

Minutes of South Island Meeting held in Ashburton Sat Oct 3rd 2009

All attending were treated to a tour of Ashburton's new and impressive theatre.

After welcome apologies were received from;
Taieri Musical, Roxburgh, West Otago – Barbara Hanna, Vicky Crawford, Fiordland Players, Ranfurly Musical and Dramatic, South Otago Theatrical, Clyde Theatre Group, Oamaru Operatic, John Collier, Takaka, and Amuri Players.

No matters arising from last year's meeting.

Around the Table;

Showbiz ChCh – Di reported that they had had a good year with 'Miss Saigon'. They are revamping their offices instead of a 2nd show. She introduced Gillian Lester their new general manager. Next year 'Joseph' in April, 'Forbidden Broadway' in July and then 'Sweeney Todd' later in the year.

Nelson – Ann reported that they had not done well financially with 'Cats'. At present they are updating their rooms. Plans next year to do a joint production with Rep if the theatre is ready. They are doing 'Sex Please We're Sixty' in early Nov and a Music Hall.

Invercargill – Alex reported. They had a great season of 'My Fair Lady' in July/Aug. Next year they plan 'Cabaret' for April, 'Oliver' in July and a dinner theatre at the end of the year. 2011 'Pirates', 'Sound of Music' and a Christmas theme.

Queenstown – 'Les Mis' did very well, sold out season. 2010 'Oliver' in May

Ashburton – Fay reported they had a change of Administration recently. Finished a season of 'Allo Allo' in Sept. 'Les Mis' goes into rehearsal in Feb. They have held some successful lighting/sound technical workshops and they hope to do some more. Next year is their 50th Anniversary and they plan a Salute to Broadway.

Timaru – Aaron reported that this year they had a joint effort with Brass Band doing 'Brassed off' Next is a 'Hollywood, a song and dance Extravaganza'. No decision yet on a show for next year.

Methven – 'Out of Focus' drama at the end of the year. In Aug they produced 'Stiff' which was a huge success. Their hall is out of action at the moment.

Waimate – did 'Stiff' in July which was very well received. They continue to entertain local groups. At present they are building a 3 bay storage shed. Next year plan are to do 'Fang'.

Cromwell – 1st major production this year 'Grease'. It went really well, sell out season. Their local hall is in need of an update. They have a chorus group meeting and entertainment group. At present working on a new logo.

Blenheim – This year they did 'Stiff' which was very successful. "Blood Brothers" made a slight loss. Next year plans to do "The Sound of Music" November 'Euro Beat'. Hoping for a new community theatre. Applied to the council for land for new rooms.

Dunedin – they continue to do 3 shows a year. This year 'Hooray for Hollywood' theatre restaurant, 'The Producers' in August and 'Nunsense' theatre restaurant in November. Next year they are producing 'Dusty' as the NZ premier. In Sept they are doing "Miss Saigon" as part of the consortium.

Conference 2010-

Kate reported on this and urged everyone to tick the boxes for forums and seminars as we need to allocate rooms to the numbers attending. A reminder to get in programmes and posters.

Mid Canterbury's Childrens' Theatre – Carolyn Clough gave a very enthusiastic account of their groups activities.

Conference 2011 –

Ross reported that it is to be held at an English Village resort, and wearable arts is the theme for Sat night.

Directors Workshop – Alex reported that Invercargill are still keen to pursue this, with the funds coming from the licensing trust. This would make it a no fee workshop, and discussions about school holidays, particularly January. It would be a live in School.

Updated Sets, Costumes and props available. Ross to collate zone 4 and Helen zone 5.

A discussion was held on how to save for conference. Ashburton always sent a large numbers and they have an account that people put money into each month. Other suggestions were selling chocolates or raffles sold at shows. Some societies apply for funds. General consensus is it just takes one person to organise the rest.

Free Advertising – Facebook, just be chatty about what shows you are doing, ensuring that details on where to book etc are included. Careful not to use photos without others permission. MTNZ has a page, let Kate know your show details. Also please let her know your booking details for the show calendar. The show calendar gets the biggest hits on MTNZ website.

Posters – put in JPG form and email to all friends and ask them to pass on.

North and South, whats on arts page, Cast dressed handing out flyers were all suggested.

Graeme Phillips from John Herbers/ NZ Fire Shield addressed the meeting and thanked everyone for their continued support. He stressed the importance of getting consultation when upgrading your theatre. Ian thanked Graeme for their sponsorship on MTNZ.

ML consultants – John McGibbon has light bulb specials for par 64, \$59.60 +GST

Redd Acoustics Sales- we need to register as users of radio mics. Send through info to Kate on what you use and how many.

General Business:

Creative NZ – Ian and Kate met with John McDavitt and it was promising that we may get some ongoing funding for MTNZ. We need to have the Stats from societies who have not sent them in so that we have a full story to tell.

Kate has been working on relationships with other entertainment bodies ie DANZ, ETNZ, EVANS, raising MTNZ profile,

Thanks was given to corporates' for their assistance with sponsorship at conference – John Herbers, Redd Acoustic Sales and Bounce.

Kate reported on PPNZ (phonographic performances NZ Ltd) It effects societies who own their own venues and play background music. Separate to APPRA (live performance) any music you use that not in the show.

Next Years Meeting – Oamaru has offered to host this. Helen to check dates of their show 'Les Mis' next year and we will set the date then.

John McGibbon, asked if anyone has any old lighting equipment he would like to hear from you so that he can make a register with a view to opening a museum in the future.

Kate is compiling a history of MTNZ.

Everyone was thanked for coming and Ashburton for their hospitality.