

LATE JOYS

PLAYERS THEATRE - THE ARCHES, VILLIERS STREET, STAND, LONDON WC2 6NG. DECEMBER 1993

Last Night of 'The Joys'...

... well, of the current season, will be on Saturday 4 December. Having seen how the Proms close their season, we thought we should try the same! One or two novelties and some surprises will ensure we enter, with good spirits, into the run of

THE PANTOMIME

Director Richard Frost has assembled an excellent cast, including some firm favourites from The Joys - among them Pat Lancaster, Eleanor McCready, Graham Richards, Leslie Randall and Robert Meadwell to grace the sets of 'Aladdin' or 'The Wonderful Scamp'. Aladdin will be played by Sophie-Louise Dann and stage design is by Disley Jones.

In addition, we have secured Emerson and Jayne whose famous illusion - The Magic Carpet - has captivated audiences on an international basis. This enchanting presentation will be seen in the Seasonal Joys that precede the pantomime each evening, and will feature in the matinee performances, together with the redoubtable Professor Percy Press and his Punch and Judy. Emerson and Jayne will also be contributing to the pantomime in a highly original way in the Palace scene of 'Aladdin'. Bookings are now flowing in at an encouraging level.

Two of the three matinee performances are virtually sold out, and the third is looking very good. Given sufficient demand we will add a fourth matinee. To remind you - the matinee performances will be held at 3pm on Sunday 26 December, Tuesday 28 December and Sunday 2 January. We have a special party offer - one member and one guest for £15 and all additional guests at £5 per head.

Party bookings with 20 or more adult guests will qualify for the discount price of £12 provided that payment is received no later than three weeks before the date of the performance.

A special price of £5 per ticket will apply for children at all performances and members may attend at no additional cost.

The Players' will be closed on Friday 24 and Saturday 25 December.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

We are taking extra special care over the arrangements for our annual extravaganza. Ticket prices are fully inclusive of dinner for everyone - members may choose to have either a four-course menu in the Supper Room when the combined ticket price will be £40 for members and £50 for guests. To avoid overcrowding and delay in service, places will be limited to 70 diners.

Alternatively, a gourmet menu will be served to members in their seats in the auditorium - offering fresh prawns, melon and cucumber with lime dressing to start, followed by home-smoked chicken layered with Provence tomatoes and buffalo mozzarella with fresh basil dressing, new potato salad with fresh mint,

chives and spring onion, french green bean and courgette salad with fresh Parmesan shavings. There will also be roll and butter, individual fresh fruit tart and a selection of cheeses, biscuits and grapes. ALL guests will receive half-a-bottle of wine. £35 for members and £45 for guests.

The evening will begin at 6pm with a reception, offering a glass of Buck's Fizz or sherry, canapes and the distribution of party hats and favours.

Dinner will be served at 7pm, either in the theatre or Supper Room, according to your arrangements, and the pantomime will begin at 8.15pm. At 10.45 we shall present a special 'Late Joys' and the New Year will be rung in at midnight. There will be dancing on the stage until 1.30am. The evening will close with mince pies and hot soup to see you all happily into '94 (1894!)

Please book early on 071-839 1134 to avoid disappointment.

PLAYERS' POSTER COMPETITION

A small but worthwhile number of entries was received in our pantomime poster competition. Stage designer Disley Jones pondered long and hard over the entries and our congratulations go to five-year-old Callum Dodgson of Highbury, London, who was judged to be the outright winner. Callum's prize is pantomime tickets for four children and two adults with supper in the Supper Room.

The standard of the entries was very high and the management decided to award a runner-up prize. This goes to eight-year-old Daniel Piper of Sanderstead, Surrey, who wins tickets for the pantomime for two adults and two children.

Our thanks to all those who entered - look out for a display of some of the posters in the Club.