



# NEWSLETTER

## December 2009

### A member of Musical Theatre New Zealand

Coasters Musical Theatre Inc, P O Box 658, Paraparaumu, 5254	
Theatre & Costume Hire: 15 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu, Ph 902 0572	
President: Tony Lloyd, Ph 904 2966	Editor: Derek Cavanagh, Ph 06 364 3939,
Secretary: Lesley O'Hara, Ph 299 5780	Email: brenderek@clear.net.nz
Patron: Murray Jensen	
Visit Coasters Website – <a href="http://www.coasters.org.nz">www.coasters.org.nz</a>	

*Winners of the 2009 Kapiti Arts & Culture Civic Award & Supreme Award*

Hi Coasters

Several people commented favourably on the different banner to the last newsletter so I've used it again. It looks mildly festive and seasonal. So does the title bar and, indeed, that looks *very* seasonal given the distinctly cool run of weather we have had on the Kapiti Coast so far this summer. People are saying they can't recall such a cold and miserable patch of pre-Christmas weather and neither could I until I looked back on previous pre-Christmas Newsletters and found this from 2006:

“By the time you read these notes or decide not to, we will be very close to our summer solstice, or midsummer or longest day, whatever you like to call it. It occurs at 7:35.23am on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. I thought you would like to know that because you could be forgiven for thinking there really is no such thing as summer. I've been told that the organisation of this year's midsummer swims is being taken over by the Polar Bear Clubs and if you listen carefully you might find that Bing Crosby is actually singing “I'm dreaming of a wet Christmas, unlike the ones I used to know”.

Is that on the button or what? The only thing that is different is the timing of the summer solstice which is at 1.22pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>. I thought you needed to know that.

But another thing that is no different this year than for any other is that Coasters Musical Theatre heads into a new year in good heart and voice. We are still glowing from the reflected glory of the awards we achieved a couple of months ago; we have recently finished the last of four very successful shows in our 2009 Season Of Cabaret; Coasterettes look back with pride on having presented yet another season of great entertainment for the many and varied seniors groups and retirement villages on and around the Kapiti Coast and our hard-working Costume Hire team have successfully fulfilled the fancy dress ambitions of hundreds of Kapiti citizens.

In prospect for 2010 is more of doing what we do so well. Our show calendar is already complete with three cabaret productions lined up for presentation at the theatre we call home and our end-of-year Thirtieth Anniversary extravaganza to be held in the Waikanae Memorial Hall. Before that, though, is an opportunity to be involved with an awesome and valuable workshop on 20<sup>th</sup> February. Read about that below.

Perhaps the only sign of a cloud on our horizon is the possibility that our theatre will be swallowed up and become a part of an Expressway through the district. I'm an optimist and I don't believe that will happen. Let's hope I'm right. (Update - The cloud has lifted....our theatre is no longer under threat!!)

So however you are planning to spend the festive season, I hope you will enjoy spending at least some of it in the company of family and friends. If you are one of those good folk whose jobs keep them working through Christmas and the New Year, a special thank you. And, as always, if you are moving around the country as part of your activity, enjoy the scenery but watch the road and be careful out there.

Keep in touch

Derek

## Coasters Calendar – 2010

Membership Renewal becomes due – with discount	1 <sup>st</sup> January	See notes below
Coasters Musical Theatre Workshop	Coasters #15 Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Jo Sharp – 905 5518
Membership Renewal discount expires	28 <sup>th</sup> February	See notes below
Love, Peace and Doris Day	Coasters #15 March 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, & April 1, 2 & 3	Tracy Farrelly – 905 3895
Land of Make Believe	Coasters #15 May 28, 29, 30 & June 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12	Graham Stevens – 905 6704
Kiss The Blarney Some More	Coasters #15 August 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21	Jo Sharp – 905 5518
Coasters 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary show	Waikanae Memorial Hall November 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27	Jill & Tony Lloyd – 904 2966

## Coasters Musical Theatre Workshop



Do you have a passion for singing and acting?  
Coasters are hosting a one day Musical Theatre workshop - so don't miss out!

This is a fantastic, not to be missed, opportunity!

**See the information pack at the back of this newsletter.**

## Love, Peace and Doris Day

Following a very successful audition day, Tracy now has a talented and enthusiastic cast ready to get down to business in the New Year. We welcome 2 new members to Coasters – Amy Dacombe and Coral Stuart. Returning to our stage after absences of varying numbers of years are Allie Stevenson, Charlotte Kerrigan, Michelle Tunley, Rosemary Edwards and Toni Gibson, while rounding out the cast are a number of Coasters from recent shows: Ashleigh Clunie, Brooke Delaney, Cavan & Penelope Haines, Des Flavell, Elle Green, Holly Graves, Joanna, Joseph, Michael and Steven Tysoe, Lesley O'Hara, Pat Barry, Peter Williams, Preston Roberts, Samantha Jones and Sarah Leishman.

Those of you familiar with Tracy's style of show, as seen in Legends and Legends 2, will know that you can expect plenty of action, plenty of spectacle and some great songs from an exciting era in the history of popular entertainment all put together in her own unmistakable style.

Make a point of putting this show on your list of must-dos for 2010. Ticketing information will be available in the new year.

## Membership

It is that time of year again when we have to renew our membership subscriptions to Coasters Musical Theatre. Current active members will have to agree that this is one of those "must-have's" which provide us with the means to be a part of a vibrant society that is the best antidote to stress that was ever invented.

We are pleased to be able to offer you a further annual dose of joy and happiness at the same bargain prices as last year. At the end of this Newsletter is a Renewal form which we ask you to complete and return as soon as you can so as to ensure your course of this stress remedy remains continuously effective. In that form you will see just what a bargain is to be had.

But wait, there's more. If you get your renewal to us before the end of February there is a valuable discount from the normal subscription price and, what is more, you will continue to receive your can't-do-without monthly Newsletter and be eligible to cast your vote in whatever happens at the AGM sometime in March next year.

Don't miss out. Sign that cheque now!

## Show Ticket Prices

*For the first time in three years we have decided to raise ticket prices for our cabaret shows. As from the next show the cost of a single ticket will be \$17.50 (\$35 Double). We have been told by several of our loyal audience members that even that is too cheap. Nevertheless we want to maintain our ambition to provide the Kapiti community with entertainment that everyone can afford so \$35 a double it is.*

*Please note that this price does not apply to shows performed outside of our own theatre, eg the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show, where costs of production may vary considerably.*

You may be aware of the "Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act 2007". Its intent is to prohibit electronic spam. Our understanding of the Act is that, because you are a member of Coasters Musical Theatre, we are able to infer that you have given consent for us to send you our Newsletters or other information about activities associated with musical theatre.

However, if at any time you do not wish to receive any electronic messages from Coasters, please send a reply with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.





15 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu  
 P O Box 658, Paraparaumu  
 E-mail: coastersmt@yahoo.co.nz  
 Phone: 04 902 0572

### Membership to 31 December 2010

Name:	
Address	
Home Phone No:	
E-mail address: (for newsletter)	

Members at this address other than addressee(s):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fees:**

- \$25.00 – (discountable to \$20.00) – *Adult*
  - \$18.00 – (discountable to \$15.00) - *Student (17 and under)*
  - \$12.00 – (discountable to \$10.00) - *Student (17 and under living at the same address as an adult member)*
  - \$50.00 – (discountable to \$40.00) – *Family (defined as 'at least one adult member plus all or any children of the family 17 years and under and deemed to be living at the same address as the adult member(s)').*
- Discounts apply if paid by the last day of February.

Amount enclosed: \$..... Date.....

Signature.....

Please make cheques payable to: Coasters Musical Theatre Inc  
 And post to: Membership Secretary, Coasters Musical Theatre, PO Box 658, Paraparaumu

If you require a receipt, please tick this box:

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We welcome everyone to participate. What do you prefer to do within Coasters?

On Stage	Production Management	Musician or Musical Direction	
Choreography	Wardrobe & Costumes	Back Stage, Set Construction	
Front of House	Technical, Sound & Lighting	Administration	

I have the following skills that may be helpful to the Society.

\_\_\_\_\_

Any suggestions re productions / social events / your Society.

\_\_\_\_\_



### What's it all about?

We have invited Julie O'Brien, a senior tutor in musical theatre at Wellington Performing Arts Centre, and Musical Director Michael Nicholas Williams, to bring their wealth of knowledge to Coasters and to share with us their skill and musical theatre expertise.

You will benefit from the knowledge of two brilliant tutors who between them have years of musical training and acting experience behind them.

The workshop will provide you with a general understanding of Music Theatre and will encompass two elements: ACTING and SINGING.

### Acting:

This involves improvisation work and a monologue. A choice of monologues will be sent to you prior to the workshop so that you can practice at home.

You will have the opportunity to perform your monologue so please be open to direction as Julie brings out the best in your performance!

### Singing:

You are required to bring along the sheet music to a song that you know and would like to work on. It is important that you know the song well so that you are not spending your time learning or being taught the melody. You will learn valuable vocal techniques and methods that will improve your performance.

Please come prepared and ready, willing and able!

Please take advantage of this opportunity and listen.....It is important that you pay attention to what Julie and Michael have to say and take it all in.

We are very lucky that they have agreed to present this workshop at Coasters.

Apart from both Julie & Michael being great fun to work with, you will get a great deal out of this workshop. Their advice and direction will stand you in good stead for your future performances.

### Who are Julie O'Brien and Michael Nicholas Williams?

#### **JULIE O'BRIEN**

For over twenty years, Julie has worked in theatre and television in New York, Britain, New Zealand and Australia, performing in shows as diverse as Chess, The New Rocky Horror Show, Grease and Evita.

She has worked in concert as a backing vocalist for Rob Guest and has presented the cabaret shows 'East Of The West End', 'The Dating Game' and 'In Her 40<sup>th</sup> Year' in Sydney.

Julie was an original Australian cast member of 'The Witches of Eastwick' and received personal praise from Cameron MacIntosh when she played several performances in the role of 'Felicia', for which she was first understudy.

She also played the role of Rosie Greenwich in 'Leader Of The Pack', which is the first production to be shown at the New Palms Showroom at Crown Casino, Melbourne.

Most recently she performed in the Wellington premiere production of 'Urinetown' at Downstage Theatre in the role of Little Becky Two Shoes.

Julie has appeared in television commercials in Australia and NZ.

She also works as a freelance director, choreographer and voiceover artist.

Julie's 'real' job is as Senior Tutor of Music Theatre at the Wellington Performing Arts Centre.

## **MICHAEL NICHOLAS WILLIAMS**

Michael was born in Petone and studied Music at the Wellington Polytechnic.

He made his professional debut as Musical Director in 1983 with Tom Foolery at Circa Theatre. Since then he has been responsible for productions throughout New Zealand including Side by Side by Sondheim, The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aunt Daisy!, Trafford Tanzi, Judy, and his own show, Dead Tragic.

In 1988 he was Musical Director for oNZtage at Expo 88 in Brisbane.

He spent the following year in Sydney where he was Assistant Musical Director for Evita and repetiteur/alternative 1st keyboard in Chess.

He returned to New Zealand in 1990 and since then has been Musical Director of National Tours of Ken Hill's Original Phantom of the Opera, Blood Brothers (also in Australia), The New Rocky Horror Show and Boogie Nights. He has been Assistant Musical Director/Conductor on tours of Cats, The Secret Garden and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (New Zealand and Asia).

He has composed scores for several productions including Blithe Spirit and Elizabeth: Almost By Chance A Woman, and has completed two original musicals, Lonely Heart (chosen for the 2005 Adam Playreadings), and Dress.

He was Musical Director of Downstage Theatre's acclaimed production of Sweeney Todd, and was Assistant Musical Director of Mamma Mia in Melbourne.

Two years ago he was touring Musical Director of Once Were Warriors and assistant Musical Director of Evita before touring to Japan as Musical Director of Ken Hill's Phantom of the Opera.

He is currently Musical Director of the New Zealand tour of Starlight Express.

Michael is married to actor Emma Kinane and they have two children, Barnaby and Claire.

### What to bring:

- Your rehearsed monologue.
- The sheet music to a song you know well. Michael will be playing it for you so it is important that you know and are comfortable with the song. Julie & Michael will not have time to teach you the melody.
- A pen and notepad - so that you can make notes throughout the day. Remember... whatever Julie and Michael advise others...will be just as valuable to you.

### Programme for the day: (approximate times only)

- 10:00 - 10:15 - Warm up
- 10:15 - 12:45 - Monologues
- 12:45 - 13:30 - Lunch
- 13:30 - 17:00 - Singing

*Note: There will also be breaks for morning and afternoon tea.*

### Cost:

The cost per person is \$30. This will include your lunch and morning and afternoon teas.

### How to apply:

Print off and fill in the enclosed application form and send to:

**Joanne Sharp,  
8 Kainui Road,  
Raumati South, 5032**

If you require more information on the workshop, please contact Jo on 04 905 5518



## Musical Theatre Workshop

20<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
10am - 5pm

### Application Form

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Email: .....

Home Phone: .....

Mobile: .....

**The cut off date for applications is Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010 at 12 noon**

Please be aware that:

- The Workshop is open to Coasters members only.
- Places at the workshop are limited. In the event of there being more applicants than places a ballot will be held.
- Successful applicants will be notified on the evening of Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January.
- If successful, you will be asked that your payment of \$30 reach us by the 6<sup>th</sup> February.

Coasters Musical Theatre Inc. thanks you for your interest in this fantastic opportunity to improve and develop your skills in the art of Musical Theatre.