

# TOWER NEWS

Vol. 4, No. 11

FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

March 2012

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## “Running for Glory”

*Exploring the lives and ambitions of Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams, 1920s athletes featured in the film “Chariots of Fire”*

Chalkfoot's latest production, 'Running for Glory', will be at the Tower Theatre as part of their Kent and Sussex tour on Friday 2nd March. The play explores the personalities and events leading up to the 1924 Paris Olympics, when an elite group of British athletes (featured in the film 'Chariots of Fire') blazed their way to glory.

Young track stars Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell could not have been more different as sportsmen and individuals. While Abrahams was highly ambitious – becoming one of the first exponents of professional training - Liddell won astonishing victories with an uncoordinated running style that should have left him at the back of the field.

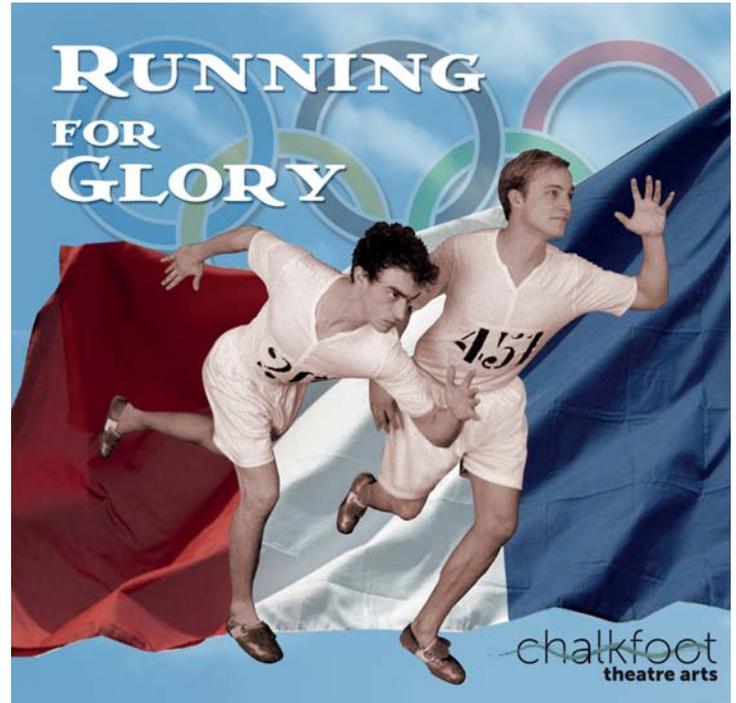
Written by Philip Dart, 'Running for Glory' offers a unique blend of theatre and sporting spectacle, recreating all the excitement of an Olympic race for the small stage. Movement sequences are directed by acclaimed choreographer Lawrence Evans, who has worked for the Royal National Theatre and the Unicorn Theatre in London.

This is a welcome return to Chalkfoot Theatre Arts bringing as they do another of their superb productions to the Tower Theatre.

The Tower Theatre is available for parties, weddings, conferences as well as theatrical performances.

For more information about hire costs and availability contact

**Peter Heselden** on  
**07711710952** or  
**pjwh15@msn.com**



**Tickets are £9.00  
and £8.00 concessions**

**Box Office (01303) 223925 or  
[www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)**

**For further info please  
call Chalkfoot on (01843) 587950**

**At the Tower Theatre  
2nd March 2012 at 7.30pm**

**ONLINE BOOKING  
AVAILABLE NOW!**  
[www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)

# The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing

At the Tower Theatre 23rd March at 6.30pm



Everyone's favourite theatre company, Little Bulb Theatre, has created a new piece especially for village halls. Commissioned and produced by Farnham Maltings, *The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing* is touring across the heart of the country.

An evening that starts as a story and ends at a country dance, this is the tale of two villages – different but strangely similar. There has been a great divide between Little Downing and Upper Downing for as long as can be remembered until Christopher Roaring and Derek Badger meet one another on 'the fateful night of the fog'. Through music, sincerity and nerve the two men eventually succeed in uniting their feuding villages, discovering love and passion along the way.

Using live music, tapestries, blue marrows and a vast array of unforgettable characters, Little Bulb Theatre have created a heart-warming and entertaining experience, specifically for community spaces, that celebrates the eccentricities of village life and explores how traditions form.

Central to *The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing* is original live music. Little Bulb say: 'For this show we have been exploring the rich English Folk tradition and have had great fun composing everything from heart-felt ballads to raucous ho-downs.'

Artistic Director of Farnham Maltings Gavin Stride says: 'All Little Bulb's work has such generosity of spirit, with an affection for the audience and playfulness – don't be fooled by their apparent 'making up as they go along' style. Every moment has been considered.'

**Tickets £8.00/£7.00 concessions £5.00 for children. This show is suitable for all ages and has a 6.30pm start**

HUGH LEONARD'S  
*Great Expectations*  
adapted from the novel  
by Charles Dickens

20TH & 21ST APRIL  
7.30PM  
THE TOWER THEATRE,  
FOLKESTONE

DIRECTED BY  
ADAM MORLEY  
PRODUCED BY  
CLAIRE BIBBY  
SPONSORED BY  
*Clarian*  
PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH  
THE AGENCY (LONDON) LTD

BOX OFFICE:  
01303 223925  
[www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)  
TICKETS: £11/£10  
[www.baroque theatre.com](http://www.baroque theatre.com)

## Derek Paravicini

In Concert at the Tower Theatre

Derek is blind and severely disabled and...one of the greatest pianists in the world

Saturday 31st March 2012 at  
8.00pm  
Tickets £15.00

Contact Elan Promotions (01303 813930)  
for more information

# When The Lights Go On Again

Written by Roy Sault, of Yorkshire, WTLGOA hasn't been performed before in the South of England. With our wealth of Kentish wartime history this musical treat will remind young and old of the worries, hardships, celebrations and never ending resourcefulness of the British when faced with adversity and the unique sense of humour which helped the Brits battle through. Including many old favourites and some deeply emotive songs the audience can enjoy this trip through the Second World War with us.

**Auditions:** Sunday 4th March 2012 at the Tower Theatre 10am-2pm **Show dates:** June 28, 29 30th and July 4, 5, 6,7th 2012

Cast- Parker family

**Alice Parker** – Mother 45yrs+ (acting)  
**Fred Parker** – Dad 45yrs+ (acting)  
**David Parker** – Son 19-30yrs (singing)  
**Jane Parker** – daughter 19-30yrs (singing)  
**Susan Parker** – Daughter 12yrs (acting)  
**Jimmy Parker** – son 10yrs (acting)  
**Gran** – OLD! (Bad tempered, comedy element)  
**Elsie Jones** 40-50yrs (comedy, gossip, loose morals)  
**Vera Herbert** 40-50yrs (comedy, gossip, loose morals)  
**ARP wardens Joe and Ted** – (any age, can double up parts)  
**Jean Hepworth** – teacher (singing)  
**Simon** – Jeans boyfriend (possibly singing)  
**Sylvia Graham** – David's girlfriend 19-30yrs (singing)  
**Mark Turner** – Jane's boyfriend 19-30yrs (poss. singing)

A number of smaller parts that can be doubled up involving dialogue and solos:

**Mr Simpson** – headmaster, **Bert Herbert** 40-50yrs (long suffering husband), **Cinema manager**, **Usherette**, **Commissionaire**, **Rev. Atkinson**, **Mr Braithwaite** (dodgy shop keeper), **Dance hall MC** (poss. singing), **Sergeant Major** (poss. singing), **Female dancers**, **Soldiers**, **the Andrews singers** (3), **two Germans** (poss. singing) **Lilli Marlene** (singing), **Carman Miranda** (singing), **6-8 children** (singing). **Chorus**- includes a number of solos available soprano and alto including operatic piece.

**For further details please contact Jax on [jfiggins@yahoo.com](mailto:jfiggins@yahoo.com)**



## Much Ado About Nothing

By William Shakespeare

**October 31st - November 3th 2012**

FHODS are part of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Open Stages Project, and we plan to stage 'Much Ado' towards the end of the 2-year programme.

Some members have been attending workshops to discuss the project, to do exercises and to read the script....

NOW IS THE TIME to get into the production in earnest, even though we have more time than is usual for a FHODS production.....

I propose an open evening get-together for members and non-members who are interested in this production, or in the series of drama workshops that I would like to run as part of the preparation of the event. **This will take place on 10 April, 7.30pm in the foyer.**

In the meantime, for those who have been coming along up to now, there will be informal evenings, as planned, on 29 February, and 28 March, so members can familiarise themselves with the script and the production ideas

**Auditions will take place Sunday afternoon, 15 April at 2.30pm.**

Very early, for normal rehearsal schedules, but we will have infrequent rehearsals up until the summer holidays, and only get into 'full gear' from late August onwards, leading to production dates of **31 October, and 1-3 November**. We may even hold a summer schools workshop end July, again another 'first' for FHODS

**For scripts, cast list and further details, please contact me on 01303 246400 or [roger@rogerjoyceassociates.co.uk](mailto:roger@rogerjoyceassociates.co.uk)**

## What's On?

Date	Time	Event
2012		
1st March	8.30pm	FJC - The Derek Nash Quartet
8th March	8.30pm	FJC - The Simon Spillett Quartet
9th March	7.30pm	Charity Concert in Memory of Terry Connolly <i>In aid of the Parkinson Society</i>
13th March	8.30pm	FJC - The Janet Seidel Trio
22nd March	8.30pm	FJC - The Teddy Pope Birthday Bash with the Teddy Pope London Stars
23rd March	6.30pm	The Marvellous and Unlikely Fete of Little Upper Downing <i>Farnham Malting Touring Company</i>
29th March	8.30pm	FJC - Roger Beaujolais Quartet
30th March	7.30pm	Brigadier Thomas Memorial Competition <i>Youth Section homemade dramas</i> <i>Admission Free</i>
31st March	8.00pm	Derek Paravicini <i>Piano Recital brought by Elan Promotions</i>
2nd-6th April	All Day	Easter Workshop <i>Tribute to the world of Musical Workshops run by FHODS and the Beddow Academy</i>
20th & 21st April	7.30pm	Great Expectations <i>Baroque Theatre Company</i>
29th April	10.00am	Be One In a Million <i>Dance Competition</i>

**Box Office No - 01303 223925**

**or on-line at**

**[www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)**

**Folkestone Jazz Club (FJC)**

**Box Office No - 01303 277175**

## Easter Workshop

This year FHODS and the Beddow Academy work shop will be looking at the great West End musicals. If you or your child is interested in a fun week, learning lots and ending with a final presentation then please contact Claire Beddow on 07802260858 or check [www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk) Many children have enjoyed these workshops and this one promises to be the best yet.

### Universally Acknowledged A Portrait of Jane Austen



Peter Heselden has been asked to stage a production at the Tower Theatre for FHODS on the 18th and 19th May 2012. The production is in the form of a dramatised reading in two parts, devised by Alan Richardson, based on Jane Austen's Life and Writings. This will be a production loved by all.

**CONTACT US ON**  
**01303 223925**

**[www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)**