

## **A TASTE OF JAZZ**

We will be welcoming to the Barn two shows presented by Dorton House, Sevenoaks, in aid of The Royal London Society for the Blind in the coming months. The first of these shows will feature all American gospel singer LD Frazier who will be making his first appearance at the Barn Theatre on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm. He recently put forth an astounding one-hour performance at the American University in Cairo where the singer engaged everyone in the audience in the performance and related every song to a personal story of his own.

Frazier was born in Cleveland and grew up in Buffalo and Los Angeles. He later moved to Detroit and sang with the harmony group Richard Green's Acapells. In 1974 Frazier decided to devote his life to full-time gospel singing and from New York he has taken his gospel songs all around the world, performing in countries including Brazil, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, Egypt and Europe as well as making regular visits to the United Kingdom.

The strong relationship Frazier had with his late grandmother is evident in his concerts. The song "Love Keeps Me in a Wonderful Kind of Way" is dedicated to her and he talks about how she made him participate in a prayer service everyday for a few hours "all before breakfast." He also plays another song he said that she used to sing all the time, called "We'll Understand It Better." This is an old song people used to sing in the American deep south, which he referred to as a "clapping song," a description which was absolutely on target as the audience could not stop themselves from clapping even after he stopped playing, encouraging him to play the song over again, pointing out that "the wonderful thing about music is that you can play it for as long as you want."



**LD Frazier**

Frazier makes every concert a memorable experience with his unique, booming voice and his ability to engage and involve the audience from the very start.

The second event features the Beverley Vaughan Quintet which will be appearing at the Barn on Thursday 29th November. Beverley Vaughan's musical journey to becoming a singer began at the Barn Theatre in the 1970s when she appeared playing the tenor horn with The Oxted Band. She went on to study at the London College of Music, following which she moved to Manchester to undertake a 3 year diploma course in performance. On conclusion of the course she fulfilled one of her ambitions -

to play with the renowned James Shepherd Versatile Brass - the first female to break the ranks of this previously all male group. In 1992, having returned south, Beverley decided it was time to address her acting ambitions. Her debut role was "mother to Oliver Twist" in CTC's production at the Harlequin Theatre, Redhill in which she staggered on stage, screamed, gave birth and died! Since then Beverley has taken many lead roles including Mrs Barnum ("Barnum"), Sally Bowles ("Cabaret"), Audrey ("Little Shop of Horrors") and Edith Piaf ("Piaf"). All the musical roles Beverley has undertaken have gone some way to building her confidence to become a solo singer and, following her portrayal of Piaf, she decided it was now or never. Since then, Beverley has recorded her first CD - "What's New?" and works regularly as a vocalist, primarily as a trio with Paul Malsom and Jo Fooks.



**Beverley Vaughan**

## **NO SMOKING POLICY**

With the introduction of the new laws banning smoking in public places the theatre Trustees have now extended this ban to include all areas within 15 feet of an open door or window, in order to ensure that there is not a problem with blowback of second hand smoke into the building. If this proves difficult to implement or police then consideration will be given to the introduction of a completely smoke free site. Please do your bit to help us enforce these new regulations.



## **CRACKER 2008**

Cast get priority booking forms for this magical evening but you can put your name down for tickets and be the first in line once the public booking opens. Ring now and book 01959 561811

## **REMEMBERING ELSIE**

It is with regret that we announce the recent death of Elsie Hallson, who together with husband Eric, were well-known figures at the Barn providing Props for many shows. Our condolences go to Eric.