

NEWS LETTER for DOS & DOSYTCo

www.dosoc.co.uk



President: GEOFFREY DANN

Issue 01

November 2009

Chairman's Report

Firstly may I say welcome to the New Look Newsletter and hope that you will enjoy reading and contributing to it. Also to our new editor Peter Havis, thanks for getting this issue out in the new format.

Welcome to the Patrons who now receive the same newsletter as the rest of the company and I hope that they will appreciate being included in all our news / events and general "goings on" in the society.

A final plan has been agreed with the Town Council (thanks to John and Dave) for the redevelopment of the Hall. Those of you who have seen the plans agree this is an exciting project, we look forward to it moving into the next stage. The committee have agreed with and will participate fully in the "New Memorial Hall" refurbishment, so please ask if you want to know what is going on.

Despite the Hall being closed we have decided that 2010 will have plenty to be involved with and as far as possible we are trying to plan for the re-opening of the Hall in 2011 (April – we hope). A schedule of shows and concerts appears in the next Newsletter.

Congratulations to all of those who were successful in auditioning for the Panto. I sat in on the auditions and girls you made it very hard for us to decide. Well done to the chaps some interesting characterisations but again it was tricky deciding who should do what. Please, please, please attend rehearsals as there is only a short time for you to get it right and win the Panto Certificate from NODA again (third year running).

A very big thank you, to all those who offered their talents, as tutors for the workshops. I have heard nothing but praise and all participants seem to have had a good time. Thanks also to all those who helped organise and participate in the Ceilidh, I am sure that you would all agree that this was a good night out.

DOSYTCo are doing some exciting workshops for the show they have chosen, see Emma's report.

October 2010 show, suggestions please, a decision needs to be made soon, venue will be Northgate School.

Martyn Rolfe

Chairman's Report DOSYTCo from Emma

DOSYTCo has had a busy start to the new term, which started on the 13th September. Its 72 members have a packed program of workshops planned which include professionally led sessions and those led by friends and colleagues of the society.

We have already had an all day workshop with Peter Polycarpou (who some of you may remember from 'Birds of a Feather' as well as his distinguished musical theatre career). We are looking forward to a professional Mime workshop plus a 'Physicap Theatre' workshop.

Our next production on 14th to 17th April 2010 will be Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast' and will be staged in the Memorial Hall. We are delighted to have the opportunity to perform this show which has been released to amateur companies for a 2 year period during the break in its current UK tour. The Director will be John McInnes and Becky Crossley will be the Choreographer for the show.

As always, we will be looking for willing friends to help with the production, so please get in touch with us if you can /would like to help in anyway.

Contact Emma on dosytco@hotmail.com for any information regarding DOSYTCo forthcoming events.

TREASURERS NOTES

As you are aware we have not had an October production this year but we are hoping to partly make up for this by having a super Pantomime. We are working to a budget of £14,700. To break even we need to sell an average of 260 seats at each performance. However, we are hoping to match or better last year's seat sales of £15,200 in order to show a profit. To help us to meet this aim please book your tickets early; this will be two fold, we will know we are selling tickets and you will have a good choice of seats.

The cost of running our Studio and our other annual expenses (e.g. insurance) continues to increase. Last year the cost was £7,000. We do need the profits from our bar and ice cream sales etc to help balance this cost. Due to having no October show we are already behind on meeting our commitments. Let us be positive and hope for a record breaking Panto.

The Pantomime cast who have yet to pay their Membership; can you please let me have your cheques as soon as possible so that we comply with our Insurance Policy?

Margaret White. Treasurer.

SOCIAL EVENTS from Julia

First of all I would like to thank all those who have supported our recent Social Events. I hope that you have enjoyed them as much as I have enjoyed organising them.

BBQ

Our Annual BBQ at Bartles Lodge in Elsing was once again a great success and we extend our thanks to Jane and Chris Mack for allowing us to hold this event in their beautiful grounds.

Don't forget to put the 4th July 2010 in your diary for the next one.

FUN DAY

The Family Day held on the 30th August on Fleece Meadow was organised as a way of getting everyone – young and old, together without great cost or effort. It was a case of bring your own picnic and just come and enjoy the afternoon. Again the weather was reasonably kind to us. Well, it didn't rain! If it was a bit chilly we were kept warm with the Egg & Spoon and Sack racing, and a game of Boule which seemed to get quite critical. Hopefully everyone who attended enjoyed themselves. I have had a letter from Dereham Council to say that providing Fleece Meadow is not being used for machinery or rubble due to the Memorial Hall refurbishment, they are happy for us to hold the event again.

So....another date for your diary – 29th August 2010.

CEILIDH and Hog Roast . Sat 17th Oct. *(sort of a barn dance but more fun. Ed)*

The dancing was great fun and enjoyed by all, with the delicious food it was certainly a very enjoyable night. Watch out for next year's venue and date.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's Christmas Party is booked for Saturday 5th December at the Kings Head Hotel, Dereham. By this time it will be under new management but our booking is secure. It's a 7.30 start, dancing to Oasis Roadshow, DJ Neil Richards. The adult's tickets are £12 each and under 16's £10 each, which includes a Buffet Supper. Contact me as soon as possible as there will only be a limited number of tickets available. 01362 820936 or e-mail julia.havis@btinternet.com

WORKSHOPS: *(Only space this month for a brief report: Ed)*

Mon 12th Oct. Drama. Excellent program from Tony, enjoyed by all, some very inventive inputs.

Wed 14th Oct. Plays. Nice choice of scripts by Tim, readings were great fun, characterisations delightful.

Thu 15th Oct. Vocal. Zelda's instructions for breathing control produced some very interesting sounds.

Fri 16th Oct. Dance. This was unfortunately cancelled due to technical reasons.

Although the numbers attending were low for these workshops, everyone agreed that they were most informative and enjoyable. More workshops are planned for the future.

MEMORIAL HALL development

The Town Council have submitted plans for the development of the Memorial Hall and alteration to our Studio to Breckland Council for approval. The Council have kept us involved at all times as the plans have evolved; the council has listened sympathetically to our views and incorporated most of our ideas into these plans. We will be relinquishing our right of way to the Studio through the alleyway as this will become part of the bar area in the redevelopment. Our new entrance will be on the corner of Fleece Meadow. The existing cottage gardens will be reduced in size. We will have a large gated area that will be secure, enabling the youngsters of our Society to have recreational space whilst they are not in workshops or rehearsals.

The Council is planning to start the project at the beginning of May. Our part of the development will happen first and we will be able to meet and rehearse in the Memorial Hall until our part has been completed. All our costs, including solicitor's fees, are to be borne by the Council.

Dave Filer and John White.

CHILD PROTECTION

We continue to ensure that all those who chaperone or who work closely with our youngsters are CRB checked. Although this is not a legal requirement at the moment it is certainly considered to be safe and best practise. We make our applications through NODA and although the CRB's are free, because our participants are voluntary, we do have to pay £10 to NODA as an administrative charge for each application. Margaret White Child Protection Officer.

Recipe of the Month - ~~Banana Surprise~~

This delicious recipe by Katherine Gray was enjoyed by many at this summer's BBQ and John has persuaded Katherine to generously share it with us.

This quick & easy recipe is for a popular pudding that Katherine Gray has made for several of DOS's social events. It is best made a few hours in advance so that the flavours infuse; just add the topping later.

Banana Brûlée (Serves 6)

625 ml (20 fl oz) whipping cream

3 large bananas

Juice of 1 small lemon

60g (2 oz) caster sugar

A few crumbled meringues (if desired)

125g (4 oz) granulated sugar

Whip cream in a large bowl until thick. Slice the bananas thinly in a separate bowl and toss in the lemon juice. Fold the bananas and caster sugar into the whipped cream (with the crumbled meringues - if using) then spoon the mixture into a heatproof serving dish and place in the refrigerator.

Later: Put the 4 oz of granulated sugar and 1 tablespoon of water into a small saucepan and place over a low heat to dissolve the sugar. **Do not stir**. When the sugar has dissolved, increase the heat and boil the syrup to a rich brown caramel. (This is the tricky bit – watch carefully or it could burn!) Immediately dribble this over the chilled banana/cream mixture then replace in the refrigerator for the brûlée to harden. Serve within 1- 2 hours.

HELP!

Your Technical Director, Dave Filer is compiling a database (*that sounds very technical: Ed.*) of people willing to, or otherwise, help with scenery building (normally Sunday mornings). Also for back stage crew for both Youth and Adult Productions. Dave says "We already have an extremely dedicated team but would love to expand our numbers and have a database of volunteers to call on if the need arises".

Please contact Dave e-mail: david.filer@tesco.net if you would like to help.

NODA NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Brief Summary of Sue Dupont's comprehensive report.

The 'Children in Theatre' fact sheet series have been updated and are available to download from the NODA web site www.noda.org.uk. Remember CRBs can be obtained through NODA.

Any queries, contact Youth Adviser East, Zelda Rolfe. Tel; 07946 236673 Email. zeldarolfe@msn.com

As from the last issue, all show reviews are now on the NODA web site, not in the 'Theatre Talk East' which has been revised and given a new look. Lowestoft Players won a cup for their 'Carousel'.

'NODA Summer School' for 2010, is again at Loughborough University 31st July to 7th Aug. The 'NODA Youth Academy' will be at Uppingham School starting on Easter Monday, more details from Zelda Rolfe.

Dates still to be advised for 2010 are NODA East Day & AGM.

Note the change of Telephone number, now 01733 865790 Fax. 01733 319506.

Gone But Not Forgotten.

Hilton Tait recently died aged 74.

Following in the footsteps of his father, his first performance with DOS was in 'A Country Girl' in 1959.

Later when he opened Sounds Music Shop, he gave tremendous help and support to the Society by taking on the role of Booking Office for all productions.

Pat Bateman passed away recently aged 87.

A member of Dereham Players, she was performing as a dancer in Dereham Pantomimes before DOS was formed. Pat continued performing in plays into the '60's when the ailing company was incorporated into our society.

Peter Denver, died on September 18th 2009, aged 62.

Actor and pantomime scriptwriter, Peter is principally remembered for Please Sir! in which he played the likeable but dopey Dennis. DOS have used several of his excellent scripts in the past and are pleased to be using his Aladdin script for our Pantomime this year.

And Now for Congratulations

Ian Futers our well loved Panto Musical Director was married to Amy at Blickling Hall on the 5th October They have known each other for many years and we all send them Best Wishes and may they live 'Happily Ever After'

Ed's Comments

Welcome to the new format newsletter. Your committee (well *the Chairman actually*) has decided (*quite rightly too*) that all members and Patrons should be informed regularly on what's happening in and around your Society. As you will see from this issue many diverse and interesting subjects will be included. The format is not set in stone and may change from issue to issue. If you have any comments or items which you would like included please contact me or send them to me for consideration. Ed.

Mobile – 07887 723515 : email – peter.havis@btinternet.com

The Pantomime is *Aladdin* At Dereham Memorial Hall.

Performances

Sunday 27th December 2009 @ 3.00pm

Monday 28th December 2009 @ 3.00pm & 7.30pm

Tuesday 29th December 2009 @ 7.30pm

Wednesday 30th December 2009 @ 7.30pm

Thursday 31th December 2009 @ **No Performance**

Friday 1st January 2010 @ 3pm

Saturday 2nd January 2010 @ 3pm & 7.30pm

Ticket prices are : Balcony £8.00 (no concessions). Stalls £7.00 (concessions £6.00).

BOX OFFICE

HALLMARK in Nelson Place, Dereham Tel: 01362 694222 Priority Bookings 2nd to 4th November