

The Barnstormers prepare to journey 'Into the Woods'

Barn Theatre : Monday 26th April to Saturday 1st May 2004
Minack Theatre : Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2004

An assortment of familiar fairy tale characters will be converging on the Barn and Minack theatres in May next year when The Barnstormers stage their ambitious production of Stephen Sondheim's hit musical 'Into the Woods' in aid of the Barn 2000 Appeal. This production is being presented at the Barn Theatre from 26th April to 1st May 2004 and at the Minack Theatre in Porthcurno, Cornwall from 31st May to 4th June 2004.

'Into the Woods' brings to musical life the familiar Grimm's fairy tales of Cinderella, Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Ridinghood interwoven with an original story of a Baker and his Wife who desperately long for a child. James Lapine's clever and witty book and Stephen Sondheim's unforgettable music and lyrics combine to create a unique piece of theatre that has thrilled audiences on both sides of the Atlantic since its premiere in 1987, winning 3 Tony Awards including Best Book and Best Score.

The production team features the renowned talents of Paul Longhurst as Director and Jonathan Butcher as Musical Director, with production and set design in the wonderfully creative hands of Jill 'Wiggy' Wilson. It certainly promises to be one of the 'must see' Barn shows of 2004.

'Into the Woods' requires a cast of twenty representing the various fairy tale characters and a Narrator, and in order to make good use of the substantial acting talent available throughout the area, the company has decided to hold open auditions on Sunday 16th November 2003 at the Barn Theatre commencing at 2.00pm. It is still not too late to register your interest, so contact Richard Allen as soon as possible on 01883-346093 or richard@thebarnstormers.org if you want to audition (Sorry - over 16's only please). Further information is also available by visiting The Barnstormers website at www.thebarnstormers.org.

In addition to the twenty strong cast, The Barnstormers are looking for many more volunteers to fill the numerous jobs backstage and front of house at the Minack, so once again contact Richard Allen as soon as possible if you would like to be involved in any way with this production.

Christmas drinks reception for all

Christmas festivities start early at the Barn this year on Sunday December 6th, with a drinks reception for all our members, supporters and readers of this publication. It is a chance to meet friends old and new in the convivial atmosphere of the new bar especially decorated for Christmas and looking at its best. There is no charge, no fundraising in background we just want everyone to come along, relax and join us from 12 noon till 2pm whilst enjoying a noggin and natter.

'A Christmas Cracker'

The following Saturday 13th December is the annual Christmas show, this year called 'A Christmas Cracker' the traditional mix of carols, music and readings supplemented by all the surprises you would expect from a cracker including some corny jokes too. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served during the interval and we are looking forward to a really splendid evening and one not to be missed. Tickets always sell out very quickly and usually there are none left to sell at Ibbetts so please order early and avoid disappointment. You can phone your credit card order through to the Churchill Gallery, 01959 561811 or complete the order form on the back of the handbill enclosed herewith and pop it in the post but don't delay do it today.

If you are interested in joining the cast and choir on stage or helping in any other capacity please ring Bruce and register your interest, same number as usual 01959 561811 or e-mail to Barntheatre@btinternet.com

HMS Pinafore

Barbara O'Neill, a great supporter of the Barn and its 2000 Appeal returns next year when HMS Pinafore sails into the Barn on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th February 2004.

You are invited to board ship and sing the choruses, enjoy the witty dialogue, empathise with the beautiful Josephine as she chooses between a mansion owned by Sir Joseph Porter KCB and supper served up in a pudding basin supplied by Able Seaman Ralph Rackstraw.

Will she upset her father and what is the bum-boat woman's dark secret?

This colourful production promises wonderful music by some of the area's leading singers and all this in aid of Barn 2000 Appeal. The money will be used to go towards the air-conditioning system.

The New Foxtrot Serenaders

Are returning to the Barn Theatre on Friday 12th March 2004 at 7.45pm to recreate a nostalgic musical review of timeless classics from the first half of the 20th century by songwriters such as Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin and Hoagy Carmichael. Their varied repertoire also includes Trad. Jazz, ragtime, Charlestons and famous radio signature tunes.

In 1997 Graham Wright (trumpet and vocals) and John Ashworth (piano and arranger) got together to form The New Foxtrot Serenaders, both having played together previously in other dance bands. Because of Graham's love of dance band music from his childhood days, he now prefers to play and sing the wonderful music from the 20s and 30s. John Ashworth, a self taught pianist, has been arranging music for dance bands for over 20 years and all his arrangements are now used with the New Foxtrot Serenaders. Having played many times at the Barn Theatre, Graham decided to help the theatre in 1997 by putting his first concert on in aid of the Barn Theatre 2000 fund and since then has returned each year to do the same. The New Foxtrot Serenaders will be back at the Barn Theatre, following their concerts at the Royal Festival Hall and The Chequer Mead in East Grinstead. So come along and hear the fantastic sound of the dance band music that brings back those wonderful memories. If you wish to find out more about The New Foxtrot Serenaders then please look at our website www.newfoxtrotserenaders.co.uk.

Tickets £8, to book telephone 01959 561811 (available on this number until 23rd February 2004) and thereafter from Ibbett Mosely 01883 712241.



The New Foxtrot Serenaders