

TOWER NEWS

Vol. 5, No. 7

FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

July 2013

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When is an Opera not an Opera? When it's the Beggar's Opera!

This Masterpiece of a show is coming to Tower Theatre and is being presented by local drama group FHODS.

Director and choreographer Maxine Burrows says, "I love this show. It is a stunning piece of musical theatre. I am extremely lucky as I have a fabulous cast who are giving the show their all. It is boisterous, rollicking adventure featuring highway men and whores, love and lust. I know our local audience will love this show". Musical Director Richard Baulch says, "Based on traditional folk tunes John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera*, is a very approachable piece. We have a 'jazz combo' style band playing for the show, all top notch local musicians, and with the fine Fhods voices our audiences will have a great evening". Richard not only will be on stage as the musical director but also is the Beggar from the title of the show. Having finished her degree in design last year, local girl Melanie Penn is helping the show by designing the set and the properties. She is grateful to FHODS for giving her, her first opportunity to work on a full sized set and is looking forward to seeing the audience's reaction to her work. A theatre spokesman says, "Our last Fhods show was *Calendar Girls*, which was a huge success and we are sure that *The Beggar's Opera* will be just as successful".

The Beggar's Opera runs from Tuesday 9th to Saturday 13th July 2013 at 7.30pm nightly. Tickets are now on sale at £12.00 & £10.00 for FHODS Members, with Group ticket prices available.

For more details contact the box office on **01303 223925** or on line at www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk



DEAD GUILTY

Cast and all set for September

When John Hadrell dies of a heart attack at the wheel of his car, the woman by his side is not his wife, Margaret but his lover Julia. Thus sets the scene of this nail biting psychological thriller which will keep the audience guessing right to the end as to what will be the outcome. This gripping play was written by Richard Harris (*Stepping Out*, *Outside Edge*, *The Maintenance Man*) and presented in London in

1995 with Jenny Seagrove and Hayley Mills in the main roles.

It is quite a while since FHODS have presented a thriller and although there is no blood or gore the audience will be thoroughly entertained by a great cast namely, Hannah Grover, Maggie Denham, Sheelagh Blackham, and Paul Birch.

Miss it if you dare! Tickets on sale now.

FHODS AGM

The FHODS AGM was held on the 19th June 2103 at the Tower Theatre. The following people were elected to serve as officers of the Society.

Vice President	Audrey Baulch
Chairman	Grahame Wickenden
Vice Chairman	Michael Pearce
Hon Secretary	Val Knight
Treasurer	Tony Cock
Other Members	Katy Mortimer Thomas Heselden

It was agreed the annual subscription rates should be raised by £5.00 each category with the exception of the Youth Section, whose rate will remain the same. This increase will be effective from the 1st October 2013 for all new members as from 1st July 2014 for existing members.

The annual accounts for 2012 were received and the Independent Examiners Stone's accountancy were reappointed for the year 2013.

The President Shield was presented to Julian Colbran on the occasion of his stepping down as membership secretary and for all his work for the Society. Sarah Smith was presented to the Society as the new Membership Secretary. The John Tilling Memorial Trophy was presented to Phil Hill. Many will know him as the new 'lighting man'. The Tower Trophy was presented jointly to Joanna Pearce and Alison Wright for all their recent work in improving the FOH staffing of Tower events. Alison took the opportunity to remind the Society that more volunteers were required for this worthwhile task.

CHAPERONES WANTED!

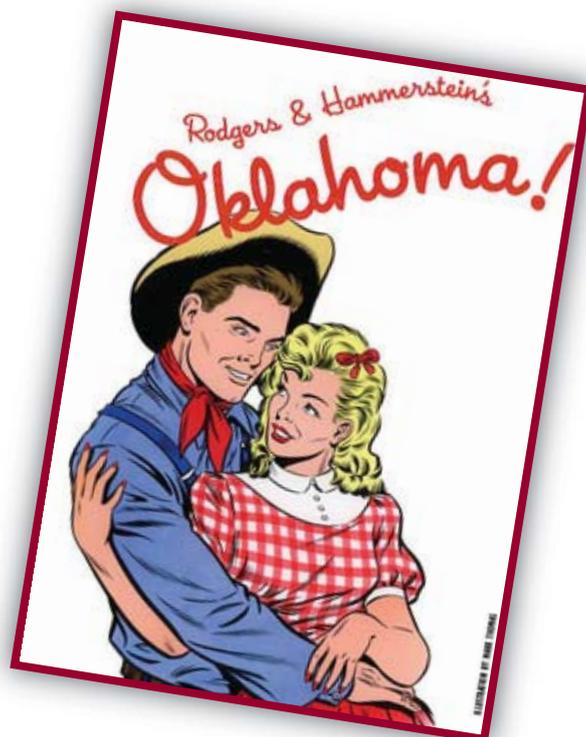
Now that the Youth Section has lowered the joining age to 12, more chaperones will be needed for approximately 3 productions a year (1 chaperone per each 12 children required). Kent County Council have kindly offered to hold a chaperone training session at the Tower Theatre, instead of members having to attend a session in Ashford. The children cannot perform unless they are chaperoned, therefore if any member would like to join the current chaperoning team.

Please contact Anne Mortimer on 01303 873811 or amm1@btinternet.com for further details.

Railway Swing Band

will be at the Tower Theatre playing on behalf of the Rafa Wings Appeal on Wednesday 25th September at 7.30pm

FHODS in conjunction with the BEDDOW ACADEMY



This year's exciting summer workshop is **Oklahoma**. This classic musical is a love story, which is told through the magic of music. There are Cowhands, Farmers, Peddlers and more. Great music, fantastic show. Children have to be between **7 and 18yrs at the time of the workshop** to apply. The workshop team is fully qualified and have been conspicuously successful over the last few years.

The venue for the two weeks is The Tower Theatre.

Workshop Dates are:

Monday 29th July – Friday 02nd Aug 9.30 – 4.00

Monday 05th Aug – Friday 09th Aug 9.30 -4.00

Saturday 10th Aug In at 12.30 for a 2.30pm Performance
Back at 5.30 for 6.30pm Performance

For more information and an application form will be available on the FHODS website.

If you require more info call **Claire on 07802 260858** or email us at **claire.beddow33@gmail.com**.

Look out for a welcome return to **Davey Arthur and his Band on Wednesday 18th September at 7.30pm** and to **Bob Drury** who will be telling the **Neil Diamond Story on Friday 27th September at 7.30pm**.



A Christmas Carol, the musical

Charles Dickens' novella

A Christmas Carol must be one of his popular tales and a firm favourite at Christmas time. Its tale of the redemption of miserly Scrooge by the visitations of the ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come, all on

Christmas Eve, bring home to all the joy of the season of goodwill and mellow fruitfulness as much today as it did when first published on the 19th December 1843, 170 years ago.

This version of the story is written by Alan Menken and Lynn Ahrens who are best known as the writers of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. You will find that a Christmas Carol's music and lyrics are just as lovable and approachable as this well known piece. This musical features all the usual characters, Scrooge, Jacob Marley, Bob Cratchit and family including Tiny Tim, the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come, the Fezziwigs, nephew Fred and family and host of minor folk who flit in and out of the story. This production is an excellent choice as an alternative the annual pantomime as it contains comedy, excellent music, a heart warming story mixed with just the right amount of horror. With plenty of parts for all, including a number of juvenile roles, the younger Scrooge, his sister Fan, the Cratchit children and many others. There is some dance and some movement with plenty of good quality singing needed but the main ingredients will be commitment and energy.

For those who do not know this particular version there is an excellent American television production featuring Kelsey Grammer as Scrooge and any number of short selections of other companies' productions available on YouTube.

A Christmas Carol, the musical, will be directed by Peter Heselden and assisted by Musical Director Edward Greenhalgh and Choreography by Claire Beddow. It will run from Monday 2nd to Sunday 8th December at 7.30pm nightly with 2 matinees on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th.

Auditions will be on Sunday 1st September at 10am for Juniors and 2.00pm for Adult roles. Prior to the auditions there will be two meetings on the 21st and 28th August at 7.30pm to discuss the show and hand out audition pieces all taking place in the Tower Theatre. A full audition notice will be included in the next highlights which will be available from the beginning of August.

For anybody who wants any information now can they please contact **Peter on either 07711710952 or pjwh15@msn.com.**

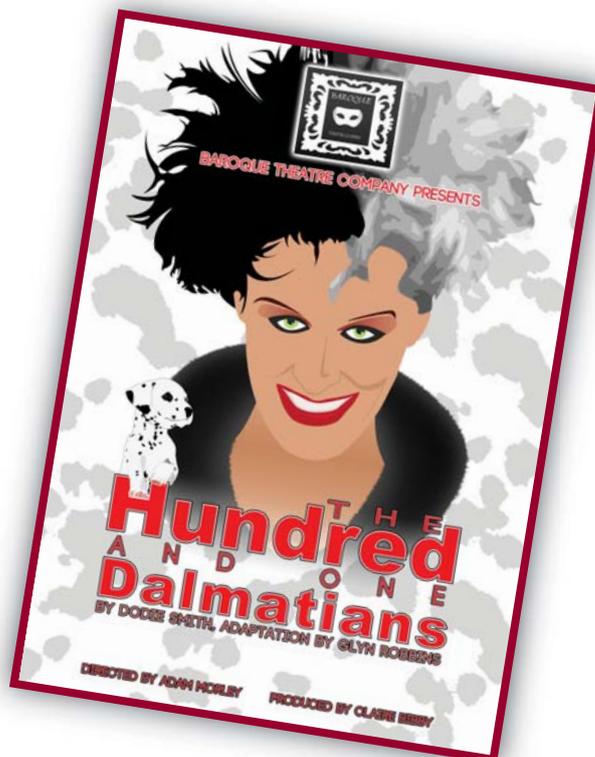
Letter from Pauline Connolly Terry's Night – 17th May 2013

I would like to thank all the Artistes who took part in this special night which was so successful not forgetting all those in the back-ground without whose help it could not have taken place. Lastly a big thank you for the generosity of all who attended and those who made donations. We managed to raise the wonderful sum of £1,385.00 in Terry's memory and ALL Parkinsons sufferers. Thanks again dear friends.

Pauline Connolly.

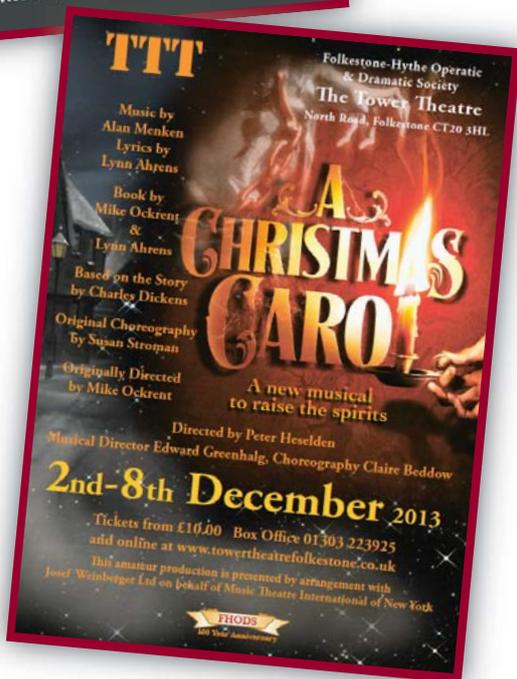
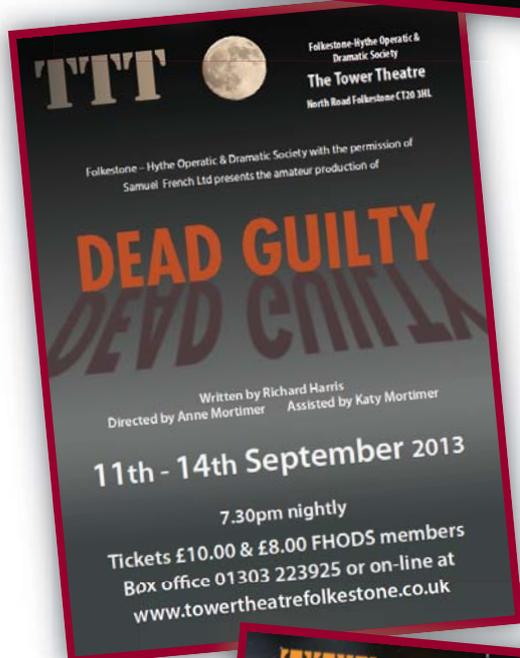
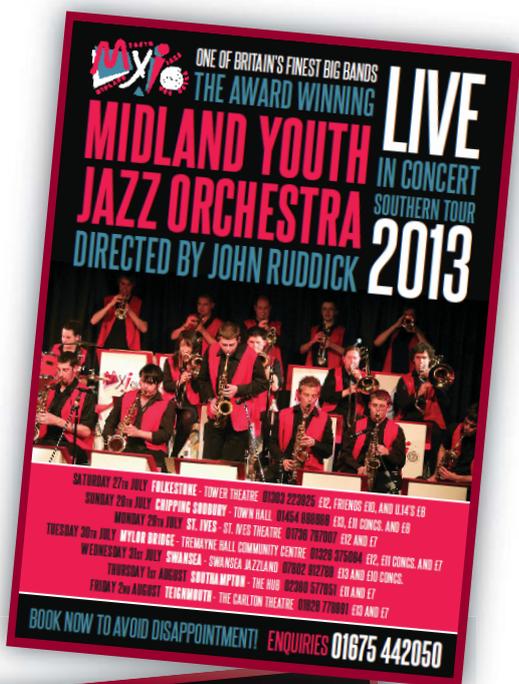
The Hundred and One Dalmatians.

**By Dodie Smith. Adapted by Glyn Robbins.
Presented by Baroque Theatre Company.**



This well-loved children's classic is perfect entertainment for all the family! Pongo, a Dalmatian dog, and his Missis are expecting their first litter. They become jittery when obsessive fur collector Cruella de Vil arrives. When Missis produces fifteen puppies, Cruella is enraptured and has the Badduns kidnap the litter. Distraught, Pongo and Missis enlist support of the Twilight Barking and encounter many exciting adventures before rescuing their own pups — and a great many more! A heartening story, with courage and love triumphing over evil. (Suitable for children 5+)

Date 18th August at 2.30pm
Tickets £10.00 and £7.50 children



2013		Diary Dates
2nd July	7.30pm	FHODS Club Night
9th - 13th July	7.30pm Nightly	Beggars Opera <i>FHODS Production</i>
27th July	7.30pm	Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra <i>The finest Jazz Youth Band in the land</i>
29th July - 9th August	Daily	Summer Workshop - Oklahoma <i>FHODS and Beddow Academy</i>
6th August	7.30pm	FHODS Club Night
10th August	2.30pm & 7.30pm	Oklahoma <i>Youth Workshop Production</i>
18th August	2.30pm	101 Dalmatians <i>Baroque Theatre Co.</i>
21st & 28th August	7.30pm	Christmas Carol <i>Get-togethers</i>
1st Sept	10.00am & 2.00pm	Christmas Carol <i>Auditions</i>
11th - 14th Sept	7.30pm	Dead Guilty <i>FHODS Production</i>
15th Sept	7.00am	FHODS Boot Fair <i>Hythe Green</i>
18th Sept	7.30pm	Davey Arthur and his Band
25th Sept	7.30pm	Railway Swing Band
27th Sept	7.30pm	Neil Diamond Story
4th & 5th Oct	7.30pm	Importance of Being Ernest <i>FHODS Youth Section</i>
2nd - 8th Dec		Christmas Carol the Musical <i>FHODS Production</i>

**Folkestone Jazz Club
concerts at The Tower
every Thursday.**

**For details see
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk**

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