

## Paul Norell (Sweeney Todd)

Paul has been involved with Titirangi Theatre since the 1980's, his last appearance being Barrymore in "I Hate Hamlet". Over the years he's played a number of villains as well as heroes, from Dracula in Dracula (Dolphin), to King Henry in "The Lion in Winter" (Ellerslie). "It has been my lot to play characters who are larger than life, and Sweeney Todd is no exception. It's wonderful to be returning to Titirangi Theatre after so many years and a real thrill to be taking on the role of Sweeney."



#### Carol Seay (Mrs Lovett)

Carol says, "My mother, a keen amateur actress, loved the Cockney accent. She coached me for my stage debut at age seven, as a singing and tap-dancing Eliza Doolittle. Now, in my tenth play for Titirangi Theatre, I wish she were alive to watch my Mrs Lovett. Mum, this one's for you."



Chad Edwards: (Jonas Fogg, Henry, Policeman, Labourer)

Chad makes the comment, "My memory seems to have grown foggy as I have created my several roles in this play. I wonder sometimes if a severe multiple personality disorder may be approaching. Still, who could turn down the opportunity to be young and in love? And everyone loves a man in uniform. Especially one that knows how to 'take care of children'."



#### Flynn Allen (Tobias Ragg)

Whilst you may recognise Flynn from other things he's done on stage and screen, this is Flynn's first production for the Titirangi theatre "family". He's loved learning from all the "old" people treading the boards, and enjoys playing Tobias because he's not meaty enough to be made into a tasty pie.

#### Paul Kershaw: (Mark Ingestrie)

You saw him last year as the hero of "The Mousetrap." Now Paul adds, "For every evil villain there must be the hero! With new found wealth and pride, he returns from sea to claim his bride. Representing the moral high ground for all you do-gooders out there. Hurrah!"

#### Jade Bull: (Joanna Oakley)

"Born and raised in the UK by Alaskan wolves, I learnt to dance when they used me as a bait trap for food in the long winters. I moved to NZ two years ago because I heard you do pretty good fish and chips and I thought Gandalf could be a good wizard to know. Now I spend my time riding my scooter, selling skateboards and cruising around the beaches."Jade says. Acting experience in the UK included productions with the Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round, the National Youth Music Theatre, The National Theatre and an opera with the Bolton Octagon.



#### Brendan Smith (Dr Aminadab Lupin)

Brendan is a well-known Titirangi actor. He says, "I'm not used to playing characters that attract boos and hisses. However, I think I'll get well used to them in this role. Still, it's nice to be trying out the new theatre space in a great play. (and Brendan had a special hand, as he often does, in making the set, including our delicious oven.)."



As you'll see in the programme lists, Sonia has also been the play's producer. She's been around Titirangi Theatre for a while now, usually behind the lighting desk. "This time Lindsay has given me the opportunity to join his cast and see the lights from a different angle. I have enjoyed working with and learning from some fantastic people," says Sonia.



Production Team	
Director	Lindsay Nash
РА	Jono Rickard
Producer	Sonia Mclean
Stage Managers	Karen Soulje Jono Rickard
Props	Barbara Butland
Backstage	Rhiannon Led, Grace Tolley Sabrina O
Wardrobe	Lynn Cottingham
Set Design	Lindsay Nash
Set Painting and Decor	Barbara Butland Karen Soulje Paul Kershaw
Set Building	Brendan Smith, Tony Dunn Bryan Moore, Jan Coates
	Robert Gore, Ian Harvey (chair)
Lighting Design	Duncan Milne
<b>Sound</b> Design	Paul Kershaw
Technical Operators	Paul Witherspoon Fiona Leitch ,Steph Jones Sam Curruthers, Jo Carswell
Photography	Mac Mclver
	Malcolm Dale
Publicity	Chris Nash
Programme	Graeme Heap
Front of House	Marion Allen
A special acknowledgement for	

## Peter Fielding,

our own Titirangi Demon Barber, for his support with the production.

# SWEENEY TODD

The Demon Barber of Fleet Street A Victorian Melodrama by Austin Freeman Based on the original by George Dibdin Pitt

## Act I

Scene i: Sweeney Todd's barber shop

Scene ii: the alley and streets, that night

Scene iii: the barber shop, next morning

## INTERVAL



Act II

Scene i: Sweeney Todd's barber shop, that night

Scene ii: Mrs Lovett's Bakehouse, the following afternoon

Scene iii: the same, sometime later

Time: the early 1840s

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## **Directors Notes**

I very rarely revisit plays I have already directed: "The Boy Friend" and "The Land of Oz" are the only two, both school productions. That is, apart from this one, and last time it too was a school production. It was at Lynfield College in 1985, featuring John Goudge as Sweeney Todd and Tracey Brabet as Tobias Ragg, two names now familiar to west Auckland audiences.

So nearly 30 years on it's been fun again exploring the play, this time with an adult cast. Do join in! Shout brief comments like "Shame!", "You villain!", "Bravo!", "Boo!", "Hiss!" and "Hurray!" But not too often!

We trust you'll enjoy the pies, as well as the play.

## A Little History

The legend of the demon barber dates back to the 14th century, France. Sweeney Todd is a fictional character who first appeared as the murderer of the Victorian penny dreadful The String of Pearls (1846–1847). He was later introduced as an antihero in Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street and its film adaptation of the same name. Claims that Sweeney Todd was a historical person are strongly disputed by scholars although possible legendary prototypes exist.



## Please remember to switch off cell phones during the performance

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**BOOKINGS**: bookings can be made at **Titirangi Pharmacy**. Phone **817 7658**, or online through our Website.



**GROUP BOOKINGS**: Special rates available, for more information ask at Titirangi Pharmacy.



**THE USE OF CAMERAS, VIDEO** equipment or tape recorders are not permitted in the auditorium.



**THE DISABLED**. Please help us offer the best possible service by informing us of your requirements when making bookings. Provision can be made for a limited number of wheelchairs in the auditorium.



**THEATRE HIRE**. For more information or bookings: email: <u>theatrehire@titirangitheatre.co.nz</u>



**THEATRE INFO LINE**. For details of wardrobe opening hours, current and upcoming productions: Phone **817 5951** 

**FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION.** Write to Titirangi Theatre Inc. P O Box 60 092, Titirangi. email: <u>contact@titirangitheatre.co.nz</u>, or visit our website: <u>www.titirangitheatre.co.nz</u>

## FIRE REGULATIONS

Fire Exits are situated at the sides of the auditorium.

Please keep all stairways, gangways and corridors that afford entry and exit entirely free from obstruction.

We ask patrons to observe the NO PARKING signs at the entrances

## **Our Next Production ...**

## **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

**On Golden Pond** by Ernest Thompson, on stage June 4<sup>th</sup> – 16th Auditions: March 24, 1:30pm at the theatre. Cast: 2 women (35+ and 60+) and 4 Males (2x 35+, 65+ and 14+) American accents needed, for this award winning drama If you are interested please contact Liz Watkinson – phone 817

5812

Watch out for TITTERS COMEDY CLUB coming soon Bookings - 09 827 0137.

You are invited to become involved in live local theatre at Titirangi Theatre Inc., Lopdell House. Be part of the scene on and offstage. Pick up a brochure and membership form in the foyer or call Ian: 09 835 9557 Or apply online at <u>www.titirangitheatre.co.nz</u>

## **Email Alerts**

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COSTUME HIRE SERVICE

We are pleased that costume hire is now available again

The theatre has an extensive, exciting wardrobe for hire at reasonable rates.

Our wardrobe hours: Thursdays 4-6pm, Fridays 5-7pm AND NOW SATURDAYS 10-2pm Situated at Lopdell Hall, just behind Lopdell House

For further information contact Lynn, Ph 818 6645

MURDER, MIRTH & MAYHEM!

A Gothic Melodrama by Austin Rosser directed by Lindsay Nash



44a Portage Rd, New Lynn entry and carpark via McWhirter Place

Tuesday 12 March to Saturday 23 March, 8.00 pm Matinées: Saturday 16 March 2.00 pm, Sunday 17 March 4.00 pm