



OTTERY COMMUNITY THEATRE

NEWSLETTER

Feb 2007

Foreword

Apologies if you didn't receive the December Newsletter – production is improving, but distribution was limited mainly to panto cast and crew as we were still getting a membership list together. We are hoping to do better this time! If you haven't paid this year's subs, you need to do so soon. Tilley Vanstone is in charge of subs: if you are at King's you can catch her there, or at one of our social events. Otherwise, send your subs to the chairman at the address below.

Diary

February

2nd 7.30 p.m. Play reading for *Foresight*.
9th 7.30 p.m. Play Reading: *Hobson's Choice*

March

16th 7.30 p.m. Play Reading: *Blithe Spirit* at 80

April

27th 7.30 p.m. *Poems and Pints*, (Back by popular request!)

If you are interested in joining us in any of the above then please e-mail info@otterycommunitytheatre.co.uk for further information.

Goosey Goosey Gangster

Having offered to do the Newsletter this month, I realise that I am not best placed to comment on the panto; I will attempt to get a guest writer in to complete this. However, I would like to say how much I enjoyed the whole thing (I only said "Never again!" once or twice.) Thanks to all concerned for working so hard and making it such fun; special thanks to Simon Harlond for writing it in the first place and to Paul Stock for all his hard work on the music which did so much to help bring it to life.

Photos are now available to view online:

Tom Owen's can be found at <http://www.photoboxgallery.com/photosforyou> and can be ordered direct from the site.

Jon Ryan's are on the Sidmouth Herald website at

<http://www.sidmouthherald.co.uk/sidmouthherald/flatfiles/features/2007/panto/panto.a.spx>

There no longer seems to be a link from the main Herald site, but the page is still there so I hope we'll still be able to order copies for a week or two. The very nice review by Jonathan Millar is also there.

Social Events

If you are missing the excitement of performance; or would like to do a little performing without the commitment of rehearsals; or just fancy an enjoyable night out among friends: come along to one of our play readings on February 9th or March

16th. Everybody gets to have a go if they want to, but you can just come and listen if you like.

Future Productions

The committee has agreed to enter both the Sidmouth Festive Nights and the Exmouth One-Act Play Festival this year. Laurie Palmer has agreed to direct Simon's play Pulcino's Last Huzzah for these competitions, and then we will add two more plays to present another evening of One-Act Plays in the summer. There are some possible scripts already; but perhaps you have a script you'd like us to consider? If so, pass a copy to any committee member. Similarly, we need to start planning now if we are to follow recent successes with another panto next January. If you'd like to write one, could you let us have a synopsis and a couple of scenes, please so that we can make a decision as soon as possible? Laurie intends to cast Pulcino from among the existing membership and will contact people directly in the near future so that rehearsals can start very soon; we expect to cast the other two in the usual way at a play reading session.

Foresight

This is the title of Payhembury's Community Play. As mentioned in the diary there will be a reading of the play on Feb 2nd at 7.30 at the King's School Drama Studio. It will be an excellent experience for anyone from Ottery Community Theatre who wants to take part, and can get through the auditions. The performances are timetabled for October with a short but intense rehearsal period beforehand. Further information can be obtained from John Somers: 01884 277390 or j.w.somers@ex.ac.uk

Website

Yes, we now have a website. Tom Owen has spent a lot of time setting it up – please take a look: <http://www.otterycommunitytheatre.co.uk/> We hope to add to it in the coming months; for instance, we should be able to put together a gallery for previous productions. There is a diary page as well as a link to newsletters, so this should help a lot of people keep in touch; you can also see some of the rehearsal photos from *Goosey Goosey Gangster*.

New Rope String Band

Several of us are hoping to go and see them at Broadclyst on Friday 2nd March. If you ever saw the Old Rope String Band you'll know why! If you don't know them – how can I describe them? Brilliant musicians (in a folky/bluegrass-y/blues-y/world music sort of way.) Very, very funny – not just the songs and the patter, but incredibly funny visual comedy too. If you still have the Winter Blues even after the Panto – this is for you! If you'd like to join us, contact Norma by Friday 9th Feb. I'll be at the play reading that evening, or you can e-mail info@otterycommunitytheatre.co.uk (Try <http://www.newropestringband.co.uk/> for further information.)

Committee

The next meeting will be on Thursday March 1st at 7.30 at the Palmers' house. Committee members please note! If you have anything you would like the committee to discuss, please pass it on to the Chairman, Laurie chair@otterycommunitytheatre.co.uk

Acting Editor: Norma Palmer