



STAGE WHISPER

311

TRINITY THEATRE NEWSLETTER

December 2012

Trinity Theatre, Cowes
Presents

Snowed Under

A new Christmas Comedy

by
Gwen Stevens

Supporting the Alzheimer's Society

Friday 11th & Saturday 12th

January at 7:30pm

Doors open at 6:45pm

Tickets £5 at the door

or

BOOK ONLINE NOW at

www.caods.org.uk

President's Notes

The panto season is over for another year and a big thank you to Daphne and everyone involved in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* for putting on such a cracking show. A real credit to Trinity!

At the start of the new year we are hosting two performances of *Snowed Under*, a new comedy written and directed by Gwen Stevens which will raise funds for The Alzheimer's Society. Come along to this world premiere and support this worthwhile cause

January also sees auditions for three productions. These are the *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, and two one-act plays, *Happy Birthday Me* & *The Witches of Prestwick*. There is further information elsewhere in this edition.

By now the Christmas Party will be over and the next social event is Saturday Playhouse (page 10) which is now on a later date on January 26th, details in this edition of SW. There are updates on the youth theatre (page 5) and membership meetings (page 15) later in SW.

A major change with Stage Whisper is that in future it will be sent via Email except for a few members who do not have the facility., more on page 7.

Have a Happy Christmas, get involved and enjoy the many things that are happening in the New Year.

John

You Know You've Been in Amateur Theatre If.....

- ...you've ever got a part because you were the only male who showed up for auditions.
-your living room sofa spends more time on stage than you do.
-You fully understand that the name Stephen Sondheim is synonymous with 3 months of rehearsals.
- ...you've ever taken time off your job to work on the show.

A Poster Post



TRINITY THE-
ATRE

As you know we advertise by various means but poster display is a main focus.

Several people have said they would like to display their posters where more people can see them. With this in mind we are going to make up some poster boards like this.



They will be either in A4 or A3 size. If you would like one call me, email or text me with the size you need.



John
760955
07807165574
president@caods.org.uk

Donations to Trinity Theatre

We benefit from many people kindly donating items to the theatre, which we are very grateful for. Unfortunately, items just left with the well intentioned thought that they might be useful are not welcome. Recently several large items were left and it will cost us time and energy to dispose of them.

If you have something that you think may be useful contact a committee member for the okay, specifically Mike Buckett for stage items, Jane Maclean for costumes, Daphne Brown for props, Paul Redding for technical, Dave Savill for building **before** you bring it to the theatre.

Thanks,
John

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Tues. 8th January 7:30pm	Read-through for two one act plays <i>Happy Birthday Me & The Witches of Prestwick</i>
Fri. 11th & Sat. 12th January. 7:30pm	<i>Snowed Under</i> A Comedy
Sun. 13th January 2:00pm	Youth Theatre
Mon. 14th January 7:30pm	Read-through for <i>Return to the Forbidden Planet</i>
Wed. 16th January 7:30pm	Auditions for <i>Return to the Forbidden Planet</i>
Thur. 17th January 7:30pm	Committee Meeting
Mon. 21st January 7:30pm	Auditions for <i>The Witches of Prestwick</i>
Tues. 22nd January 7:30pm	Auditions for <i>Happy Birthday Me</i>
Sat. 26th January 5:30pm	Saturday Playhouse A chance to read some plays, have a snack and do some performing. No experience necessary

Youth Theatre

Several members came to the open meeting earlier this month to discuss the youth theatre. The Youth Theatre will start at 2pm on Sunday 13th January. The aim is to put on a youth production later in the year with the fortnightly sessions working on various aspects of theatre which will aim towards the production. How the sessions are planned and the production will depend on what numbers and ages come along.

Ellen Lamplough, Tracy Howard and Alex Quilter have volunteered to initially co-ordinate the sessions, but we need as many people as possible to offer their help so it spreads the workload, so please feel free to come along and offer ideas and help.

Stage Whisper Caption Competition

Thanks for the all the competition entries.
Winner was Ellen Lamplough



NODA Review of SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS

Much thought had gone into this production but unfortunately the Limelight version of this much loved story was not one of the best of scripts, particularly as the all important dwarfs - which the children really come to see - don't appear until almost half an hour has elapsed. The opening scene was, however, memorable with a line up of singing maids of all ages dressed totally in white, followed by Wayne Child - the outrageously frocked dame, Senna Pod - who treated the delighted audience to a session of witty ad-libs. Unfortunately, this was his only real appearance, which was a pity, as he has a natural rapport with an audience and I, for one, felt slightly cheated! (Can't scripts be 'manouvered' to accommodate such popular characters?)

The costumes throughout, created by Daphne Brown and Eileen Ellis, were most appropriate and colour co-ordinated, with the dwarfs in matching striped shorts, the evil Queen Drucilla in a flamboyant, light burgundy ensemble and Prince Valentine in a regal, highly becoming, principal boy's outfit. Another colourful addition, was the pair of magnificent stained glass windows forming part of the back drop to the interior of the palace. They looked authentic but of course, they must have been crafted in a light weight material to meld in with the rest of the set.

As is so often the case with pantomime, it is the teeny tinies who make the show such fun. In this case, there was one two year old (?) in a delightful rabbit costume who took it all very seriously, noting what the others were doing and making sure he did the same. He was a sheer joy to watch and I'm sorry I can't quote his name.

Amongst the main cast, Amy Joyce as Prince Valentine had a strong singing voice and proved a suitable choice for the hand of Snow White, played by Victoria Pitt. Joan Savill, Push Up, must surely have been a figment of the Director Daphne Brown's imagination. An amusing 21st century jogger, she appeared at intervals throughout, as 'the lovely assistant' in between fleeting glimpses of the Dame!

Yet another actor who stood out was the dwarf Dozy, played convincingly by a youthful Elsie Collings. This young lady kept in character all the time she was on stage and reacted well to the others around her, something all too many forget to do. Hopefully, she will be appearing in future productions as there are not many talented under eleven year olds around.

The star of the show was undoubtedly Becky Giakoumelos , Queen Drucilla, A strong, evil performance that dominated the stage whenever she appeared. How her rather meek, slightly spineless husband, Davis Stradling as King Desmond - who couldn't even stick up for his own daughter - came to marry her, is a mystery. It must have been her striking good looks (or maybe wealth?) that seduced him.

The six piece band, under the guidance of Alex Quilter who was also at the main keyboard, never dominated and was. a pleasure to listen to. The programme was most informative and the whole production, including interval, was only two hours - just the right length for a pantomime. So, an enjoyable time was had by all.

IMPORTANT

Stage Whisper

CAODS' newsletter has reached over 300 issues. It is an important way of communicating amongst the members and anyone can contribute, the more, the better, just send to stagewhisper@caods.org.uk. Until now it has been produced in hard copy format and posted. As we are all aware the cost of photocopying and postage does not get any cheaper. Bearing this in mind, the committee have decided that from January, Stage Whisper will be sent by email to everyone unless they do not have an email address.

This will give us the following advantages:

No postal charges.

No photocopying costs.

Guaranteed quality of printing.

Will use colour. Unlimited pages.

Posters sent electronically which members can print off to display.

Quicker to send out, once created it can be sent out.

What you need to do:

If you haven't received this copy by email and to ensure we have an up to date email address, please email your name and email address to membership@caods.org.uk asap.

We expect it will take a few months for the process to bed down so please have patience and get in touch if there are any problems.

John
president@caods.org.uk
01983 760955

RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET

Read-through: Monday 14th January at 7:30pm

Auditions: Wednesday 16th January at 7:30pm

Performances: Thursday 18th to Sat. 20th April at 7:30pm

Friday 26th to Sat. 27th April at 7:30pm

Sunday 28th April at 5pm

About the show:

"Return to the Forbidden Planet" - a parody of Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST and a 1950's sci-fi "B" movie By Bob Carlton. Join Captain Tempest and his fearless crew on their journey into hyperspace... and beyond! This winner of the 1990 Olivier Award for Best Musical bursts with red hot rock and roll hits, including Great Balls of Fire, Good Vibrations, Teenager in Love, The Young Ones and The Monster Mash. So fasten your seat belts, set your ray guns to stun and get ready for a cosmic adventure of meteoric proportions! Bob Carlton's smash hit West End musical takes the 1956 film, with plot taken from Shakespeare's The Tempest, raids the Bard's other plays at will (and not always absolutely verbatim) and sets it to a score of great pop hits from the 1960s and 70s.

The Story:

On a stormy night way back in the winter of 2009, mad scientist Doctor Prospero worked late in his laboratory, aided only by his wife, Gloria, as he developed the elusive formula with which he would change the world. The apparently faithful Gloria, however, duped him and sent him off into hyper-space in an old spacecraft. Unknown to Gloria, her infant daughter, Miranda, slumbered peacefully in the craft and was now catapulted light years into the future in her father's company. Fifteen years later, a routine survey flight under the command of the chisel-jawed Captain Tempest leaves earth's orbit with a new Science Officer aboard - a hard and bitter woman. As a shower of meteorites hits the ship, the Science Officer flees, and the craft is pulled inexorably towards the planet D'Illyria - the Forbidden Planet. The adventure begins

Principal Characters

- (M) Captain Tempest - a Star ship Captain, square-jawed, Boys' Own Paper hero and pipe smoker
- (M) Dr. Prospero - a mad scientist marooned for 15 years of the planet Illyria
- (M) Ariel - a hip robot
- (M) Cookie - the ship's cook and a hopeless romantic
- (F) Science Officer - a woman with a mysterious past
- (M or F) Bosun Arras - one of the all-round good guys
- (M or F) Navigation Officer - Prone to panic during intergalactic emergencies
- (F) Miranda - Prospero's daughter, would be school queen and virgin
- (M or F) Ensign Jock E. Schwartz - Friend to Cookie
- (M or F) Newsreader - (on a video screen)

Musical Numbers:

1. Wipe-out - Instrumental
2. Great Balls of Fire (*Tempest, Cookie, Crew*)
3. Good Vibrations (*Tempest, Ariel, Crew*)
4. I Ain't Gonna Wash for a Week (*Cookie*)
5. I'm Gonna Change the World (*Captain Tempest, Prospero*)
6. Why Must I Be A Teenager In Love? (*Miranda*)
7. Young Girl (*Captain Tempest*)
8. She's Not There (*Cookie*)
9. All Shook Up (*Prospero, Miranda, Cookie*)
10. Gloria (*Crew*)
11. 5-4-3-2-1 (*Crew*)
12. Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood (reprise) (*Science Officer*)
13. Who's Sorry Now? (*Ariel*)
14. Only the Lonely (*Cookie, Bosun Arras*)
15. She's Not There - Instrumental
16. Tell Her (*Science Officer, Cookie*)
17. War Paint (*Ariel, Captain Tempest*)
18. Robot Man (*Ariel*)
19. Shake, Rattle and Roll (*Ariel, Cookie, Crew*)
20. Go Now (*Science Officer*)
21. The Young Ones (*Captain Tempest, Miranda*)
22. We've Gotta Get Out Of This Place (*Ariel*)
23. Wipeout / Telstar (*Crew*)
24. Hey, Mr Spaceman (*Miranda, Company*)
25. Monster Mash (*Prospero, Company*)

Saturday Playhouse

A Script, Snack and Stage Evening

Saturday 26th January at 5:30pm

Come along and have some fun rehearsing, performing and watching some short plays and sketches, mixed in with a bite to eat. The evening will start with everyone being divided into groups and a play script given to each group. The groups will then work together to cast, direct? and rehearse the piece. The plays and sketches will only be about twenty minutes long.

After the rehearsal session we will have a bite to eat and then the performance of the plays will begin and don't worry you will be allowed to have the scripts with you so no instant line learning is required. The performances will take place on a stage in the clubroom. The object of the evening is to see some new plays and have some acting fun!

Everyone is welcome of any age and you don't have to have any experience whatsoever, this is not an acting master class! If you have a script that you would like to use then let me know or if a group of you would like to prepare a piece before hand that is fine. The roles of the sketches will be varied and you will have to be prepared to take anything on. There is likely to be a small charge to cover scripts and food.

It would be ideal if you could let me know if you intend to come along so I can have an idea of numbers to get scripts and food organised. You can let me know by signing on the sheet in the clubroom, email at president@caods.org.uk or call on 760955 or 07807166574. Likewise contact me if you have any questions about the evening.

Looking Forward to seeing you there

Lady Windermere's Fan

October 2009



An Evening of Two One Act Plays

We will be putting two one-act plays on 16th, 17th, 18th and 23rd, 24th, 25th May. These are *Happy Birthday Me*, directed by Glenys Williams and *The Witches of Prestwick*, directed by Helen and John Plumbly.

Further details of the plays are on these two pages, read-through for both plays is on Tuesday January 8th at 7:30pm.

If you want further info, contact the relevant people or if you wish to be involved on the stage managing or lighting sound side contact Dinah or John.

“The Witches of Prestwick”

A one act comedy by Joe Graham

Read through Tuesday January 8th at 7.30pm
Audition Monday 21st January at 7.30pm

Characters

Bev - 30's to 60's

Jan - 30's to 60's

Lou - 20's to 30's

Devil Man - A vacuum cleaner salesman.

Ages are variable.

This is a very funny story about three amdram actors rehearsing at home for their big witches scene in the Scottish play. They are diverted into thinking about real spells. Couple this with their poor experiences of men, can you guess what they would like to conjure up?

A mixture of Macbeth and Witches of Eastwick which ends in a great climax. An entertaining bit of fun!

For further info contact John or Helen on
760955

07807165574

president@caods.org.uk

Happy Birthday Me

A one act comedy Simon Williams

Read through Tuesday January 8th at 7.30pm
Audition Tuesday 22nd January at 7.30pm

Characters

Margot - A retired actress 70 yrs. Dramatic, classically dressed, well enunciated, swears a bit.

Freda - A retired actress 60s. Slightly vague and waffly. Likes to listen to iPod, Pink Floyd being a favourite.

Angela Kidd - The manager of the Home. 35-55. Pleasant. Organised.

Sadie Croft - Actress 20-30. Dressed casually. Meaningful.

Lady Judy Buchanan - 2nd wife of Sir Leo. 45-55 Glamorous. Attractive. Bit pinched. The jealous type.

Sir Leo Buchanan - ex-husband of Margot. 71 yrs. Actor. Still attractive, slim, suave and very charming, if a bit sleazy. Well spoken. Very thespian

Superman Kissogram - 20-45 East European accent. Noticeable physique

Graham Latimer - Newspaper Reporter VOICE OFF ONLY (these two parts are small and will be played by one person)

Rehearsals will begin week commencing 11th March.

For further information please contact

GLENYS WILLIAMS or

gglenys@hotmail.com

01983 567120 or 07707 555 774

DINAH BOWMAN

twiga123@btinternet.com

0787 602 1194

Box Office Co-ordinator & Volunteers Required

As many of you know we sell tickets for shows via the telephone. This involves being at home, access to a phone and internet. The system we use is Ticketsource and is reasonably straightforward and foolproof.

It would be great if we had some more volunteers to take their turn and spread the duties. Full training will be given.

We also need someone to co-ordinate the rota for the box-office when we are selling tickets. The ticket selling period for a show is usually 11am to 2pm daily, except Sundays for 2 to 3 weeks.

If you are interested in doing box office duties, doing the co-ordinator's role or would like further information, please contact me.

John
760955
07807165574
president@caods.org.uk

Light Relief



Q: How many actors does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Ten - one to hold the bulb and nine to say "it should be me up there"

An actor without technicians is a naked person, standing on a bare stage, in the dark, trying to emote. A technician without actors is a person with saleable skills.

If "All the world's a stage, and all the people merely players"... who the **** has my script?

Membership Drive Meeting

As advertised in last month's SW there was an open meeting recently about ideas to encourage membership. Six members attended and there was good discussion on ideas to promote membership. The aim is to meet again in January with a view to putting some ideas into action.

Listed below are some ideas which may or may not be happen.

- Pay multiple years membership for a reduced fee.
- Pro-rata membership for people joining part way through the year.
- E.g.: for 8 months, you pay 8/12ths of annual fee.
-
- Welcome pack for new members.
- Open day with demos, tours, tea and cakes.
- Mail shots.
- Email to lapsed members and send Stage Whisper.
- Put Stage Whisper on Advertising Boards when there is room.
- Encourage Social Members
 - Have a social evening. Bar open on Wednesday 8 -10?
 - Once a month make it a new members evening to meet people and tour the theatre.

If you have any ideas or would like to get involved then please look out for the meeting date in January and help boost the membership.

Q: How do you drown an actress?

A: Put a mirror at the bottom of the pool.

Q: *How many playwrights does it take to change a light bulb?*

A: *Change? Why does it have to change? No changes, it's perfect just the way it is.*



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balances:



Current Account	£9,125.82 credit
Deposit Account	£28,817.18 credit

We did incredibly well with the Christmas Fayre - we made more than we have ever done before - an amazing £722.02 compared to last year which was £634.02. Below is a list of the various stalls and what they took:

Cakes	154.15	Refreshments	111.50
Books	27.76	Jar of Coppers	4.74
BncaBrac	108.65	Tombola	108.25
Handicrafts	71.72	Raffle	69.00
Cards	15.00	Jewellery	28.75
Squirrels	5.00	Donation	20.00

Well done everyone who helped, donated and supported this event which did so well in spite of there being another Christmas Fayre on the same morning.

The final profit for "Deadly Nightcap" was £1,388.45 and the profit to date for "Snow White" is £2,772.59 - so that really has swelled the coffers to say nothing of "Honest Mike's Race Night" which gave us a profit of £86.50 + the raffle of £31.00.

The bar too has done very well on all the Social Nights and the two productions - hence in spite of transferring £10,000.00 to the Deposit Account, we still have £9,125.82 in the Current Account. A lot of work has gone into all these events and I do sincerely thank everyone who has pulled together to make it all such a success.

Jane Maclean - Hon. Treasurer

Stage Whisper - January Edition

All members are welcome to contribute to Stage Whisper. Please send entries for the next edition to stagewhisper@caods.org.uk. with attachments if necessary by **Monday 14th January**.