

FRIENDS OF THE GLOBE THEATRE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2002

POSTPONEMENT OF “JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT” PRODUCTION

Please note that, as a consequence of circumstances beyond our control (but possibly related to the whims of our resident ghost?), our production of Joyful and Triumphant, which had been planned for December 2002, will now be staged in February 2003, as our first production for 2003.

The production is still being directed by Louise Petherbridge and will feature the following familiar and new (to the Globe) actors; John Watson, Alison Finigan, Zachaia Cvitanovich Mark Neilson, Gwenda Pippen, Ruth Wheeler and Trudi Powell.

Rehearsals are currently underway, will break for the Christmas/New year holiday period and will resume in mid January.

MUSIC HALL

Thank you to all involved, Globe members and invited friends, in this most cheerful production. It was a very pleasant, silly and sweet entertainment, which clearly appealed to the many who enjoyed it, several of whom came back to see it for a second time. We had been a little nervous when we heard who had been sent by the ODT to review the production but were thrilled to read her review the following day and to discover that she was a Music Hall – and had been responsible for much of the cat-calling and whooping that is so much a part of the audience participation on which good music hall thrives.

MEMBERS ‘NIGHT’ - CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Sunday December 15th.

We felt that we could not end 2002 without doing something to celebrate all that we have achieved during this very busy year. So we propose to hold a special Members Night on Sunday 15th December, featuring, among other entertainment, a rehearsed reading of The Hound of the Baskervilles (with spooky sound effects!), followed by a barbecue (outside if weather permitting, inside if not).

Starting time is 4pm; admission is by the usual gold coin(s!) donation.

THEATRE BUILDING/GROUNDS

During the last few months we have had the guttering above the box-office entrance replaced and a safety rail/fence built at the side of the steps down into the garden. We have paid for this work from money earned during the year from our many productions.

We have recently applied for some funding to assist us with more major building maintenance, inside and outside the theatre. If all goes to plan, we will start the outside part of this work before the end of the year so that we may begin painting the outside of the theatre during December/January.

Those of you who have been to the theatre in recent months may have noticed a slight change to our entrance way, with the notice-box that had been created to lovingly –and so recently- by

our President, John Dawson, having been replaced by something which is equally effective, but different. You may possibly have wondered why we did this. The answer is that a car parked further up the hill had run downhill, crashing eventually into our entrance, demolishing the box, the light fitting and the archway (and the jasmine creeper which smothered this archway) before coming to rest just outside the window of the house below us. After some 'discussions' with our insurance company about which party was at 'fault' in this situation, we were able to get box and light replaced, but not the archway or the plant.

We have recently been delighted to receive generous donations of materials from some of our members and would like to take this opportunity to thank them publicly:

Betty Rawlings for a house-load of carpet, and Pam and David Manley for a truckload of outside blocks.

The carpet was delivered last week and has yet to be cut to size and then laid. It will make a huge difference to the warmth and quiet of the back-stage areas and, of course, to its appearance. Similarly, the blocks were laid temporarily over the puddle that has appeared all too frequently in this last, very wet year. The remainder were stashed along the side of the pathway until they can be laid properly. There should be enough to pave all of the pathway and may even be enough to build a low wall along part of the pathway.

The replanning and planting of the garden continues, under the watchful eyes of Kim Thomas, of the Otago Polytechnic Department of Horticulture.

Although some of the work in the building and garden is being undertaken by tradespeople whom we are paying, our volunteers must do most of it, as always. Even with grants and good box –office returns, we could not hope to do all that must be done without the generous assistance of our unpaid labourers and generous benefactors. So, if you have some time and energy to spare and would like to assist in any way, inside or outside, during the next couple of months, PLEASE contact us (4773274/4780248) to let us know. Similarly, if you have indicated in your membership application/renewal that you are willing to be so involved, please expect a phone call sometime!

CHRISTMAS GIFT BOOKLETS

We have created booklets of tickets that are now available for purchase. A booklet of 5 tickets costs \$55 and a booklet of 10 tickets costs \$100. These tickets may be used for admission to any Globe production in 2003 (just like books of cinema tickets). The booklets were created initially for businesses around town that had asked for them for their loyal customers. The committee has since decided that there may be some members who would like to give a booklet to family or friends.

Similarly, we have been asked whether we could arrange for gift memberships of the Globe. We are happy to arrange this for any member who might like to give another person the opportunity to become part of our membership in 2003 and thus receive the benefit of a reduced admission price to Globe productions (as well as the opportunity to work in the grounds or theatre, or in any of the many productions planned for next year!)

Should anyone wish to take advantage of this offer, please contact the secretary (Globe Theatre, P.O. Box 5334; phone 4773274/4780248) who will arrange for a gift 'pack' to be delivered.

