

2007/2008 SEASON

CHECK OUT WHAT'S ON

section of the FHODS website
<http://www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk>
for further details and updates.

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM -

Friday 12th - Saturday 20th October

Fast and furious musical comedy

**Ticket Prices: £8.00/£7.00
concessions**

Special Gala Opening Night 12th October 2007

Fhods will be joining forces with the Rotary Club of Folkestone and arranging a spectacular Gala Opening Night for the musical comedy 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum'. "The night will be a Black tie event, giving the ladies the opportunity to wear their best frocks, and for everyone to mingle with the great and good of the District", says long-term member of Fhods, Roger Joyce, this year's President of the Rotary Club.

Tickets are priced at £10, and will be available through the normal booking system. Profits will be used by the Rotary Club for their International projects - this year much effort will be concentrated on the Asia floods.

Roger went on to say, 'We hope Fhods will embrace this idea with enthusiasm, and meet us and our guests on the night'.

(for details of the Folkestone Rotary Club's activities, visit www.folkestonerotary.org)

WINE and WISDOM -

Friday 26th October

7:30pm - 10:30pm

DOORS OPEN 7:15pm

Teams of up to 8 people

(all ages welcome)

£3.00 per person includes food

Tower Bar Open

All Proceeds to the Tower Theatre Fund

For Tickets and info contact

Adam on 07934 337 056 or

info@towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

SOULED-OUT

Saturday 1st December

Band and American Supper

Tickets £5.00 contact

Maggie Forrest 01303 266090

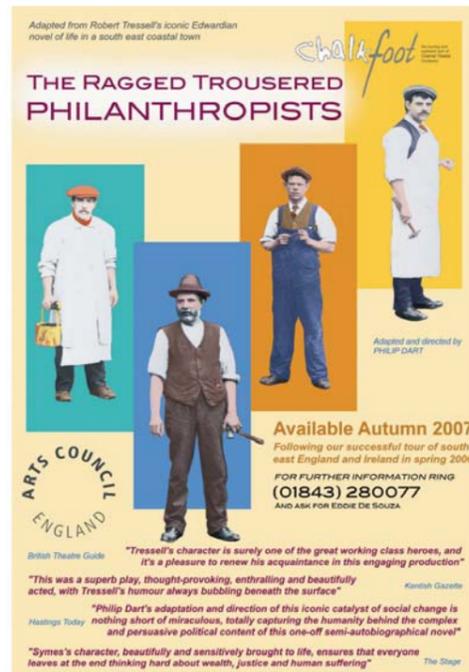
Beauty and The Beast - Friday 15th -

Saturday 23th February 2008

Beautiful story where good triumphs over evil, told as panto's should be told with grace, beauty, style, music loved by all the family and good clean humour. FHODS first pantomime in its new home.

Advance book you Tickets Today

Group bookings available



The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists Friday 9th November

FHODS with Chalkfoot Arts are presenting for one night only this adaptation of the Ragged Trousered Philanthropists.

This professional company are touring with this show and have managed to fit in a performance at the Tower Theatre.

**Tickets £6.00/£5.00 concessions
Contact Box Office 01303 223925
for further information call
01843 280077**

TOWER NEWS

Vol. 1, No.3

FHODS Entertaining the area since 1926.

Oct. 2007

FHODS PRESENT THE SONDHEIM SPARKLING MUSICAL COMEDY - 'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM'

"Thumbs up for this uninhibited romp!"

The New York Times

"It's funny, true nonsense! A merry good time!"

Herald Tribune

"A good, clean, dirty show! Brings back belly laughs!"

Time

Directed by Peter Heselden

Musical director Pete Brown

"Tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight!"

Broadway's greatest farce is light, fast-paced, witty, irreverent and one of the funniest musicals ever written - the perfect escape from life's troubles. "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" takes comedy back to its roots, combining situations from time-tested, 2000 year old comedies of Roman playwright Plautus with the infectious energy of classic vaudeville. The result is a non-stop laugh-fest in which a crafty slave (Pseudolus-) struggles to win the hand of a beautiful but slow-witted courtesan (Philia) for his young master (Hero), in exchange for freedom.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" allows a brilliant ensemble of



comedic actors to shine. The lead role of Pseudolus is one of the theatre's greatest roles - a tour de force for a clown par excellence.

Cast list

Pseudolus

Hero

Philia

Senex

Domina

Hysterium

Erronius

Lycus

Miles Gloriosus

Plus Chorus

Graham Steel

Lewis Curd

Marie Woods

Phil Ahern

Anne Mortimer

Simon Fisher

Dick Hills

Dave Telfer

Peter Raine

This production will be fun and real bonus as winter approaches so book your tickets now. There will be a grand Gala night organised in conjunction with Folkestone Rotary where the tickets will be £10.00 but other shows will be at our normal prices of £8.00/7.00 concessions available ring Tony Cock (01303 223925) for details. Please note there will be 7.30pm performances from the 12th to the 20th October 2007.



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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

A pantomime by Stephen Duckham

To be presented at the TOWER THEATRE - FEBRUARY 15th - 23rd, 2008.

Beauty and The Beast is an original French fairy tale written by Jeane-Marie Leprince de Beaumont in 1757 based on a 1740 version by Mademoiselle de Villeneuve. The tale is one of "being good", rather than "doing well". It is a magical setting and story and Audrey would like the magic to be evident in this production which will also include many panto elements. This will be the first 'panto' in the new theatre and with its excellent lighting and flying facilities should prove to be a huge success both financially as well as visually.

The Director - Audrey Baulch will be assisted by husband Richard Baulch as Musical Director, with Kate James as the Choreographer, all supported by that old pantomime man himself David Telfer (Producer).

OPEN AUDITIONS will be on Sunday 28th October from 2pm onwards for Cast and Chorus with a further open audition for Dancers on Sunday 4th November at 2.00 pm. Please note rehearsals will be Monday, Wednesday AND Friday and that the, with the first rehearsal - Wednesday 7th November.

Beauty and Beast list of Characters

Beauty - Young, beautiful, good voice and actress

Prince Rowan - Principal boy, good figure, voice and mover

Beast - Good actor, singer, able to portray both rage and gentleness - emotional

Rose Fairy - Pretty, sensitive actress - singer, dancer

Horridana - Sorceress, strong actress, devious, elegant, bad but not witch like

Madame l'Escargot Bidet Chemise san Culottes (known as Madame Lotte) - The Dame, buxom, jolly - good sense of comedy and rapport with the audience, some singing. Definitely a man in a frock!

Charlie – Lotte's silly son, singer, knock-about comic

Panisse - Beauty's father, white haired merchant, absent minded, some singing

Fifi - Charlie's flirtatious girlfriend - French accent, soubrette singer and dancer

Thomas - Prince Rowan's manservant and friend

Rene - Village Innkeeper - French Accent

Chorus parts - Henri and Jaques - castle servants - French
Moaning Martha - villager
Messenger

Chorus - ideally 6/8 ladies and gentlemen

Dancers - 4/6 - some ballet as well as modern/stage

If you have been unable to attend the 'get-togethers but would like more information about the show then please contact Audrey Baulch on 01303 239237

A Night of Soul

Dance the night way to the brilliant R & B soul sounds of

'Souled Out'

This marvellous night of soul music will at the Tower Theatre on the 1st December 2007.

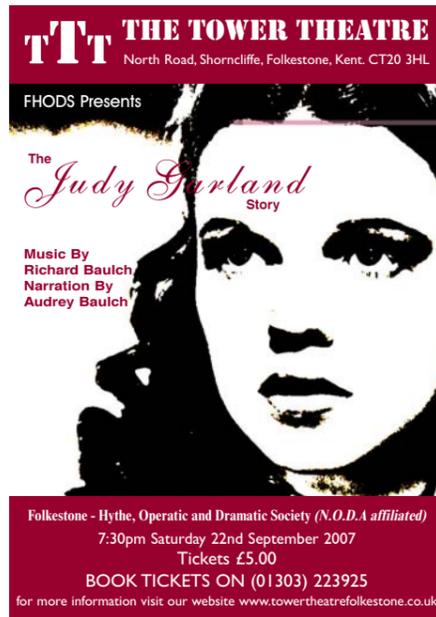
'Souled out' are a local band and are noted for the exceptional musical talent. The evening will be run as an American supper (bring your own food) with the licensed bar being open. The doors will open at 7.30pm and the evening will last till 11.30pm. Tickets cost £10.00 each and can be purchased from Maggie Forrest on 01303 266090.

There are strict numbers of tickets available so do not delay as early purchase is necessary. All profits from this event will go to FHODS.

The Judy Garland Story

Well done to Anne Finney for putting together this splendid show. Over 100 people came to see this fund raising event and were not disappointed. With Richard Baulch on Keyboard and Audrey Baulch acting as narrator they were supported by Anne Finney, Pauline Connolly, Joyce Whawell and Alison Wright providing the vocals.

Many thanks to all involved in providing this magnificent evening and providing the society with some much needed funds.



Letter

Many, many, thanks to all who took part in the Judy Garland Story. In particular Richard who so kindly changed almost all the keys to our songs, Hessie who staged our set, Alan for his hard work and Adam who stage managed us.

Above all we thank our "sound man" Pete Brown without whom we would not have had a show and David Warren and Fred setting up and operating the lighting.

Needless to say thank you Audrey for your excellent narration, and Pauline, Joyce and Alison for your entire well sung songs.

We hope we will get the chance to repeat this production in the New Year, perhaps after the Panto.

Best wishes,
Ann Finney.

Letter

I would like to thank everyone involved, cast and crew, with this year's Youth section production of 'LITTLE WOMEN', also a huge thanks to the audience for their support. WE BROKE Youth Section records with the best audience numbers ever for a Youth Show.

Thanks once again to all
Adam McGhie

The Railway Swing Band

Wednesday, 26th September, for one night only the Railway Swing Band filled and rocked the Tower Theatre. Playing for the local Royal Air Force Association charity fund the Tower Theatre was filled to capacity with members of the RAFA and FHODS as well as many news visitors. All enjoyed the facilities of the Tower Theatre including the new heating system and the much improved sound system.

The Railway Swing Band consists of a mixture of Professional musicians, serious amateur musicians and players living with a 20 mile radius of Deal. Their ages range from 16 to 80+. A standard Big band consists of 17 players, the RSB have 17 Saxophones, 8 Trumpets, 8 Trombones, Drums, Bass, Piano and 2 Guitars, plus up to 3 vocalists. A Big Big Band in every sense of the word and East Kent is extremely fortunately to have them performing for local charities.

Dave White, a former member of the Royal Marines Band Service, is, as they put it, been in 'semi-control' of this unruly bunch of musicians. Looking resplendent in his white Jacket he led with gusto and panache, cracking the gags with ease. FHODS members where pleased to see ex member Rebecca Robinson, as a guest vocalist, performing such numbers as 'On the street where you live' and 'What, I did for love'. Rebecca was followed by Didi, another favourite local singer delighting the audience with 'What a difference a day makes' and 'Always on my mind'. The band played a mixture of most of the great Swing era – Ellington, Goodman, Basie, Miller, Kenton, Herman etc with a few more modern compositions thrown in.

So successful was this marvellous evening the Railway Swing Band and many of the audience requested a return date for next year for another concert. So keep an eye for this booking once a date can be found.

Membership

We would like to welcome new members elected to membership since the last Tower News

Acting

Ian and Diana Arnold, Karen Hill and Graham Steel

Youth section

James Moemken

Patrons

Frank and Mary Mahon

Subscriptions Final Reminder

FHODS would remind everyone that their annual subscriptions became due 1st July and should have been paid by 31st August.

Those of you who wish to continue your membership, please let Julian Colbran, Membership Secretary, have your money as soon as possible.

After this copy, no further Newsletters or 'Highlights' will be sent.

In case you have lost your 'reminder slip', the amounts due for the year 2007/2008 are:

Acting	£20.00
Joint Acting	£30.00
Youth	£10.00
Patron	£10.00
Joint Patron	£15.00

FHODS greatly values your membership and hopes that this note will remind you to renew your subscription.

WANTED – VOLUNTEERS

Box Office Tony Cock and Derek Ames are urgently looking for a member to take bookings over the telephone at home. You would have the box office telephone number (01303) 223925 transferred to your house on a temporary basis and should you have a problem it can be transferred to another member immediately. Tony or Derek would be on hand to show you how the system works and give any help that is needed.

The Front of House Team This work makes a significant contribution to the success of the Theatre and your help would be very much appreciated. Contact Peter Heselden on 07711710952 for further details or just turn up to the training evening mentioned elsewhere.

Bar One of the good things about the Tower theatre is that it is becoming very busy and extra numbers of people who would like training and to work in the bar are needed. If interested please contact Carol Telfer on 01303 250727
Gardening The extensive grounds at the tower need constant maintenance; although we have the grass cut professionally the other areas need to be looked after. If you have some time please Contact Peter Heselden on 07711710952 for further details

WANTED – POSTER & NEWS LETTER DELIVERY PEOPLE

Can anybody help with delivering our posters to shops and other premises, or deliver the newsletter to people in your area?

We ask you to deliver posters for about 6 performances per year. Publicity is important and your help would be very much appreciated. There are 12 news letters a year.

Please ring Tony Cock on 01303 223925 if you could deliver either or both of these items.

FRONT OF HOUSE TRAINING

It has been some time since we have had training for **Front of House staffing**. Now that we are in our new theatre, the situation has changed regarding taking care of our audiences, particularly over fire evacuation procedures. Therefore there will be an informal training session for everyone who is currently on Bill Kempson's list or who would like to be part of this invaluable team (incidentally we need more staff now that our seating capacity is greater). Dave Stone will be covering the fire training aspect, plus it will be a good opportunity for members to discuss any problems that they may have experienced in our new premises. We look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday, November 13th, at the Tower Theatre for a 7.30pm start**. If you are lucky, Dave will let you play with a fire extinguisher!

New format monthly newsletter.

We are sending the newsletter by post and e-mail. If you were expecting it and it did not arrive by e-mail or you had some other sort of problem, then we should be pleased to be informed. A number of the e-mail addresses we have seemed to be incorrect. Clearly we need to ensure that this new system is working correctly before we convert to an e-mail only issue for some people, (remember if you wish to have a hard copy posted to you may continue to do so). Also, if at any time in the future you wish or become able to receive an e-mail version then please let us know.

Finally if you have any comments on the contents or any omissions about this new newsletter please contact us
At either
info@towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk or
The Tower Theatre, North Road, folkestone, Kent CT 20 3DH