



Q' n ' U  
DECEMBER 2010

## *Lipstick Dreams*

**COME TRUE!!!**

As the curtain came down on the last performance, it marked the culmination of many weeks of hard work for many people.

At the after-show celebration, Vice-president Ross acknowledged the dedication of director Blair and his team of actors, set builders, backstage support and front of house staff. Many were working at Cue for the first time and many were members from way back.

It is probably not realized by our audiences that the folk who put on our shows come together from all over the province to enjoy the wonderful facilities we have in our theatre. In many ways it is one of the strengths of Cue Theatre. Long may it continue!

Suffice to say that the production was enjoyed by many, many people who communicated their feelings by word of mouth and e-mail.

## TET SUPPORT

The newsletter is a little late this month so that we could bring you this news.

Once again we have been successful in gaining a grant from the Taranaki Electricity Trust to maintain and improve our theatre. Since the initial grant which made it possible to build the theatre we have received several grants that have enabled us to develop the facility.

On this occasion, the full details of the project were -

- To improve the appearance, signage and lighting to the front of the building to help patrons locate the theatre and to enhance the theatre's prominence in Inglewood.
- For safety, energy conservation and improved working light – to upgrade the lighting in the foyer and the stage areas.
- To maintain the appearance of the interior by repainting the foyer.

Local businesses have been contracted to carry out the work and we look forward to seeing the results in the New Year.

We are very grateful to Shirley Stephens and Ken Bedford, our TET reps, for helping to secure the continuing support of the TET Board.

## COMING UP

### **CHRISTMAS AT THE BOWL 2010**

TSB Bowl Of Brooklands, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Gates open at 5.30pm – Preshow entertainment from 7.00pm and “A Christmas Extravaganza” at 8.00pm. Entry by gold coin donation – song books and candles provided. This is a wonderful community event to celebrate the spirit of Christmas with the whole family.

[www.christmasatthebowl.co.nz](http://www.christmasatthebowl.co.nz)

# HARRY POTTER AND THE BIG BUCKS

To audiences, Harry Potter films are rip-roaring fantasy adventures that come along every one or two years. Kids and adults alike are always keen to climb aboard the Hogwarts express. Even critics are generally fairly well-disposed to the films, which combine cracking storylines, highly inventive special effects and vivid character performances.

To the British film industry, Harry Potter movies have a rather more serious meaning. The franchise may be in the hands of a US studio (Warner Bros) but its transformative effect on the British film landscape can't be underestimated. Predictably the latest film has gone to the top of the box-office charts. Since the first Harry Potter adventure (The Philosopher's Stone) started shooting at Leavesden Studios almost exactly 10 years ago, the fast-growing boy in the specs has provided British actors, technicians, visual effects houses, publicists and exhibitors with a veritable and long-lasting bonanza.

The statistics are startling. The most recent Harry Potter (The Half-Blood Prince) grossed more than \$900m at the international box-office in 2009. Its predecessors posted similar numbers. The first six films are calculated to have grossed more than \$5.4bn in international box-office – and these are all movies made in Watford.

Some analysts are infuriated at the habit of claiming films like Harry Potter, Inception and The Dark Knight as British when the company that makes them (and that reaps most of the dividends) is based in Burbank, California. However, many of the key creative forces behind these films have been British, and they have all generated huge amounts of inward investment in the UK.

## RETROSPECT AND WINDUP

So we come to the end of another dramatic year.

In the last 12 months we have seen three remarkable productions - "Leading Ladies", "Cemetery Club" and "Lipstick Dreams", each spectacular in its own way, each representative of what has come to be recognised as a Cue production.

Next year, we enter the tenth year of life in the "new Cue".

We wish you all the Compliments of the Season and hope you will join us on the next stage of our exciting adventure.

## COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

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**The Society gratefully acknowledges the assistance over the years from the Taranaki Electricity Trust, the New Plymouth District Council, the Taranaki Savings Bank, and the New Zealand Lottery Board**