

# ***THE BOARDS NEWSLETTER***

## ***December 2016***

Hello everyone and welcome to this 'bumper' Christmas edition of The Boards.

The Panto is nearly upon us and that can only mean one thing ..... Oscar's night has been and gone! We had a fantastic night at the Holiday Inn last month, with the awards ceremony presided over by the Two Ronnies, aka David Green and Howard Vollans, who later became the Three Ronnies with the help of Max Ponsonby. For those who missed it, here is a list of the awards given.

- Best set and costume design: Blackadder
- Most promising performer: Sarah Feltham
- Best young performer: Emma Stevens
- Most entertaining routine: Underwater ballet, Dick Whittington
- Exceptional dedication to backstage duties: Neil Lane
- Achievement in directing: Andrew Corcoran and Emma Hay, Blackadder
- Production of the year: Dick Whittington
- Directors' Choices: 1. Andrew Corcoran (The 39 Steps): Matthew Fearnley; 2. Vanessa Morgan (Of Mice and Men): Rob Treen; 3. Alison Berrisford (Dick Whittington): Brian Wiggins; 4. Roger Goddard (50 Shades of Beige) Dave Healing; Andrew Corcoran (Blackadder): Emma Hay
- Best supporting actor: Damien Dickens
- Best supporting actress: Anja Parkes
- Best actor: Mike Richardson
- Best actress: Emma Hay
- The Don Hughes Award: Mark Clayton
- The Paul Vollans Lifetime Achievement Award: Simon Wicks
- The All & Sundry "From the Heart" Award: Howard Vollans

As far as the Panto goes, things are really taking shape now and it looks like being a great show. Tickets sales are going well and are standing at above 60% for the whole run, which over ten performances is terrific. There's still time, of course, for family and friends to book their tickets if they haven't already, so please spread the word.

The schools production of Dr Jeekyll and Mr Hyde is, of course, our next production and there is good news there too, as pre-bookings for the show have started coming in already, even selling out for one particular performance and close to doing so for another. There are still two parts to be cast, however, one for a younger man and one for an older man. If you are interested in either role please e-mail John Edwards-Bick at [johnnyrotten7@hotmail.com](mailto:johnnyrotten7@hotmail.com) .

Before that though, as mentioned last time, smAll and Sundry, our youth section are showcasing their efforts with performances of Little Miss Wormwood. The dates for your diary are the evening of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday afternoon 19<sup>th</sup> February.

A Darker Shade Of Beige, our studio production in April, is due to start rehearsing in mid-January. There is still one part to cast, though and that is for the role of David, the son of one of the patients. He can be anything from twenty to maybe 45, so if you know of anyone who may be interested, please email me on [roger@goddard45.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:roger@goddard45.orangehome.co.uk) .

A director and assistant director has now been appointed for our summer production of One Man, Two Guvnors, namely Mike and Kim Jeffrey.

### **News from around the UK**

In Norfolk this month, someone stole 1500 geese from a farm. Police said they want to speak to anyone who has been offered a cheap goose! Well I certainly haven't!

In Mansfield, a character in the panto of Peter Pan proposed to his girlfriend on stage during one of the performances and, luckily, she said yes. Aah. Wonder if anything so exciting will happen during ours?!

In Northern Ireland, a goat went berserk after being denied entry to a supermarket. First of all it butted a pensioner, then jumped on top of a parked car. Didn't belong to Paddy McGinty by any chance, did it?

In other news this month, NAPFLIX has come up with a new product for people who can't sleep. They show endless and boring television programmes especially designed to send you to sleep. It's true. Their first effort shows a programme called "The World of Tupperware". Maybe in time they'll bring out a box set!

I also bought some Armageddon cheese this week. The label said Best Before End.

And finally..... actually, I don't really need to put in any jokes this month, you can just watch re-runs of the American election or even watch the news. However, did you know that I sold my vacuum cleaner the other day? It was just gathering dust!

You may groan but remember, as Shakespeare once said "Better a witty fool than a foolish wit".

That's all folks,

Merry Christmas,

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