



Woodley Players Theatre Company



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

info@woodleyplayers.co.uk

Newsletter No.70 - April 2007

Editorial

Preparations are well under way for our next production, Pirates of Penzance, which Woodley Players have never previously attempted. It promises to be a lively, vibrant show directed by Brian Ganderton who is new to our company.

A lot of hard work goes into producing each show and in order for the company to function, assistance and participation is required from all members, and not just a few.

Volunteers are needed for Front of House to show people to their seats, sell programmes and raffle tickets and to serve teas. If every member of the cast could bring along someone to help, if only for one night, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact myself on 01663 764976 or David Whitehead on 0161 494 7294 if you or a friend are available. Help is also needed on the afternoon of Saturday 28th April to help set up the hall and dressing rooms at Hatherlow and on the afternoon of Sunday 6th May, to clear it all up again. Please come along as 'Many hands make light work'.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Hazel Jones
(Chair)

Next Production - "The Pirates of Penzance" 30th April - 5th May 2007

The Pirates of Penzance - The Story

The action is set on the Cornish coast in the year 1877.

Despite it being February 28th the weather is unseasonably fine and the daughters of Major General Stanley are on the beach when they are discovered by Frederic, a pirate, who has recently been released from his indentures.

Since the aged of 6, Frederic, who was wrongly apprenticed to the infamous 'Pirates of Penzance', has only seen one woman, Ruth, a middle aged piratical maid-of-all-work. Seeing the young women, he offers to marry any of them, but his offer is rejected by all of them except for Mabel who takes pity on him.

The Pirate King and his gang sneak into the cove and seize the General's daughters. Major General Stanley eventually arrives to find his daughters in the clutches of pirates. Knowing that the rules of this particular pirate band forbid attacking orphans the Major General falsely claims to be one, so his daughters are released.

Wracked with remorse over this lie, the Major General leaves his bed to sit pensively in the ruins of an old chapel, where his worried daughters find him. Mabel charges Frederic with enlisting the help of a rather reluctant police force to do battle with the pirates.

Meanwhile, Ruth and the Pirate King have discovered 'a most ingenious paradox' in Frederic's indentures. It appears that Frederic was to be part of the pirate band until his 21st birthday. Unfortunately he was born on February 29th and so would not reach his 21st birthday until 1940! Ruth and the Pirate King remind him of this fact and being a "slave of duty", Frederic reluctantly rejoins the pirate band informing them that the Major General is not an orphan.

Learning this, the pirates advance on the Major General's chapel and after a short struggle soon overcome the nervous policemen. However the Sergeant of Police charges the pirates to yield in Queen Victoria's name. This is too much for the pirates who surrender 'because with all our faults we love our Queen'.

The policemen are preparing to take away the pirates when Ruth bursts in with a surprising piece of information which allows the Major General to hand over his daughters to the now respectable ex-pirates and so a happy ending is ensured.

Brian Ganderton
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

We would like to encourage as many children as possible to come to the Saturday matinee and invite them to dress up as pirates (adults too, if they want to!) The Pirate King will choose his favourite pirate and may even invite you to join his crew.

Tickets for "The Pirates of Penzance" can be purchased via the ticket hotline - 0161 430 8678, 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 - Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th July 2007

Starting at 7.45 pm
Tickets TBC

The concerts this year will be based around "Music of Stage and Screen" and "Last Night of the Proms". As with last year's concerts, we will start to rehearse in May and will perform on 7th and 8th July, with the Sunday concert being afternoon/early evening. 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, 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. (It promises to be a superb night, so book early!) Lesley Parkinson

Initial enquiries to (0161) 430 8678

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

Annual visit to the Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton - 8th August 2007

I have booked 22 seats to see "HMS Pinafore " (Next year's G&S production) by Savoy Net G&S Company on Wednesday 8th August 7.30pm at Buxton Opera House at an initial cost of £16.50. However if we do sell all 22 seats then we will qualify for a group discount as long as all reservations are confirmed before the end of March.

For further details and to check availability, please contact me on 0161 430 3170 or alternatively you may book tickets direct through Buxton Opera House and join us for a drink in the bar during the night.

Roy Davies

"HMS Pinafore"

To be performed in spring 2008

2006 - 2007 WPTC Chosen Charity

This year's chosen charity is Leukemia Research



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 Pirates of Penzance"
Dates: 30th April - 5th May (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 (£)
Mon. 7.30pm April 30th	@	£7	
Tue. 7.30pm May 1st	@	£7	
Wed. 7:30pm May 2nd	@	£7	
Thu. 7:30pm May 3rd	@	£7	
Fri. 7:30pm May 4th	@	£7	
Sat. 2:30pm May 5th	@	Adults £6/Children £3.50	
Sat. 7:30pm May 5th	@	£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