



STAGE WHISPER

299

TRINITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2011



A Happy Christmas
to all our members



NOW SHOWING!

Trinity Theatre, Cowes
Presents The Traditional Farce

ALADDIN



3, 8, 9, 10, 11 December
Thu & Fri at 7:30pm Sat at 2:30pm & Sun at 5pm

Adults £7 under 16's £6

Telephone Box Office 10am to 2pm from 13th Nov 2011 (Not Sun)
Local Rate **0845 475 4743** *Charges apply*

Book online now at: www.caods.org.uk

Trinity Theatre, Cowes
Presents

Natural Causes

A Black Comedy by Eric Chappell
Author of 'Rising Damp'

**19, 20, 21 & 26, 27, 28
January at 7:30pm**

Telephone Box Office

Open 11am to 2pm

From 8th Jan. 2012 (Not Sun)

0845 475 4743

Local Rate Charges apply!



Adults £7

Under 16s £6

3 for 2 on First Night

Book Online Now at www.caods.org.uk

An Amateur Production In Association with Samuel French Limited

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The Christmas Fayre raised the magnificent sum of £634.02 for Theatre funds, which, particularly in these difficult financial times, is a splendid total. Many thanks to Jane and her loyal band of helpers who made it such a success!

President's Notes - December

Rehearsals for both *Aladdin* and *Natural Causes* have been progressing well and by the time you read this, the performances of *Aladdin* will be under way. So if you are not involved, make sure you come along and enjoy this fantastic traditional pantomime. Many thanks to Abbie, Jo, Alex and everyone else involved for all their hard work.

Looking forward, the readthrough and auditions for *Calendar Girls* followed by the run of the very funny comedy *Natural Causes* take place in January. We are also looking forward to the possibility of putting on *Godspell* in the spring. January also sees the launch of our Youth Theatre organised by Abi Harris and Dinah Bowman. Please contact either of them if you can help with the project.

By the time you read this, the upstairs toilet refurbishment will have been completed. Many people have contributed a lot of time and effort to this project. Please accept the society's heartfelt thanks for your efforts. We are also hoping to update the downstairs toilets in the coming months.

The bag packing session at the Co-op to publicise *Aladdin* was vital to promoting the show and also in raising money. Thanks to Barbara Wood and her team for their efforts.

Another very successful fund raising event was the Christmas Fayre held in November. It was the busiest I can remember and raised one of our best totals yet. Many thanks to Jane Maclean and everyone who helped in organizing and supporting the event. By now we also hope to have had another successful race night organized by Honest Mike. Thanks to Honest Mike and his assistants for the evening.

For many years, rigging lights has been done from our trusty scaffold tower. It has been okay but with modern legislation and standards it does raise Health & Safety issues. In addition, it is time consuming and difficult to build. What many members do not realise is that it is a vital piece of equipment that is used for every show although many people never see it in action.

With this in mind we are actively looking at replacing the scaffold with a mobile electric lift. This will be easier to set up and put away, easier for all ages to use and much safer. The initial cost of an appropriate lift could be up to £2000 and there are some running costs as the lift does need to be inspected regularly. However it is essential that rigging is done in the safest possible way.

Have a Very Happy Christmas.

John Plumbly Tel: 760955 Mobile: 07807165574 Email: president@caods.org.uk



Jacky & Nigel Flux

wish all members of C.A.O.D.S.

**A Very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
3,4,8,9,10,11 December	<i>Aladdin</i>
Tuesday 3rd January at 7:30pm - Clubroom	Readthrough for <i>Calendar Girls</i>
Sunday 8 th January 10am -12noon	Youth Theatre
Tuesday 10th January at 7:30pm - Auditorium	Auditions for <i>Calendar Girls</i>
19 th to 21st & 26th to 28 th January 2012	<i>Natural Causes</i>
15 th to 18 th February	Solent G&S Company present <i>The Gondoliers</i>

And don't forget work nights every Wednesday 7pm to 9:30 pm except when shows are on.

ALADDIN

The story of Aladdin originates in the 'Tales of the Arabian Nights', but in the pantomime version it is usually set in China.

The first recorded performance of 'Aladdin' was in 1788, at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. Originally the villain was not named, but the 1813 production of the pantomime called him 'Abanazar', by which he is still known today.

Aladdin is the son of a poor widow in Peking. Originally she was called 'Widow Ching Mustapha', and the part was first played by a man, James Rogers, in 1856.

During the 1850's, Victorian London was the destination for the first clipper ships that supplied tea to the London tea houses. There was a fascination for the Chinese style in architecture, fashion and entertainment. In H. J Byron's Pantomime version of 1861 the name of Aladdin's mother became 'Widow Twankey'. Twankey was a popular tea at this time, from the Tuon Ky region of China. Since the 1860's Widow Twankey has become a laundress, allowing scope for slap-stick scenes along with her other son 'Wishee Washee'. The increase in Chinese laundries in London's East End, and in Liverpool led to these comedy scenes.

The magical part of Aladdin comes from the two Djinn or Genies, the Slave of the Ring, and the Genie of the Lamp. The original Genie gave three wishes, but in the pantomime Aladdin is free to use his newly found powers for as long as he holds the lamp.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Balances:

Current Account

£3,246.19 credit

Deposit Account

£21,807.54 credit

The final profit for "Adrian Mole", now that all the bills have been paid, is £740.99. This is very good as we had a somewhat lean audience - obviously the expenses were kept to a minimum - well done!

Although we have a sad face still this month, this may well soon change as the loos upstairs are all but finished and I have been able to pay all the bills so far out of the current account, so the deposit account remains intact.

By the time you get this newsletter we shall have had the Christmas Fayre and I hope to be able to tell you that we have made a good profit. This will be followed almost immediately by the Pantomime which is always a money spinner, so with any luck we should have a smiley face next month. We then have "Natural Causes" in January and Solent G&S in February, which is all good news as far as I am concerned.

Jane Maclean - Hon. Treasurer.

Free Drinks at the Bar 15th & 16th December

If you have worked on the bar in the past or would like to in the future we are holding some training sessions at 7:30pm on the above dates.

The aim is to cover opening up, using the tills, closing, a brief look at licensing laws, a quiz, and if you can ring your drink up correctly on the till, then it is yours for free!

The session should only last an hour but please make every effort to attend one of the sessions even if you have been doing the bar for years as it is good practice in maintaining our licence.

All entries (in writing please) for the January edition of "Stage Whisper" should be sent to Rosie Collard, Editor, 5, Battery Road, Cowes by **Wednesday 14th, December**. E-mail contributions welcomed on stagewhisper@caods.org.uk No attachments, please! Thank you, Rosie