



THE BOARDS NEWSLETTER

February 2022

A belated Happy New Year and welcome to the first edition of The Boards this year. Christmas is now long gone, of course. It was a bit of a weird one but definitely better than last year (at least for most of us) and especially for All and Sundry. Yes, the Panto was back and what a show it was! Many congratulations to Alison and her team and indeed, to everyone who was involved. There were a few firsts for All and Sundry, not least having people flying (and well done to them) and also using a new venue. I think everyone was pleased with the Cobham Theatre and the audience reaction to the show was fabulous.

I learnt some interesting new words over Christmas and New Year, courtesy of Susie Dent of Countdown fame. The first one I really liked was a 16th century word for comfort food ‘bellycheer’. Very apt. Another good one was ‘smellfeast’, another 16th century word for someone who always turns up when food is about to be served. Similarly, someone who shows up just as a bottle of wine is being opened is called a ‘lickspigot’. Know a few of those! Yet another 16th century word, is ‘wamblecropped’, which is if you’re feeling nauseous after over-indulging (the alternative being crapulence). Lovely. But perhaps the most fitting is a word used at the end and beginning of each year, a word for fresh hope ‘respair’. They were great with language in the 16th century.

Speaking of Christmas, on the big day I was given some gloves, which unfortunately are fingerless and they don’t keep my hands warm. Anyone got any tips?

Restrictions are pretty nearly gone, being replaced by guidelines and our plans are continuing as before. Rehearsals are continuing for Macbeth, which is scheduled for early March at the Crescent Theatre. This is now practically sold out and we’re looking forward to an excellent show. If you haven’t already got tickets, you need to hurry.

Next up, as planned, is Whine Of Duty in the studio at the Cobham Theatre. Rehearsals are due to commence straight after Macbeth but we are still short of one cast member. The show is in the first week of June and the actor required is a male, ideally between age 30 and 40. If you know anyone who might be interested please let me know on rogergoddard.rg@gmail.com .

We now have a date and venue confirmed for our September production. It will be at the Norbury Theatre in Droitwich at the very end of September, the play being Silly Cow by Ben Elton. If you would be interested in putting your name forward to direct, now would be the time. Contact Alison at alisonberrisford@live.co.uk .



Finally, due to the success of Peter Pan, we are going to be doing a sequel for the first time ever, so this year's Panto is going to be a new script called *The Return Of Peter Pan, Hook's Revenge*. Watch this space.

And finally, finally, do you know why people in theatreland always say 'break a leg' ? It's because every play has a cast!

That's all for now,

Rog