



The Gaslight Gossip

JULY 2017

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President's Report

I will start with a huge 'well done' to everyone involved with our last show, 'Out of Order'. I am still getting emails from people telling me how much they enjoyed the show and that their friends are still talking about it days later, even the Cambridge Edition mentioned it again in the 27 June edition. We would have liked to extend the season but unfortunately it was not possible.

The good news is that Steve McMurray is currently reading the script for the prequel to Out Of Order with a view to possibly staging it at a later date, but as the set is very complicated it may not be possible at the Gaslight, (I think I may have just challenged Godfrey). Watch this space....

Now the bad news. Due to rising costs the committee have come to a difficult decision, and that is we need to raise our ticket prices. It is more than four years since we last had an adjustment and as we all know, just about everything has gone up in that time. The rising insurance premiums are one of the main reasons that we have decided to raise all our prices by \$5.00 a ticket. Therefore from the next show the matinee will be \$25.00, show only \$30.00 and dinner and show \$60.00. I hope you will all agree that these are still very good prices for the entertainment on offer.

Our next show, Breaking the Code, directed by Dave Stearns, is now fully cast and will be full steam ahead from next week. Opening night is Saturday 2 September and ticket sales for members will open four weeks before that, to be confirmed.

The end of year show has been confirmed as **Death & Taxes a comedy** by April Phillips to be directed by Amanda McCloughen a first time director. The season runs 18 November - 1 December.

We still have two slots available for directors next year so once again if you have had some theatre experience and would like to direct a show, please approach a member of the committee or contact me on the number below. We will provide you with a mentor and all the support that you need.

On the topic of looking for people, my wife Janet has kindly stepped in to the role of Treasurer vacated by Maryanne Sambells, but only on a temporary basis. If you have a background in accounts or know of someone who has experience and would love to be part of the team managing the day to day operation of the theatre, then once again, please contact any member of the committee.

In the last Gaslight Gossip I said mark Saturday 15 July on your calendar as we are holding a Christmas themed members quiz night at the theatre on that night. We aim to kick off at 7.30, the bar will be open and there will be prizes on the night. As we would like our front of house people to have a night off and be able to join in, please bring a plate and we will make it a pot luck supper.

That's it from me. I hope you have managed to get outside and enjoy the Winter sunshine before the rain returns.

Colin Morley
07 8232369

Breaking the Code - Cast Announced

I'm delighted to announce the cast of Breaking The Code. As always, a mix of people we've seen before and new (to Cambridge) talent. Rehearsals start on Monday for this drama focusing on the life of Alan Turing - the father of modern computing, who was instrumental in breaking the German Enigma code during World War II. This play is a fascinating insight into this enigmatic genius.

Alan Turing - Alex Norris
DC Mick Ross - David Lumsden
Christopher Morcom - Seth Strauss
Sara Turing - Sara Young
Ron Miller - Tycho Smith
John Smith - Owen Mooney
Dillwyn Knox - John Kelleher
Pat Grant - Reanna Inglis
Nikos - Seth Strauss

Congratulations to all and thanks for those others who auditioned. Season opens on 2nd September. More details and updates as they arise.

Dave Stearns

Review: Les Miserables

Hamilton Operatic's Les Miserables at Clarence Street Theatre until 8 July Reviewed by Sara Young

I have seen a number of productions of Les Miserables, including the last Hamilton Operatic production in 2001. I know of other people who have said this is the best production they have seen, and I have to agree. Thursday night's audience gave the production a standing ovation and I believe this has been common over the season so far. I can see why Waikato Times reviewer, Sam Edwards, struggled to single out anyone for a mention in his review. The entire cast is worthy of a mention.

Several of the actors, however, have graced the Gaslight stage and I will single them out for the Gossip. Kyle Chuen (the Three Wines production of The Last Five Years) as Valjean was outstanding. His vocal range and his portrayal of a man dealing with his challenging life's experiences, always trying to do the right thing, was extraordinary. His counterpart, Scot Hall (Maungatautari Thespian Ensemble theatres sports), as Javert was equally as good. Scot's Javert was a character with intelligence and sensitivity and whose bewilderment and despair at finding his ideals of justice shattered was heart-rending. Fiona Bradley's Madame Thernadier, usually a comic role, gave so much more. The character was repulsively revolting ... but fascinating too. Philip Garrity was a wonderful empathetic Bishop and a great all round chorus member. Chorus roles for Fiona Greaves (Nunsense) and Kimmy Hall (Maungatautari Thespian Ensemble) were also very well played.

If I've left out anyone who has also trod our Gaslight boards, my apologies. I'm still in awe of the incredible talent available to us in the Waikato.

Members Night

Saturday 15 July

7:30pm start

At the theatre

Christmas themed members quiz night

The bar will be open and there will be prizes on the night.

Please bring a plate for a pot luck supper.

See you there!

Gaslight Gossiper Needed

We are looking for someone to take over doing the Gaslight Gossip each month. If you have an hour spare a month, this could be the job for you!

Karen will provide training so if you are interested, please contact her at lcpluskc@gmail.com

Our 2017 line up at the Gaslight Theatre (tbc)

2-16 September Breaking the Code by Hugh Whitemore to be directed by Dave Stearns

18 November - 1 December Death & Taxe\$ by April Phillips to be directed by Amanda McCloughen

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