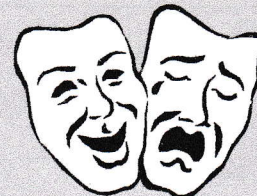




NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2002

First of all, apologies for the lateness of this Newsletter, which normally appears in August, but as you will appreciate most of the Committee have been rather busy recently and it was not been possible to even begin to arrange next year's programme until late August. However, as you will see the time has been well spent.



Annual General Meeting

The AGM passed uncontroversially. After the minutes of the previous year's meeting were read and accepted, the Chairman reported on a highly successful year and thanked all those involved, particularly the Directors, Production Managers and club evening organisers. The Treasurer reported that after taking all the year's income and expenditure into account we had made an overall profit on the year of £401.

Elections for Officers and Committee then took place. Janet Vincent and Mark Lambert were re-elected unopposed as Treasurer and Membership Secretary respectively, but at the time there were no candidates for the office of Secretary. The meeting empowered the Committee to co-opt a Secretary when a candidate could be found, and I am pleased to say that Pauline Tillett has since very kindly volunteered to take on this job.

Three Committee members were elected and we welcome Joy Parkinson, who has joined us for the first time, Jakki Gregory, who has previously served as both a Committee Member and Chairman, and Kathy Messinger, who was elected for one year at

Forthcoming productions

2003

SPRING

Alice

Based on the works of Lewis Carroll
Directed by Margaret Field
(Production week: 5th-13th April)

SUMMER

Macbeth

By William Shakespeare
Directed by Jason Hepple

AUTUMN

The Anastasia File

By Royce Ryton
Directed by Margaret Dixon

Officers and Committee

2002-2003

President

Tony Field

Chairman

Jason Hepple

Secretary

Pauline Tillett

Treasurer

Janet Vincent

Membership Secretary

Mark Lambert

Committee Members

Tony Birks-Hay, Margaret Dixon,

Jakki Gregory, Jill Hudson

Kathy Messinger, Joy Parkinson

Prompt Corner

All events at 7.30 pm in the Clubroom unless otherwise indicated

Friday September 27th

Chairman's Opening Night

Monday 14th October

An Unrehearsed Play Reading from Alice

Arranged by Margaret Field

Thursday 24th October

Face The Music

Hosted by Jason Hepple

Tuesday 5th November

Fish and Chip Quiz Evening

Arranged by David and Sylvia Smith

Saturday 24th Nov - Sun 1st December

Production week

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest

Directed by Tony Birks-Hay

At The Digby Hall, Hound St

Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th December

Auditions

Alice

Directed by Margaret Field

the 2001 AGM and joins us again for another year.

There followed a discussion on the resolution "APS should continue to support cultural exchange". There was actually very little argument, but some members asked for reassurance that the committee will look carefully at any expenditure on such projects and will ensure that our own financial needs (such as making repairs to the wardrobe space) take priority. The resolution was then put to the meeting and passed, *nem. con.*

During the discussion on club evenings a number of points were raised, and the Committee has endeavoured to take these into account for the coming season.

Rose Bowl Nominations

I am pleased to report that two members of the cast of *Ring Round The Moon* have received nominations. Janet Vincent (Capulet) and Anthea Watson (Isabelle's Mother) have both been nominated for the award for Best Supporting Performance.

The Award Ceremony this year will take place on Sunday 13th October at 7.30 pm at a new venue, The Winter Gardens, Weston-Super-Mare. Tickets are £13.50 (limited to 350 in total) and priority booking for societies with nominees ends on Sunday 15th Sept. The seating this year will be at numbered tables. The information sheet I have received states that there is "ample parking" nearby, although this looks as though it will cost 0.70p or £1.80 per hour, depending on where you park.

As usual, The Players will pay for up to ten tickets. Nominees and the Director may claim up to two of these tickets each and the remainder will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis for the use of paid-up members only (sorry, but other guests must be paid for). Anyone who wants to go after the ten tickets have been allocated will, I'm afraid have to pay for their own ticket. If you are interested in going please contact me as soon as possible.

ML

Subscriptions

As always membership subscriptions (£10; students £2) are **due on or before the Chairman's Opening Night**. If you cannot attend, please send your subs ASAP to either The Memb. Sec. (Ridge Farm, King's Stag, Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 2AU) or The Treasurer (Gable House, Greenhill, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4EW). Please make cheques payable to APS.

One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest

Chief Bromden	Peter Harrison
Aide Warren	to be cast
Aide Williams	Adam Birks-Hay
Nurse Ratched	Wendy Simmonds
Nurse Flinn	Jennie Ward
Dale Harding	Stuart McCreadie
Billy Bibbit	Colin Hart
Scannon	Tony Manns
Cheswick	to be cast
Martini	to be cast
Ruckly	Malcolm Cockburn
Randle McMurphy	Mark Freestone
Dr Spivey	Mark Lambert
AideTurkle	Colin Mayes
Candy	Kathryn Dalziel
Sandra	Suzanne Ford

directed by

Tony Birks-Hay

Stage Manager: Pauline Tillett

A full copy of the AGM minutes will be distributed with the June 3003 Newsletter.

Twelfth Night

Wow! Didn't we do well! Some 580 tickets were sold, and when complimentary tickets are taken into account probably over 600 people attended the production. We made a profit of around £1400 and Diana Duff was delighted to receive £790 for Castleton Church.

The reasons for this success are clear. To start with the choice of play was a good one because, as Jason wrote in the programme, "Twelfth Night is one of Shakespeare's best-loved plays". Add to this some unprecedentedly good preshow publicity in the press, an easily reached venue, a lovely setting, amazingly fine weather, the well-advertised presence of the marquee, a superbly-directed production (word got round) and some local promotion by Diana Duff herself and the result was, perhaps, a forgone conclusion. I had a feeling that this might be the case at an early stage,

Wanted: Old Suitcases

The wardrobe needs more containers for storage. If you have any old hard-bodied trunks or suitcases that you no longer want (most people now travel with more modern, lighter versions), please contact Pauline Tillett on 01935 389618 or pauline.tillett@southsomerset.gov.uk.

Life Membership

I am delighted to report that **Eve Snell** and **Jean Harrap** have accepted Life Membership. Space does not allow me to do them justice here, but I hope to say more about these two long-standing and hardworking members in the next Newsletter.

as demand for tickets seemed higher than usual and the fine weather clinched it—if you ignore the five-minute drizzle on the Tuesday, we chose the only completely dry week in August! All those who came clearly enjoy themselves immensely and I have heard only highly complimentary comments.

All this was due to the combined efforts of a truly magnificent cast and production team. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard and made the production such a happy one. Outstanding!

The New Season

For the coming season the Committee has planned the usual eclectic mix of evenings but with a higher than usual proportion of play readings; this time we have included readings of forthcoming productions. As always we hope you will come to as many of these evenings as you can; they are sometimes instructive and always entertaining.

As always the season will begin with the **Chairman's Opening Night**, which will take place on **Friday 27th September**. Please bring a small contribution of food. Wine, beer and soft drinks will be provided at the usual modest prices in the clubroom.

Among the play readings planned for this season we have included opportunities for everyone to take part in readings of two forthcoming productions. These are intended to give members an opportunity to discover more about the plays and the characters involved. These occasions are *not* auditions, but they may help you decide whether or not you want to audition later on and what parts you might audition for.

The first of these will be on **Monday 14th October**, which will be an **unrehearsed play reading of Alice**, the auditions for which will take place on 3rd and 4th December. Margaret Field will direct, and the production provisionally bears the simple title of *Alice* because at present Margaret will probably include elements from both of Lewis Carroll's books and does not envisage basing her production entirely on any one existing adaptation. The title may well change in due course and it is possible that it may even be produced in the round.

Incidentally, The Sherborne Gardening Society are holding their Jubilee evening in the Digby Hall on October 10th. The Players have been asked to provide some sort of caba-

Lost Property

A number of items of unknown ownership were left on site after *Twelfth Night* and are now in the Clubroom, together with a few other things that as yet have not been claimed. If any of these belong to you, please claim them as soon as possible. Unclaimed items will be either put into our own store of props, given to charity or otherwise put to good use.

- A full-sized umbrella; blue/black/grey panels; wooden handle.
- A small, folding umbrella; blue/brown/ochre floral pattern; black handle.
- A pair of black tights
- A wire headband
- 2 blue-headed hat pins on a card
- A box of self-adhesive address labels
- A metal tray (blue and yellow)
- A fibreglass tray (decorated with fruit and pewter)
- A blue plastic goblet
- 2 plastic wine glasses; clear with green rings near rim.
- A plastic mug; decorated with cartoon figures and the words 'SOUTH PARK'
- A copy of Macmillan Master Guide; Twelfth Night by R.P.Draper
- A video of 'Dad's Army; The Lost Episodes'. A home recording marked 'PAUL' on the label.
- Two small (2½" high) plated silver candle sticks (used as props in *Hotel Paradiso*).

ret and Margaret Dixon is currently organising a suitable half-hour entertainment.

Autumn production

One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest has now largely been cast (see panel above). The Director is still considering the casting of patients Martini and Cheswick, but is looking for a young, medium height, tough actor to play the part of aide Warren - anyone interested or who can suggest an appropriate actor please contact Tony Birks-Hay on 01935 850511. There is a read-through for the cast on Monday 16th September (anyone else can attend, of course, if they want to) and an intensive rehearsal period will begin about a fortnight later.

Well, that's it for the moment. We hope to see you at the Chairman's Opening Night, but even if you cannot make it, please try and remember to pay your sub promptly; it really does make life easier for us.

ML