For more info on this production, check out the Facebook group 'Jesus Christ Superstar at the Minack Theatre – May 2010' or contact Richard Allen on rpallen@tiscali.co.uk.

**Jesus Christ Superstar**

‘Jesus Christ Superstar’ is of course the story of the final six days in the life of Jesus Christ told through the troubled eyes of Judas Iscariot. This iconic rock opera pulses with energy and contains some of the most well known musical numbers from the last 40 years – ‘I Don't Know How to Love Him’, ‘Heaven on their Minds’, ‘Hosanna’, ‘Gethsemane’ and of course ‘Superstar’. The production next year will coincide with the 40th anniversary of the original concept album. The highly talented production team includes Neil Reynolds (Director), Ian Skipper (Music Director) and Fran Reynolds (Choreographer). Jill ‘Wigs’ Wilson will once again be bringing her considerable design talents to the fore, and Bruce Reed will be heading up a formidable technical team.

The Barnstormers will be performing ‘Jesus Christ Superstar’ at the Minack Theatre in Porthcurno (www.minack.com) from Monday 1st to Friday 4th June 2010. Shortly prior to this tour, there will be a chance for Barn supporters, friends and family to watch the company perform, a series of Dress Rehearsals held in the open-air on the Lane, rock School tennis courts located to the rear of the main theatre and adjoining the Barn’s ‘cast’ car park. These Dress Rehearsals are being held on the weekend of 22nd & 23rd May 2010 and there are likely to be three performances during daylight hours. More details of how you can come along and support in our next issue of BTN.

**The Oxted Players**

**Communicating Doors**

Our autumn production, Alan Ayckbourn’s comedy thriller **Communicating Doors**, ended on a high note having had excellent audiences and comments highly praising the production. We congratulate Catherine Webber, her team and the cast of Sarah Bell, Chris Bassett, Duncan Browne, Nicky Gill, Rhian Lally and Alan Webber for this memorable production. There were special compliments for the set designed by Cathrine and Mike Sutton and for the intriguing ‘communicating door’ itself which was operated faultlessly by Patrick Tricker.

**It’s Panto Time! Oh yes it is!**

Our panto *Dick Whittington* (8 – 16 January 2010) has been fully cast and rehearsals have begun under the expert direction of Janette White, with Sarah Gillender as Choreographer and Jean Reess as Musical Director. We have a new Dame this year in the guise of Peter Calver who played Robin Hood in our 2009 panto. In addition we have Laura Brand (Dick), Jacob McIntosh (Tommy the Cat), Lotti Davies (Alice), India Martin (Fairy Bow Bells), Chris Bassett (King Rat), Sophie MacAvoy (Idie Jack), Clive MacAvoy (Abberdon Fitwear), Jonathan Tall (Captain Bilge) and Ann Lovell *(Swab the Mate)* supported by a vibrant cast of dancers and chorus. There is a great demand for tickets and you are therefore urged to book quickly with the Ticket Secretary on 01883 724852 so as not to miss this fun production at very reasonable prices (Adults £9.00, Children £8.00).

**Supporting SCDF**

We follow panto with two entries into the Southern Counties Drama Festival during the week 23 – 27 February 2010. Our adult entry is *Alternative Accommodation* by Pam Valentine directed by Tricia Whyte. This fast moving one act comedy is set in modern times and reflects upon a relevant social dilemma which affects most of us at one time or another. Three adult children meet to decide what to do with their ageing mother, Tricia has chosen for her cast June Brown as the mother and Nigel Brown, Ghislaine Bowden and Mandie Arbuckle as her children. Our youth entry is a new play specially written for the Festival and also directed by Ben Atterbury entitled *Joshua* about a boy in a coma, This innovative play will be performed by a small cast auditioned from our Young Players.

**Young Players March Forth**

We are also very pleased to announce that our Young Players Biennial Production (12 and 13 March 2010 – 3 performances) will be *The Adventures of the Faraway Tree*, a play with music written by Ruth Summersfield (adapted from Enid Blyton’s popular book *The Folk of the Faraway Tree*). The play tells the story of three children who find a magic tree in the woods and embark upon a series of adventures. We had been waiting for formal approval of the script from the Enid Blyton Trust but this has now been given and so it is all systems go for June Brown and her team. Those children already on our Young Players Membership will be invited to auditions to be held in early December for the 20 characters and there will be additional chorus roles.

**Seaside in the Spring**

Our spring 2010 Production (12 to 15 May) is the Alan Bennett comedy *Habeas Corpus* directed by Peter Shore. We meet the Wickstead family from Hove, a seemingly respectable doctor and his wife along with their hypochondriac son. We then add a young lady patient who the doctor takes a fancy to, but who in turn takes an interest in his son, and the doctor’s sister who is more concerned about her flat chest than her courtship with the limp but good natured vicar, Canon Throbbing. Finally we stir in with this the President of the British Medical Association and an assortment of characters which include a ‘bust’ fitter salesman from Leatherhead and the result is this wickedly funny play. There is a read through for the play on Thursday 26 November at 7.30 pm at St Peters, Hall, Limpsfield and auditions on Sunday 29 November at 2.30 pm at Hurst Green Community Centre. For further information please contact Peter Shore on solutions@shores.demon.co.uk or 01883 741830.

**June’s a Diamond**

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of Oxted Players’ (formerly Student Players) pantomimes and to mark the occasion we are having an Anniversary Celebration at the Theatre on Saturday 23 January 2010 from 7.30 pm. Anyone who has had any involvement with panto over the past 60 years, whether in one of the first pantos, on 01883 714460, or with the strengthening of many children. Our youth entry is a new play specially written for the Festival and also directed by Ben Atterbury entitled *Joshua* about a boy in a coma, This innovative play will be performed by a small cast auditioned from our Young Players.