



THE BOARDS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2021

Yes, that's right; I'm saying summer because, hopefully, it's finally arrived. At least it's looking a bit more like it and it's more than just the weather that's warming up. Things are gradually opening up and getting back to something nearer to normal and with a few possible caveats, it looks like we could be on schedule with the road map, for restrictions to be lifted on 21st June. Of course that's great news in general but also, especially for our open-air production in the summer.

Grimm and Twisted Tales. This is the new name for this production, which is a new adaptation by Coral of the Tales Grimm. The details have now been worked out and there are to be 4 performances in total, at 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd August. It's very much a family production, which will last for about an hour and will be £5.00 per ticket, payable on the gate. As previously mentioned, it will be outdoors at the Rose Hill Golf Club in the Lickeys and people are invited to bring their own chairs etc. Rehearsals are already underway on Zoom and hopefully will soon be going live, i.e. in the flesh (sorry, it's a family show, of course).

Vicar of Dibley. Dates at Bromsgrove School's Cobham Theatre have been confirmed as Wednesday to Saturday in the first week in November. Ticket prices will be £15.00, with £13.00 for concessions and £10.00 for people holding tickets (or proof of purchase) for the original show (that's ours not Dawn French's). We must also say a warm welcome to Christopher Lambeth, a new member who will be taking over the role of Hugo Horton.

Peter Pan. As you will know, December dates have also been confirmed at Bromsgrove School and audition dates for this are 13th and 18th July, with full details given on the website.

Macbeth. Likewise, dates for this schools' production at the Crescent are also set and audition dates will be 24th and 29th August, as per the website.

Speaking of the website, don't forget to take a look at this. Graham has done a great job of redesigning this and as well as having all our up-to-date information, it is easy to look back at our previous shows. Do also look at our Media page, which has short items or performances by some of our members. If you fancy putting something on there yourself, please submit it to info@allandsundry.uk.

You may have seen recently in the local press that Avoncroft Museum suffered serious vandalism causing many thousand pounds worth of damage. All and Sundry wanted to play its part and contributed to their appeal for funds and I'm pleased to say

that the response was brilliant and a good proportion of the amount required has been raised.

And now some news from our very own Martina about her forthcoming production ;-

NEWS FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT THE STAGE DOOR DANCE ACADEMY

The **Stage Door Academy** has remained open and active as much as possible whilst remaining Covid compliant. During both lockdowns we continued with our lessons on line via Zoom, which at first was a novelty and then a challenge, however, students adapted very well and whilst this was not ideal, it meant the children were still engaged with their dance and performing arts. An essential activity to continue with, as no one really knows how this awful pandemic has affected these youngsters. They are remarkably resilient and have certainly proven that to me even more so this past 15 months.

In September many students took part in the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation Tapathon and we were also able to take part in the online BBC Children's in Need National Tapathon in November along with nearly 5,000 dancers all over the country. We even managed to have some Halloween fun before the 2nd Lockdown. In December, we supported St Michael's Church in Stoke Prior for the third year with its Christmas Tree Festival for the Church Tower restoration fund. We displayed our own dance themed tree, which students had made and contributed the decorations for. Very much a community activity and it also enabled us to maintain some normal activity to our usual itinerary.

We continued running virtual lessons during January – early April this year. In March the wonderfully talented Philip Bertioli, provided us with a virtual dance workshop for students. This was our second workshop with Philip, a performer of the West End from shows such as 42nd Street and Singin' in the Rain. It was a great opportunity for the children to work with someone from the profession.

In April, we were able to meet once more face to face to resume lessons at our hall, which was a real treat for everyone. Since that time, we have been busy preparing for our annual 'Curtain Call' show, which will take place on Sunday 11th July at the Cobham Theatre, Bromsgrove School. Pace has picked up with rehearsals and the weeks seem to be flying by, but we are enthusiastic about being able to work towards a high level performance on stage and to have the opportunity to entertain our audience after what has been an extraordinary year.

With an abundance of talent, from children as young as 3 years old, 'Curtain Call' celebrates the dedication and enthusiasm of all Stage Door Students.

It is time for everyone to shine but more importantly, to bring some joy and normality into people's lives and we would be delighted to welcome All & Sundry friends to our 27th Anniversary show at 6.30pm on Sunday 11th July. Tickets £12

Adults and £10 Concessions will be available from Bromsgrove School Box Office from 8th June. Ample free car parking also available.

CURTAIN CALL 2021 - A Celebration of Song and Dance

What more could you need to lift your spirits. Ah yes, the bar will also be open! www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk/whats-on.aspx

And finally, there is news that *The Flintstones* is being broadcast to the Gulf States for the first time. Initial reactions are that residents of Bahrain don't like it very much but those in Abu Dabi do.

That's all folks,

Rog

P.S. To the person who stole my glasses, I will find you I have contacts!