

Oxted Players

Our Young Players did us proud with their production of Five in "Treasure Island" specially written for them by David Rowan and directed by June Brown. Not only did the children perform on stage but some were key technical personnel. Ticket sales were excellent and audiences very appreciative. Sigrid Sherrill from The Chronicle reviewed the play as follows:

"Take four adventurous friends, a cute although not altogether obedient dog and a head-scratching mystery to solve and you have the ingredients for the Young Oxted Players' most recent performance.

And it proved a very successful combination judging by the reaction from an almost full auditorium at the Barn Theatre.

Written by David Rowan, the play tells the story of the children's decision to take part in an adaptation of Treasure Island which is being used as a cover by some under-handed and greedy criminals.

Newcomer Florence O'Mahoney was a real bright spark on stage with her exuberant performance as Sam. The other children, Jemima Bliss, Nicholas Fanthorpe and Casey Bow, were also excellent but special mention must go to Ben Atterbury for his hilarious interpretation of jumped up actor Ellery Bellerby and to Dominic Steiert as the muddle-headed Mr. Evans. In fact the whole cast showed plenty of enthusiasm to put on a very enjoyable production."

This was the third bi-annual Young Oxted Players production directed by June and frequently during rehearsals when the exuberance of the children adversely affected their concentration and discipline June Brown was heard to say "Never again!". However, amazingly everything and everyone came together by the first night. At the after-show party, there were pleas from the children for another Youth production in 2006 and June conceded "We'll think about it" which was taken by all as a definite 'yes'!

Our adult players now take centre stage with their forthcoming production of J.B. Priestley's An Inspector Calls directed by Amanda Ryan (19 - 22 May 2004 at 7.45 p.m.). This classic play is on the GCSE English syllabus for schools and will be an ideal tool for revision so please spread the word! The Birling household receives an unannounced visit from the mysterious Inspector Goole who investigating the death of a young woman, Eva Smith. Each of the family has a secret and the determined Inspector, played by Peter Damesick, slowly proves their collective guilt before a final twist in the story. Tickets are £7.00 (£5.00 on 19th May) and can be obtained from Ibbett Mosely on 01883 712241.

Our Young Players workshop (22 - 28 August 2004) is adopting a different format this year. As usual, under the direction of David Rowan, the members participating will throughout the week still work towards the presentation of a play at the Theatre on Saturday 28 August but included in their workshop fee will be an allocation of tickets for distribution among family and friends. This means that this year tickets will not go on sale to the general public.

Our Autumn play, to be directed by Chris Hopher, will be Caught on the Hop, a comedy by Derek Benfield.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Society, please contact Elinor Nelson on 01883 716566 or visit www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk to obtain an application form. If you would like to hire a costume at very reasonable rates from our very comprehensive Costume Store, contact June Brown on 01883 714460.

The Barn Sinfonietta



American pianist Andrew Anderson performing Beethoven's concerto with the BSO

The final concert of its highly acclaimed second season under Conductor and Music Director Johan Michael Katz will given on Saturday 22nd May at 7:30pm in the United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted. The programme is as follows:

Mendelssohn - Sinfoniesatz Mozart - Piano Concerto in A K414 with Swiss Pianist Matthias Kipfer Copland - Appalachian Spring (reduced orchestration by the composer) Foote - Suite in E, Opus 63.

Discussing our successes so far Urs Schneider, conductor and international recording artist writes: "Absolutely amazing what you get out of your orchestra."; Conductor and composer Noam Sheriff writes: "It's a beautiful performance."; Derrick Graham of the Surrey Mirror wrote: "Their latest concert in the Barn Theatre was a wonderful event."

The Barn Sinfonietta continues to be dedicated to the performance of beautiful music in a relaxed atmosphere. The orchestra is looking forward to the Michael Tippett Centenary in 2005.

Anything Goes Kenley Holiday Workshop

This talented Youth Group now in their ninth season at the Barn will be staging the hit musical Anything Goes in August, so say Bon Voyage and set sail this summer from Wednesday 18th - Saturday 21st August and join the cast on this ocean going musical. With direction by Martin Patrick, Musical Direction by Michael Burbidge and Choreographed by Andrea Allen this production promises to be delightful, delicious and delovely. With music and lyrics by Cole Porter this show is The Tops.

If you wish to have more details please contact the Company Manager Sally Dallosso on 020 8660 4400.

Barn Theatre AGM

The Barn AGM will be held on Wednesday 26th May at 8pm. The meeting will be followed by the customary reception with refreshments, to which all are invited. This AGM will be followed in July by the two resident societies AGMs. First the Oxted Players then Oxted Operatics. We understand the present Chairman of OOS is standing down this year.