

Type

Sound:, WAV

Duration

00:50:36

Project

Pass it On – Oral History Project for the Chichester Festival Theatre

Recording Date

6 February 2014

Recording locations

Interviewee's Home

Interviewees

Annemarie Nichols (speaker, female)

Interviewers

Gill Bushby (speaker, female)

Abstract

Annemarie Nichols[AN] remarks on first role at Chichester Festival Theatre(CFT) box office 1978. (00:40) Mentions plays, 'The Importance of Being Earnest' and 'The Eagle Has Two Heads'.(02:31) Remarks on changes in working practices since 1978.(03:19) AN mentions different jobs she held in box office and other departments.(05:18) Mentions the Thousand Club, an early form of sponsorship.(06:06) Mentions most enjoyable job was conducting theatre tours when she was Information and Archives Manager.(06:37) Remarks on range of archive material and problems storing it.(07:20) Remarks on her various periods of employment at CFT.(09:13) Mentions difficulties of dealing with public when she was Box Office Manager.(10:50) Remarks on content of theatre tours and response from public.(11:24) Remarks on actors she met, including Judi Dench[JD], Laurence Olivier and the Crazy Gang.(14:15) Remarks on content of CFT seasons and balance between touring shows and CFT productions.(16:45) Mentions efforts by Director, Duncan Weldon to extend CFT season.(19:00) Remarks on reaction to thrust stage by actors and public.(21:26) Remarks on early days of Minerva.(24:00) Mentions location of New Ventures in Dolphin and Anchor Hotel in 1978.(25:05) Mentions her administration role in CFT Youth Theatre.(25:42) Comments on box office procedures and problems.(25:58) Remarks on computerisation in box office.(29:50) Mentions her involvement in training box office staff.(32:08) AN comments on shows, including Alec Guinness in 'The Merchant of Venice', 'The Mitford Girls', 'Underneath The Arches' featuring Chesney Allen, 'Uncle Vanya', 'Holes In The Skin' and 'My Mother Said I Never Should'.(34:06) AN

mentions effect of press reviews on ticket sales.(38:40) Comments on CFT development plans.(39:37) Comments on working environment during tenure of Patrick Garland, John Gale, Duncan Weldon, Ruth Mackenzie. (45:37)