

LATE JOYS

PLAYERS THEATRE - THE ARCHES, VILLIERS STREET, STRAND, LONDON WC2 6NG. AUGUST 1992

Thankyou – twenty thousand times

A heartfelt 'thank you' to all our members and friends who, by responding to our appeal for donations and by attending late night shows and our two 'Very Special Evenings', helped us to stave off the more pressing of our creditors with a staggering £20,000.

We are still a long way from our declared target of £200,000 but we feel sure that with your continued support and encouragement we can 'Save The Players'.

To all members who asked for vouchers or plaques when they sent their donations the good news is that a number of plaques have already been mounted and the vouchers will shortly be available. A very special 'thank you' to those members who did not require either.

If any members have not yet made donations but would like to help 'Save The Players' cheques or postal orders, made payable to 'The Players' Theatre', would be very welcome. They can be sent by post or handed in at the Box Office.

Keen theatregoers among our membership will be only too well aware that The Players' is not the only theatre in financial trouble - a number of shows have folded in the past few weeks. Nor are we the only theatre seeking financial

support - appeals having already been launched to raise £90 million for the Royal Opera House and £1 million for the Criterion. But The Players' is not just a theatre; it is a theatre club and has long been known for its unique, friendly and 'family' atmosphere. It is these attributes we are fighting to preserve.

The decision to close the theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings attracted much criticism but has, however, proved to be a cost-effective temporary measure. It is intended to return to fortnightly bills, six nights a week in the autumn as a forerunner to the pantomime season. In the interim remember that the bar and restaurant are open on Tuesday and Wednesdays so why not come in for a meal or take advantage of our 'Happy Hours'? Drinks are priced at £1 between 5.30 and 6.30pm and between 10.30 and 11.30pm and

you are guaranteed a warm welcome. Like the first interval 'all over again' we have these 'Happy Hours' every night that the club is open.

We are still faced with the problem of getting bottoms on seats and this begs the question ...

Where are we going wrong?

The management of The Players' Theatre welcomes criticism and constructive ideas - destructive criticism will not help us overcome our current problems. It's the old, old story - with hindsight almost all of us would have handled things differently but if we are going to survive we must stop dwelling on past mistakes and plan carefully for the future.

The Committee would be pleased to consider any ideas members might have to safeguard the future of The Players'. For instance, do you think the format of the LATE JOYS should be ►

DIARY DATE

An Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss the financial position of The Players' Theatre Club will be held on:

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER at 6.30pm

The bar will be open at 5.30pm for Happy Hour and light snacks will be available. The meeting will only deal with financial matters and there will be no election of committee members or any other business. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend - please bring your membership cards.

BOOK YOUR PANTOMIME SEATS TONIGHT.