



FRIENDS OF THE ALEXANDRA PALACE THEATRE
NEWSLETTER

JULY 2014

Dear Friends and Supporters

Have your say on the

Theatre Regeneration Plans

Join us on Wednesday 23 July at 6.30 pm in the Transmitter Hall*

The design team for the regeneration of the theatre and east end of Alexandra Palace is working hard, and has drawn up an outline plan of its proposals.

This is your chance, as a Friend or supporter of the Alexandra Palace Theatre, to hear about and have your say on what is being proposed, before more detailed plans are drawn up.

What do you think of flattening the theatre floor? The proposed bar facilities? The quality of the backstage facilities? The location of the toilets? The configuration of the auditorium? The proposed uses? The handling of the historic elements of the theatre? How it will all integrate into the plans for the whole east end of the Palace?

The shape of the plans so far will be outlined by Duncan Wilson, chief executive of Alexandra Palace.

A strong voice now from the Friends will assist the Palace in achieving the support of the Heritage Lottery for this, the last - and by far the biggest - stage of the project. If successful, work will begin to bring the theatre back into use as one of London's most characterful and historic performance and events spaces.

We apologise for the relatively short notice, which reflects a combination of a full chief executive's diary, and the wish to avoid August, while hearing your views in good time.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 23 July.

* The Transmitter Hall entrance is on the South Terrace, a short distance to the left of the BBC tower (the tower with the mast).

News updates from the Friends

The 2014 AGM

The AGM of the Friends was held on 23 April (Shakespeare's birthday).

There was a good turnout for the talk by Dr David Wilmore, one of the country's foremost experts on Victorian theatres, who has acted as a consultant over many years to the Alexandra Palace Theatre. We were able to hear him speak in the auditorium, where he could refer to the stage behind him in explaining how the stage machinery would have operated.

A new committee was elected: Chair: Nigel Willmott; Secretary: Pat Brearey; Treasurer: Imogen Pennell; Publicity officer: Colin Richell; Membership secretary: Angela Silva-Jones; ordinary members: Graham Bennett, Louise Blair, Jacob O'Callaghan and Matt Burge. Cllr Bob Hare has been delegated as a committee member from the Alexandra Palace and Park Board.

Tours and Open House

The Palace is continuing with a quarterly programme of tours of the Palace including the theatre. The Friends have a table with membership and other material. There is a large demand for places on these tours, and they are usually over-subscribed. The next tours will be on the national Open House days of Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 September - you can book by email: community@alexandrapalace.com



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