

Submission 2006 Draft Annual Plan

Odeon Theatre Trust- Chairman; Nick Paris
P.O. Box 22-777 High Street CHRISTCHURCH
Telephone; Day 3650615, Eve 9810353, Cell 0210451645
e-mail; nickparis@paradise.net.nz

N.B. I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Tuesday 7th June and Friday 10th June.

Starts:

The Odeon Theatre Trust wish to make it known that we would like consideration given to help finance our *premium* objectives contained in our trust deed that reads;

A/ "To purchase, conserve, and administer the heritage building at 214 Tuam Street, Christchurch, previously known as the Opera House, St James and Odeon Theatre which is hereinafter referred to as the "Odeon Theatre" "

B/ To ensure the protection and conservation in perpetuity of the Odeon Theatre on it's present site as a facility for the arts and creative industries for the Christchurch community.

The Trust has commissioned Shand Shelton Limited of Wellington , a company of considerable experience in developing, constructing and operating similar venues in New Zealand and Australia a feasibility and survey analysis study, this report is due to be in our hands by the end of May 2005.

We are confident of it's outcome to provide a retained, upgraded Odeon for it's original purpose that satisfies both heritage imperatives and meets a community need whilst assisting with the national objectives for both film and the performing arts.

The document will provide a comprehensive arc encompassing revenue projections, potential usage of a 700 seat venue , funding strategies, facility requirements, key heritage issues and capital cost requirements

The Odeon has exciting potential to anchor the revitalisation of the surrounding precinct and fulfil the vision adopted by the CCC and the Mayoral Forum.

HISTORY

Built in July 1883. Architect

The theatre has been the main stay of Vaudeville which grew out of the variety tradition and catered to an urban population . Vaudeville, which has become known as the "theatre of the people" is generally defined as stage entertainment consisting of various unrelated acts , anything from performing animals, acrobats, comedians, jugglers and magicians to song and dance men.

As a theatrical venue it had an impressive calvary of artists including Vivian Leigh and Sir Lawrence Oliver, Stanley Holloway to name a few.

As a cinema it excelled in presenting Christchurch with arguably it's best cinematic environment with deluxe 70 MM features that include 'Lawrence of Arabia', leading cinema technicians around New Zealand have stated the Odeon has again the potential to match the proud civic amenities, the Civic {Auckland} , Embassy

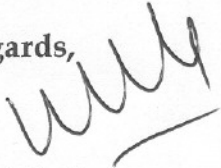
{Wellington} and the stunning Regent {Dunedin}.

CONCLUSION

On behalf of the Odeon Trust let me state we are resolute in finding a solution to and fitting conclusion to fund the purchase and ongoing guardianship of this prominent landmark. We would like council to act and cement the future of this theatre by working with the synergy already developed within the arts community, and in finishing, how can we in Christchurch have a sense of history if we can't protect the past.

ENDS.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Paris', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nick Paris
Chairman
Odeon Trust