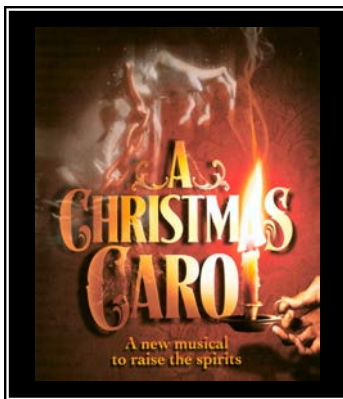




HARLEQUIN

MUSICAL THEATRE

Next Show:



October 2011

Harlequin Theatre

563, Pakuranga Highway
Pakuranga
(Just behind Recreation
Centre)

Ph: (09) 534 7017

PO Box 38088
Howick,
Manukau City 2145

President

Sue Rossiter
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Vice-President

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Newsletter/Enquiries
info@harlequintheatre.co.nz

A Christmas Carol

Director/Choreographer - Susanne Dell

Musical Director - Lynnette Leggett

19 November – 3 December 2011

Notes from the Production Manager...

Things are ticking along so well.

Sue is getting feet and mouths working together. Lynnette is getting beautiful sounds and harmonies happening. The cast are a fun and talented bunch. There is always plenty of laughter at rehearsals along with, of course, a lot of hard work. It is wonderful to have such a mix of ages in this production – everyone is learning from each other.

The set is coming together under the guidance of the Adey, John and Chris. We still need lots of helpers on Saturdays to get bits and pieces done.

I believe it is going to be a truly special production and am really glad to be so involved with it.

Louise

Notes from the Director.....

The children are working so well and are extremely keen. Who said, never work with children and animals. How wrong – ranging in age from 9 through to 15 they have been delightful to have at the Harlequin.

We have a large cast for this show and there have been some hilarious moments – check out the Harle Quin Facebook page for some of the photos. You just never know where Chris is going to be with his camera!!

Sue

GIVE US A HAND!

We are looking for fabulous people to help backstage – with our younger cast members and keeping the Green Room clean and tidy. Any amount of volunteered assistance, big or small will help!

“I think there’s nothing like live theatre. Everyone wants to be part of it. So why not try it?”

Joel Grey (Master of Ceremonies, Cabaret - 1972)



Welcome to an inside view to behind the scenes at A Christmas Carol through the eyes of Barry Nock (aka Bob Cratchit).

What an amazing bunch of people! I haven't been involved in many shows, in fact this is only my 3rd at Harlequin, but yet again the team has come together easily under the ever-capable hands of our production team.

Sue and Lynette are fantastic to work with and we're all having a lot of fun, while getting through a pile of work. In the words of our lamplighters ... "5 o'clock and all's well".

The further we get through rehearsals, the more exciting it gets. The set is coming together, and we are nearly ready to run through the first Act already.

With each show that I have been involved with, I am always humbled by the talent around me, and I can't help but think that this will be another great Harlequin production that will take the audience through a roller-coaster of emotions.

From a personal perspective, The first show I did (Annie in 2005), for me was all about doing a show with my eldest daughter, and facing a fear and doing it anyway. Although that fear has diminished somewhat, I still need to build my confidence levels, which is easier when you are surrounded by such a supportive team (both cast and crew). This show for me is about doing a show with my youngest daughter, and being part of a team that creates an incredible theatre experience.

We all look forward to creating that experience for you, and to have you leaving the theatre having had laughed, cried, been a bit scared, but above all being filled with all the joys of Christmas.

See you in 6 weeks.

Barry Nock



President's Report:

It is with sadness that one of our Life Members Russ Wylie passed away recently. Russ was a stalwart of the Harlequin Theatre from the Howick Operatic Theatre days and extremely supportive of everything the Harlequin did. It was only of recent times that he had been unable to attend shows but he always kept up his interest and would either write or phone us to show his support.

Not only was Russ a supporter of the Harlequin he also was involved with the wider community and I am sure the people in Howick will miss him. I, for one, always looked forward to Russ' letters to the Editor of our local papers and his stand he made for the community. Russ will always be remembered. May his rest in peace.

With the Harlequin's future in mind we are looking towards a new generation of people joining the theatre and our final show for 2011 is the New Zealand premiere of "A Christmas Carol" and includes 14 children along with an adult cast of 26. The Harlequin is buzzing with excitement and Lynnette our Musical Director is teaching the cast the beautiful singing which is nearly lifting the roof off.

The "A Christmas Carol" by-line is *A Musical to raise the Spirits*, which is something it certainly does. Bringing the atmosphere of Victorian Christmas traditions to the stage, this Charles Dickens musical takes you on a journey of discovery where the true meaning of Christmas is found.

We are privileged to be staging the New Zealand Premiere and the music and staging effects promise to be magnificent.

Tickets are now on sale with our booking agent – www.iticket.co.nz and we are encouraging everyone to book early to ensure they don't miss out.

A number of the cast will also be visiting local spots around town handing out flyers so keep an eye out for them. You can also find us on Facebook, type in Harlequin, become our friend and check out the photos.

As with all shows we are on the lookout for various bits and pieces in the costume and props line so have a look further in this newsletter for items we are requiring and if you can help please let us know. And of course we always need hands on deck helping, no offer is turned down.

Other news in the theatre apart from the buzz about "A Christmas Carol" is that Doly stepped down as Treasurer because she has gone to live in Indonesia and Campbell Butcher has taken her place. Our other committee members, Dayle Hall, Neroli Gifford, Ruth Sharp, Colin Franks, and I have been joined new committee members, Louise Barry, Frank Woodside and Liz Kelly and it is great to get fresh ideas and enthusiasm coming through. Watch out 2012.

We are working towards finalising our 2012 programme and will be announcing this shortly. Keep an eye on the website.

As I mentioned in the past we would love to see you at some stage at the theatre, either helping with the various activities and shows.

Come and join us.
Sue

IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday 28th October
Sunday 6th, Monday 7th November
Saturday 19th November

Botany Charitable Trust / PLOC Music Hall and Charity Auction
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat auditions
Opening Night – *A Christmas Carol*

News from the world of musical theatre.....



Love Never Dies – The sequel to Phantom of the Opera has closed in London. It is due to finish in Melbourne in December and transfer to Sydney after the final Melbourne performance is filmed for DVD.



Newsies! The Musical – Adapted from a Disney film from 1992 and opened in New Jersey in September 2011. The musical is based on the Newsboys' Strike of 1899 and the score is composed by Alan Menken (The Little Mermaid, Aladdin).

Rock of Ages – Warner Bros. have bought the film rights and will soon turn this musical into a film featuring Tom Cruise, Mary J. Blige, Russell Brand, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Alec Baldwin. Rock of Ages is currently playing in Melbourne.



Avenue Q – To celebrate the change of law that allows same-sex couples to marry in New York City, Rod and Ricky from Avenue Q married in City Hall before the matinee on Broadway on July 24th 2011.



Phantom of the Opera – The 25th anniversary concert at the Royal Albert Hall will be filmed for DVD and screened live in cinemas this month. The DVD is due for release in New Zealand in December 2011.



**BOTANY CHARITABLE TRUST
PUKEKOHE LIGHT OPERATIC SOCIETY (PLOC)
MUSIC HALL AND CHARITY AUCTION**

An evening of frivolity and hilarity

Friday 28 October 2011

St Columba's Auditorium, 480 Ti Rakau Drive, Botany

Tickets - \$30.00 each

Harlequin is taking a table (or two) for a great night's entertainment, music hall provided by PLOC, auctions, silent auctions.

Come along and support the Botany Charitable Trust and our sister theatre PLOC.

For tickets telephone Sue on 027 451 8880

Some of the Auction items include:

DC3 scenic flight across and around Auckland

Accommodation in Taupo and Waitangi

The Botany Charitable Trust, established in 2004 aims to support the Children, Youth, Families and the wider community of Botany through practical assistance.



April 2012

Check out the website for details on auditions being held on:

6th – 7th November

To book an audition time phone: Susanne Dell on 027 451 8880 or email: susann@paradise.net.nz

Director: John Fausett
Musical Director: Oliver Gilmour
Choreographer: Susanne Dell

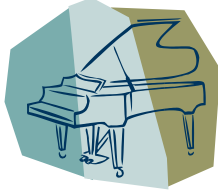
www.harlequintheatre.co.nz

DON'T FORGET OUR MONTHLY CONCERT

SONGS FOR YOU

LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Contact Dayle on 576 7311 for further particulars



What's on:

Anything Goes – Auckland Musical Theatre, Civic, 24th September to 22nd October
Jack and the Giant – Playhouse Theatre, Glen Eden, 13th – 20th October
Little Shop of Horrors – Manukau Performing Arts, 5th – 19th November
Return to the Forbidden Planet – Centrestage Theatre Company, Orewa, 3rd – 19th November

As well as supporting the Harlequin, support the other theatres who are also offering quality entertainment!

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are calling for expressions of interest for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Contact us through the website www.harlequintheatre.co.nz if you are interested in positions on the production team for this show.

HARLEQUIN SUPPORTERS CLUB

For \$50.00 donation you could be listed in the *The Christmas Carol* programme as a supporter of the Harlequin. There is also the opportunity for full, half or quarter page advertisements. Contact one of the committee if you would like some more details.

Next Newsletter:

This year we will be giving deadlines for our newsletters. Our newsletter is only as good as the information it contains. Please email anything to us, whether it be 'What's on' around town, theatre gossip, events, letters, cast news, show news, stories, reviews, news about new pro shows coming or been, in fact ANYTHING!! Are you getting the idea? We can't survive without you. All and everything can be emailed to:

newsletter@harlequintheatre.co.nz

**Deadline for November newsletter is:
31st October 2011**

Front of House Needs...

Do you love the "smell of the grease paint" and the excitement of an opening night but don't particularly wish to strut your stuff on stage? No problem! Why not become a Front of House Volunteer? We do everything to keep the theatre going, from ticketing and the selling of refreshments to ensuring that our audience is seated in their correct seats and the show starts on time, all without having to sing a single note.

So if this sounds like you, come and make new friends and join the Harlequin Front of House team by contacting:

**Ruth Sharp on (09) 533 4663
or (021) 258 1148.**

SOLD NIGHTS

Tickets are selling well for *A Christmas Carol*. If you know of any organisation who is interested in booking the theatre for *A Christmas Carol* for a good night's entertainment please contact Ruth on (09) 533 4663 or (021) 258 1148.

Harlequin Musical Theatre Website: *Check out all our latest information, show details, auditions, show dates, social events, theatre gossip, photos and outside shows coming to the theatre:*

www.harlequintheatre.co.nz