



OTTERY COMMUNITY THEATRE

NEWSLETTER

November 2010

Diary 2010 - 2011

- Nov 26th Late Night Shopping procession 5.45 p.m. Ottery
Nov 29th Committee meeting at Kirsty Lane's House 7.30 p.m.
Dec 2nd 2011 production launch Lamb and Flag (upstairs) 7.30 p.m.
Jan 19th – 22nd Pantomime The Institute
Feb 11th OCT meal location to be announced

The Pantomime

Space Ottery- May the Horse be With You, is underway. Ali has assembled a strong and energetic cast. Rehearsals have started in the King's School Drama studio. Ben has tracked down all the songs and has a band to rival the Royal Philharmonia, if not in size, then certainly in musicality. There is a clear and comprehensive rehearsal schedule for both actors and singers (and both) which Ali has e-mailed to all involved. If you are in the cast please make sure you look carefully at your schedule as time is very short and we need to deliver a top quality panto in record time. Similarly, please get measurement slips back to Norma asap (if you missed the first rehearsal, please email Norma for a copy.) Ali assures all that this can be done but not without your unwavering support and attendance. Let's make this the best Panto ever!

Late Night Shopping

We are once more going to take part in the procession which precedes switching on of the Christmas lights on Late Night Shopping night. We have permission to hand out more flyers, so this is a valuable chance to boost publicity as well as just taking part in Ottery life. We need more bodies, as not all those who took part in the Carnival are available in the early evening. If you want to take part, please email or phone Norma asap (before Thursday 25th.) Kirsty Lane has kindly agreed to organise the group on the night, as I will be away. The theme is the same – Countdown to Panto – so any panto-themed costume will do, but obviously I have lots I can lend out if you need to borrow something.

AGM 2010

The AGM was attended by a good number of members and was both businesslike and successful. Simon took the chair for the meeting and with good humoured efficiency kept everyone on task. Unfortunately, having completed his 3 year tour of duty, Simon had to relinquish the post of chair but took the time to thank everyone for their hard work over the year. In the ensuing election Laurie Palmer was elected to take over as chair for this year. This left a vacancy for treasurer which has been filled by Peter Ritchie who has already shown his skill in this area. Alex Davies (vice chair) also reached the end of his tour of duty and was replaced in the post by Lorna Brice-Nye. Cathy Lane and Norma Palmer provide that vital stability and have kindly agreed to carry on. The committee also has a large and enthusiastic group of ordinary members. After the formal meeting a reading of the Pantomime, *Space*

Ottery- May the Horse be With You, gave everyone the chance to become acquainted with Steve Chapman's highly original script.

Carnival

About 8 hardy souls met on the Finnimore trading estate to form our award winning Carnival entry. There were two early hiccups. The first was that our entry card was picked up by a rival group; without this we could not be judged. Fear and foreboding ruled for a brief period, The second hiccup saw Lorna being directed to a slightly different place from everyone else which with the elements doing its best to soak and then freeze all involved was not well received. Eventually we were united (Lorna, it should be said, was in the correct place) and we were able to become acquainted with the sound system provided by Pete Privett on the pick up provided by Luxtons. To keep the cold at bay a simple but energetic dance sequence was devised. The whole offering was well received by the judges, for despite being in a very competitive section we were awarded 3rd prize. Then as the very impressive procession passed through Ottery we collected about £30 to help ensure the future of this wonderful event. Well done to all involved, and special thanks to Clare and the Luxton family, Pete and Kirsty's boss (for loan of the generator!)

The Spirit of Ottery

This is the working title of our big 2011 production. At the recent committee meeting, tasks involved with this production were taken on and some dates pencilled in. Please put these dates in your diary: we want 100% support from members for this major undertaking. December 2nd 2010 has been set aside for the launch to OCT members. The committee has discussed the format which involves 5 or 6 scenarios that will be performed at different locations around Ottery as near as possible to the true location of the event. We have called the event *The Spirit of Ottery* because we felt that the overall effect would be to celebrate that essential spirit that Ottery possesses. Please come along hear our ideas and add ideas of your own so we can make this a real success.

The OCT meal

This has become a valued annual tradition where OCT members can meet and mull over the Pantomime, discuss the future and generally spend a pleasant evening in good company. It is open to all members (though under-14s will need to be with a responsible adult) so do please put the date February 11th in your diaries. The location and thus the costs have not yet been finalised so watch this space for further information.

Website

Tom has been working hard to update the website at www.otterycommunitytheatre.co.uk so please go and have a look; you can also keep up to date by joining the Facebook group: "ottery community theatre."

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