

# Woodley Players Theatre Group



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Members of the Greater Manchester Drama Federation

Newsletter No.59 - January 2004

## Editorial

Dear All,

Happy New Year...and what a good new year it turned out to be!

Our first venture saw around 40 of us out walking at Etherow and Lantern Pike and then feasting at the pub of the same name at Little Hayfield on a delicious Sunday Lunch. It was so nice to see everyone together, friends old and new, all enjoying each other's company and getting to know each other a little better, all ages and all happy. (More on this in the newsletter) A tremendous success I think you'll agree. We're already talking about doing it again sometime this year?

Rehearsals are already well underway for the Mikado (for details see the rest of this newsletter). There is still lots to do and organize and if you feel you'd like to help in any way please get in touch with us. Everyone's phone number that you will need to contact are here in the newsletter.

It is only now that we are at a distance from our Extravaganza that we fully appreciate what a valuable event it was. The occasion in itself was so entertaining for both those taking part and the audience, and now many of those new faces have joined us in the show. One of the strengths of our society is our caring and friendly members. We delight in getting to know each other and this shows itself in our productions, where comment is frequently made about how enthusiastic and welcoming we are. We always work hard for each other whether it be on the stage or doing one or many of those unseen jobs that are essential to productions, and we take great pride in having high standards with the lowest possible stress levels (and productions can be very stressful believe you me!) At the end of the day we do this for pleasure, both our audiences, and ours and we are always mindful of our role in the wider community. We encourage groups to book, put on matinees where possible to allow visits in the daylight and have a yearly charity that we donate funds to.

Finally I would like to extend a warm welcome to you, if you've never been to our productions before or if you are a loyal member, its lovely to see you. Book your tickets early, volunteer to help, or just enjoy your evening with us.

Hope to see you soon  
Happy 2004!

Lesley Parkinson (Chair)

## The Mikado - Update

A big thank you to everyone that auditioned. The panel was extremely impressed with the quality of talent and was able to cast all the Principle parts in one go, which I believe is a first. So well done and congratulations to all those listed below who were successful.

Voices :

The Mikado of Japan	Stuart Vaughan
Nanki-Poo	Andrew Wilson
Ko-Ko	Richard Goodall
Pooh-Bah	Graham Eagland
Pish-Tush	Derek Swain
Yum-Yum	Lucy Kirkham
Pitti-Sing	Katharine Brown
Peep-Bo	Avril Wilson
Katisha	Liz Humphreys

### Ticket Information

The ticket hotline will be operational from 14/02/04 on 0161 430 4480



- Monday 29/03/04 @ 7.30pm - All tickets £5
- Tuesday 30/03/04 @ 7.30pm - All tickets £6
- Wednesday 31/03/04 @ 7.30pm - All tickets £6
- Thursday 01/04/04 @ 7.30pm - All tickets £6
- Friday 02/04/04 @ 7.30pm - All tickets £6
- Saturday 03/04/04 @ 2.30pm (matinee) - All tickets £5
- Saturday 03/04/04 @ 7.30pm (evening) - All tickets £6

All tickets include refreshments during the interval.

- **Calling all volunteers** - *We are still looking for people who would be interested in helping out with the following:*
  - Front of House
  - Behind Stage
  - Refreshments
  - Donations for the Raffle

Please contact David and Sue cooper on 0161 430 5066 if you are able to help

If anyone would like to help with makeup during the production, please contact David Parkinson on 0161 406 6132.

## Christmas Meal & Walk

This year we decided that it would be nice if we met for an invigorating walk before Sunday Lunch. Two routes were proposed to suit novices and families as well as more experienced walkers. The 20 or so of us (including quite a few little ones) who opted for the more leisurely option met at Etherow Country Park. It was nice to see old friends and catch up with each other's news. After the walk we enjoyed hot drinks in the Café before setting off to join the others at the Lantern Pike Pub for Lunch.

Bryony Somers

For the hardier souls (should that read soles?) amongst us, there was a walk around Lantern Pike. We met as agreed at the pub (a sneaky ploy this, it meant those staying for the meal got a prime parking spot!). Maps were handed out to those of use that looked as if we knew how to use them. David Parkinson, our leader for

the day, also allegedly had a map, but whenever questioned about the route, or our position on it, was always rather hesitant about answering!

Anyway, as I've already exceeded my lines quota by at least 50%, I'll finish by saying how much I enjoyed the walk. Despite some early low cloud and a climb to the top, the good company and pleasant walking made it an excellent Sunday morning. Thank you to all concerned for organizing it, and here's to the next one!

Stuart Vaughan

## Dates for your Diary

### Make up Demonstration

For those members interested in finding out more about stage make up and how to create different effects, Tanya (who most of you will know from previous G and S productions) has kindly agreed to come along and give us some tips at 2pm on 14/3/04 at Hatherlow Church Hall. The event is free of charge and refreshments will be available.

## News from old friends



Many of you will remember John and Annette Phillips who were heavily involved with Woodley Players for many years and who moved to Litchfield last year. John and Annette have wasted no time in volunteering their many talents to their local group, the Litchfield Players.

They will shortly be involved in the Litchfield Players Production of "Oh What A Lovely War" starting on 18th February, with Annette playing Mrs Pankhurst (plus various smaller roles) and John will be Backstage. If anyone would like more details, then please contact Bryony Somers on 0161 367 7442.



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Finally, to help us distribute this Newsletter, we store the names and addresses of members electronically. This information is held solely for this purpose and is not disclosed to any other parties. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this then please contact Bryony Somers on 0161 367 7442.