

# Renamed *Garage Sale* gets into top gear

The self-funded, low-budget digifeature *Garage Sale* will open on about 15 screens on May 15 under the new title of *Second Hand Wedding* [sic].

The dramedy was filmed last year on the Kapiti Coast, for nearly \$1 million, through private investment and the cast and crew deferring their fees.



**First Hand experience:** *Second Hand Wedding* [sic] née *Garage Sale* was the first NZ feature to use a Thomson Viper camera; since then *Show of Hands* has also used the digital image capture system.

It has since won NZFC post-production funding of \$772,000, at **Park Road Post Production**, so **Metropolis Film** can distribute it theatrically on 35mm prints.

Ironically, *Second Hand Wedding* was the first NZ feature to be shot without film or videotape.

For his feature debut, director **Paul Murphy** used a **Thomson Viper** camera that records, directly to hard disc, an uncompressed 1920 x 1080 resolution image (at press-time it was unclear whether it would screen digitally in any cinemas).

"We believed in it, we shot it, we showed the Film Commission a rough cut, and they loved it enough to pay for its post-production so we could finish it to the level where it

would look good in cinemas," co-producer **Kerry Robins** told *Onfilm*.

The former exhibition identity is Murphy's uncle; Murphy's father, Geoff, directed Robins' last production, *Utu*, in 1982.

Robins says the title was changed, with the agreement of the NZFC, after the movie evolved.

"It's not so much about a garage sale as mothers and daughters, families and relationships.

"What began as a story created by **Nick Ward** about his bargain-hunting mother has moved beyond that.

"Everyone's very happy with the new title. The name change, from *Garage Sale* to

*Second Hand Wedding*, had been discussed widely – we even conducted a poll with a few options and *Second Hand Wedding* was the overwhelming favourite."

Ward, who wrote the screenplay with **Linda Niccol**, originally saw the NZFC reject *Garage Sale* when it was pitched as a **Headstrong** initiative.

But Robins says NZFC executive **Ruth Harley** has been a "great advocate ... [who] laughed and cried in all the right places" when she saw the rough cut.

*Second Hand Wedding* stars **Geraldine Brophy**, **Patrick Wilson**, **Tina Regtien**, **Holly Shanahan**, **Ryan O'Kane**, **Jed Brophy**, **Ray Henwood**, **Charlie Bleakley**, and, in a cameo, **John Rowles**. ●