

BARN THEATRE

NEWS



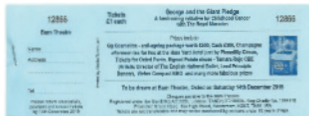
Volume 24 Issue 4 November 2019

The Gift, on Saturday December 14th at 2.30pm and 7.30pm

is a winter showcase featuring 150 students from local performing arts schools. The Barn Theatre, are generously donating the venue and all the money raised - ticket sales, raffle ticket sales, bar takings and advertising revenue to George and the Giant Pledge - a fundraising initiative with The Royal Marsden. The Really Happy Company, led by Angie Muscio, are the production company responsible for making this show work and maximising the cash raised too



The charity George and the Giant Pledge was established in January 2017 by the Woodall family, local to Oxted, when George Woodall, aged 4, was diagnosed with a rare type of cancer. The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity raises money solely to support The Royal Marsden, a world-leading cancer centre. Too many of us have been affected by cancer – either a family member or friend. The Barn Theatre is immensely proud to be supporting George and the Giant Pledge and trying its best to maximise the amount raised on what will be a great day. The charity fund currently stands at in excess of one million pounds



With this issue of Barn Theatre News is a pre stamped envelope containing Lottery Tickets that we would like readers to buy to further support this fundraiser. Tickets are £1. Please put contact details on the stub so you can be contacted if you have won a prize. Place stubs and cheques in the envelope provided and post back to us or

go to the Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/TheBarntheatrethegift>, make a donation and we will put Lottery Tickets in your name and ensure they are processed. Do please leave contact details on the site so you can be contacted if you have won a prize. Sample prizes on offer: £300 cash, Gg cosmetics package worth £500, Champagne afternoon tea for two at Ham Yard Hotel, vouchers for various local stores and services including Everyman Cinema, Cucina and so much more.



If you can support the event/fund in any way please tell us at barntheatre@btinternet.com. We thank you in advance for your kindness & generosity in supporting such a worthy cause. Tickets at www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk on sale now



THE BARNSTORMERS

TWO WONDERFUL DECADES

Rehearsals for The Barnstormers' 20th Anniversary Show – Encore! – have recently commenced with a talented cast of around 60 past and present members, featuring the very best local amateur theatre talent, performing alongside a number of West End stars.

'Encore!' is a fabulous compilation of favourite musical numbers from their Barn and Minack productions of the last twenty years, and also a whole host of other wonderful Broadway and West End shows. For one night only, on Sunday 8th December at 7.00pm, you will be able to enjoy musical hits from shows like Jesus Christ Superstar, Les Miserables, Little Shop of Horrors, Sunset Boulevard, Into the Woods, Hamilton, Parade, Sweeney Todd and many many more.

The Barnstormers have been staging high quality, award-winning productions since 1999, and we have no doubt that this Sunday night show will be one of the highlights of the theatre calendar this year. Make sure you don't miss this unique theatrical event by ordering your tickets now from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811, as the one performance is expected to sell out quickly.

All profits from this production will be donated to the Barn's development fund. Please help them to help us by supporting this show. The Barnstormers have been a key contributor to the Barn's charity fund over the last twenty years, raising in the region of £60,000 for the theatre and we wish them all the very best for the next twenty years!



Our October production of the Tim Firth comedy, *The Safari Party* was a great success. We congratulate the director, Peter Shore, and the excellent cast of Luke Grizzell, Rob Medhurst, Ali Morris, Bruce Christie, Phoebe Sleeman and Jenny Roe who entertained us this with very amusing tale of a safari style dinner party which goes horribly wrong. Special thanks also go to our set builders, techies and backstage team who made everything possible.

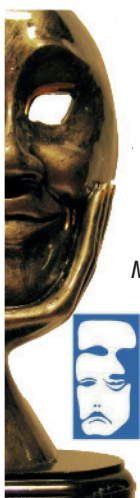


Safari Party cast of Luke Grizzell, Rob Medhurst, Ali Morris, Bruce Christie, Phoebe Sleeman and Jenny Roe enjoying their time on stage.

Our 2020 panto is *Treasure Island* by Ben Crocker (10th to 18th January). The Barn Theatre will become home to the infamous *Long John Silver*, his pirates and not forgetting the parrot but they did not expect to cross swords with the ladies of the *Smugglers Cove Women's Institute!* Chris Bassett directs and Andy Rapps and Cathy Blundell return as Musical Director and Choreographer so great music and dancing is assured. Tickets are at the very reasonable price of £10 and are selling fast so don't delay and book early through on 01883 724852 or online at www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk.

Moving on to 20th and 21st March, our Young Players will be performing *Wendy and Peter Pan* by Ella Hickson directed by Fern Simmons. Set in 1908, *Wendy Darling* and her brothers sleep peacefully in their bedroom. In a sudden flurry of snow, their window blows open and into their lives tumbles a mischievous boy called *Peter*, followed by a fractious fairy called *Tink*. Then the children's adventure to *Neverland* begins! For information about the read through and audition dates during November please check www.oxtedplayers.co.uk or contact secretary@oxtedplayers.co.uk.

We complete our 2019/2020 season with the exciting and fast moving adaptation by Patrick Barlow of John Buchan's classic *The 39 Steps* but, unlike the original novel, this version is hilarious. Directed by Phil Fry, this Multi Olivier Award winning comedy is a mix of a Hitchcock masterpiece with a juicy spy novel and a dash of *Monty Python*. The show hurtles a notorious fugitive and a spellbound blonde from a London music hall, north by northwest to Scotland's most remote highlands. Will they save Britain from a den of devious spies? The mixture of characters will be played by Jon Tull, Amy Prosser, Sophie MacTavish and Chris Bassett. Performances run from 12th to 16th May.



SOUTHERN COUNTIES DRAMA FESTIVAL

24th to 29th February

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7.30pm, Friday at 7pm

**Festival Adjudicator
Keith Phillips G.O.D.A**

The Southern Counties Drama Festival is a first round of the All-England Theatre Festival



SCDF sponsor

Entries are now being accepted for the 69th. Southern Counties Drama Festival, formerly the Betchworth Festival, part of the All England Theatre Festival. This is the only competitive one act drama festival in the country and teams vie for the jackpot cash prize of £500 and the opportunity to travel to other rounds if successful as winners of this first round, here at the Barn. Application forms and information can be obtained by telephoning 01959 561811 or downloading entry forms from <http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk/scdf.html>.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE

Phil Littleford is looking for volunteers to help with some stage maintenance and a much-needed clear-out/refurbishment of the Studio. This will be done on the mornings of November 3, 9, 10, 23 & 24 starting at 09:30. He promises that cake, donuts, tea and coffee will be in plentiful supply. If you're able to help, please contact Phil at pjlittleford@btinternet.com Thank you.

BOX OFFICE BONANZA

During the five days from Monday 30th September to Friday 4th October, tickets to the value of £17,751.00 were purchased on Ticketsource for shows at the Barn. An all time record for five days and an indication of how popular shows at the theatre are.

If you are looking for space on the Barn stage in 2020 do please book as early as possible. For 4 months of the year we have no space left at all at weekends which are always the most popular times and there is very little during remaining months. Telephone now 01959 561811



EGM News

Thank you to everyone who attended the society's EGM on 5th September 2019. It was lovely to see so many people there. As a result of the EGM the decision was made to keep the society open but to cancel the November 2019 show and concentrate on returning the society to a position of financial stability.

Committee Update

Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, in the week following the EGM we had resignations from four of our committee members. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work on the committee this year and to wish them all the best for the future. It does mean that this does present a bigger strain on the remaining members at this time of uncertainty. We would welcome volunteers to be co-opted on to the committee to help spread the workload. We are particularly looking for help in the areas of SECRETARY and PUBLICITY. If you feel you can offer help in these areas, or indeed in areas, please email us at chairman@oxtedoperatic.co.uk using COMMITTEE in the subject line.

Congratulations Corner

Congratulations to members Elena Vinall, Sophie Moss and Charlotte Faulkes who have begun their studies at The Brit School, Italia Conti Academy and Brighton Institute for Contemporary Theatre Training, respectively. We are so proud of you and wish you all well in your studies. Please remember us when you get your first Tony/Oscar!

Costume Store BBQ

Thank you to all that attended the BBQ at the costume store. Lighting the BBQ was a challenge in the wind but Ian Caldecott proved himself as a top notch Firestarter so all was well. Thank you to Paul Grace for the loan of the BBQ. Many, many photos were taken and much fun was had.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Salsa Night at La Botija, Warlingham - 7pm Saturday, 9th November - £20 for Tapas and Salsa lesson! Please contact Stephanie Hornett Johnson via Facebook or email stephaniehornett@hotmail.com to book your tickets, please use 'SALSA' in the title.

Improv Class & Social - Thurs 14th Nov, Barn Theatre - open to all 16+, £10 members & £15 non-members, email chairman@oxtedoperatic.co.uk titled 'IMPROV' to book your place.

Pirates of Penzance in 24 hours - Performance Sun 17th Nov 7pm, Barn Theatre, - tickets via ticket source, or email Nicky Roberts at membership@oxtedoperatic.co.uk titled 'TICKETS' or call 07446 978859. If you'd like to be involved in the performance, email Fiona Steel at chairman@oxtedoperatic.co.uk.

Social Evening - Auction of Promises Night Sat 23rd Nov, Barn Theatre, bar opens at 7.30pm Members & non-members welcome. There will be an auction of promises, you can donate and / or just bid. Perhaps an evening of baby sitting, a dog walking session email Nicky Roberts at membership@oxtedoperatic.co.uk titled 'AUCTION' with your donation details. Please support Oxted Operatic Society.

Fiona Steel, Chair. 07930 327359

Spud 'n' Bubbles 2020

For what has now become a Barn tradition, for the first Sunday Club of the New Year, on 5th January we are again having a simple baked potato lunch with a meat or veggie option and like last year it will also include a glass of 'bubbles' or a soft drink. 'Spud n' Bubbles' will cost £8.00 (all profits to the theatre) and if possible please order and pay upfront. I can collect the money any time I am at the theatre or make contact if you haven't seen me. I shall serve at 1.00pm and everyone who has ordered and paid for their meal by 12.45pm will be guaranteed a spud but after that they will be available to anyone who turns up on the day and pays.



Please e-mail me (carolyn.rowley@btinternet.com) with orders as soon as possible (last e-mail orders 3rd Jan) as I intend to restrict numbers to 50, on a first come, first served basis. Also, if you need to cancel please do so by 3rd January or expect to be asked for the money as last year we had some 'no-shows'!



Stoney tops the bill at the Barn Comedy Night on 1st February 2020

Ranked amongst the top ten stand-ups in Britain by The Independent, Ian Stone is one of the most talented topical acts and comedies in the country. Edgy and provocative, with an easy-going manner and self-deprecating style, Ian is at great ease bantering with an audience. He is a member of the Comedy Store's critically acclaimed 'Cutting Edge' team. Ian also received a nomination for the BEST

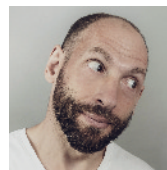
SHOW at the Leicester Comedy Festival Awards.

He has performed all over the world including Comedy Festivals in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, South Africa, Holland, France, Ireland and Germany. He has entertained the troops in Kuwait, Bosnia, Kosovo, Cyprus and Afghanistan. He was the first British stand-up to perform in Moscow and the first performer to appear for The Comedy Store in Mumbai.

"like a cross between Tony Hancock and Frankie Howerd. Stone is probably better than we deserve. Ultimately, it is the sheer quantity of funny material that really impresses", The List

"I had high hopes for Ian Stone's show. Not only is he a seasoned performer, but he has a brilliant line in political humour. Not only was I not disappointed, he blew all my expectations away. Stone's skill as a comedian is in highlighting the stupidity of the common man through beautifully crafted stories, peppered with gags and asides, hilarious throughout. Not a word is wasted in his clever telling of his world view." Chortle.co.uk

Supporting Stoney on the evening there are four other comedians including Adam Bloom. Adam is one of Britain's most inventive comedians. He has performed sell-out solo shows at the '96, '97, '98, '99, '01, '04 & '07 Edinburgh Festivals as well as performing a sell-out tour of Britain. He has also sold out theatres at festivals in Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland, Wellington & Cape Town. In July 2013, Adam made his fifth appearance at 'Just For Laughs' in Montreal, returning in 2014 as part of 'Just For Laughs Comedy Tour', playing to 42,000 people in 17 cities across Canada. He has also written three series of 'The Problem with Adam Bloom' for BBC Radio 4.



Don't delay in buying tickets, the last two shows were sold out weeks ahead and this will be the same. www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk for online purchases or 01959 561811 for cheques and cash only.

St Mary's 'Musical Mayhem'

Saturday 25th January

Pupils from St Mary's Primary School return to the Barn with "Musical Mayhem" an original extravaganza in January. Performances at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Our team at the theatre so enjoy having the opportunity to work with such a strong and talented team of like-minded people. How lucky we are to be able to give so much to so many children and families, and to have such fun in the process. Tickets go on sale online Friday 11th January at 9am www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk.



FRIENDS OF THE BARN THEATRE



As the new season starts, FOBs are busily preparing for a hectic few months in the run-up to Christmas and the New Year and Karen Jackson has again been hard at work with her clipboard, making sure we have enough volunteers to cover each of the theatre's public performances. You may

not realise it but each time the Barn opens its doors to the public it takes, on average, 15 people to fill the various front of house duties that are required - when it comes to the TOPs Panto in January, multiply that by 10 performances in the space of 9 days and you will see why we are always so keen to recruit new volunteers to help share the load. If you feel that you could spare the occasional evening to come along and sell programmes, sweets or ices, work behind the bar or act as an usher or car park attendant we would love to hear from you.

As you will have seen in the last edition of Barn Theatre News at the September Sunday Club we launched our new range of spirits and mixers behind the bar. In an effort to move away from the pre-mixed cans we now offer Gordon's Gin, Bombay Sapphire Gin, Smirnoff Vodka, Jack Daniel's and a single-malt whisky, along with a range of Fever Tree mixers. These are proving incredibly popular, so next time you are at the theatre why don't you give them a try! If it is some time since you last visited the Barn you may not be aware that we can now take contactless card payments, which are fast-becoming the most popular way of paying for drinks and tickets at the theatre. We are also delighted to announce another new offering at the Barn. In addition to the choc ices and wide range of sweets on sale in the foyer at each performance, we are now trialling small



individual tubs of ice cream! A range of flavours will be available including, vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, salted caramel, coffee, mint choc chip, stem ginger, lemon sorbet and mango sorbet (a vegan vanilla is also available on request). The 130ml tubs are priced at £2.00 each and will be on sale in the foyer during the interval of our shows.

If you have any comments about FOBs or would like to volunteer to help with any of the front of house duties at the Barn please contact me by emailing fobs.chairman@barntheatreoxted.co.uk

Paul Robinson - Chairman



Tandridge Together Lottery was created in 2018 by Tandridge District Council. Set up to support community projects in the local area, Tandridge Together Lottery operates on the principle of raising money within the community for the community. We empower local good causes to raise money in a fun and effective way. In a time of shrinking budgets and increased community need, Tandridge Together Lottery enables people to

support the causes they care most about, helping good

causes to connect with their supporters. A ticket for Tandridge Together Lottery costs £1 per week and 60p will go directly to good causes!

Choose the Barn as your good cause and the theatre benefits financially, directly from every ticket purchased. Please do join and support your theatre. Many readers have been winners already and you could be one of them soon.



Aquarian Opera Christmas Re-Launch Party in the Barn Theatre Bar at 7:30pm Thursday 12th December

Aquarian Opera have a Christmas Re-Launch Party in the Barn Theatre bar at 7:30 pm on Thursday 12th December 2019, hosted by the trustees, Melanie Vinall, Andrew Claringbull and James Vinall.

Aquarian hope performers and supporters will come along for a glass of fizz and nibbles to hear the grand plans. Melanie will outline ideas for the first production, Lehar's operetta *The Merry Widow* in October 2020 at the Barn. Aquarian Opera musical director, Paul Arden-Griffith (the original Monsieur Reyer in *Phantom of the Opera*) will be on hand and there will be further delights and surprises to be announced.

To all our readers

If you no longer wish to receive this Barn Theatre News and the show information pack in paper then please do let us know at publicity@barntheatreoxted.co.uk.

Electronic copies are available on our web site at www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk/btn.html

The Editor of the Barn Theatre News is Bruce Reed and contributions are always gratefully received.

Copy should be sent to barntheatre@btinternet.com

Press deadline for the next issue is Friday 18th October