

BARN THEATRE

NEWS



Volume 29 Issue 3 August 2024



Centenary Gala dinner at Coltsford Mill, Oxted attended by almost 100 dedicated Barn supporters, some who had travelled from afar to be with us. Despite the horrid weather, which restricted access to the beautiful gardens of the mill, it was a wonderful evening. The mill staff looked after our every need and served a splendid meal enjoyed by all. David Morgan, as our toastmaster, kept us in good order which was just as well as Henry the Eighth threatened to have any miscreants beheaded. June Brown did a splendid job cutting the Centenary cake and when it was time to leave, many dallied behind for that final drink with friends and did not want to go home. A great evening to start the Centenary celebrations.



PRAM RACE 2024

On Sunday 30th June, the annual Oxted Pram Race came to town, which saw 35 teams participating, having a great time whilst raising funds for several local charities. Once again the Nichols and the Muscios supported the event and we are very grateful that the Barn Theatre is one of the chosen beneficiaries.



The theatre's recent **Centenary Celebrations** were a tremendous success, which contributed to an amazing 32 performances being staged between the beginning of May and the end of July, requiring FOBS to provide volunteers for over 300 duties. Enormous thanks go to all those who generously gave their time to help fill these duties, ensuring that all the performances ran smoothly. Thankfully, the second half of the year is much quieter than the first, but there will still be a good number of productions for which we will need help, so do please let us know if you are able to give even a small amount of your time.



We have recently launched a Barn Theatre Gift Card which can be used to pay either for **drinks and snacks at the bar, or tickets, sweets and ice creams at the box office**. If you know someone who would like a gift card as a birthday (or Christmas) present, please let me know and we can get this arranged for you. If you are a regular attendee at the theatre you may even wish to purchase a card for yourself, and use it each time you visit the Barn. The cards themselves can be re-used, so once your prepaid amount has been spent, the same card can be uploaded with further funds for you to use next time you visit.

GET YOUR CARD NOW

Paul Robinson – FOBS Chairman

fobs.chairman@barntheatreoxted.co.uk



Logicaltramp
13th September



CLASSIC ROCK REVIVAL
20th September



ERIC & THE CLAPTONES
21st September



FLASH
A TRIBUTE TO
QUEEN
29th November



The Upbeat Beatles
15th December



As a fitting finale to the Barn Centenary, on Saturday 26th October, the Really Happy Company are presenting "A Night of 100 Years", a romp through the decades since the theatre first opened in 1924.

We are looking forward to welcoming a wealth of talent to the stage. We are very privileged to have a fabulous production team, all long standing stalwarts of our beautiful theatre, comprising of Sarah Morrison who will be directing our show with Kerry Payne as choreographer and Michael Burbidge as our musical director. Sue and Pete Marr are heading up the admin and production

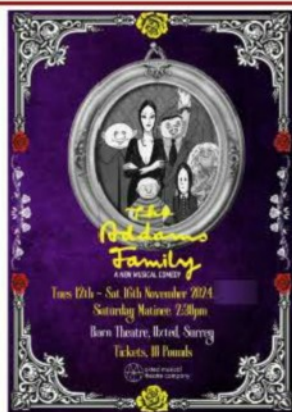
role and as part of the show, we shall be projecting a montage of photographs and images that depict the history of the Barn Theatre.

We would love people to send us photos or images of shows/programmes/set builds/ special events and of any 'significant' people/families who have been associated with the Barn over the decades. We are in particular need of photos of the 'early years' 1923-1975.

Please send photos to barntheatre@barn100years.org letting us know the name of the show/event/person and most importantly the year. If you are unable to provide an electronic copy, we can arrange to collect photographs/images so that they can be scanned.

The show will focus on the life and times of the Barn itself through the past 100 years and we are actively seeking snippets of memories and history to embed within our production and include on our website. If you have something which you feel is relevant, we would love to receive this either by email or selfie video please, to barntheatre@barn100years.org. In addition, we are hoping to publish a Book of Memories if sufficient material is produced.

Many Thanks, Sue and Pete Marr barntheatre@barn100years.org. Tickets are available now from www.barntheatreoxsted.co.uk.

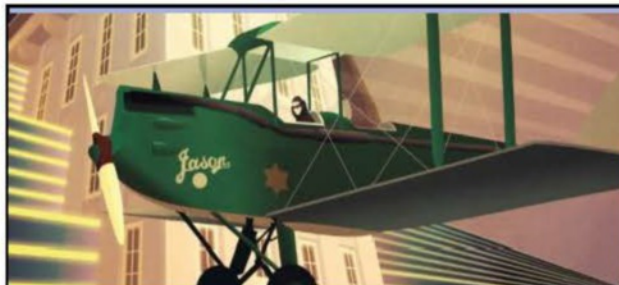


THE ADDAMS FAMILY, a magnificently macabre new musical comedy is created by Jersey Boys authors Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice, and Drama Desk Award winner Andrew Lippa (The Wild Party)

THE ADDAMS FAMILY features an original story, and it's every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family. A man her parents have never met. And if that weren't upsetting enough, she confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before — keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

ABOUT THE MUSICAL

The show is based upon The Addams Family characters created by Charles Addams in his single-panel gag cartoons, which depict a ghoulish American family with an affinity for all things macabre. In addition to the original characters created by Addams, the musical introduces the new roles of Mal, Alice, and Lucas Beineke, who are described as "straight arrow Midwesterners." The ensemble consists of a group of Addams Family ancestors, each from a different time period. Tickets www.barntheatreoxsted.co.uk



AMY JOHNSON LAST FLIGHT OUT

An original one woman show inspired by the life and legacy of record breaking pilot, Amy Johnson

TUESDAY 18th MARCH 2025 at 7.30pm

www.barntheatreoxsted.co.uk



Fleetwood Mac tribute
February 8th



Randy and the Rockets
February 14th



Classic Rock Revival
April 25th



Not The Rolling Stones
April 26th



Roy Orbison Experience
May 23rd



Bruce Springsteen Tribute
June 14th

Kenley Holiday Workshop, top NODA awards, and the Barn Theatre

Kenley Holiday Workshop (KHW) is a summer musical theatre workshop for children aged nine to 18. It has been going for over 30 years and has a long history with the Barn Theatre. We are delighted to say that KHW has won the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) South East Region, Youth East Award 2023 for our production of **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**, which ran at the Barn in August 2023. Alicia, Matthew and Ellis, a.k.a. Jemima, Jeremy and Grandpa, accepted the award from Kay Rowan, the NODA Regional Councillor, at the Electric Theatre, Guildford, at their annual AGM and awards ceremony on Sunday 2nd June 2024. This is a huge accolade for KHW and everyone involved should be extremely proud of their hard work and dedication. We also met the National President of NODA and she is going to come to the Barn to see our next show, *Beauty and the Beast*, in August 2024. KHW shows have been nominated many times for NODA awards over the years, and this award is the third time we have won – our previous awards were for *42nd Street* and *Singing in the Rain*, so it is wonderful to have a hat-trick.



The KHW company is a family, with, at its heart, a cast of up to 50 young people who love to act, sing and dance. They enjoy spending a fortnight of their holidays working together to produce a wonderful show, and, above all, having fun. They work as a team with children from other schools, of other ages and of different backgrounds, improving their skills and confidence, and making lifelong friends as they do so, coming back year after year. Supporting the cast is a large group of adults, from the directing team to the live band, stage crew and parent helpers. Most of our crew are ex-members of KHW who love it so much that they take a fortnight's leave from work to come and build sets and help run the show every year. In fact, the ethos of KHW can be summed up in the title of one of the *Chitty* songs: Teamwork!

KHW began as a compilation show called *Music and Dance Through the Ages*. The first few shows were performed in churches and school halls; then we discovered the Barn Theatre. Our first show at the Barn was *The Boyfriend*, in 1996, with tickets at just £6 each. The children involved were very excited to be performing in a real theatre, with what they described as proper tip-up chairs. Since then the Barn has felt like our home from home, and we have taken residence every year, apart from 2020 of course. We felt privileged to be one of the first companies to perform again as pandemic restrictions loosened, and were fortunate to be able to present a full run of *Oliver!* in August 2021. We really value the experience of performing at the Barn, and love the recent improvements, especially the new backstage areas.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, a first for the Barn, was probably the most complicated show we have ever presented, with huge technical challenges for the backstage team and hard work from everyone involved. We hired in a beautiful stage car, complete with extending wings, working horn and hydraulic lift. Navigating it safely into the backstage area of the Barn was a sight to behold.



It has been a challenge to find a show to equal last year's spectacular award-winning musical. We hope *Beauty and the Beast*, a beautiful piece of Disney fantasy, will fit the bill. In this much-loved classic, an arrogant young prince and his servants fall under the spell of an enchantress, who turns him into a hideous Beast. The spell can only be broken when, with the aid of spirited village girl Belle and the Beast's enchanted servants, he learns to love and be loved in return. Magic. Secrets. True love. It's *a tale as old as time*... *Beauty and the Beast* should be great fun to perform and to watch, and we have a very strong cast, so please come and see us from 14th to 17th August 2024, at the Barn Theatre!

The Barn Theatre News is created by Bruce Reed who is always willing to include your contribution at Barntheatre@btinternet.com
Copy for the next edition should be received by Friday 18th October