

Welcome from the Chair

I am delighted to welcome you back to the dlr Mill Theatre and Balally Players' first full-length production of 2024! In John Breen's "Alone It Stands", we bring you to Thomond Park, Limerick, on 31st October 1978. The mighty New Zealand All Blacks, on an Irish tour, take on the none-too-mighty Munster team – and, to everyone's surprise, they lose 12-0. Munster's victory over the All Blacks was a huge event in the life of the playwright, John Breen, who drew his inspiration for writing "Alone It Stands" when he learned that one of the Munster players' father passed away during the game against the All Blacks. From this piece of Irish sporting history tinged with tragedy, Breen has fashioned a funny, lively play in which both teams, plus fans, children, relatives and even a dog, are portrayed by a cast of six, with no props and only a half-time change of shirt. The very essence of life, triumph over adversity, runs throughout the play, from the opening words of the All Black's haka, "Ka mate! Ka mate! Ka ora! Ka ora!" ("It is death! It is death! It is life! It is life!") through to the ordinary people on the Munster team and their extraordinary achievement in defeating an otherwise all-conquering New Zealand side.

Back by popular demand, this is the second time the Company has produced "Alone It Stands" and we look forward to touring it around Ireland on the 2024 Amateur Drama Council of Ireland (ADCI) Full-length Circuit at the following venues:

- 25 February 2024: Memorial Hall, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
- 8 March 2024: The Alley Theatre, Strabane, Co. Tyrone.
- 11 March 2024: Courtyard Theatre, Newtonabbey, Co. Down.
- 15 March 2024: Community Centre, Claregalway, Co. Galway.
- 16 March 2024: Abbey Centre, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.
- 18 March 2024: Town Hall, Newry, Co. Down.
- 21 March 2024: St. Michael's Theatre, New Ross, Co. Wexford.
- 23 March 2024: St Brigid's Hall, Carnew, Co. Wicklow.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the cast and crew of "Alone It Stands" for their hard work, energy and enthusiasm and to wish them the best of luck on the forthcoming Full-length Festival Circuit. I would also like to thank my colleagues on this year's hard-working Committee for their continued efforts to date, to Kate, Shona and the Mill Theatre team, and to you, our loyal audience, for your unwavering support.

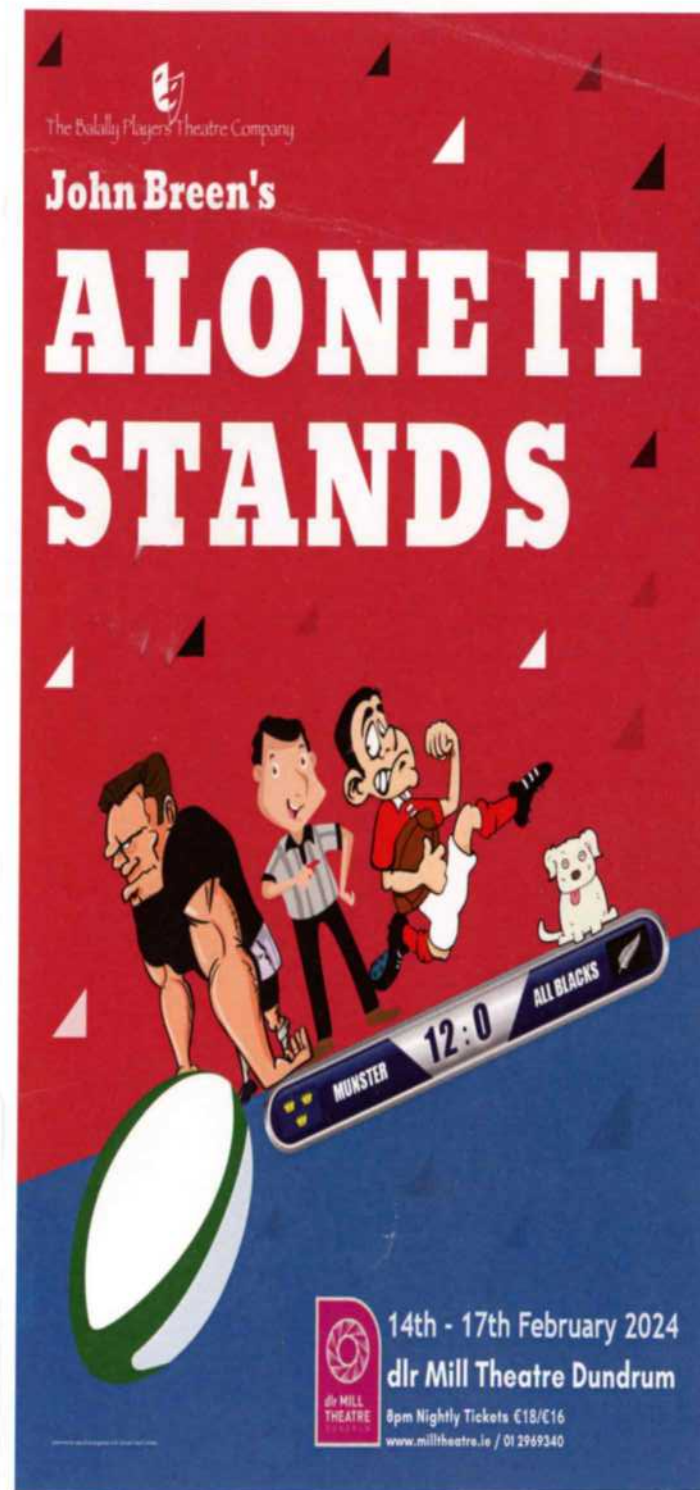
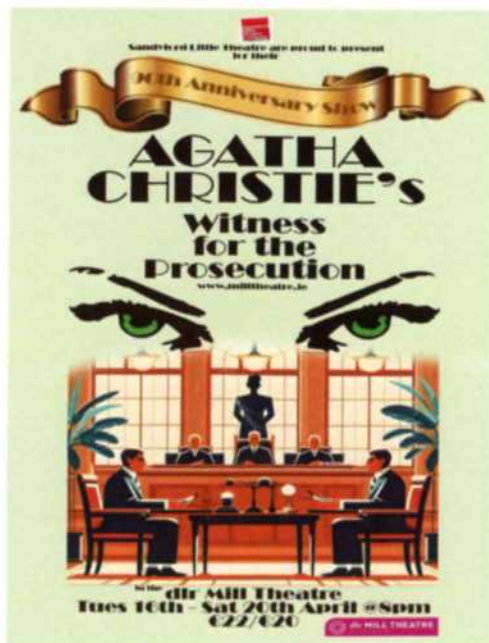
Patrick Hand
Chair
Balally Players Theatre Company

Creative Team

Director	Óran O'Rua
Set Design and Construction	Patrick Hand
Costume Design	Dympna Murray
Lighting Design	Kris Mooney
Lighting Operation	Tom Kennedy
Sound Design	Paul Delany
Sound Operation	Barbara Andrews
Stage Manager	Patrick Hand
Assistant Stage Managers	Niamh Holland Aoife Meagher Matt Powell Úna Twyford
Publicity	Joanne Keane Aoife Meagher Béibhinn Whelan
Webmaster	Declan Brennan

To find out more about the Balally Players Theatre Company please visit our website at www.balallyplayers.com, find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BalallyPlayers or come to our Open Night in the Dundrum House at 7.30pm on 20th February 2024!

Coming soon to the dlr Mill Theatre





William Anglim

William Anglim's acting journey began with the late Betty Ann Norton, with whom he performed in shows including "Pinocchio", "Coram Boy" and several one act plays. William pursued his love of performance with Bull Alley Theatre in Liberties College, Dublin, where he performed in Greek classics such as "Hecuba" and "Assemblywomen" and musicals such as "Titanic". Most recently William has performed with the Glencullen-Dundrum Musical and Dramatic Society in productions of "Good Night, Mr Tom" and "Footloose".



Emmet Heneghan

A copywriter by trade from a family of thespians, Emmet isn't a complete stranger to the world of amateur dramatics. However, "Alone It Stands" marks Emmet's first onstage performance since his stratospheric rise from 'The Donkey' to 'Joseph' between two Nativity plays in the 90's. "Alone It Stands", with its plethora of characters and accents was an ambitious place to restart his acting career, but Emmet has risen to this new challenge with gusto, having well and truly caught the acting bug. He looks forward to many future productions with Balally Players.



LA Feeney

A winner of the Richard Harris International Film Festival Monologue Competition and an Ad Astra Scholar, LA graduated from UCD in 2021 with a BA in Performing Arts. On stage, he has played leading roles in "Bugsy Malone" and "Oliver!" (National Concert Hall), "Les Miserables" (Grand Opera House, Belfast), "Dirty Stop Outs" (Youth Music Theatre, UK), "Never Mind The Weather" (Fizz and Chips Productions), "Antigone" and "Calendar Girls" (Mill Productions). Most recently with Balally Players, he performed as 'Tranio' in the Company's 2023 Summer Shakespeare production of "The Taming of the Shrew". TV credits include "Damo and Ivor" (RTÉ) and "Ripper Street" (BBC). Film work includes the roles of 'Schoolboy' in the 2016 film, "Sing Street", and 'Teen Punk' in the forthcoming Universal Pictures release of "Abigail".



Sean T. Daly

Seán's previous stage performances include productions of "Small Box Psychosis", "Medea," "Guests of the Nation", and "Move over Mrs. Markham". More recently, he wrote and directed a play for the Company entitled, "Purple Squirrel" and played the part of 'Gregory' in the Company's 2023 Summer Shakespeare production of "The Taming of the Shrew".



Roy O'Connor

Roy hails from Gorey in County Wexford and has previously performed in the Gorey Little Theatre, playing the roles in Bridge Drama Group's production of "Moonglow", by Kim Carney, and in Rasper Players' production of "The Full Monty" and multiple characters in a production of "Same Old Moon", by Geraldine Aron. A former student of drama in TU Dublin and the Gaiety School of Acting, Roy has also performed as 'Friar Laurence' in "Romeo and Juliet" and in a devised production entitled, "The Family Table". This is Roy's debut performance with the Balally Players Theatre Company.



Béibhinn Whelan

Béibhinn has been involved in theatre for many years with Wayside Players, Enniscorthy Drama Group, Balally Players and Maynooth University Drama Society, where she was awarded the Irish Student Drama Award's Best Supporting Actress in 2016. Previous roles include 'Anne' in "The Lost Weekend", by Padraic McIntyre, 'Nora' in "A Thousand Deaths", by John Clancy and 'Biondello' in Shakespeare's "The Taming of The Shrew". Béibhinn has previously worked behind the scenes on the Festival Circuit, most recently for the All-Ireland confined winning production of "The Pitchfork Disney" with Salmon Eile. This year will be her first time performing on the Festival Circuit.