

Curtaincall



Want to contribute to the next issue of *Curtaincall*? Please contact me!

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Noises Off

By Michael Frayn

Directed by Des Hudson

5 –19 May 2007

Poppy Norton-Taylor
Dotty Otley
Belinda Blair
Selsdon Mowbray
Frederick Fellowes
Tim Allgood
Garry Lejeune
Brooke Ashton
Lloyd Dallas

Kathleen Collier
Mary Gray
Glenda Hagenson
Andrew King
Bob Lack
Barnaby McArthur
Kelly Manning
Trudy Price
Grant Waugh

“The funniest Farce Ever Written” is how critics have described the awesome hilarity and mind-boggling mayhem of *Noises Off*. This uproarious comedy follows the on and off stage antics of an inept acting troupe as they stumble from bumbling dress rehearsal to disastrous closing night. Everything that can go wrong does, as actors desperately try to hang on to their lines, their performances and the furniture. Add a slippery plate of sardines and a slew of slamming doors, and you have the most side-splitting backstage comedy ever written.

**Tickets on sale at i-site, 4c Roulston Lane, Pukekohe
(next to the library) 09-238-4081
as from Monday 2 April**

Mark your calendar...
Deadline for
June
Curtaincall
is Monday 21
May

Late items will miss out.

From the President...

Since our last newsletter the cast of *Noises Off* has been hard at work and we are all looking forward to opening night. **Bob Gray** has rigged the lighting and organised the sound, **Anita** has spent countless hours on the set (which is looking very good!) and we welcome **Sue Ryan**, a new club member, who has taken on the daunting task of sourcing and managing props. Tickets are on sale now!

On Saturday 21 April we had our PLOCer Awards night. It was great to see so many good club members. Coralie and I decided to have a sit down function in the foyer instead of the theatre and were very pleased with the atmosphere that having round tables with black and gold table clothes and table centres created. A big thank you to **Doug Kern** who rigged the lights for us and to **Katie Evans, James Reddy, Campbell Rehu, Sharon Tuapawa** and **Leah Jamison** who provided the entertainment. Without exception they were fantastic. A great night was had by all.

At the PLOCer's I was delighted to present a special award. The MTNZ Patrons Encouragement Award which is a National award. The emphasis is on 'younger people' and the key words are 'attitude' and 'commitment'. There is one nomination per society per year and the award is to recognise younger members of MTZ societies for their contribution to musical theatre. This year it was won by our own **Kathleen Collier**.

The following is my report for the past year as presented at the AGM

Pukekohe Light Opera Club Inc. Presidents Report – April 2007

I am pleased to report that this past year has been a successful one for the Pukekohe Light Opera Club both on the stage and financially. My first year as president has been a very busy one not only in a committee role but also directing two shows and performing in *Noises Off*. What a lot of hard work but rewarding. Audience numbers were up and my thanks must go to all the people involved in the Production Teams for their tireless efforts, the casts and the committee for their support and active involvement.

Our Youth Theatre Production of *Little Shop of Horrors* was a huge success involving 40 cast and as many again in production. It won a NAPTA award for Best Youth Theatre Production and I was thrilled to be welcomed on to the stage to collect the award by Katie Evans who not only is an ex Youth Theatre member but was co-host. We trialled a working camp at Port Waikato to focus on theatre aspects that we never seem to find time for in rehearsals. These were how to use Sound, Lighting, Make-up and Characterisation on stage as well as bonding as a cast and crew. All the objectives were met and the results far exceeded my expectations. Thank you must go to all the tutors and our senior Youth Theatre members for their time and effort. We intend to hold a camp for this year's workshop of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Cabaret was an outstanding show with an extended season. The standard of performance on the stage was extremely high, we welcomed several new club members and 12 of the cast were ex Youth Theatre members. It was a very happy cast and crew and showed the essence of what theatre is all about.

The Music Hall team, under the guidance of Wendy Ritchie, introduced a new exciting programme and we look forward to a season of Music Halls next year.

The Lions Christmas Show for our older folks in Franklin was a huge success and something the club has done for many years and will continue to do.

In November the club was able to assist the IHC Idea Drama Group to produce another show, *Cabarella*, in our theatre. Joan Thomson is to be commended for her dedication.

Special thanks must go to Katie Evans for her work producing the newsletter. You will agree with me that she does a stunning job. We must also thank Jill Lane and Anne Doddrell and their helpers for all the hard work at Old Vic. It continues to bring in a healthy revenue for the club.

The committee have worked hard this year not only on the shows but also on Theatre Maintenance (you will see a new sterilizer in the foyer), Funding (Bob Gray will present a separate report on that), collating information for a survey of our Patrons as part of our PLOC vision for the future, preparing a guide to Safety of Minors in Theatre as well as the day to day running of the club.

I am pleased to say that Counties Power continues to be our major sponsor and we are very grateful for their continued support.

Three of the committee attended the MTNZ conference, hosted by Musikmakers - Hamilton in March. We all agreed that the information gained and the networking was invaluable as well as having a great weekend full of laughter with 2 themed dinners that we thoroughly enjoyed.

It was with great sadness that we said farewell to Jean Arscott who passed away in January. Jean was a keen and active member of our club for many years and will be greatly missed.

Last week we had a club night, which was the PLOCer Awards. The flavour of the night was not who was 'Best' but awards for behind the scenes and contribution to the club. It was a great night with entertainment provided by Katie Evans, James Reddy and Campbell Rehu. All were outstanding.

Over the past years our adult productions have become very demanding on the production teams. Our shows have become more complex affairs to bring to the public that many do not understand what is involved or the time it takes. The stress for a very few is huge. In today's society more people work longer hours, time is more precious and there is a huge choice for leisure activities. To go to the theatre must compare in quality and to that end we have a standard that we cannot afford to drop. We have asked repeatedly in the newsletter for assistance with production with a nil response and to this end we have now decided to explore employing someone to take on these responsibilities as outlined in the March newsletter.

For this coming year we have an exciting programme starting with *Noises Off*, directed by Des Hudson in May, then *Aladdin the Pantomime* directed by Bob Lack in September and then *Much Ado About Nothing*, a Youth Theatre Workshop in December. For 2008 we have planned a series of Music Halls for the beginning of the year and *The Producers*, directed by me in October.

To finish I would like to thank the committee and seconded members for their support and hard work over the past year.

Mary Gray
President
April 2007

All for now,
Yours in and out of theatre,

Mary



Return Address:

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We're on the Web!!
www.ploc.org.nz

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PLOE Committee 2007

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Jim Denly

Anne Doddrell

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Alan Surrey

Katie Evans

Fiona Thompson

Hayley Thompson

Sharon Hewlett

Seconded Members:

Bob Gray

Funding Officer

Joan Thomson

Safety Officer

Peter McRobbie

Wendy Dewhurst

Did you know....

During the nineteenth century tomato ketchup was sold as a medicine.

A mosquito has forty-seven teeth.

The Pacific Ocean fills nearly half the globe.

The smallest trees in the world are the dwarf willows of Greenland. They are about 4 centimetres tall.

There is a worm that lives under the eyelid of the hippopotamus, and feeds off the animal's tears.