



NEWSLETTER

May 2009

A member of Musical Theatre New Zealand

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Visit Coasters Website – www.coasters.org.nz	

Hi Coasters

Doesn't time fly when you are having fun. So fast, in fact, that by the time I stopped long enough to think about the April Newsletter I found that it was May already. That means it's almost 2 months since the AGM and I haven't reported on it yet. That may not matter much because it was all pretty straight forward - no uprisings or demands for heads to roll or anything like that. It was reasonably well attended and the good part is that we were able to welcome three new members on to the board. Well, two new ones and an old one returning, really; Nick Swan is back after a few years absence and Jo Sharp and Graham Stevens have joined us. The downside was that Gil Warren stood down thus vacating the role of treasurer he has held for more years than most of can remember and Charlotte Kerrigan also stood down, a decision driven entirely by the immimence of an addition to her family. Keep well, Charlotte.

There was one small item on the the end that surprised a few people - Tony Lloyd and I were honoured with Life Memberships but, given that the event was splashed around the newspapers, this is no longer news. We have both pledged that the conferring of the honour will not be allowed to change our lives. We'll continue to work hard for the good of the cause. It just means we can't leave now even if we want to.

So our Board for the current year is:

Tony Lloyd	President , Compliance	904 2966
Nick Swan	Vice President , Website, NZMT	902 3219
Lesley O'Hara	Secretary , Social	299 5780
Ann Ross	Publicity, Front of House	904 6089
Derek Cavanagh	Newsletter, Cabaret Productions	06 364 3939
Diane Bain	Ticket Sales, Music Library	298 1195
Graham Stevens	Social	905 6704
Joanne Sharp	Sponsorships, Publicity, NZMT	905 5518
June Stewart		298 7457
Ron Butler	Property, Security, Scenery	902 0275

In addition we are indebted to the following for their off-board support:

Gil Warren	Accounting	902 2894
Julie Cullen	Bookkeeping, Website	902 3219
Jean Chamberlain	Wardrobe, Costume Hire	06 364 6816
Lesley Warren	Wardrobe, Costume Hire	902 2894
Peter Bain	Membership	298 1195

If you attended the AGM you may recall that, on the night, we did not elect a Vice-President because no-one had been proposed for that position. Since then Nick has raised his hand in response to Tony's request for suggestions from the board. Nick has a good deal of past experience of the VP's (and the President's) role and so was unanimously approved into the position at the last board meeting. Congratulations and thanks, Nick.

Keep in touch

Derek

Coasters Calendar		
Legends 2	Coasters #15 June 18 th to 27 th	Tracy Farrelly - 905 3895
How Was The West Won?	Coasters #15 Pre-Audition meet - Wednesday June 10 th @ 7.30 Auditions - Saturday June 13 th Show dates August 20 th to 29 th	Graham Stevens - 905 6704
Best of British	Coasters #15 October 22 nd to 31 st	Jo Sharp - 905 5518

ANZACs – We Remember

There is no doubt about it – over the years Coasters Anzac shows have always proved to be popular with our audiences and this year's production was certainly no exception. The directing talents of June Stewart and John Benson came together to bring us a show that contained all the best elements of the Anzac spirit, respect for our Anzac heroes, love of the songs they sang in both world wars and the humour that kept spirits alive, not only among the troops but also among those they left behind. Every night we had our audiences fully involved in 2 hours of wonderful entertainment and they went home happy, smiling and wanting more.

One unusual and challenging facet of the show was the decision to “export” it and perform it away from our home at #15 – twice! This involved not just doing the show in a different setting but taking all the necessary lighting and sound gear and recreating our stage at the new venues. A big ask for our wardrobe and stage crew but they handled it all magnificently.

The Sunday afternoon matinee was held at Paraparamu RSA and received a very warm and appreciative welcome from an audience of around 100 RSA members and friends.

Following the completion of our season at #15 we exported it again, this time to a distant outpost of the district, Te Horo hall. That proved to be a hum-dinger of a performance in front of an audience of 200. They are still talking about it. All the comments we have heard, and that has been quite a few, have heaped praises and congratulations on Coasters for the performance. One said it was the biggest and best thing to happen in Te Horo for years. Another complained his wife kept him awake until 2am the following morning talking about it - she was fizzing, he said. Here's hoping that some of that fizz will translate into audiences at #15. The one question that keeps on coming up is "When are Coasters coming back?"

So congratulations all round to June and John for their vision and direction, to John Sargent for his musicianship, to Lesley Warren for costuming, to Bas Oldham, Geoff Rose and Darryl Alison for stage management, lighting and sound and to everyone who contributed in some way to the grand success that was *ANZACs – We Remember*.

Legends 2

With hardly a moment to catch breath and even before the Anzac show had hit the stage, our next Cabaret production was auditioned and underway. Such is the way with our very full programme this year. It is hard to believe but rehearsals are almost half way through to the finished product and Tracy Farrelly has her talented team going full stretch.

Those of you who saw Tracy's *Legends* last year will know that she has the skill to produce a high-energy spectacle on our Coasters stage. This year she is doing it again but this time with a few blokes just to add to the mix and to open up her vision to some of the male "Legends".

Show dates are Thursday 18th, Friday 19th, Saturday 20th, Sunday 21st, Thursday 25th, Friday 26th and Saturday 27th June. Curtain is 8pm except Sunday – 4pm.

**Tickets are now on sale with
Tony and Jill – 904 2966 until 25th May
and with Diane – 298 1195 after that.**

Call soon to avoid disappointment.

How Was The West Won?

Such is the pressure of the production timetable this year that the Pre-Audition meeting and, indeed, the auditions for this, our next show, will be held long before *Legends 2* hits the stage and possibly before you get the next Newsletter. Therefore please note these important dates:

Pre-Audition night – Wednesday 10th June 7.30pm.

Auditions – Saturday 13th June from 9.30am.

Rehearsals commence Sunday 5th July.

If you thought Graham's production last year – *Medieval Knights* – was hilarious and/or that you would like to be a part of a real fun show, keep these dates in mind and come along to the Pre-Audition night. Call Graham on 905 6704 if you want to know more.

Out and About

On Saturday 23rd May between 10 am and 4pm Coasters will be participating in the Waikanae Museum's centenary celebrations at the Waikanae Memorial Hall. Our involvement will include a display of costumes representing fashions during the century and also some singalong type activity presenting songs of the periods.

It will all be quite informal so if you have the time and inclination to do so, why not come along and join in the singing – as part of the group or

solo if you like – to the accompaniment of Henry Fullerton-Smith on his piano accordion. If you have a portable instrument to add to the entertainment, bring it along.

Let's have a party!

Our Website – www.coasters.org.nz

If you have never visited our website you should do so. It contains a mine of information lovingly put together by Nick Swan and Julie Cullen. In particular, there are heaps of photos from past productions and, if you were in ANZACs – We Remember you are bound to be portrayed there somewhere.

Nick and Julie have provided some interesting information:

*There were 251 unique visitors for the month of April
On Thursdays we got the most visitors to our website
4pm was the busiest time of day for website visits*

In descending order, our website visitors came from NZ, USA, UK, Sweden, Australia, Japan, Germany, France, Hungary, plus others

The page most visited was the Homepage, followed by Past Productions, Anzac Gallery, Costume Hire, Ticketing

Seven people picked up the March newsletter

So, we're being watched by the world!

So if you have never visited our website do so now and catch up with the rest of the world.

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.