

THE GLOBE THEATRE



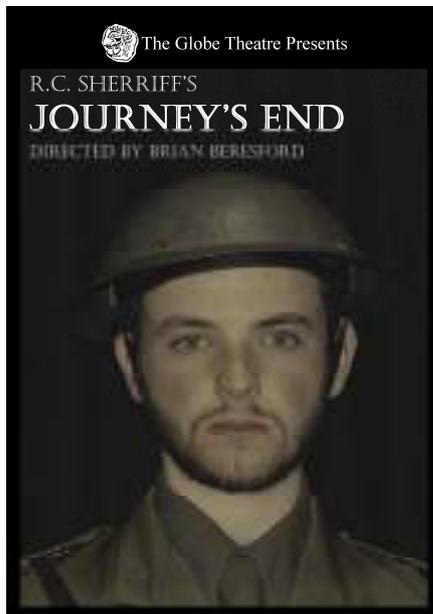
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NEWSLETTER January 2014

Welcome to the New Year, one in which we will be staging productions almost back to back in our efforts to raise the funds we need to begin the building's conservation repair later in the year. Our deadline for achieving the total required is October so we have a lot to do before then. However, the funding scene has been very quiet since the December newsletter was sent to you so this one will focus on theatrical matters.

We hope that you will all find at least one if not many more of our 2014 productions will be towards the top of your must-see lists for this year.

GLOBE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS 2014



20 February to 1 March 2014
[except 25 February]
Start 7.30pm (2.00pm on Sunday)

Sherriff's play was written and first staged in 1928; was filmed a few years later and has remained a theatre classic ever since, with long, sell-out seasons in Europe, the US (where a recent production won a Tony Award on Broadway) and elsewhere. Its account of life in the trenches in 1918, during

a brief period of waiting for the next German offensive, is life as experienced by Sherriff himself during his time in the War.

The British officers, whose ages range from 18 to mid 40s, all cope differently with the waiting and the thoughts of what might happen when the waiting is over. Some see it as a Boys Own style lark, others as a horror to be feared. All know that they will be expected to lead their men when called to do so and we know that proportionately, more of these 'mid-level' officers died than any other group during the four years of the War.

It was a brutal time, one we might want to forget, but the longevity of the play comes from its focus on the men's characters, of the black humour that kept them going, the silly games they played both to pass the time and to lighten their moods. It is a hard play because they knew what would be expected of them but it is also very gentle in parts as different characters interact with each other.

Ultimately this is not overtly an antiwar play but neither is it a patriotic one; it is just a snapshot of the way things were at that particular time – and it remains a powerful, profoundly moving play to this day.

Help please: Eleven WWI soldiers require lots of gear. We have been able to source most of it but are still looking for old enamel ('tin') mugs and grey or black blankets

The Globe will be the first theatre in town to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the War so we hope our production will be very well attended. So do please book soon.

Bookings: (03) 477 3274; globetheatre.org.nz or Globe Theatre door sales (NB. Cash only)

Ticket Prices:

- \$22 Adult full price
- \$18 Seniors; Unwaged; Group price for 5 or more; University Students
- \$15 Financial members of Friends of the Globe**
- \$10 School students with I.D.

Yes, regrettably we have been forced to increase ticket prices but hope that you will still feel that you get very good value for the annual cost of your membership.

Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Globe-Theatre-Dunedin/185864354769841>

The Killing of Sister George
by Frank Marcus, directed by Jeffrey
Vaughan
27 March-5 April



This image will start to appear around the town as soon as Journey's End closes.

Sister George is a beloved character in the popular radio series *Appleshurst*, a district nurse who ministers to the medical needs and personal problems of the local villagers. She is played by June Buckridge, who in real life is a gin-guzzling woman, the antithesis of the sweet character she plays. But ratings are falling and June is terrified that her character of Sister George is due for the chop.

Sister George is a comedy, but it has darker undertones and 50 years after this play was written, it still packs a punch.

Props help: *Does anyone have some 1950/60s furniture they could lend, settee, lounge chair, round table and chairs?*

The Vagina Monologues
by Eve Ensler, directed by Helen Fearnley
10-12 April

(Please note the short season)

Ensler's 1996 play, a series of monologues given by different women, all relating to different aspects of women's sexuality, has been performed and updated every year, in countless countries, and continues to engage/ enrage/ delight (depending on your point of view) every time.

Auditions have been held and the production almost cast but we still need a woman 30s/40s. *Please contact Helen (0226529155)*

The History Boys
by Alan Bennett, directed by Keith Scott
29 May-7 June

This sparkling comedy is the story of a group of senior history students in a second rate

grammar school in pursuit of the most glittering of prizes, admission to the universities of Oxford or Cambridge. The boys are preoccupied with study, sport and sex – but not necessarily in that order. They are faced with a headmaster who is only interested in reputation; a new young teacher only interested in results, and old Mr Hector, their general studies teacher, who simply believes in the joyous gift of knowledge and giving his boys their individuality. Blissfully funny and irreverent, but also confronting, shockingly honest and deeply moving, the play explores the anarchy of adolescence, the nature of history, and questions the aims and methods of the modern education system.

Auditions February 8 and 15, 1-3pm

Headmaster: In his 40s for 50s, stressed and snappy, Headmaster is only concerned about reputation and results.

Douglas Hector: In his 50s or 60s. Sexually ambivalent, Hector is expansive, eccentric and eclectic. Uninterested in results, Hector teaches only to share the joy of knowledge for its own sake.

Irwin: In his 20s or 30s. Irwin is a newly graduated teacher seconded to coach the boys for their Oxford or Cambridge entrance exams and interviews. He is clinical, even callous but at the same time he is personally insecure and vulnerable.

The boys: *All the boys are 17 or 18 but given the adult themes of the play and the size of the roles, especially of Dakin and Posner, young actors, not at secondary school, 18 and over only will be auditioned. All boys will be required to sing.*

Dakin: Charming, confident but also calculating, even cruel. Self centered and sexually experimental,

Posner: The 'baby' of the group. Posner is struggling somewhere between childhood and adolescence. He is sensitive yet sensible.

Posner is required to sing solo songs

Scripps: Scripps is a pianist and is required to play several songs. He is religious but he is a pragmatist and an optimist, perhaps the most mature of the boys.

Timms: the class clown. Outspoken, outrageous but thoroughly likeable.

Rudge: Rudge is the sportsman. He is athletic and plays rugby and golf; a lost cause academically, but cunning, with his own agenda and methods for getting ahead.

Plus three other 'support role' characters, **Lockwood, Akthar and Crowther.**

A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

directed by Dale Neill

24 July-2 August

Monarchs and fairies, runaway lovers and very bad actors, a plot that is familiar to all of us yet almost impossible to summarise; no surprise then that Samuel Pepys described the Dream as "the most insipid, ridiculous play that ever I saw ..." More than three centuries later, however, Shakespeare's play is still a favourite with audiences everywhere, both in its original form and its very many reinterpretations.

The Choice

by Claire Luckham,

directed by Helen Fearnley

25 September-4 October

...tells the story of a couple, expecting their first child. They are told, however, that the child will have Down syndrome and must then choose whether to abort or continue the pregnancy. The decision is examined through a writer, who presents a picture of her own warm relationship with her Down syndrome brother, set against the anguish of the couple. The play offers a moving and sometimes humorous debate that presents both sides of the argument. There is no simple answer and the play does not provide one; rather it raises profound questions about the power of giving life and the responsibilities it confers.

The following productions/events will be given shorter seasons. Auditions will be called and more details about them will be given later:

Lady Susan

by Jane Austen and Robert Moss

13-14 June

Featuring Terry MacTavish and Jocelyn Harris (Two men required also. Please contact us if interested.)

Raising the Roof

A variety show

8-10 August

PlayFest

18-19 October

A weekend of readings of new New Zealand plays - details to be announced.

(NB. Aspiring young playwrights might want to get involved in the Young Playwrights Initiative, arranged by the Fortune Theatre. Contact LaraM@fortunetheatre.co.nz for details.)

MEMBERSHIP

If you have not already renewed your membership for 2014, please see the attached form for details - and do let us know which, if any, of the many areas you might be interested in, even if you have been a member for many years. Similarly, if you are a long-term or life member, please let us know if your interests in the various theatre activities have changed.

Membership for 2014 starts on January 1st and continues until December 31st.

(We will be asking all those who are taking part as cast or crew in any of our productions to ensure that their membership is up to date.)

**DONATIONS TO THE GLOBE'S
CONSERVATION REPAIR FUND**



At this stage, we do not know when we might be able to vacate the theatre for its repair work, only that we will relocate temporarily to another venue for the 6 months approximately that have been set aside for this work.

You can help by attending our productions and special fund-raising events, renewing your membership and, of course, by making a specific donation. This could be by means of a cheque made out to the Friends of the Globe Theatre or by direct debit into the Globe account: **03 0903 0451937 00**. (Don't forget to include your name and address!) Donations of \$5 or more are receipted and are eligible for a tax credit. (Charities Commission registration number CC49363)

Remember too that you can:

1/ Purchase or gift a seat

For \$50 or \$100 you may 'purchase' a seat in the Globe auditorium and have your name or your recipient's name on either a 'silver' or 'gold' plaque, respectively.

2/ Become or gift a theatre 'ghost'

For \$1,000 or \$5,000 you may 'purchase' a 'ghost' (outline) that may be placed in the theatre in a location of your choice, and have your recipient's name on either a 'gold' or 'platinum' plaque, respectively.