

THE BOARDS NEWSLETTER

March 2016

Welcome to spring and the March edition of The Boards. Since the last edition, “Fifty Shades Of Beige” has finished its run in Bromsgrove and I can report that it went down very well with sell-out audiences. The feedback was excellent, so a big well done to cast and production team alike.

The next production is, of course, “Blackadder” and the good news is that the show is now fully cast, with the exception of Baldick. So if you fancy taking on this role, contact the director, Andrew Corcoran (andrewcorcoran@blueberrytraining.com) There is an enormous cast, too big to list and rehearsals got underway this week (that’s that speak-y, read-y thing).

Committee News

The programme through to next summer is pretty well sorted, with just a few hurdles to jump first. In September, “Who’s Afraid Of Virginia Wolf” is scheduled. In December the Panto will be “Robin Hood and The Babes In The Wood”. Auditions for this will be on July 10th (2.00 to 4.0 pm) for ensemble and July 12th (7.00 to 9.00 pm) for principals, both at Rowney Green.

In March we hope to do another schools’ production of “An Inspector Calls” at the Palace, subject to a licence being available and in April we will be doing a studio production of “A Darker Shade Of Beige”, the sequel to “Fifty Shades”.

Finally, in June, we hope to do the West End hit “The Play That Went Wrong”, or “Noises Off”, this again being subject to being able to obtain the licence.

All our furniture and other acquired items are currently stored in a container at Hobdays’ yard, Stoke Prior and we plan to move this (as soon as a date can be agreed) to a storage facility in Alvechurch, using our trailer. Once we have a date (almost certainly a Saturday), we will be needing some willing volunteers to load and unload the trailer, so in the meantime start pumping that iron.

Looking ahead, another date for your diary is Oscars Night, which will be held at the Holiday Inn, Bromsgrove on 12th November. A great night, not to be missed. More details will follow in the fullness of time.

Member News

Great news of our own Max Ponsonby. He has recently won the Catemians Public Speaking Competition at his school, on the subject of "Why bombing people to create a change doesn't work". He now goes on to the regional finals next month, so well done and good luck to him.

News of further success for our members comes from across the sea in America. Richard Walter, an ex-All & Sundry member has been involved with staging an evening of short plays in New York. The plays were all premieres from England, including "Thought For Today" by Graham Forbes and "Fade Away" by Mike Richardson. The plays were very well received and obtained an excellent local review, so congratulations to Graham and Mike, international authors!

Other News

It's official – man flu does exist! A survey in America has discovered that men have a weaker immune system than women, due to having fewer chromosomes, which means they find it harder to fight off illnesses such as flu. See, we told you it was true.

Also this month, I saw that a bartender in Austria was fined £55 for emitting a loud belch in a family area. It was classed as an offence against common decency. Perhaps I should audition him (assuming it was a male) for a role in the next Fifty Shades!

In a similar vein, Salford Council banned swearing in communal areas, issuing an appropriate bye-law. Liberty International are complaining about this very non-specific edict, saying there should be proper guidelines as to what is deemed inappropriate. You couldn't write it, could you?

Interesting fact of the month. Which company is the largest tyre manufacturer in the world? Pirelli? Michelin? Apparently it's Lego, who manufacture 320 million a year, almost double that produced by Michelin. Also, there are approx. 60 Lego bricks for every person in the world.

And finally, I decided to get a muzzle for my bad-tempered pet goose. It's nothing flashy, but it fits the bill.

That's all,

Rog.