

# Oxted Operatic Society

## Trevor Constable

It was with great sadness that I informed our membership that Trevor Constable passed away recently. Trevor had been a trusty stalwart of our Society for many years behind the scenes, as well as doing more than his fair stint on the Executive Committee. It was a tribute to his hard work and popularity that the cast of *Godspell* asked to dedicate their production to his memory. Of equal testament to his popularity was the fine turn out of people from all walks of life who attended his funeral at St Mary's, Oxted on 13<sup>th</sup> April.

## AGM – Date for the Diary

ADVANCE notice to all members, that this year's AGM will be held at 8:00pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at the Barn Theatre, followed by some light refreshment.

## Godspell

WITH grateful thanks to Rob Stevens, Beth Bryant and Simon James, those involved in our recent production, *Godspell*, will no doubt be reflecting on what an enjoyable show it was to participate in, and certainly response from the audience was very positive, supporting our direction to do something a little bit different. Response from our reviewers was equally encouraging:

*"Paul Robinson delivered a splendid leading performance as Jesus with just the requisite amount of understated reverence. However, vocal performance highlights for me came from Richard Allen (John the Baptist/Judas), Jane Maisey and MD Simon James himself, who took the solo for 'On The Willows'. In all, this production of Godspell was never bereft of 'God' and rarely short of 'spell' binding, reminding the audience that you don't have to be 'Christian' to enjoy it."* – Lance Milton (NODA)

*"The pace was excellent with the groupings and dances showing the expertise of Beth Bryant the choreographer."*

*"This musical has stood the test of time and achieved cult status".... "and on this performance it could be seen why this musical has survived."* - Peter Steptoe (Words & Music)

**Bye Bye Birdie (OJOS) - Weds 18<sup>th</sup> - Sat 21<sup>st</sup> July 2012 (7:30pm / Sat Mat 2:30pm)**

AUDITIONS for OJOS production *Bye Bye Birdie* were of a very high standard, and rehearsals have now started under the direction of Peter Reed, Zoe Humphries and Catherine Blundell.

The OJOS always produce high quality shows, and we hope you will support them in their efforts. We will also be manning a stall and performing short extracts from this show at the Oxted Carnival on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July at Master Park, so please come along and support us.

Set in the 1950's, *Bye Bye Birdie* follows what happens when Rock Star Conrad Birdie's agent concocts a final publicity stunt before Conrad's induction into the Army. Conrad will bid a typical American teen-age girl goodbye with an all-American kiss. With musical theatre classics such as, *An English Teacher*, *The Telephone Hour*, *Put on a Happy Face*,

*One Boy*, *A Lot of Livin' to Do*, *Kids*, and *Spanish Rose*, it is the tops in imagination and frivolity; a show that will be enjoyed by cast and audience alike.

Tickets (from £10): 07530 528094 or online at [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk)

**CHESSE - Tues 20<sup>th</sup> - Sat 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012 (7:30pm)**

We welcome Paul Longhurst, Fran Newitt and Steven Geraghty as our production team for this West End smash hit musical. Our greatest challenge yet, which promises to be a cracker!

Set in the high tension world of chess grand masters, it is essentially a love story with some wonderful music and drama. The principal pawns form a love triangle: the loutish American Grandmaster, the earnest Russian champion, and the Hungarian-American female chess second, who arrives at the international championships with the American but falls for the Russian. From Tyrol to Thailand the players, lovers, politicians, CIA and KGB make their moves to the pulse of this monumental rock score. Several numbers, including 'One Night in Bangkok' and 'I Know Him So Well', are international hits.

Acquaint sessions: Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> & Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> July  
Auditions: Tues 10<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> July

For more information about getting involved with this production, please contact Nicky Roberts (Production Secretary) on 07946 162107 or email [secretary@oxtedoperatic.co.uk](mailto:secretary@oxtedoperatic.co.uk).

Tickets (£15): 07530 528094 or online at [www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk](http://www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk)

## Future Productions

Our 2013 productions are confirmed as:  
*The Sound of Music* (16 - 20 April 2013)  
*Oliver!* (19 - 23 November 2013).

Looking further ahead the Committee are currently planning the 2014 and 2015 programme, which we trust you will find as varied and exciting as ever with something for everyone, so watch this space.

For general information regarding any of our productions please contact:

Dena Watts (01883 723084  
email: [secretary@oxtedoperatic.co.uk](mailto:secretary@oxtedoperatic.co.uk))

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## June Sunday Club

As the first Sunday in June which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> is likely to be the main day for Jubilee celebrations we are changing Sunday Club to the 10<sup>th</sup>. Please make a note in your diary to join us then and raise a glass to our Queen.