

# ***THE BOARDS NEWSLETTER***

## ***Christmas Edition***

Season's greetings to everyone. Yes, it will indeed soon be Christmas and even sooner, it will be Panto-time! Rehearsals are coming to an end now and the cast are ready and raring to go. Everyone has worked extremely hard and there is a feeling that it's going to be an amazing show. Ticket sales stand at 73% over 11 shows, which is fantastic and well up even on last year. So, make sure friends and family have their tickets and don't miss out.

During November, of course, we had our Oscars Night at the Holiday Inn. This was very well attended and I'm sure all who did so had a most enjoyable night, so hearty congratulations to the organising committee, headed by Victoria. For those who didn't go (and there can't be many) and for those who may have forgotten (too much table wine), here is a list of the main award winners, chosen by a panel of independent judges and not the committee.

**Best set and costume design:** Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde

**Most promising newcomer:** Paul Smith

**Best young performer:** Daisy Green & Archie Marks

**Most entertaining routine:** UV scene in Robin Hood

**Exceptional dedication to backstage duties:** John Edwards-Bick

**Best achievement in directing:** Little Miss Wormwood (youth production)

**Production of the year:** Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood

**Best supporting actor:** Ed Butler

**Best supporting actress:** Ruth Messenger

**Best Actress:** Sarah Feltham

**Best Actor:** John Aubrey

**From the Heart Award:** Sarah and Catrin Charmley

**Don Hughes Award:** Janine Parkes

**Paul Vollans Award:** Graham Forbes

More good news this month was the announcement of Prince Harry's engagement. Personally, I think Angela Merkel is a strange choice of partner for Harry but who am I to judge? We wish them well.

As we go into the new year, there is a slight lull in proceedings, prior to the next production's rehearsals commencing and to fill this void we will be having a Social Night at Rowney Green on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January. As you may have seen in Vanessa's recent e-mail, this will be held in the Committee Room and will take the form of a light-hearted quiz. We will gather at 7.30 pm and as this will coincide with Rowney Green's own

social evening, there will be a bar open in the other back room all evening, which we may avail ourselves of! It's free and you can just turn up on the night, but it would be helpful if you would let Vanessa know if you are coming, so we have an idea of numbers.

Our first production in 2018 is, of course, my play "Last Tango In Redditch" in April. Auditions were held recently and I would like to thank people for coming along and reading for me. The play has largely been cast but there is still a part open for a young woman aged in her late twenties. It's a relatively small part and if you are interested in this, please contact me on 07971-740643. Similarly, I will be looking for a Stage Manager and/or an Assistant Director, so anyone wanting to know more about this should also be in touch.

Following on from my production, there will be another Studio production in June and I can confirm that this will be the thriller "Gaslight", directed by Ed Butler. Watch out for further details and information regarding auditions etc.

I can also tell you that next year's Schools' production at the Crescent in September will be the Sherlock Holmes thriller Sign Of Four. This promises to be another exciting production, so again, watch this space for forthcoming details.

Well, if you are going to the Christmas Market in Birmingham this year, I hope you enjoy yourselves but watch out for the food, especially the German sausages, they're the wurst.

I don't know if I've ever told you this, but I've got three cats at home. Surprisingly, it seems they're really into politics .... even Brexit. One is for remain, one is for leaving and one's on the fence.

How do you comfort a grammar fanatic? "There, they're, their".

And finally, what did Jay Z call his wife before they were married? Feyonce.

That's all folks. Have a great Christmas and New Year,

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