

TOWER NEWS

Vol. 3, No.9

FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

March 2010

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Outside Edge 7th - 10th April 2010

Rehearsals are well and truly underway for Richard Harris' hit comedy Outside Edge. The play is set at a cricket pavilion where Roger, the "sort of" captain, desperately tries to keep control during a match, against the British Railways Maintenance Division Yeading East, amidst the marital chaos and crises that unfold around him. Harris' superbly defined characters each have their own part to play in this hilarious comedy, where as you could probably guess, the main action mostly occurs behind the scenes rather than on the cricket pitch! Richard Harris is a genius at creating believable, yet complex characters and so it is hardly surprising that Outside Edge has enjoyed huge success over the years, pleasing audiences far and wide - from the first staging at The Hampstead Theatre (starring Maureen Lipman and Julia McKenzie), to the massive West End Hit, TV play, and mini series.

Paula Durkin, directing, feels she has not only been blessed with a gem of a play but is delighted with the cast. "Not only are they talented and dedicated but I've also had the enjoyed the benefit of their formidable knowledge of cricket! Not that very much cricket action is ever seen of course, with the pitch being offstage where the audience is sitting, but maybe it has been down to the cast's added insight into the game, that they have got into their characters so quickly. The standard of acting I have seen is not only high but it is also very believable."

The play starts on Wednesday 7 April and runs through to Saturday 10th. Don't forget to book your tickets!

Volunteers Wanted

Whoa, terrific news, several members have come forth to volunteer, but there are still a few positions available for those willing to help man the office on a daily basis. FHODS has been donated the use of a Portacabin as an office so that it can have a daily presence on the Tower Theatre site. To start off with the idea would be to have the office open Monday to Saturday, each afternoon, say from 1.00pm to 5.00pm. This would enable FHODS to advertise the fact that it is open. So, as you see a good number of volunteers are needed. Preferably FHODS should like to have a minimum of 2 persons a session so that they can be company for each other. Also FHODS should need to have 'cover' for when persons are on holiday or absent for other reasons and they promise there will be a constant supply of tea & coffee plus the odd biscuit for all volunteers.

Those who have volunteered a big thank you and contact will be made soon, but if anybody else is interested in donating a few hours a week on a regular basis then contact Peter Heselden on either 07711710952 or email pjwh15@msn.com

TTT Folkestone - Hythe, Operatic and Dramatic Society
THE TOWER THEATRE
North Road, Shorncliffe, Folkestone, Kent. CT20 3HL

FHODS Youth section
Present...
**THE BRIGADIER THOMAS
COMPETITION
2010!**

Four plays written and produced by
Youth Section members on the theme of
**It'll Be Alright On
The Night**

We're on Facebook, FHODS Youth section needs YOU!!!

Friday 5th - Saturday 6th March 2010
7:30 Nightly
Adjudication Night Saturday 6th March
Tickets: £7.50 / £6 concessions
BOOK TICKETS ON (01303) 223925

KCC Grant monies

In addition to the £1270.00 granted by Kent County Council, through our local councillor Tim Prater, for the balance of the hearing aid fund, FHODS have been granted a further sum of a £1000.00 for a theatre communications system. To help with health and safety a 'comms' system has been installed in the Tower Theatre so that the back stage personnel can talk to the sound and light technicians throughout a production. This is of great benefit and FHODS says a big thank you to Tim and the KCC.

To book tickets call our box office on:

01303 223925

For more information visit our website:

www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

BEDDOW ACADEMY/ FHODS stage school

This will be our second summer workshop working together and we are all very excited about the project. We are sure that anyone wanting to apply for this event will have two weeks of fun, gaining experience in all aspects of the Arts, with 3 performances at the end with costumes, lights, sets and all!! **We have chosen 'Annie' the show loved by all.**

Dates for the workshop are:

Monday 26th July – 30th July 9.30 – 4.00
(Saturday and Sunday off)
Monday 1st – 5th August 9.30 – 4.00
Friday 6th Aug 9.30 – 4.00 Back at 5.30 for 7pm Performance.
Saturday 7th Aug In at 12.30 for a 2.30pm Performance. Back at 5.30 for 7pm Performance.

PRICE FOR WORKSHOP

1 CHILD	£170
2 CHILDREN	£270 (same family)
3 CHILDREN	£370 (same family)

A deposit of £30 per child is required on application ASAP and the balance is due no later than 26th June. (Deposit is non refundable). Children have to be between 8 and 18yrs at the time of the workshop to apply.
See www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk for more details.

Please send application form along with deposit to:

Beddow Academy

25, Gordon Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3PW.

If you require more info call Claire on 01227 379927.

Obituary - Gwen Jacques

Members of FHODS will be saddened to hear the news that Gwen Jacques has passed away. Gwen together with her husband, John, (FHODS' President for many years) was always a great supporter of the Society. FHODS sends condolences to their son, David.

A celebration of her life will take place at St Eanswythe's Church, probably Tuesday 2 March, at this time these are all the details we have, there should be further information in the local newspaper.

What's On?

2010

Date	Time	Event
5th & 6th March	7.30pm	Brig Tom plays
12th & 13th March	7.30pm	LUP's When Midnight Strikes
16th & 17th March	7.30pm	Beddow Academy's Disney's Mulan
25th March	2.00pm	FFDAS
27th March	7.30pm	Folkestone Camera club lecture by Charlie Waite
7th-10th April	7.30pm	Outside Edge play
17th April	8.00am	Barry Leach Filming at the Tower
8th May	7.30pm	Clifford Blake Hypnotist in aid of Help for Heroes
26th May	7.30pm	RNLI Fundraising evening
14th June	7.30pm	FHODS AGM
2/3/7/8/9/10th July	7.30pm	Palace of Varieties
26th July- 7th August	daily	Annie Jr. Stage school
14th August	from 2.00pm	Summer Sizzler
14th/16th/18th Sept	7.30pm	1 Act play Festival
22nd Sept	7.30pm	Railway Swing Band
30th Oct	7.30pm	Séance (A mystery Play)

P&P News

The Performance and Planning Committee wish to thank all those who helped to make "Pack of Lies" such a success. Many favourable messages have been received for this production from a variety of sources.

Brigadier Thomas Competition

This is now in the final stages of rehearsal; please support the Youth section with this most challenging of competitions. The performances will take place on 5th and 6th March with the adjudication taking place after the performances on the Saturday.

"Outside Edge"

Swiftly following on is this hilarious comedy; the experienced cast should make for a most enjoyable evening. This play will run from 7th-10th April.

"Palace of Varieties"

A reminder that Maxine is waiting in great anticipation to hear what amazing acts are being put forward for this. The get-together is on Sunday 14th March at 7.30pm with auditions taking place on Sunday 28th March at 2.30pm

One Act Play Festival

This is being planned for mid September; one director is already in place with the possibility that FHODS may enter two plays this autumn.

Offers are still being sought for directing over the next 18 months so don't be shy, just let any member of the P&P committee what you may have in mind (Dave de'Courtney, Paula and James Durkin, Mary Warren and Pat Manvell.)

The Amazing Hypnotic World of Clifford Blake in support of the Help for Heroes campaign

Clifford Blake, the master hypnotist is bringing his amazing world to the Tower Theatre on Saturday 8th May 2010. This marvelous show that needs audience participation is hilarious and fun for all the family however, to take part in the show you have to be over 18 years old.

Clifford, although a local man, has taken his show all over the world but he recently appeared in Margate to assist the Theatre Royal to raise funds for a new sound system and Clifford is coming to the Tower Theatre to help to help raise funds for the Help the Heroes campaign raising funds for our armed service men and women.

Date: Saturday 8th May at 7.30pm

Tickets: £6.00/ £5.00 concessions

Box Office 01303 223925

100 Club - February Winners

Julian Colbran, £20.00 & Terry Connelly, £12.00