

WE MUST KILL TONI

A comedy by Ian Stuart Black.

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THE CAST :

Douglas Oberon . . . . .	Barry Boekman
Francis Oberon . . . . .	Neville Henry
Toni Oberon . . . . .	Sally Cunningham
Harris . . . . .	David Ertel
Miss Richards . . . . .	Joan Ertel

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The scene is set in Castle Oberon, England, in the Spring.

Time : The Present.

THE CREW:

Director . . . . .	Mary Boekman
Stage Manager . . . . .	Vida Henry
Prompt . . . . .	Lois Tidswell
Properties . . . . .	Doreen Long
Set Construction . . . . .	Tony Peterson Jim Williamson
Set Decoration . . . . .	Fred Ellis
Lighting . . . . .	Stan Long
Publicity . . . . .	Elwyn Stone
Front of House . . . . .	Members & Friends

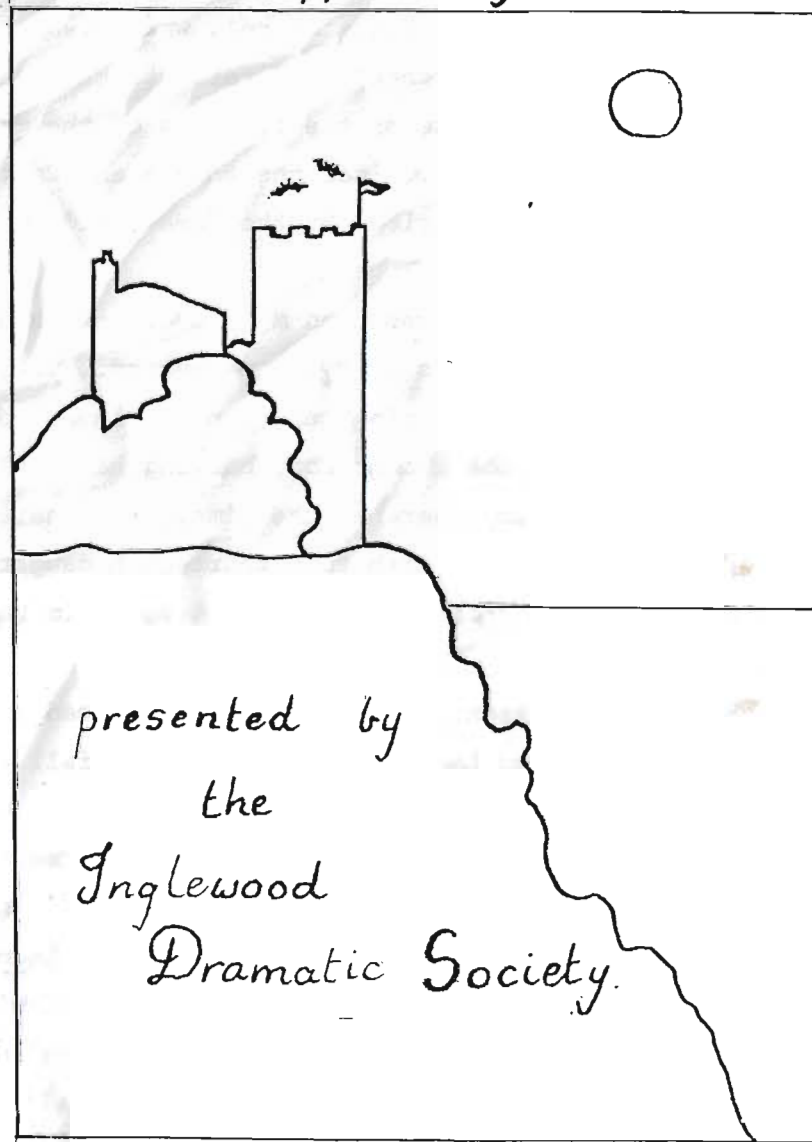
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Taranaki Museum: Red Cross: Inglewood Trade Mart:  
Members & Friends of the Society, Pots 'nPetals: Top Priority :

# Castle Oberon

an official guide.



The castle was built shortly after the Norman Conquest in 1066 to house François, first Duke d'Oberon. The Dukedom had been conferred on the battlefield by William the Conqueror to reward François for the loan of a safety pin to hold up his trousers at a vital moment in the conflict. The name Oberon is

derived from the French 'obéré', which means 'burdened with debts', and reflects the constantly difficult state of the finances of the male side of the family, since the estate and fortune can only be inherited by the female side.

The castle has seen many additions and alterations over the centuries. The first being in 1154, when the banqueting hall roof collapsed on the entire household except the eldest son, burying his twelve sisters who were carousing there at the time. Fortunately for the family, his mother gave birth to a thirteenth daughter in France, and when she came of age she arrived to claim the castle.

The staircase in the present living-room was replaced in 1593, after a loose step caused Lady Madeline Oberon to fall and break her neck on the eve of her twenty-first birthday.

The Jacobean tower was built by the fifteenth Duke to house his large collection of erotic etchings. It is now in a bad state of repair, and has been closed to the public since the body of Aubrey Dinwiddie was found impaled on the railings beneath. How Mr. Dinwiddie, who worked for the Inland Revenue Department, came to be up in the tower is a mystery, as he was not known to be particularly

interested in erotic etchings.

Another feature of the castle is the cellar housing the dungeons, where there is a fascinating collection of mediaeval torture implements, some in amazingly good condition. Conducted tours can still be made there on Saturdays, but parties are asked to stay close to the guide, as the foundations of the building are a maze of tunnels and present many hidden dangers for the unwary.

Other architectural features to note are: the stained glass window on the ground floor, replaced in 1810 when the original was smashed by the head of Duchess Clementine blown off by a stray cannonball fired by her husband during a defence training exercise in the Napoleonic Wars, and the Cloister, said to be haunted by the ghost of Lady Matilda Oberon, only daughter of Duke Horace and Duchess Bertha, who mysteriously hanged by the bell-rope when said by her brother to be 'swinging on it for a dare' in 1762.

Set atop the impressive chalk cliffs of this county, and beside a charming lake the castle is a magnificent if crumbling example of Norman architecture with Elizabethan, Jacobean and Victorian embellishments. Unfortunately much of the family silver is no longer on view here but can be seen in the pawn shop in the village where a collection of it has grown over the centuries.

Viewing Times : Monday to Saturday during summer months.

School and pensioner parties by arrangement.

Teas are served in the Victorian Folly at 50p. per head.

(The full-size model of a French Guillotine on display there is unstable and should not be approached).

