

The Rep

The Newsletter of Lancing Repertory Players.

Number 66

Summer 2011

'THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST' BY OSCAR WILDE

21 – 23 July 2011 at Lancing Parish Hall

I have been very happy and honoured to be asked to direct a play for the Lancing Rep, whose wide variety of work I have long admired and in a village where I spent some of my childhood life with dreams of the theatre which has become a lifetime's love affair.

For any group of actors, the achievement of bringing to life such a great comedy as Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" is definitely a challenge. We are dealing with a bygone age, although in many ways - more and more as we have looked - little seems to have changed, which is of course why the play is a living classic and so often revived. There is a demanding epigrammatic language which requires a lot of commitment if it is to be brought to life though, as we have been discovering in rehearsals, when it does it rewards by the minute with revelations about the human condition which are not always expected in comedies of style. We laugh, but at the same moment we empathise with the characters and their struggles with the eternal problems of identity, marriage, love and above all being British. Fortunately, the Rep has assembled some of its most experienced and talented players - together with some new faces - to undertake this delightful summer journey. Wilde wrote much of the play in 1894 whilst on holiday in Worthing. It was the last year in his life before the axe fell and a petulant and unforgiving society whom he had understood only too well, subjected him to prison and disgrace. He undoubtedly reached Worthing by train from Victoria (though it was unnecessary in those days to say which city that station was in) via Lancing. We look forward to welcoming you to it and trust that he would have approved our efforts and homage to his genius as he passed (or perhaps passes) through.

DAVID RYALL – Guest Director

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I would like to start by saying a big thank you to those stalwarts who came along to the AGM. It was good to see you. What concerned me however was where was everybody else? All our members are entitled to attend all meetings, and especially the AGM. I wondered why people were staying away and I considered the fact that perhaps, like me, they were finding all meetings boring. It is with this in mind, that I invite all of you to the **new styled Post Production meeting on August 1st**. It will be a different format and much more informal. Not sure if I have done the right thing? Come along and see for yourself.

Meanwhile, I take this opportunity to welcome David Ryall as our guest director. He has been a supporter of our plays for many years. As most of us already know, David is a professional actor, and can quite often be seen on the small screen, popping up in films, and most recently he appeared as Feste in Twelfth Night at the National Theatre. We have all enjoyed having David to guide us through the wonderful words of Oscar Wilde.

I hope you will come and support 'The Importance of Being Earnest' and PLEASE bring your friends and relations. Please remember we no longer reserve seats, so if you want the front row get there early. Thank you for your support.

Marlene Tincknell, Chair

MESSAGE FROM PLAY SELECTION

As I hurriedly write this piece for the newsletter, the rehearsals from The Importance of Being Ernest are in full swing. It has been fun so far, but these next few weeks will be a lot of hard work. It is not easy to come in as a guest director and David has done an excellent job. He has given us all lots of insight into how to get 'the dance' in the performance, and food for thought about how to get into our characters.

In between learning my lines and sorting out the costumes, I have also been looking at the script for the PantomimeOh yes, it's that time again! This year we are presenting Dick Whittington, written by Wendy Norton. In a roundabout way it could be considered a revival as we have performed this version a few years ago. It will be an interesting challenge for me. See audition details below this report.

'YOUNG REP' Summer School – I will be holding a meeting at Rep H.Q. on Friday 29th July to discuss my ideas with all. I would like to have a rough idea how many to expect, so please let me know on any of the contacts given if any young members or anyone willing to help will be attending. Please get in touch - phone numbers are: 01903 243558 (home); 07528 201229 (mobile); dramadiva@btinternet.com (email).

This is my last message as Play Selection chairman. I have enjoyed the last few years, and would like to thank my fellow selectors, Wendy D, Wendy N. Ian and Mary and all the Directors who have joined us to try and choose

something to entertain you all. Some have been extremely entertaining and some perhaps not so, but ...'you can please some of the people!

It is VERY important that we get a lot of support for 'Earnest'. Our H.Q. needs a lot of maintenance and every penny counts. Please don't come alone – see if a neighbour would like to come with you, as a friend who perhaps hasn't seen one of our productions before. It would be so rewarding to see a field of faces when the curtains roll back. We have plenty of flyers, if anyone would like to collect some from Rep and give out to the people you meet every day. The newsagent, the butcher, the greengrocer etc. Pop in any Tuesday and grab a handful....!

As I hand over the baton to Jody, I thank you all for your support, and wish him every success for the future. I finish, as always, by saying ...See you at the play We need your bum on a seat, Darlings!!!! **Marlene Tincknell**

PANTO AUDITION NOTICE:

7.30pm 30th August 2011 at Rep HQ for Principals

7.30pm 2nd September 2011 at Rep HQ for Chorus

Auditions will be held at H.Q. on **Tuesday 30th August at 7.30pm** and there will be a meeting for all potential **chorus folk** on the following **Friday, 2nd September, starting at 7.30pm**. Anyone wanting to audition should contact Marlene, after the end of the July play please, using the following:

by phone (01903) 243558, mobile 07528 201229 or

email dramadiva@btinternet.com or

come to **Post Production meeting 1st August** where copies of the script will be available.

Marlene Tincknell

SOCIAL EVENTS

As you may be aware, I have now taken over the Social Event planning from Julie which, of course, means I have a lot to live up to (no pressure there then!!). I would really like to do my best to make the events as good as the ones Julie used to organise SO I need your help. Could you please let me know what sort of event you would like, all ideas are very welcome as I would like to make up a whole year's calendar of events that people will come along to and have a good time. I have a couple of good friends that are going to be working with me on this, but would also welcome anyone else who would like to become involved.

Please contact me with suggestions or offers of help (or both) either by email on susie.pickett1@googlemail.com

Or by phone after 6pm on (01903) 879211. Thank you in advance for your time

Susie Pickett

FUND RAISING

For my sins I have not only taken on the Social Events but also the Fund Raising (and we really need more funds). At present we are coming up with different ideas of what to do, along with continuing some of the old trusty favourites.

I would like to ask you all to start thinking Lancing Rep if you are having a clear out at home. We are going to start collecting jumble, clothes, bric-a-brack etc. very soon (once we have water-proofed the shed) and so please try to keep hold of anything that you might otherwise give to others or throw away and I will let you know when we will be ready to take things from you. I am lucky enough to have a 'man with a van' who will (with a little persuading) be able to collect things from you if you are unable to bring it to us.

If you think you have some bits and pieces that might be suitable please contact me on either the email address or telephone number details shown above. Thank you for your help

Susie Pickett

HQ MAINTENANCE

Dear Members, I am pleased to announce that at this year's AGM I agreed to take on the responsibility of HQ maintenance. As I am sure everyone is aware, our HQ building is in need of some attention!!

So we are planning to get a group of members together on the first or second weekend of August to renovate the building with a good lashing of creosote and a touch of paint inside. This will not only prolong the life of the building but will also make it a nicer place to meet. Please anyone who can spare a day, or part day, over those weekends contact me with your availability. Music and a BBQ are being planned to make it a good team building fun day!

If you don't have old clothes and getting dirty is a problem for you, let me know and overalls can be arranged. There are a whole list of other tasks such as stocktaking, clearing the brambles and other growth from the site, fixing the holes in the workshop walls etc. etc. etc.

If we can save costs of materials to Rep, that would be even better so if you have timber, paint, creosote, roof felt, etc that you would like to donate to the project, this would be gratefully received.

It would be great to see as many of you as possible at our fun weekend. The Good News is that I believe there will not be the need for such an event again for at least another 5 YEARS!!

Anyone interested in helping with the HQ Renovation of a Lifetime please let me know. My email address is jodybull@hotmail.co.uk or telephone (01903) 521365.

Jody Bull

CONGRATULATIONS to Steve Budd and Claire Fawke on their forthcoming wedding on 16th July. It is quite some time since we had a wedding between two REP members and we all send Steve & Claire very best wishes for their wedding day and their future life together.

SPONSORS REQUIRED: Last year Brad Dickinson, Rosalind's son, cycled from London to Paris to raise funds for the Worthing Branch of the Alzheimers Society. This year he will be cycling from London to Geneva. If anyone would like to sponsor him, please telephone (01903) 521221 for details.

100 CLUB WINNERS:

<u>May</u>	Paul Dickinson, Mr A. Morgan, Mr Hardman, Steve Budd	£5 each
	Susie Pickett	£10

We have just a few numbers without 'owners' and each costs just £8/year so why not contact Wendy Norton and give yourself a chance of a prize in our next draw. **Wendy Norton (01903) 241392**

From The Box Office: Adrian is looking for helpers for Front of House duties on 21, 22, 23 July. If anyone could spare an evening or two to help sell raffle tickets or programmes he would love to hear from you. Ladies, gentlemen, boys or girls, he would happily welcome you all. Please telephone him **Adrian Tincknell (01903) 243558**

From the Production Secretary: Has anyone got a large handbag we could use for the play? It needs to be a black or brown bag with handles and look like a doctor's bag only bigger. Give Marlene a ring if you can help. **Marlene Tincknell (01903) 243558**

From the Secretary/Membership: Those of you who were at the AGM will know that I planned to step down from my post as Secretary at that time, but there were so many other vacant posts that I decided to stay on. I also took on the job of Membership Secretary at the AGM, but our membership is not large and the two jobs sit very easily together as both need members' details. I have now put all the records onto a spreadsheet and archived those of previous years on a CD. A large percentage of the current membership is on email now so keeping in touch is not difficult. There is one skill you must have these days: you must be computer literate and have a colour printer for those things that do require 'hard copy'.

I would like to step down at the AGM next April/May so if you feel you would like to take the job on, please get in touch and I can show you what is involved so you can get a feel for the job before that date. My contact details are at the bottom of Page 4 because I am also the Editor of this newsletter. **Wendy Dowse (01903) 753139**

Further Reminder of dates:

17th July: 'Get In Sunday' for the play: If you are available, please come and give us a hand, even for a few hours. 8.30am at Rep HQ and approximately 9.30am onwards at Lancing Parish Hall.
21st 22nd 23rd July: 'The Importance of Being Earnest' by Oscar Wilde: 7.30pm every evening; help needed Front of House selling Programmes and Raffle Tickets.
29th July: Young Rep Summer School: Initial Meeting for our young members.
1st August: Post Production Meeting – All members welcome to try our new format event.
6th/7th & 13th/14th August: Renovation weekends for HQ buildings and site
30th August: Auditions for Principals for Pantomime (details above)
2nd Sept: Auditions for Chorus for Pantomime (details above)

Forthcoming Productions by Neighbouring Amateur Dramatic Societies

Stage Door – The Windmill Theatre, Littlehampton (01903) 722224
13th – 16th July 2011: 'Pull the Other One' by Robbins

Cissbury Players – Findon Village Hall
21st – 23rd July: 'Funny Money' by Ray Cooney

Arundel Players – Priory Theatre, Arundel (01903) 882862
22nd – 27th August: 'The Sleeping Prince' by Terrance Rattigan

Southwick Players
20th – 23rd July: 'In Holland Stands a House' (story of Anne Frank)

Rustington Players – The Woodlands Centre, Rustington (01903) 713362
13th – 16th July 2011: 'Run for Your Wife' by R. Cooney

USEFUL CONTACTS FOR REFERENCE

Chair: Marlene Tincknell – Tel: (01903) 243558
Secretary/
Membership: Wendy Dowse – Tel: (01903) 753139
Treasurer/
Box Office: Adrian Tincknell – Tel: (01903) 243558

Socials/Fund Raising: Susie Pickett – Tel: (01903) 879211
HQ Maintenance: Jody Bull – Tel: (01903) 521365
Play Selection: Jody Bull – Tel: (01903) 521365
100 Club: Wendy Norton – Tel: (01903) 241392

For all enquiries, please contact a member of the committee or go to our website at:

www.lancingrep.co.uk

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