

# TOWER NEWS

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FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

Mar. 2008

## “20th Century-FHODS” ‘100 years of popular song’

This is to be FHODS’ participation in the Hythe Festival, with performances on 4th, 5th, 11th and 12th July. (Gala night on 4th to open the festival)

The show will be in 4 x half hour acts as follows:

1900-1920	directed by Dave Telfer
1920-1950	directed by Maggie Denham
1950-1970	directed by Dave Stone
1970-2000	directed by Kate Mortimer

MD for the 1st and 4th acts will be Richard Baulch, with Stan James as the MD for the 2nd act.

A get-together will be held at the Tower Theatre on Tuesday 8th April at 7.30pm  
Auditions will be on Sunday 20th April at 2.30pm.

Please contact any of the above if you require further information before the get-together. As you can see there is a plenty of scope for singers of all ages, also we shall need some dancers for acts 3&4 e.g. Rock n’ Rollers.

## The Brig

This year’s Brigadier Thomas Memorial competition will be held on the 18th & 19th April at the Tower Theatre. The judges for the competition this year are Dave Stone, Jeanette Lewis and Robert Emptage and the competition’s theme is “That Old Black magic”. Those of you who have been before will know of the strength and depth of the work put in by the Youth section in writing, directing, staging and acting in their ‘playlets’. This competition is worthy of the late Brigadier Thomas and deserves the support of all the Society.

The bench now used by smokers next to the main entrance to the Tower Theatre was kindly restored by the members of the Brigadier Thomas’ family. FHODS continue to be grateful to them.

Box Office  
Contact Tony Cock on 01303 223925

## Beauty and the Beast - 15th-23rd February 2008

“FHODS are very proud of their first pantomime in their new home,” said Theatre Manager Peter Heselden, “despite the tremendous learning curve in presenting this first production FHODS knowledge of panto stood them in good stead. We believe it is one of our best. This has to be the most beautiful of all the pantomimes and our fine performances, dazzling costumes and creative sets make for a memorable evening”.

Young players in the shape of Mary Hilditch as Beauty, Hannah Joyce as Prince Rohan, Oliver Tatt as Charlie, Amelia Payne as the Rose fairy, Alex Kirkham as Thomas and Nicole Ashby as Fifi did remarkably well in their first leading roles. Whilst old stalwarts such as Pat Marvell as the sorceress, Horridana, Graham Steel as the Beast and David Telfer as the dame, Madam Lotte, give the audience every opportunity to boo, hiss and laugh.

Audrey Baulch, the director of the show, put together a magical evening, whilst husband Richard led his marvellous band of musicians, and brought forth from the pit a full and rich sound. Keeping everything in the family Audrey’s daughter Kate as chorographer, presented a mixture of grace and beat to suit all tastes. The moment for many was when poor Old Panisse, Beauty’s father played by Robert Emptage, was lost in the haunted forest, attacked by the evil sprites and rescued by the Junior Dancers (from the Anthea Barnes School of Dancing) dressed as forest animals.

“With a cast of nearly 70 and a crew of 40 working so very hard it is true to say that this Beauty and the Beast was a real beauty, a show for all the family”, said Audrey Baulch.

Although there was never a full house FHODS are pleased that they sold over two thirds of all possible seats.



Friday 11th & Saturday 12th  
April 2008  
7:30pm

Tickets £6.00  
(including a glass of wine)

Box Office 01303 223925  
All Proceeds to FHODS Tower Fund

Presenting an Evening with  
“Pieces of Eight”

Singing all the songs you know...

TTT

Folkestone-Hythe, Operatic  
and Dramatic Society

The Tower Theatre - North Road - Shorncliffe - Folkestone - Kent - CT20 3HL

## NEW MEMBERS elected to membership since last 'TOWER NEWS'

Patrons:  
Mrs Janet Adams

Youth:  
Violet Coppin, Emily Darrington, Naomi Dewberry, Aimy Hirst, Jade Reville and Amelia Payne

## What are FHODS members up to?

Jackie Figgins is getting married shortly up in Skipton

Richard and Tori Birch have a baby daughter born 20th February (Lydia Victoria).

Paul Birch is now teaching English in Japan.

Tower News is always pleased to carry news about existing/old/ex members. Post you news to The Tower News, The Tower Theatre, North Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3HL or email to pjwh15@msn.com

## Wednesday Nights

It has been decided that Wednesday nights have become the new work night. The crew from the recent successful pantomime have decided that they will continue to meet every Wednesday night at the Tower Theatre to either build the latest sets for the next production or in between time do bits and pieces of maintenance. At the first of these meetings 'props' ladies were seen, backstage crew were humping and lifting and the 'sparks' were enlightening. Do not be put off by the term maintenance. You would only be asked to undertake tasks you are comfortable with which might be a simple as footing a ladder for some other brave soul to complete a more difficult task.

So, the crew are opening the doors and their arms and asking for any member with spare time on a Wednesday night to come and join them. It is hoped that in a when there is enough people attending to open the bar and return to the old days when FHODS had a regular club night. Those of you who are old enough will remember the benefits of the club night: a place for new members to attend and meet others in the society and best of all (for the rest of us) catch up on the gossip.

So do not be shy come along next Wednesday night at 7.30pm and join in the fun.

For more details contact

Peter Heselden (07711710952)

## Pinocchio

The grand tradition of theatre says you cannot rest on your laurels, so within a week of Beauty and Beast being over then next pantomime at the Tower Theatre is already being planned. The Planning & Production committee have asked Peter Heselden to direct 'Pinocchio' next year. A script has been chosen and works are already planned for the sets and the costumes. The pantomime is due to run from the beginning of January and means that FHODS are returning to their traditional panto time rather than this year's later date.

Look out for such fun characters as Momma Macaroni, Lampwick, Jiminy Cricket and Pinocchio himself.

It promises to be a wow of a show.

## The 100 Club

The January winners were,  
Number 77, Gordon Hawker £12.00  
Number 73, Tony Cock £12.00,

The February winners were,  
Number 74, Kathleen Bernthall, £12  
Number 81, David Boothroyd, £12

For more details on the 100 club and how to join please contact

Tony Cock  
01303 220580



## Whats On?

DATE- 2008

Tower Theatre Events

SUNDAY MARCH 9TH.....	AUDITIONS KING AND I
SUN MAR 23RD.....	MUSIC FAIR
THUR 27TH MAR.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
MAR 28TH.....	DANCE SHOW SHEPWAY SCHOOLS
APR 3RD.....	QUIZ NIGHT
APR 8TH - GET TOGETHER.....	'TWENTIETH CENTURY FHODS
APR 11TH -12TH.....	FUND RAISER 'PIECES OF EIGHT'
APR 18TH -19TH.....	BRIGADIER THOMAS COMP
SUN APR 20TH.....	AUDITIONS- 'TWENTIETH CENTURY FHODS
THUR 24TH APRIL.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
MAY 17TH.....	MEDITATION SHOW - MATINEE & EVENING SHOW
MAY 29TH-7TH JUNE.....	KING & I
THUR 26TH JUNE.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
FRI 27TH JUNE.....	SANDGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL MATINEE & EVENING SHOW
JULY 4-5TH, 11-12TH..	SONGS FROM THE 20TH CENTURY-PART OF HYTHE FESTIVAL
SAT JULY 12TH.....	OPEN DAY TOWER THEATRE
JULY 17TH.....	QUIZ NIGHT
SAT JULY 19TH.....	DANCE SHOW MATINEE & EVENING PERFORMANCE
AUG 28TH - 30TH.....	YOUTH SECTION SUMMER SHOW
WED 24TH SEPT.....	CHARITY MUSIC CONCERT
THUR 25TH SEPT.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
THUR 23RD OCT.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
FRI 24TH OCT.....	FOLK IN THE BARN
NOV 14TH.....	QUIZ NIGHT
FRI NOV 21ST.....	BEAUJOLAIS CONCERT
THUR 27TH NOV.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM
THUR 11TH DEC.....	F/STONE FINE ARTS SOCIETY TALK PM

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

# The King and I



May 29th - 7th June