

February/March 2001

Members' Nights

February - Benefit performance for Amber Todd - report

This special Members' Night raised almost \$300 for Amber, to assist her with the huge financial cost of studying in Sydney. (For new members - Amber was offered a place at the prestigious Australasian drama school, the National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA), shortly after she completed her double degree in Theatre Studies and English at Otago. She is the first New Zealander to be offered a place as an acting student for at least 20 years so she is delighted - but very short of money since the fees are very high and funding from New Zealand sources non-existent).

The money raised by our benefit Members' Night (which included generous donations from a number of people who were unable to attend but still wished to contribute) will, however, pay for several weeks of food, according to Amber's mother who passed on her daughter's thanks at the end of the performance.

So thank you, once again, to all who gave of their time, energy, talent - and wallets!

March - Under Milk Wood Sunday, March 4th, at 6pm.

Next Sunday, the first Sunday in March, will be marked by a celebration of St David's Day, for those (of us) in Dunedin who have strong Welsh connections. (For non-Welsh persons - St David is the patron saint of Wales and his "day", March 1st, is still marked in Wales by eisteddfodau and school half-holidays). We are marking the occasion with a rehearsed reading of Dylan Thomas' play for radio, *Under Milk Wood*, a marvellously perceptive and warmly humorous piece (although it was reportedly not too well received in the small town on which he was supposed to have based his characters!).

While we cannot do as the BBC did and provide you with the mellifluous voice of Richard Burton, we can provide a close substitute in the equally musical tones of a number of true Welshmen who are participating. Not only do we have our own Donald Evans, the actor, we also have, for this special occasion, another Donald Evans, the philosopher, and Bill Thomas, a native Welsh speaker who, since he retired from University teaching and pharmaceutical research, has written (in Welsh) 2 novels and many poems.

Supper will include Welsh cakes and other local delights.

April

The first Sunday in April is April 1st. This is surely an occasion for some form of theatrical foolery. These Nights are for you, the Members, so - any suggestions... for content, organisation etc?

Forthcoming Globe Theatre productions

A Doll's House

The next Globe production for 2001 will be Ibsen's thought-provoking classic, A Doll's House. Preliminary rehearsals for this will begin soon, with production dates confirmed for mid to late May. The cast is set as is much of the crew. However, we will still more back-stage help, as always.

One person we need urgently is someone who can make door frames! Any offers? Please?

As You Like It

Although this production will not be staged until mid-August, we are starting to make plans. Auditions will be held in early June, on dates to be notified in the next newsletter. David Corballis, the director, promises a production which is "traditional", one which will bring out the delights of this lovely, romantic comedy.

Other productions [to be staged in the first half of the year]

Measure for Measure

One of our talented and long-standing members, Lyndon Hood, has always wanted to direct a production of this dark Shakespearean work. When we decided to switch the Globe's 'Summer' Shakespeare production to a 'Winter' one (in part to enable a larger audience to see the production we have planned), Lyndon leapt at the window of opportunity presented by the time-tabling space and organised a cast and crew for his production of Measure for Measure. This will be staged in the last week of March. (Please check the newspaper for dates since these have been changed slightly from those previously advertised).

Clouds

The Classics Department of Otago University will once again sponsor the production of another great work; this year it will be Aristophanes' comedy, The Clouds. The production (to be staged in July) will, as usual, be directed by Harry Love and will feature many well-known Dunedin performers as well as some up and coming ones.

Other activities

Hay Fever - report

The first Globe production for 2001, the Noel Coward comedy, Hay Fever, had a very successful run as those of who saw it (most of you!) can confirm. It was both an artistic and financial success and we would once again like to thank all of those very many people who assisted with the production, to make it so memorable - and such fun. Our special thanks must go to the director, Louise Petherbridge (who has indicated that she just might be persuaded to direct a production of another play for the Globe next year!)

Globe Classes

These are underway, with classes for young and older students as well as adults. All are going well.

Please note, the adult class has been switched from Thursdays to Tuesdays, since this day was more convenient for both tutor and students.

40th Anniversary of the Globe May 2001

We are working on ways in which we may celebrate this very auspicious occasion - and are still hoping to receive more suggestions from members. Please get in touch urgently if you have any ideas you would like to have considered.

Working bees

Please remember - these are held every Saturday, from 11am until 1pm. We need your help, are always pleased to see you - and can let you do anything which takes your fancy, from painting walls, through pruning roses to cleaning floors, etc

Your Theatre needs you!