# CURTAIN UP

the newsletter for



Be inspired by amateur theatre

What's in this issue

From the councillor

District Round Up

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Whats's On In London

Summer 2021 issue



## A word (well several actually) from your Councillor

What a long and difficult road it has been – but finally our theatres are open again. NODA London Region groups can now plan with confidence for the

forthcoming season and some societies have been very quick off the mark with shows already staged. How hard you must have been working under challenging conditions to get shows ready for your public so quickly. Our Regional Reps have been delighted to return to visiting performances and compiling Reports for you and we all look forward to many more as the rest of the year unfolds. What a thrill and delight it has been to see live theatre again.

Panto season will soon be upon us – Oh Yes it Will – and I would urge you to look at the NODA Panto website for a new and wide range of excellent Pantomimes to delight and entertain your audiences.

Pam Armstrong Councillor – NODA London

#### District Round-up - news from around the Region

#### London District 6 - Paul Daynes

Well, football may not have come home this summer but local theatre certainly started to. First to kick off in District 6 was CADOS with its July production of *Made in Dagenham*. Chingford is just 15 miles from Dagenham so this was a local story performed by local people to a local audience. The accents and characters were superbly authentic and the references to local places brought many laughs.

The Greek Theatre Players have treated us to *The Taming of the Shrew* at their Open-Air Theatre in the heart of Walthamstow Village. This was their 65<sup>th</sup> production in this magical setting. If you've never been to 'the Greek' put it on your bucket list, it's an experience never to be forgotten.

October brings plays back for Theydon Bois Drama Society and Loughton Amateur Drama Society - LADS. Theydon had to cancel *California Suite* by Neil Simon in March 2020 on the night of the dress rehearsal. The set was complete, costumes fitted, cast raring to go but snatched away from everybody by Covid. So, out of those ashes the phoenix rises again from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October with virtually the same cast.

LADS have embraced YouTube throughout lockdown with a series of recordings. Their latest broadcast is the radio play "I'll Be Seeing You" by Manchester playwright, Peter Harrison:

In October LADS return to the Lopping Hall stage with A Fine Bright Day Today by Philip Goulding.

Rehearsals have started for Havering Music Makers *Let's Get on with the Show!* which will be performed 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October in Collier Row.

I would like to thank all the societies in District 6 for their warm welcome to me as their new Regional Representative and I can't wait to see more shows and meet the people. It really does feel like theatre is coming home!

#### **District 8 – Tony Austin**

I have had only one show to report on so far. With Watersmeet already open for films and the like, **Rickmansworth Players** seized the opportunity of the weekend 26th-27th June to produce **Ten**, to celebrate of ten years of their Youth Theatre with three age-defined bubbles of

children presenting songs, scenes and dances from past shows and ones they would like to do in the future. Two hours of great entertainment left me in awe of their skills and their memories, the dedication of their parents and supporters, the expertise of their tech team, and the design of the theatre enabling social distancing both back and front of house. And not to be outdone, three weekends later the adult company borrowed a local farm and in the open air presented *Oedipus the King*; an impressive *Choral Concert*; a new musical they had written about the gallant polar explorer *Shackleton* and his crew who all survived after his ship the *Endurance* sank; and *Songs From the Shows*. An afternoon of stunning expertise in all departments made completely clear by an exceptional sound system.

The conversion of the Winston Churchill Theatre in Ruislip into a "Vaccine Hub" - usually very busy, although on the day I write this the car park was empty in the morning - has caused scheduling problems not only for my District's other societies producing large scale works (**Ruislip Operatic, Argosy Players** and **Encore**) but for the societies from other Districts who also use the facilities there. It may be available again in the New Year, but even that is not certain.

**Encore Theatre Company** are banking on doing **Shrek** there (16th - 20th February 2022) with auditions in September, as well as a fund-raising jolly on the 18th of that month, a really busy time for them which also sees their junior theatre starting work on **Matilda Junior** for performance at the Compass next April, as well as a new venture for 5-8 year olds 'Little Encore'.

**Argosy Players** are planning a cabaret-style show featuring things they have been doing during lockdown also at the Compass, probably in October.

**Proscenium** are booked in at the Compass on October 21st to 23rd, when they will perform *Old-World* by Aleksei Arbusov, a warm and gentle comedy guaranteed to lift the spirits of the audience - and the cast as well, after many other projected performance dates had to be cancelled over the past 18 months.

Harefield ADS, who spent the first part of lock-down getting new equipment for their Church Hall venue and a decorating a better storage facility at their famous hospital, are our unluckiest society and won't be performing in the current NODA year, since their technical team have (individually) moved away and become unavailable for a variety of reasons - but they have been able to use their new accommodation to assist Ruislip Dramatic Society whose loss of a storage facility would otherwise have caused problems - just one example of the Heart which is always noticeable in their community and in District 8's Societies. Long may it flourish!

#### **District 9 - Carol Baynes**

Although theatres are now allowed to open and the productions can play to full audiences there appears to be considerable hesitancy in District 9.

The cost of presenting a full scale musical is, of course, prohibitive if audiences continue to be officially limited or if people are reluctant to return in any quantity.

It would appear that most of the companies in District 9 have therefore elected to wait until 2022 before they re-convene for rehearsals and performances. Exceptions include **Harrow Opera Workshop** hoping to present "A Masked Ball" in October and **Pump House Theatre Company planning** "Cheshire Cats" by Gail Young in November. I wish both companies success in these ventures and greatly appreciate their determination to re-awaken our love of amateur theatre.

#### District 11 and 11a - Judith Watsham

Societies in District 11 and District 11A are starting to prepare for Spring shows in 2022 with several big musicals announced - *Kipps, The Sound of Music* and *My Fair Lady* for three, although groups are a tad concerned about welcoming audiences back in 2021. At least one group, **Vale Musical Society**, has managed an actual AGM which is good news as their Chairman was able to present

District Winner's Certificates from 2020 at last. Please keep me informed of all your plans and good luck with all your rehearsals - I am really looking forward to seeing you all again.

#### **London District 14 - Nick Humby**

Many societies are only just starting to plan their next productions and waiting for 2022 before bringing them to the stage but some are back up and running and open for business! Here are some I have been notified about.

#### **Woodley Light Operatic Society (WLOS)**

Their first show back is "WLOS Celebrates the Musicals" at The Flavell, Sindlesham Court from Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 7.30 with a ploughman's supper included with songs from many well-known shows including Sound of Music, Chicago, Sweet Charity and Cats.

They follow up with Gilbert and Sullivan's "*Iolanthe*" from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December at the Alan Cornish Theatre in Woodley. Iolanthe has been banished from fairyland because she married a mortal; this is forbidden by fairy law. The opera satirises many aspects of British Government, law, and society.

#### **East Berkshire Operatic Society (EBOS)**

Their first indoor production, post lockdown, will be at Pinewood nightly at 7.45 from September 8th to 11<sup>th</sup> with the usually named "*[title of show]*". Jeff and Hunter, two self-confessed nobodies in New York, make a pact: They will write an original musical and submit it to a festival. The only catch? The deadline is in three weeks! They decide to follow the old adage, "write what you know," and set off on a unique musical adventure: writing a musical about writing a musical.

They follow up with a November production from the 2nd to the 6th, "Back to the 5678" which is described as an all singing, all dancing celebration of musical theatre, featuring the shows EBOS attempted to stage in 2020 and had planned for 2021 including numbers from Back to the 80's, Chicago, Annie and 42nd Street.

#### **Crowthorne Amateur Theatrical Society (CATs)**

Their next show is "*Robin Hood*" at Crowthorne Parish Hall from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 27th November, the familiar story of the outlaw who sets out to outwit the Sheriff of Nottingham and win the hand of Maid Marion.

#### **Crowthorne Musical Players (cmp)**

Their next show is "*The Wedding Singer*" at the Wilde Theatre from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September, the musical comedy which was nominated for a Tony on Broadway in 2006 about singer Robbie Hart and his romance with new love, Julia.

#### **Riverside Players**

They are planning to produce a one act Panto lasting around an hour and 10 to an hour 20 mins called "Now That's What I Call PANTO!!!" or similar. It will be a collection of their best bits, the best songs, the best sketches and of course all the favourite characters! It will be just the one act to help reduce issues around social distancing, mask wearing and the need to have a tinkle in a crowd! They are beginning rehearsals soon for a December show.

## Made in Dagenham - in Chingford

Made in Dagenham tells the story of a group of ordinary working women who, in 1968, marched along the streets of Whitehall demanding equal pay to men. The struggles and the way the women overcame their challenges are depicted in this excellent musical. In 2020, we, at CADOS, had to deal

with our own challenges to overcome the confines and isolation that Covid-19 inflicted on us. With determination, a great sense of teamwork and a desire to stay together, the CADOS team managed, at the end of July, to produce a wonderful production.

We auditioned and rehearsed isolated on Zoom, learnt dance steps and movements from videos send by Judith Jackson, (Director), and Jacky Logan, (choreographer). Every Monday and Wednesday we 'met' and sang with the musical tracks created by our incredible MD, Patrick Williams. Cast members filmed themselves and submitted recordings of their performances so that every detail could be checked. And when we were able to adopt the Rule of Six we got together in small groups the best way we could.

Above all, we supported each other through this difficult time: helping to overcome the challenges of technology, providing support with shopping when needed, undertaking doorstep visits and sharing endless jokes on WhatsApp. As we rehearsed for months from the safety of our own homes, it never felt more poignant or resonant than when we were singing the repeated chorus of the Act 1 closing number 'Everybody Out'.

As for the production..... well our audience enjoyed it, we sold out and, as our NODA Representative said, "The biggest compliment I can pay is that the audience would never have known that Covid got in the way. We saw a fun, meaningful musical with a great local story performed with warmth, camaraderie and passion. A great Triumph (or should that be Ford?)"

Jacky Logan - CADOS



CADOS - Made in Dagenham - Everybody Out!!!!

## A new group is born out of Covid!

I initially formed a 'one-off' group, Kings Langley Combined Productions, in October of last year with a view to staging Stepping Out just as soon as we possibly could. Both the cast and technical support were drawn from people I knew who were associated with the three local performing groups. I was

very lucky to not only have a hugely talented and enthusiastic cast but also a great team of backstage people who willingly gave their expertise for free. There would of course be a financial penalty to pay if only one of the many things that could go wrong did go wrong and I won't deny that I had a few sleepless nights when the COVID figures climbed and various lockdowns were imposed.

We budgeted for small audiences of just 45-50 people each night enabling us to distance everyone by using the seating on the flat, instead of our usual fixed raked seating. This allowed flexibility in the actual setting plan each night. I set the show semi 'in the round' with the cast using the door to the car park for their entrances and only using the stage for the final two scenes. In fact, for this particular play, the setting was perfect and the audience was immediately drawn into the action which is set in a small village hall.

From the day the Box Office opened we had a steady flow of people booking tickets and by the time we got to the week before the show we were putting names on a waiting list as we had reached our capacity, taking into account the need to 'distance' the seating.

We got through a strange rehearsal period, starting in groups of six for several weeks before we actually all got together in the middle of June. Of course we had cast and crew members who were 'pinged' and had to miss rehearsals as they went into isolation. I also made it a rule that for a couple of weeks leading up to the show, and show week, all the cast, crew and front of house teams had to take regular Lateral Flow tests.

And so, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August, opening night arrived and there was a huge sense of excitement with everyone so thrilled to be back in the theatre again, putting on make-up and experiencing those 'first night nerves'. I watched the audiences as they arrived and it was clear that they, too, were delighted to be seeing a live performance again. Each night the hall was filled with laughter as the play got going and it was so rewarding to hear the buzz of chatter in the foyer and then to see so many people smiling as they left.

I took the risk but it paid off and in fact we have come out of this with a small profit which we have now decided to hold in a central fund so that Kings Langley Combined Productions can come back next year, hopefully 'COVID free' to put on another show!

Annie Hertler-Smith (IM)



## Welcome to new RR for London District 12

I'm Andrew Walter, and I have been asked to introduce myself as the new Regional Representative for NODA London District 12.

I have been interested in musical theatre for fifty years, and started performing in school productions playing roles such as "Little Buttercup" in HMS Pinafore, "Frederic" in The Pirates of

Penzance and "Marco" in The Gondoliers. This gives an entirely misleading impression of both my vocal range and the sort of school I attended. While at University I was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to direct Ruddigore at The Oxford Playhouse, and since then I have directed about twenty shows for societies including Oxford University Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Oxford Operatic Society and Abingdon Operatic Society.

While I retain my enthusiasm for Gilbert and Sullivan, and was delighted when my production of The Gondoliers for Abingdon Operatic Society won the Dorothy Lawson Award in 2014, I have broadened my repertoire and was particularly pleased to direct 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary productions for both Oxford Operatic Society (Cabaret) and Abingdon Operatic Society (The Wizard of Oz). My one credit as Musical Director was for a school production of Grease, and I have also worked as Set Designer, Deputy Stage Manager, and third dogsbody from the left for various companies and productions. At heart I remain a frustrated performer, but these days my appearances are largely confined to concert performances and pantomimes – oh yes they are!

Three years ago I retired after a thirty year career teaching Chemistry in various Oxfordshire secondary schools, so when Rob Bertwistle approached me about the vacancy as Regional Representative for NODA it seemed an obvious way to try to support amateur theatre in Oxfordshire. Having attempted to direct Rob in a number of productions for Abingdon Operatic Society, I know that his experience, enthusiasm and dry sense of humour will make him a tough act to follow.

I look forward to seeing many of you in my travels – you can contact me at <a href="mailto:andrew.walter@noda.org.uk">andrew.walter@noda.org.uk</a>

## Panda keep on playing

It has been such a difficult and unreal past 15 months for all theatre companies, whether amateur or professional since Panda performed Shrek at the Elgiva theatre in Chesham at the beginning of March 2020. The theatre was put into lock down two days after the final performance. As some NODA members know, one of our cast, Matthew Minors contracted Covid and, most sadly, died three weeks after the show. This meant that in all probability most of the Shrek cast actually had the virus either during or after the show.

But we move on and the company has not been inactive during these past few months. One person who has certainly not been idle is Amber Dye our Administration Manager and also our director for Shrek. She has arranged a Panda Pump class every Thursday night for 30 mins to keep the participants in shape, together with a Singing competition, one for Adults and one for youngsters. This culminated in Yvonne Osborne winning the youngsters and Mandy Gasson the adult competition. Our congratulations to you both and sincere thanks to Amber for the idea and the running of the competition. Our thanks also to the judges who gave of their time freely and in fact offered help and guidance to the competitors.



For the first time since Shrek, the company were invited to come together, social distancing of course, at Botley Fields in Chesham on June 13<sup>th</sup> to socialise and swap life stories of the last 15 months.

The company are really hoping to be able to perform "Kipps the Musical" next March as long as the restrictions come to an end and all social distancing is a thing of the past. Fingers crossed and maybe toes as well.

Panda still have their wonderful set that was constructed for Shrek and anyone interested should contact Trish Lewis on 07710356970 or by email <a href="mailto:trishlewis@pmiconsult.com">trishlewis@pmiconsult.com</a>

Good luck to every member of NODA for a performing time to come.

Trish Lewis - Chair, Panda Players

## Carry On.....maintaining!!

Dusting, varnishing, polishing, and painting. Oh, the joys of getting together again at the Progress Hall following the relaxation of restrictions after the second lockdown - even with only six of us and social distancing in place. But it was good to be back, sharing lockdown experiences, jokes and usual banter.

Then the question "When do we perform on stage again and what are we going to do?" Since May 2020, as a company, we have been script reading using Zoom (where else?) once a week which has provided us with the opportunity to discuss our future production plans.

A murder mystery was suggested, two scripts were tested during read through nights and one was chosen. Initially the plan was to start rehearsing for the play in the hall after 21<sup>st</sup> June, with a production date in September. We would still like to work to this, however, further to the new 4-week restrictions we are re-assessing our options as we also look to prepare for our pantomime in January 2022.

Like others we are at the mercy of current, and any future, government restrictions. Our hall capacity is currently restricted from 150 to 30 with 2 metre distancing. Hardly ideal we are sure you will agree! However, July 19<sup>th</sup> brought fresh hope for a more relaxed approach to the return of larger audiences, line learning and first night nerves. Obviously, confidence in our ability to provide as safe an environment as possible is key to winning back our patrons and with the help of the hall administrators we will allay any doubts or fears and provide our best possible production.

Meanwhile, we carry on with the decorating and the overdue maintenance jobs. Good luck everyone, stay safe and keep smiling!

Kind regards from The Priory Players Amateur Theatre Company, Eltham.



Cinderella – January 2020

## Queen's Award for presented to the and Corn Exchange

Volunteers from the Corn the Sinodun Players, were at presentation of the Queen's by Brian Buchan, Vice Lord Gloria Wright, chair of the

Because of the pandemic the theatre were limited but

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# Voluntary Services Sinodun Players Wallingford

Exchange in Wallingford and the theatre to witness the Award for Voluntary Service Lieutenant of Oxfordshire to Sinodun Players.

the numbers of volunteers in the event was streamed live

to other volunteers using the theatre's video link. And the recording will be available to the public soon on the Corn Exchange website.

And afterwards there was a reception in the garden of Bridge House by the Thames.

Lynda Atkins, Deputy Lord Lieutenant spoke about the work she had done in sponsoring the award and although she knew about the Corn Exchange before, she was amazed at the dedication of so many volunteers over the years. She will now be in charge of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services in Oxfordshire, taking over from Brian Crossland.

Dr. Kate Tiller, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, spoke about the formal process that had been undertaken but also the delight in finding out about all the activities that were carried out behind the scenes at the theatre.

In presenting the award, Brian Buchan commented on the small number of these awards compared to the individual awards which meant that they were really significant and complemented the volunteers on the persistence in coming through the pandemic unscathed.

Gloria Wright, chair of the Sinodun Players received the award and thanked the volunteers for their support from the early days through to the current times. She said that there had been many a crisis to overcome recently but the effort from everyone had succeeded and we were now open again.





### Join Banbury's Glitz and Glamour

We're back! After almost two years of being off-stage, Banbury Operatic Society (BOS) presents its October concert, 'A Night at the Oscars', which kicks off the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations for BOS. It will take you on a journey of music and dance inspired by the famous Academy Awards, affectionately known as 'Oscars'. The cast will showcase a wide selection of songs inspired by the Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Original Song and Best Picture categories, spanning 90 years of Oscars' history. Featured will be wonderful classic songs such as 'Luck Be A Lady' from Guys and Dolls, 'Don't Rain On My Parade' from Funny Girl, 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' from 'The Wizard of Oz', and 'California Dreamin' from Forrest Gump, plus a few medleys – who can resist Mamma Mia, Mary Poppins and a bit of Bond?! We promise to leave you shaken and stirred!

This uplifting event will take place at Wykham Theatre, Wykham Park Academy, Ruskin Road, Banbury OX16 9HY, at 7.30pm nightly, from Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> through to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021

So, prepare for your red-carpet arrival, put on your finest, and come and join us for a night of glamour and glitz. You're sure to leave with a spring in your step and singing the songs all the way home.



Tickets will go on sale in September 2021 so please keep an eye out on our website <a href="https://www.banburyoperaticsociety.co.uk/tickets">www.banburyoperaticsociety.co.uk/tickets</a> for more information. You can also find us on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)

## Thame Players' Ointment Survives More Than a Mere Fly!

Thame Players' production of *A Fly in the Ointment*, a farce by Derek Benfield runs from  $7^{th} - 11^{th}$  September and will be the second production staged since the Covid restrictions were eased. It will be a triumph, not only as an outstandingly good farce, but also because of the difficulties this production had to overcome and the innovative elements it has introduced, born of adversity over the past 18 months.

The difficulties endured include the lengthy gestation period this production has had: compared to a normal production, where the gestation period is 10-12 weeks maximum, *Ointment* first auditioned 18 months ago and has had to be postponed twice due to lockdowns. On top of this, two characters in a cast of six had to drop out due to other commitments (previously unforeseen) in July, when rehearsals got seriously underway for September, and replacements had to be found at short notice. The two new recruits have had to catch up quickly, as the other four members of the cast were by then very well-rehearsed, having taken part in regular rehearsals over Zoom for months!

During lockdown, the decision was made to acquire live-streaming equipment, which was achieved thanks to EU funding. The new equipment would mean that audiences could be enhanced, even while seating restrictions were being enforced – and this would help to replenish the coffers, much depleted due to a lengthy period of theatre closure. Two visiting shows have already been live streamed on a trial basis, but this will be the first Thame Players' show to be live streamed into people's homes as well as performed in the auditorium.. Although the live streaming equipment was born of necessity during lockdown, there is optimism that audiences will be enhanced locally as well as farther afield over the longer term too.

Thanks to other technical upgrades, the set will feature garden scenery which appears on a video backdrop

One of the joys of this production of *Ointment* is enabling people to reserve seats anywhere in the auditorium again, and (hopefully) seeing full houses for most of the run, with all the Covid social distancing restrictions finally gone.

Helen Johns



## Argosy Players Entertain....at last!!

During lockdown Argosy kept themselves (and each other) entertained by hosting regular Social Evenings on Zoom, varying from quizzes to themed Open Mic nights including Lockdown, Hollywood, Sci-Fi, Comedy, Halloween, Best of British, Love, Easter, Travel and Schooldays themed evenings. There were original pieces written and performed by members of the society - too many to include in our Cabaret Evening on the 8th and 9th October.

We will be staging our return to the stage with a Cabaret style night featuring many of the best items written and created by our members, including a drama staged in 1944 called Frenemies written by David Axtel and The Day I Fought The Monster by Maria Gebhardt, . Also included will be a sketch featuring Boris Johnson, a Zoom lesson for a School Reception class, and numerous videos including a James Bond parody all written and devised by our members, and one featuring soft toys!! There will be lots of opportunities for a singalong as members reprise their Zoom performances.

We can't wait to get back on stage and are proud to be the first local society in Hillingdon to grace the boards of the Compass theatre for over eighteen months.



Please see website for more details – www.argosyplayers.org.uk

## NODA Long Service Awards...did you know?

NODA Long Service Awards can now be claimed from the time you first became involved in amateur theatre. This means that the date on which you first stepped onto a stage, helped with your first piece of scenery or got involved with your show's sound or lighting is the date from which your service to amateur theatre is calculated. We have many young people who, until now, have not been able to count their early years of service – but now they can!!!! NODA has a very varied and colourful range of badges for differing years of service, as well as certificates celebrating the commitment of our younger members. By the way, we still have the medals which are so prized by members, and are worn with pride at shows and NODA functions.

There are youth awards and commendation awards too for those non-performing members of groups. Have a look at the full range – you won't be disappointed – and see how you can show recognition to your members who have demonstrated how big a part amateur theatre has played in their lives. See

### the full range at www.noda.org.uk























## **Programme and Poster Competition 2020 – 2021**

Entry to the regional Programme and Poster competition is now open and I will accept entries for any shows performed between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021, under the old criteria.

If you have not entered your societies programmes or posters before, then this is the ideal time to take part.

Programmes fall into one of three categories (deluxe, standard and basic), depending on the number of pages.

Some things that the judges look for in a programme are: an eye-catching design; clear information about the society, the show and cast, and a format that is easy to read. Don't forget that including extra information about NODA is worth extra points too.

Programmes must carry the NODA logo with the current strapline "Be Inspired by Amateur Theatre". Please note: Use of the NODA crest in programmes is being phased out. Programmes will be accepted if they contain the NODA crest with the legend "Affiliated to the National Operatic and Dramatic Association" but after this year, you must use the logo instead.

Posters may be between A4 and A3 size. They are judged on originality and clarity. Ideally, they

should, also, reflect the content of the show and be easy to read from a distance and **must** include any contractual information required by the rightsholders.

Details of the revised judging criteria along with downloadable versions of the logo are available here. <a href="https://www.noda.org.uk/programme-and-poster-competition">https://www.noda.org.uk/programme-and-poster-competition</a>

Winning entries from each class are eligible for entry to the NODA National competition – see Belmont's national winning poster above!!

If you have programmes or posters for a show that was cancelled due to Covid, they are still eligible for the competition but don't forget that you need to submit five copies of each entry.

Entries may be sent to me right now. Copies of the entry forms are available here https://www.noda.org.uk/regions/london/noda-london-poster-programme-competition-2021-2022

I look forward to receiving your programmes and posters......Good Luck!!!!

Paul M Holgate Chair of Programme and Poster Judging Panel – NODA London

#### WHAT'S ON IN THE NODA LONDON REGION

As groups start to open up for rehearsals and performance we can all do our bit to help and encourage productions and put money in the coffers for the future.....see you there!!

#### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### [TITLE OF SHOW]

8 -11 September EBOS

Pinewood Theatre, Wokingham Box Office number: <a href="mailto:info@ebos.org.uk">info@ebos.org.uk</a>

ebos.ora.uk

#### **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER**

23-25 September Aldermaston Players Aldermaston Parish Hall RG7 4LW Box-Office 0118 971 2530 www.aldermastonplayers.co.uk

#### SING FROM THE HEART

30 September 1 & 2 October Henley Amateur Operatic Dramatic Society (HAODS) The Studio (adjacent to The Kenton Theatre) Henley, RG9 2BP Box Office 01491 575698 www.ticketsource.co.uk/henleyoperatic

#### OCTOBER 2021

#### I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST LOCKDOWN ...on Zoom!

8-9 October Argosy Players The CompassTheatre, Glebe Avenue, Ickenham Box Office 07763 175017 and 01895 250615 www.argosyplayers.org.uk

#### **RENT**

13-16 October
Festoon Theatre Company
The Vaults Theatre, Launcelot Street, SE1 7AD
www.festoontheatrecompany.co.uk/box-office

#### **MY FAIR LADY**

19-23 October ELODS

The Wyllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar, EN6 2HN

Box Office: 01707 645005 www.wyllyottstheatre.co.uk

#### **JUST THE TICKET**

20-23 October Belmont Theatre The Pump House Theatre, Local Board Road, Watford WD17 2JP www.belmonttheatre.co.uk

#### A FINE BRIGHT DAY TODAY

28-30 October Loughton ADS (LADS) Lopping Hall, High Road, Loughton IG10 4LF Box Office: 07552 736110

www.lads.org.uk

#### A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

28 – 30 October 2021 Banbury Operatic Society Wykham Theatre, Wykham Park Academy, OX16 9HY Box Office: 0333 666 3366

www.banburyoperaticsociety.co.uk

#### **CALIFORNIA SUITE**

28-30 October
Theydon Bois Drama Society
Theydon Bois Village Hall, CM16 7ER
Box Office 01992 919038 or <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/theydonboisdramasociety">www.ticketsource.co.uk/theydonboisdramasociety</a>
<a href="https://www.theydondrama.org">www.theydondrama.org</a>

#### **NOVEMBER 2021**

#### **SHREK**

24-27 November
Henley Amateur Operatic Dramatic Society (HAODS)
The Kenton Theatre Henley-on-Thames RG9 2BS
Box Office 01491 525050
boxoffice@kentontheatre.co.uk

#### **DECEMBER 2021**

#### **CINDERELLA**

1-5 December
BACCES (British Airways Cabin Crew Entertainment Society)
The Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes, UB3 2UE
Box Office:0343 3100044
www.becktheatre.org.uk

#### **BABES IN THE WOOD**

3-5, 8-12 December Thame Players

Players Theatre, Nelson Street, Thame, Oxon, OX9 2DP

Box Office online: www.thameplayers.co.uk

#### **2022**

#### **GASLIGHT**

20-22 January Loughton ADS (LADS) Lopping Hall, High Road, Loughton IG10 4LF Box Office: 07552 736110

www.lads.org.uk

#### AND THEN THERE WERE NONE

8-12 March Thame Players

Players Theatre, Nelson Street, Thame Oxon OX9 2DP

Box Office online: www.thameplayers.co.uk

#### A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

10-14 May Thame Players

Players Theatre, Nelson Street, Thame, Oxon, OX9 2DP

Box Office online: www.thameplayers.co.uk

The copy date for the Winter issue of Curtain Up! is 15<sup>th</sup> November with distribution due the middle of December. However, you can send in articles (around 250-300 words) at any time and I will hold them for you. Photographs (with a caption/credit to the photographer) always add interest to an article and add colour to the newsletter. You can reach me on <a href="mailto:jacquie.stedman@noda.org.uk">jacquie.stedman@noda.org.uk</a>. I look forward to hearing from you.

Jacquie Stedman - Regional Editor