

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

It is now some eight months since the passing of my predecessor Merv White who held office for some thirty five years. Merv was a very talented person and his efforts during the early years of the society have much to do with its current high profile.

When I first became involved with the Society as a backstage worker in 1954 Merv was a great teacher. He subsequently served periods as President and Secretary before becoming Patron. During those years Merv was ably assisted by his late wife Jean, a talented seamstress who was a valuable member of the Wardrobe Team. Their daughters Shona and Patricia were also involved onstage in many productions. Patricia carried on to become a dancer in the TV Show "Happen Inn".

Since those early days the Society has staged many first class productions and we have recently seen in "Cats" another in that very high class.

After many years of productions directed by some outstanding Directors we are again extremely fortunate in having the services of an Artistic Director in Warren Bates, I hope that he will remain with us for a very long time.

I congratulate all those involved with "Cats" and look forward to forthcoming productions.

John Murphy

Boogie Nights

Dinner & Show

\$65.00 per person

Once again we are joining together with the Quality Hotel Plymouth International to present a dinner & show for our end of year production. Come along and Celebrate good times and boogie to some of the favourites of the disco era. Bookings are now open at The Plymouth- phone 759 9128 or call into Reception.



Show dates are

29 & 30 November & 1 December 2007

7 & 8 December 2007

13, 14 & 15 December 2007

Rehearsals are now underway with a talented cast as follows;

The Guys

Kellan Bartlett, Nathan Butler, Shaun Campbell, Vaughan King & Mark Leuthard.

The Gals

Leanne Bartlett, Melanie Henshilwood, Idelle Hiestand, Jenny Murray & Krystal Tofts.

The Muso's

Al Vinnicombe & Shaun Murphy.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS-

It's the year of the Big 'O' for some of our members -

Barry Jones recently celebrated his 50th, and Brien Bennett his 70th.

Our Patron John Murphy celebrates his 80th birthday on 1st October. We wish him all the very best and we are sure he will celebrate in style.

K H SPEAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

On Saturday 1 September the KH Spear Memorial Scholarship was held upstairs in our complex and what a wonderful evening of entertainment it was. Our adjudicator Jane Keller from Wellington was most impressed with the talent on offer. Jane specialises in teaching musical theatre styles and really enjoyed the items presented to her.

Numbers were up on last year with 14 entries in the Under 18 years section and 6 in the Over 18 years section.

We heard songs from some very familiar shows such as, *Les Miserables*, *My Fair Lady*, *Evita*, *Chicago*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Phantom of the Opera* and songs from some lesser known shows-*Secret Garden*, *Song & Dance*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Pins & Needles*, *Babes In Arms* and *The Kid Inside*.

We would like to thank all those who participated, you are all winners for having the courage to stand up and perform to an audience.

Without our sponsors we would not be able to run such a successful event and we would like to sincerely thank them.

Kevin Landrigan

For sponsorship to add to the Memorial Fund

Quality Hotel Plymouth International

Darrin Muggerridge for providing accommodation for our Adjudicator

Stage Centre

Warren Bates for providing One Terms Tuition to Stage Centre to the Performer showing the most characterisation in a song

Studio13

Brett Carter for providing vouchers for our First placegetters, for recording time at his studio

Top Town Cinema 5

Pam Smith for providing movie passes

Operatic Costume Hire

Gael Carswell & Carolyn Johnston for time spent dressing our competitors in costumes to suit the songs they were performing

Operatic Props Hire

Barry Sturmeay for providing props to help set the scene for some numbers

The placings for each section and the songs they performed are as follows;

14 to 17 Years

First: Caitlin McKee

- The Boyfriend (The Boyfriend)
- Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again (Phantom)

Second: Emily Wilson

- Johnny One Note (Babes In Arms)
- Look At Me I'm Sandra Dee (Grease)

Third: Scott Jonas

- This Is The Moment (Jekyll & Hyde)
- King Herod's Song (Superstar)

Fourth: Simon Coles

- Razzle Dazzle (Chicago)
- Stars (Les Miserables)

Over 18 Years

First: Idelle Hiestand

- Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again (Phantom)
- Nobody Makes A Pass At Me (Pins & Needles)

Second: Bryony Williams

- Unexpected Song (Song & Dance)
- When You're Good To Mama (Chicago)

Third: Kieran Callaghan

- Music Of The Night (Phantom)
- The Kid Inside (Is There Life After High School)

Fourth: Bethan McDonald

- A Trip To The Library (She Loves Me)
- I Wish I Could Forget You (Passion)

Judges Award- Performer showing the most characterisation in a song.

Caitlin McKee

Prize List

- First- \$250.00 & Studio 13 Voucher
- Second \$125.00 & Movie Vouchers
- Third \$ 60.00
- Fourth \$ 30.00

To the performers, their accompanists, their singing teachers and to our audience we thank you for making this an enjoyable evening. There is certainly plenty of talent coming through and we hope to see many of those who took part onstage in future shows.

CATS PHOTOS - If you ordered cast or character photos during Cats they are available for collection at the office – Tuesday to Friday 11:00am to 2:00pm



The hills are alive and The Sound of Music has been selected for the New Plymouth Operatic Society 2008 production, to be staged 20th – 28th June at the T.S.B. Showplace. The film starring Julie Andrews was one of the biggest musicals ever screened. Andrew Lloyd Webber, last year, revived this story in a spectacular new musical, now playing at the London Palladium.

Set in the stunning scenery of the Alps, it's no surprise that novice nun, Maria, frequently forgets her religious duties in favour of hiking in the hills. The convent quickly realise that the life of a nun isn't for her and recommend her for a position as a governess to the seven children of Captain von Trapp, a widowed naval officer.

Rather than try to instill education into their lives through a disciplinarian approach, Maria decides to introduce music into their lives, quickly earning their love and respect. As Maria falls in love not only with the children but also with Captain von Trapp she settles into life at the villa. However, when the Captain introduces his fiancée to his family, Maria flees the villa in distress and seeks refuge once again in the convent. The course of true love never runs smoothly but encouraged by the nuns and bolstered by the love of the children, Maria decides to fight for love.

Audiences won't be able to stop themselves from humming along to one of the best-loved, uplifting, heart-warming stories of all times containing several show-stopping songs.

This show offers a selection of principal roles for adults, teens, children (6 – 15 years of age) plus a large chorus of youth through to adults.

Watch this space for more information on auditions.

Meanwhile, another show means the compiling of Production/Backstage/Crew and Creative Teams. To enable everyone, member or non member, who may be interested in working in any of the above areas of either this show or any future show, we are asking every interested person, whether new, experienced or non-experienced, to fill out the enclosed 'Register your Interest' form which will enable us to create an up-to-date and thorough data base. Not only will this ensure that any and every person interested in theatre will have the opportunity of registering their interests, but we also plan to give to the less experienced, the opportunity to train as 'assistants' in both creative and production departments. You may have aspirations to stage manage or direct a show, therefore it is intended to appoint in 'The Sound of Music', an Assistant Director (trainee) – as an example. This will also in time, make no one member of our society, indispensable, thus giving each member the opportunities to be involved with shows that particularly interest them and/or take time out for personal reasons of their own. People who audition for cast have this choice – to ensure a strong Society, so must our backstage, technical, production and creative personnel.

Please help us by sending in the 'Register Your Interest' form as soon as possible or feel free to phone Warren at the New Plymouth Operatic Society Office on a Wednesday or Thursday between 11 am and 3 pm – during school terms. Please advise if you require extra forms and we will either post or email to you.

Warren Bates

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

