upon May 2025 for our next show.**

<b>11. This report was completed by:</b>
<b>Claire Dann (Secretary)</b>

Name: Claire Dann

Address: 37 Struthers Street, Fairlie

Date:

Phone: 022 6822347

Email: [clairedann@gmail.com](mailto:clairedann@gmail.com) *Application form 3 of 3*