



NEWSLETTER September 2006

NEXT PRODUCTION *SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL* BY RICHARD SHERIDAN

Directed by Andrew Morrison

The *School for Scandal* (1777) is widely regarded as one of the finest comedies in the English language, and its wit, humour and social commentary still touch a nerve nearly 330 years after its premiere. The play follows the antics of a group of men and women of fashion in late eighteenth-century London, and provides a kaleidoscopic view of society at the time, from the old gentleman and his new wife, to a sneering set of gossips, and two brothers who are tested by their wealthy uncle regarding an inheritance. The various characters and plots soon collide, with hilarious consequences.

The *School for Scandal* combines razor-sharp wit and dialogue with scathing satire and a hefty dose of farce to create a unique theatrical experience. Don't miss the chance to see a contemporary production of this classic play.

The cast includes the following people; some new and some very familiar:

Simon Ashby, Neal Barber, Brian Beresford, Conrad Broad, Wyeth Chalmers, Jim Conradson, Tommo Cuthbert-Ashmore, Andrew Gillespie, Angela Hannah, Don Knewstubb, Edie Mae, Terry MacTavish, Andrew Morrison, Janice Snowden

PRODUCTION DATES October 5th to 14th 2006
(no performance Monday 9th)

PRODUCTION TIMES Sunday 8th at **2pm**;
All other days, at 8pm

PRICES

Opening night special: \$8 all general public;
\$6 Globe members

BOOKINGS: Phone: Globe Theatre 4773274
web: www.globetheatre.org.nz or door sales

FINAL PRODUCTION FOR THE YEAR NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 9

***SEASON'S GREETINGS* by ALAN AYCKBOURN**

Directed by Brian Beresford

(The following synopsis was written by Simon Murgatroyd in 2005 and may be found at the following website, which also guides the reader towards details of all of Ayckbourn's plays:
<http://sjtarchive.alanayckbourn.net/playguide/newpage23.html>)

"It is Christmas at Belinda and Neville's house and they have invited their family for a traditional Christmas celebration. The guests include: Neville's exhausted sister Phyllis; her husband Bernard, a doctor whose annual puppet shows are the stuff of legend and terror to both young and old alike; Neville's friend Eddie and his pregnant wife Pattie; uncle Harvey, a slightly senile retired security guard and a television-addict;

Belinda's unmarried sister, Rachel; Clive, a writer and friend of Rachel.

Clive arrives late by train, is missed by Rachel, and is instead welcomed by Belinda, who is immediately attracted to him. Harvey, as a result of a misunderstanding, takes an immediate dislike to Clive, believing him to be a homosexual and prospective thief. Clive falls for the frustrated Belinda, after Rachel tells him she is looking for no more than friendship. He and Belinda attempt to fulfil their passions beneath the Christmas tree, but are discovered when they set off the various electronic toys and lights beneath the tree in, initially, their lust and then their desperate attempts to turn everything off.

On Boxing Day, Clive arranges to leave as soon as he can. Meanwhile, rehearsals are taking place for Bernard's puppet show *The Three Little Pigs*, all his efforts being undermined by Harvey. Bernard eventually snaps and tirades against Harvey. Very early the following morning, Clive, in the process of leaving, is intercepted by Harvey who believes he is a thief taking all the presents. Harvey promptly shoots Clive, who is pronounced dead by the ineffectual Bernard. The 'corpse' promptly lets out a moan and calls for Belinda, rather than Rachel. He is taken to hospital and Belinda and Neville are left together, Neville choosing to ignore all that has happened."

AUDITIONS FOR SEASONS GREETINGS

These will be held at the Globe on Saturday, October 7th, from 11am.

Characters required are: **FIVE men and FOUR women.**

One of the men should be in his 60s, all the others in the late 20s to late 30s. Don't let the ages put you off auditioning, however. It's amazing what the stage magic can achieve!

For an audition time, please email rosemary.beresford@otago.ac.nz or phone 4780248 (evening) or 4797273 (day).

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP NIGHT SUNDAY, October 29th

During the day, we will be workshopping a play written by one of our Globe members, Nigel Ensor, several of whose plays have previously been produced at the Globe. Nigel's latest play is called *Cry* and is a somewhat black comedy that explores the relationships between love, life and death - and men and women too! The workshop will be directed by Emily Duncan who will present an extract, as a rehearsed reading, during the Membership night. Emily will soon be requiring assistance from Globe actor/members for the workshopping day and evening's rehearsed reading, so do please get in touch with her through the website or via the secretary if you are willing to be involved.

(The only rehearsal day will be Sunday 29th so it will not take up too much of your time.)

PRODUCTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR

Some suggestions were made at the last meeting of the Committee. Final decisions will be made at the next meeting in early October. So, if you have any suggestions, now is the time to make them.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Those of you who may have attended the recent production of the German Department's play, *Metamorphosis*, may have noticed how warm the auditorium was because our second heat pump had just been installed! (No longer must we endure the comments from certain local reviewers about the chill air of the theatre.)

Not so pleasing, however, is the latest act of local vandalism. Our display box has been wrecked for the third time in almost as many years. A new one will be in place by the time "School for Scandal" starts, thanks to Andrew Cook, but at a considerable and quite unnecessary cost of both time and money.