



Papakura Theatre Company (Inc)

NEWSLETTER

Patrons: The Hon George & Mrs Jan Hawkins

January/February 2021

Issue 1



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hi Everyone

As I write this, we are in yet another Level 3 Lockdown.

The theatre is quiet, eerily so, just yearning for people to be making music, singing, dancing and acting within its walls.

We have been very fortunate, and as easy as it is to feel down about this current situation, we should be very grateful as a theatre that we have generally been affected so very little. Although we have had to make changes in the theatre, we have been lucky to avoid major disruptions faced by other theatre companies.

As you will read later in this newsletter, we have the Papakura Summer Variety Concert scheduled for Saturday 13th March. At this stage it is very dependent on what happens over this next week. It has taken a massive amount of planning and will help bring some much-needed funds into the theatre, so if we do get to go ahead, we would appreciate your support in spreading the word about this FREE local event, especially with the number of groups, both musical and cultural, participating in the event and all the work and time they have spent rehearsing for this concert. The concert will also feature Andre Vegas, a master illusionist who is always very well received and enjoyed by both young and old alike.

Obviously, the Mamma Mia rehearsals have also been interrupted. However, while this is frustrating for all involved, I am personally not concerned about the rehearsals being cancelled as the cast and artistic team are very committed to this production. I look forward to seeing more mind-blowing dance moves that Choreographer Amrit has them doing and seeing the final set design that Director Regan and our superb set builders decide on.

The theatre looks AMAZING! Thank you to the small crew who water blasted for a whole day by themselves and to everyone who gave up their day to paint the theatre, not to mention those that fed us and watered us all day. The fact we did all the painting in a day is simply brilliant. Barb will talk more about this later.

On a personal note, I wish to extend my deepest sympathies to Janet Phare and friends of Barbara and Bill Phare who sadly passed away recently. I remember Barbara very well having played in many orchestras for PTC shows with her playing the piano. An absolutely lovely lady who was a beautiful pianist and played the piano with a true love of her instrument which showed through when she played.

As always, stay safe, look after one another and if anyone needs any support of any kind during the lock downs please don't hesitate to contact one of the committee as we will be only too happy to help where needed, for we are all family.

Paul

OFF BROADWAY THEATRE & COVID

PLEASE NOTE: Due to Auckland's COVID-19 Level 3 situation, Off Broadway Theatre is closed for the time being. All rehearsals and events at the theatre are cancelled until further notice, including Lisa Lorrell's Elevenses on Tues 2 March, Zimmers on Wednesdays and Troupes & Wyatt's Vintage Market on Sat 6 March. Should anybody really need to go into the theatre for any purpose whatsoever, you are asked to contact Susan on 027 251 9549 so that she can ensure you are the only one entering. Remember, sanitise, sign in using the QR code or manual sign-in book, and sanitise again. Stay safe!

MAMMA MIA

We are delighted to confirm our cast and say hi to some familiar faces and offer a warm welcome to those who are new to Off Broadway's stage!

PAPAKURA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS THE CAST OF **MAMMA MIA!**™

Donna
Charlotte Peiris

Donna Understudy
Natalie Pitfield

Sophie
Libby Murphy

Sophie Understudy
Michaela MacFarlane

Tanya
Emily Clauson

Dancers
Madeleine Potter
Chloe Laga
Sophie Cranwell
Camille-Jayne Atkins
Courtney Senn
Amrit Soma

Ensemble
Carrie Emery
Emma Norgate
Harriet Benson

Rosie
Chanelle Bulluss

Lisa
Grace Knell

Ali
Annie McDonald

Sam
Reuban Su'a

Harry
TBC

Sharnie Carlyle
Danni Farrell
Elysia Lokes

Loree-Anne Walding
Michaela MacFarlane
Bruce Wilson
Dave Child
Maddie Walker
Dallas Thomson
Rowan Wathen
Callum Nielson
Cameron Howe

Bill
Bradley Pope

Sky
Jay Tewake

Pepper
Jack Styles

Priest
Bruce Wilson

**Backing
Vocalists**

Katrina Howard
Kate Bruce
Michelle Thorne
Cathy Wilson
Heidi Lovatt
Nancy Manning
Vanessa Newman
Natalie Pitfield
Annabel Lovatt

SUMMER VARIETY CONCERT

(Please note: This event will obviously now depend on Auckland's COVID Level)

Below is the poster for the Summer Variety Concert taking place on Saturday 13th March from 5 pm in Central Park, Papakura. This is a FREE family event!

Our Mamma Mia cast are performing as part of the Concert and there will be a combined choir to sing the finale songs with the massed bands. If you would like to be part of the choir, let Barb know – email bghieatt@xtra.co.nz or ring her on 09 296 8265 or mobile 027 252 8265. You will know the 3 songs but Barb can supply words and music by email for you. There is only one rehearsal – Tuesday 9th March from 7 pm at Off Broadway. Paul is the Musical Director and is also the Organiser of this event on behalf of the Papakura Local Board so come and support your President and enjoy a relaxing evening of great FREE entertainment. Bring the family, bring a picnic or support our PTC sausage sizzle and the Lions' Hot Chips van! Coffee and Ice Creams also available on site.



CLUB NIGHT – FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

We really enjoyed watching the recording of last March's Bushfire Concert! Paul's choices of music were inspired, and it was fantastic to be part of this event at the time and then to sit and just enjoy the whole performance via the recording. We owe a huge 'Thank You' to Chris Close and Judith Tizard for making such a fab job of recording and editing the event!

If you would like a copy of the recording, please get in touch with Barb (bghieatt@xtra.co.nz or 09 296 8265). It will cost you a donation of \$5 to PTC though.

DATES FOR FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS

Pop these dates in your diary – more details will follow in due course.

- Friday 9th April
- Friday 7th May
- Friday 18th June
- Friday 16th July
- Friday 8th Sept
- Friday 29th Oct - Halloween
- Friday 17th Dec - Christmas Party

If there is anything you would like to suggest for a Club Night, do let us know – you can email your ideas to info@ptc.org.nz.



THE ACTT AWARDS (Auckland Community Theatre Trust)

Presentation of Awards will take place on Sat 20th March at Dolphin Theatre.

Tickets are \$45 per person and include a welcome drink and canapes.

Check out ACTT's Facebook page for further details on how to book and let Barb know if you are interested as Susan and she will probably go.

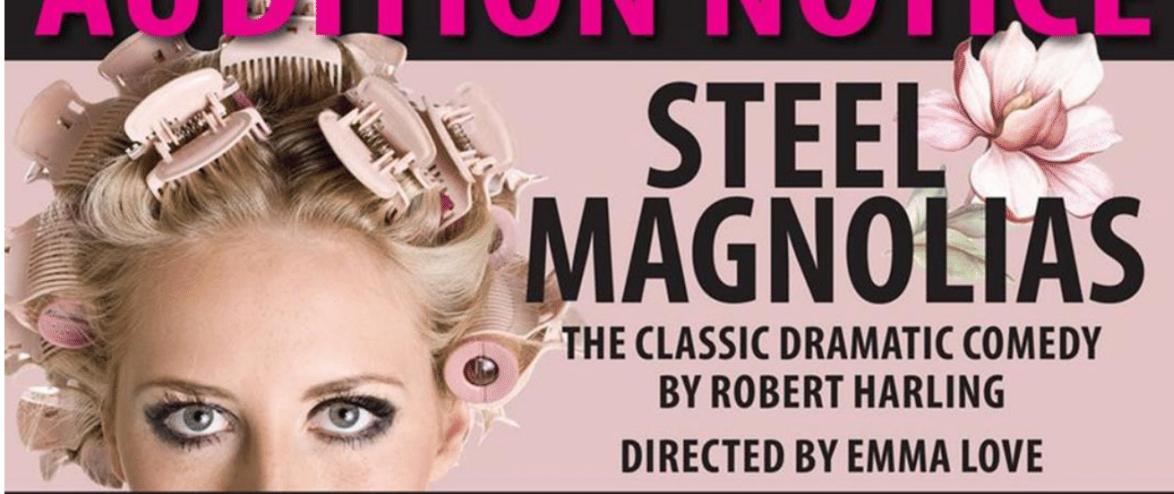
We were delighted to receive 8 nominations for our only production in 2020 – **The Vicar of Dibley**.

Congratulations to everyone involved in this happy and successful production – you all made it happen!

Here's the list:

- Best Costume Design – Steph Parker, Judy Wilson & Judy Stowers
- Best Props Design – Susan Andisen
- Best Set Design – Allan Wyatt, Adey Ramsel, Bob Lack
- Best Sound Design – Robert Mitchell
- Best Supporting Actor, Male – Clive Dixon as Jim
- Best Supporting Actor, Female – Emma Norgate as Alice
- Best Ensemble – The Cast
- Best Director – Bob Lack

AUDITION NOTICE



STEEL MAGNOLIAS

THE CLASSIC DRAMATIC COMEDY
BY ROBERT HARLING

DIRECTED BY EMMA LOVE

PAPAKURA THEATRE COMPANY

Saturday, 29th May 2021 at 10.00am

For further details contact the director, emma@cetech.co.nz or 021 140 6632

PRODUCTION DATES: 14 - 28 AUGUST 2021

Don't miss your chance to be part of this classic bucket-list play that rocks the 80's!

Auditions will be held as an open workshop, starting promptly at 10.00am, Saturday, 29th May 2021

Off-Broadway Theatre, 41 Elliot Street, Papakura (opp. RSA)

For further details and audition pieces please contact Director Emma Love on emma@cetech.co.nz
or phone 021 140 6632.

Rehearsals commence Sunday 20th June

Mondays & Wednesdays 7.00pm - 10.00pm, Sundays 2.00-5.00pm

ABOUT THE PLAY:

In Truvy's Louisiana beauty parlour, a tightly-knit band of friends confront life's unforeseen tragedies and heartaches with what they do best: gossiping, sharing and laughing. Joining the kind and witty Truvy are: Shelby, the spirited diabetic and bride to be; M'Lynn; her always supportive mother; Anelle, Truvy's gawky assistant; Ouiser, the local curmudgeon; and Clairee, the town's former first lady. These are the warm Southern Belles who support one another through life's challenges with their wry observations, quick wit and unwavering friendship and when tragedy strikes, it is the familiar comfort of Truvy's where they seek the solace and support to carry them through.

CHARACTERS:

The women in this play are witty, intelligent and, above all, real characters.

- TRUVY JONES, owner of the beauty shop; 40s
- ANELLE DUPUY-DESOITO, beauty shop assistant; 20s
- CLAIREE BELCHER, widow of former mayor, grande dame, 50/60s
- SHELBY EATENTON-LATCHERIE, prettiest girl in town; 20s
- M'LYNN EATENTON, Shelby's mother, socially prominent career woman, 40/50s
- OUISER BOUDREAUX, wealthy curmudgeon, acerbic but lovable 50/60s

All ages are indicative only and should not deter anyone from auditioning for a role they think they are suited for. An American Southern accent is required. I understand that accents are something that often develop for actors throughout the rehearsal process, so do your best at audition - but there is no pressure to be perfect!

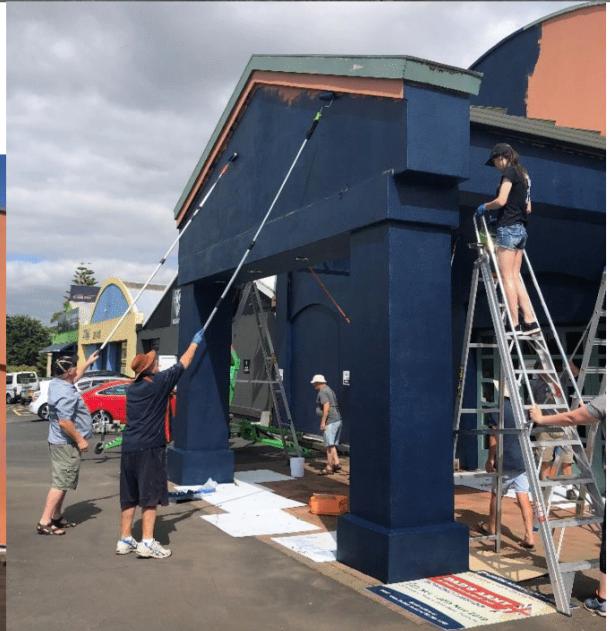
OFF BROADWAY – PAINTING!

Finally, we got to paint our theatre! There was an amazing turnout of helpers – 21 in all – there were paint brushes going everywhere! There have been many compliments from people saying how smart the new paint job looks. Just wait until they see it finished, with the theatre-themed murals (or, as Hilda Ogden in Coro called them, ‘murials’) planned for the arches. Can’t wait to see what Pascal comes up with.

Many thanks to Guthrie Bowron for the paint – after all the samples we looked at, they mixed up a colour they called Papakura Theatre Blue – and we liked it, so there you go – our own special paint colour!

Grateful thanks too to Allan Wyatt, Robert Mitchell and Dave Parker who spent many hours the previous weekend doing the water blasting so that our building was clean and ready for the paint!

Great work everyone – you all did an amazing job, including the kitchen team! Here are some photos of the action – some taken before, some during and some taken at the end of the day.





And this is how it looks now – murals to come and doors to paint.

Great job everyone – and it was a fun day!

Thank you to all you workers!

OBITUARY

PTC received some sad news at the end of January when Life Member Barbara Phare passed away on Thursday 21 January followed by the passing of her husband Bill 4 days later. Barbara and Bill were both in their nineties and had been married for an amazing 75 years. Both were very involved with PTC for many years back in earlier days. Barbara was a lovely person, pretty straight-up and a joy to work with; she was a very talented pianist and played for rehearsals and our show orchestras. She also appeared in many plays and both Bill and Barbara played many a PTC Music Hall. Bill was a wonderful character actor, particularly in the more comedic roles. I remember him right from my first show with Papakura back in 1980 as the funny little policeman in *The Pirates of Penzance* – he was wonderful and the audience loved him! The last time I saw Barbara on stage was when on a visit home from the UK in 1992 we attended the final dress rehearsal of PTC's *Stepping Out* and she was playing the role of the acerbic Mrs Fraser. She was in great form! Our sincere condolences to their daughter Janet, also a past active member of PTC, and their family.

Barb Hieatt

Stay safe – sanitise – use the QR codes everywhere you go or manually sign in (or keep your own record), and we'll see you out the other side! Meantime, here's some sunflowers to keep you smiling!

