



WTW NEWS

April
2008

Website: www.wargravetheatre.co.uk

WTW: GREAT PLANS FOR 2008

AT THE AGM ON TUESDAY 22ND APRIL, WE HAD AN EXCELLENT TURNOUT WITH MORE THAN 40 MEMBERS TAKING PART IN A LIVELY AND HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AGM. THE EVENING COMMENCED WITH A PRODUCTION OF THE WORKSHOP ENTRY FOR THE MAIDENHEAD DRAMA FESTIVAL, 'SEMBLANCE OF MADNESS'. THIS DIFFICULT PLAY WAS SENSITIVELY PERFORMED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CHEZ PAYNE-ANNETTS AND WILL BE THE WORKSHOP'S ENTRY ON SATURDAY, 3RD MAY AT NORDEN FARM. PLEASE ATTEND AND SUPPORT CHEZ AND HER TEAM. THEY ARE FIRST ON AT 7.30PM. GOOD LUCK TO THEM ALL!

We are determined to offer more social events and for all the Membership to become more involved. We are particularly keen to encourage more backstage and front-of-house support from the membership.

Please note that there will be a PRESENTATION/PRE-PRODUCTION PARTY for 'OF MICE AND MEN' on SUNDAY 18TH May and Auditions on THURSDAY 22ND and SUNDAY 25TH May.

STEPPING OUT -

Congratulations to JOY and JOE for Directing and MADELAINE KELLY for the superb choreography in this highly successful production. With almost full audiences for all four performances, the audience feedback was excellent. Particular thanks must go to Stage Manager/Designer/Set Builder MIKE WATT and his team for a truly excellent box set which was completed well in time for the Sunday Dress Rehearsal; a great advantage for the cast, lighting and sound. Our heartfelt thanks also to LINDA DAMAN who calmly took control of what must have been the most complicated sound and music requirement we have ever tackled and to SUSANNAH TODD who handled a complicated lighting requirement with consummate ease. Linda and Susannah were ably supported and advised by our highly experienced ROD MURRAY, ALAN FEAR and DAVID WILLIAMS. It is very encouraging to see new talent in these areas which demand special skills and dedication.

Thanks also to JANE JORDAN and SUSANNA FARROW for the wonderful costumes which were greatly appreciated by the audience and to CHEZ for the make-up and wigs and WENDY for the props and not forgetting LISA HENDERSON for Publicity and Programmes.

AGM

The Chairman opened the meeting with a resume of the productions of last year which included, Charlie and Chocolate Factory, Romeo and Juliet, Bedroom Farce, Bah! Christmas! Humbug and Sinbad the Sailor. Linda Daman gave the Treasurer's Report which showed our very healthy bank balance and Ann Roberts gave a resume of Wedge and Juniors. Our thanks to both Linda and Ann for their important contributions.

Our thanks also to our President, Paul Daniels and Debbie for the active support and advice they provide. We are grateful for Paul's advice on Marketing and Publicity and his offer to provide what help he can in promoting the Workshop

Amongst the many topics discussed were the following:

- 1. Greater Membership involvement particularly in the areas of backstage and front-of-house. With 'Stepping Out' we had a number of very talented members helping out for the first time but we do need more of you to come forward. Stephen Farrow spends around 5 weeks every year on Bar duties and we would like someone to take*

Contact information:

Chairman: Stephen Farrow; Secretary: Susannah Todd; Treasurer: Linda Daman; Membership Secretary: Wendy Roberts (940 3092).
Committee: Joe Haynes, Mike Watt, Lauren Priestnall, Emmajane Dean, Martin Lorenz, Judi Rowlands

responsibility for organising, staffing and running the Bar. We do have some new Directors and Producers but new talent is required and it is hoped that we will 'showcase' some directorial debuts in our mini drama festival in June.

- 2. After 18 years of close involvement with Wedge and Juniors, Chez Payne-Annetts asked for more assistance to come forward. Whilst we have a number of new members assisting Ann Roberts and Chez, it was suggested that some of the more experienced directors/producers should provide assistance and it was agreed to review how WTW could help develop Wedge and Juniors.*
- 3. Sheila Williams raised the important subject of how do we ensure that the backstage and performers have sufficient set building and rehearsal time to make sure that the Wednesday first night performance will be as near perfect as possible. It was agreed that earlier involvement with all parties is essential and now that we have the Hall for the week preceding the Performance; it should be possible for the set building, lighting and sound to be well advanced for the first full Dress Rehearsal.*
- 4. Members evenings will become a regular occurrence and we are in close negotiations with the Snooker Club to use their bar facilities following our meetings in the Green Room. Your Committee will be suggesting a series of evenings covering acting, production and backstage skills with some of the more experienced members providing workshops.*
- 5. Joe is representing both the Workshop and advising on Entertainment on the 2009 Festival Committee.*
- 6. Your New Committee: CHAIRMAN - STEPHEN FARROW; SECRETARY - SUSANNAH TODD; TREASURER - LINDA DAMAN; GENERAL COMMITTEE - MIKE WATT, MARTIN LORENZ, EMMAJANE DEAN, LAUREN PRIESTNALL, JOE HAYNES, JUDI ROWLANDS. Sue Edwards in her capacity as Producer of the Festival Production, agreed to be co-opted onto the Committee when the need arose.*

Our thanks to our Chairman, Stephen Farrow for the way he conducted the meeting and for agreeing to continue as Chairman for at least another year.

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

26th to 28th June

This Junior Workshop Production is written by Ann Roberts based on the book by C. S. Lewis.

The cast are rehearsing enthusiastically for this adaptation of one of the Narnia books. Caspian, the King of Narnia has set sail on his ship 'The Dawn Treader' in search of his Father's seven friends, long since lost on a voyage to the Eastern Islands. Join Caspian, Edmund and Lucy and their obnoxious cousin Eustace on their journey. In the words of Lord Reepicheep; "This is a very great adventure. I should hate to get back to Narnia knowing I left a mystery behind".

For more information, phone Ann Roberts on 940 2656

2008 PRODUCTIONS

Put them in your diary NOW!

Sat 3rd May - Maidenhead Drama Festival: SEMBLANCE OF MADNESS. Norden Farm 7.30pm.

Sunday 18th May - OF MICE AND MEN Presentation and Pre-Production Party.

Thursday 22nd & Sunday 25th May - OF MICE AND MEN Auditions

26th to 28th June - Junior Production. THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER OF NARNIA.

June - July - Members Mini Drama Festival (DETAILS IN NEXT NEWSLETTER)

8th to 11th October OF MICE AND MEN

20th to 22nd November - Wedge Production