



Woodley Players Theatre Company



<http://www.woodleyplayers.co.uk>

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Newsletter No.66 - March 2006

Editorial

Dear Friends,

Spring is here or so they lead us to believe. I think that we will be keeping our top coats on a while longer yet and we are hoping for some respite from the cold over the next two weeks during our final preparations for the show. All is going well despite flu bugs etc. and we are looking forward to seeing old and new friends during our run. We have unfortunately had to lose our Tuesday night because of unseen complications with the new licensing laws. We have also lost a few singers this time due to work commitment, house moving etc. We do miss them but the show must go on. As we speak finishing touches are being put to the stage, lines are being learned, dances practised and as usual a great deal of laughter can be heard as we get things wrong and forget when to come in—but as we always say “It will be alright on the night !”

What excitement and anticipation there is amongst our membership about our next few projects. We had a trip to see a play at Hyde Festival Theatre and Kate (Sec) and I overheard people talking about our concert at the Bluebell Centre in June. It made us feel proud to be a part of the Players. It was only a chance meeting between myself and John Stanyer at The Bluebell Centre after Yeoman last year that set the seed of an idea growing in our minds. John and his wife had come to the show and enjoyed it so much that they felt that they would like us to be part of a new venture at the centre—outdoor entertainment! We jumped at the chance of course! Then when discussing the idea with Roger Pearce (our musical director) we thought it would be a good idea to involve Werneth Concert band, quite a few of whom play for us in the show – and so the Extravaganza was born.



Painters at work

We are also well into planning our “Gondoliers—in—a—day” for September. So if you enjoy singing, but can’t always make the commitment necessary for a show, come and join us. More details in the newsletter.

Well there’s lots to be thinking about. We are looking forward to seeing you all in the audience. Thank you for your continued support.

Lesley Parkinson
(Chair)

Next Production - "The Sorcerer" 5th-8th April 2006

Please help us to advertise "The Sorcerer" - at the end of this newsletter you will find a publicity poster - please print off a copy and place it either in your car, on a community notice board or at your place of work. All help is greatly appreciated.

The Sorcerer is not one of the better known G&S works so if you're not familiar with the plot or if you've not seen it or performed it in a while, here's a quick refresher...

Plot:

Time: around 1880

Place: the village of Ploverleigh, mythically located somewhere on the Devonshire Border.

The village is gathered for the formal betrothal of Alexis and Aline; an unusual event, as most of the occupants of Ploverleigh are either suffering from unrequited love or are too shy or bound by social conventions to further their relationships.

Alexis believes that True Love will conquer all barriers of age, class and rank and therefore engages the services of Mr J. W. Wells, a sorcerer, to administer a love potion to everyone, so that they might be happily matched forever.

The potion takes its effect and all fall in love with the first person they see who has also tasted it. At first, all seems well but within a few hours the unsuitability of the matches leads to unhappiness and confusion.

In order to fulfil Alexis' wishes and against her better judgement, Aline drinks the potion and mistakenly falls in love with Dr Daly, the Vicar.

Everyone seems doomed to an unhappy life, but will The Sorcerer break the spell....?

Katharine Brown
Director

Calling all volunteers - We are always looking for people who would be interested in helping out with the following:

- Behind Stage
- Props
- Set Design/Building
- Front of House
- Refreshments

Please contact Bryony Somers on 0161 367 7442 if you are able to help

Tickets for "The Sorcerer" can be purchased via the ticket hotline - 0161 430 678, email tickets@woodleyplayers.co.uk or by completing the booking form attached to this Newsletter.

Dates for your Diary

Midsummer Musical Extravaganza at The Bluebell Centre - Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th June 2006

Starting at 7.45 pm

Tickets £10.00

Our show will feature a medley of your favourite songs from the popular composers and musicals, including, Andrew Lloyd-Webber, Gilbert & Sullivan, Les Miserables, Sound of Music and many others. Vocals will be provided by The Players with music by Werneth Concert Band.

"The Bluebell Centre" invites you to make it a special night with your friends by bringing a picnic into the grounds before the show, or alternatively purchase one of their fantastic buffet picnics for £10.00 per person or book a pre show meal in the Bluebell Bistro.

“The Bluebell Centre” will also be able to provide a limited number of covered gazebos for groups.

Grounds will be open from 5.30pm.

For tickets/information call at The Bluebell Centre or Tel 0161 494 1018

(It promises to be a superb night, so book early!) LP

Annual visit to the Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Buxton - 17th August 2006

I have provisionally reserved 22 seats to see “Pirates of Penzance “(Our next G&S production) by Derby G &S Company on Thursday 17th August 7.30pm at Buxton Opera House. 22 Seats in the Dress Circle have been booked at an initial cost of £16. However if we do sell all 22 seats then we will qualify for a group discount reducing the price to £14.55 as long as all reservations are confirmed before the end of March.

For further details, please contact me on 0161 430 3170

Roy Davies

“Gondoliers in a day” - Saturday 24th September 2006

We will be holding another day like our “extravaganza” several years ago, rehearsing “The Gondoliers” during the day and giving a Concert performance in the evening.

For further details or to reserve a place please contact Bryony Somers on 0161 367 7442

“The Pirates of Penzance”

To be performed in spring 2007

2005 - 2006 WPTC Chosen Charity

This years Charity will be the 3rd Gee Cross Scouts who are working very hard to raise funds for new equipment and repairs to their Scout Hut.

WPTC Social Events - “Nearly New Year” Walk & Tea!

Several Members met at the Parkinson’s home in Woodley on 30th December for a post Christmas Walk. We split into two groups and completed a three and five mile walk. A few hours later a rather soggy bunch returned to the comfort and warm welcome of the Parkinson’s to share tea and a wee dram.

Many Thanks to the Parkinson’s for organizing the event and their hospitality

Members News

All at WPTC would like to wish Graham Eagland a speedy recovery following a recent illness and to thank him for his contribution to “The Sorcerer” via the website - well worth a visit!

We would also like to send our best wishes and speedy recovery on to David Cooper who has had to withdraw from “The Sorcerer” due to ill health - our thoughts are with David and Sue. We are greatly indebted to Philip Sweet who has stepped in to fill the role of Dr Daly at short notice.



Are you online? If so, you can help us to save time and money by receiving these newsletters via e-mail. To be added to our electronic distribution list, please send an e-mail containing your name to bryony@somers-consulting.co.uk subject line “WPTC Newsletter”.

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.

BOOKING FORM

Production: Gilbert & Sullivan's The Sorcerer
Dates: 5th to 8th April (starts at 7:30pm every night, plus 2:30pm Saturday matinee)
Venue: Hatherlow Church Hall, Romiley
Ticket prices: See below [*price includes refreshments*]

Date	Number of tickets	Ticket price (£)	Total (£)
Wed. 7:30pm April 5th	@	£6	
Thu. 7:30pm April 6th	@	£6	
Fri. 7:30pm April 7th	@	£6	
Sat. 2:30pm April 8th	@	£6	
Sat. 7:30pm April 8th	@	£6	
Total			

- I enclose cash / cheque (payable to **Woodley Players Theatre Company**)

For £

OR

- Please leave tickets at door in the name of:
for payment on the night

(Note - tickets not cancelled at least 24 hours before the performance may still be charged for. Also, tickets that are paid for may be re-sold if not collected at least 15 minutes prior to the performance)

Name Phone

Please send the completed booking form to:
Ticket Secretary, 13 Thornley Crescent Bredbury Stockport Cheshire SK6 1AX, or telephone your requirements to **0161 430 8678** (Answer phone available)

Or e-mail to: tickets@woodleyplayers.co.uk