

Oxted Operatic Society

Chess Tues 20 - Sat 24 November - Evenings - 7:45pm

Chess is a fantastic musical about power, greed, love and obsession. It played to full houses and standing ovations on Broadway and in the West End. This highly acclaimed musical develops the ancient and distinguished game of chess into a metaphor for romantic rivalries and East-West political intrigue. 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.

Directed by Paul Longhurst with Steve Geraghty (MD), and Fran Newitt (Choreographer) this brilliant show, written by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus, of Abba fame, features many famous songs, not least *I Know Him So Well* and *One Night in Bangkok*.

An impressive cast includes Helen Burgess-Bartlett (*Florence*), Dave Lugg (*Freddie*), Paul Robinson (*Walter*), Fiona Steel (*Arbiter*), Carly Thompson (*Svetlana*), Bob Wilson (*Molakov*) and Chris Whitebread (*Anatoly*).

Quite simply **UNMISSABLE!** Tickets are selling *very quickly*, so book *now* to avoid disappointment. Tickets £15 are available from Ticket Secretary 07530 528094 or online at: www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk.

During the week of the show, patrons will have the opportunity to enter our Special Prize Draw with a chance to win one of two "42" Flat Screen televisions.

The Sound Of Music 16 to 20 April 2013

With a production team of Peter Reed (Director), Sue Rowlinson (MD), Nicky Roberts (Choreographer) preparations are already underway for the show, with the provisional get together dates as follows:

Tues 4 / Thurs 6 Dec - Adult Sing Through
Sun 9 Dec - Children's Auditions 2-6pm
Tues 11 Dec - Principal Auditions
Thurs 13 Dec - Chorus Auditions

As well as adults, this family favourite will require two teams of children. If you are interested in being involved, please contact the Production Secretary - Teresa Reed (01883 625731).

Oliver! 19 to 23 November 2013

Worthwhile noting the dates for this production, with further information due in the New Year.

Other News

The Committee hope you will join in congratulating and thanking *Stella Thomas* for taking up the mantle as President of the Society. Stella was awarded Life Membership several years ago, having earned her wings since joining the Society as tea-lady, too long ago for her to recall. She went on to play many notable leading roles in our productions as well as spending 22 years as membership secretary and more recently as the Welfare Office for the past decade.

On the social side, the Committee have pencilled in a *Variety Night* for 2nd February 2013 – more information due soon. Other planned events include a late *Spring Quiz* in April/May 2013 and possibly a *Kids Talent Show* for Summer 2013. For further information regarding any of our productions or events please contact Samantha Grant (0208 668 6386) or email: secretary@oxtedoperatic.co.uk

PJR

PARADE

Following a hugely successful Launch Night and a series of well attended auditions, we're delighted to report that The Barnstormers Minack 2013 production of *Parade* is fully cast, and this ambitious and exciting project is truly on its way.

The very large cast of over 60 performers features many Barn regulars, as well as a fresh intake of new talent, all attracted by the opportunity of performing this incredible musical at the spectacular venue of the Minack Theatre. The production team have been overwhelmed by the exceptional talent amongst the principals and ensemble and can't wait to get started on rehearsals.

The Barnstormers will be performing *Parade* at the Minack Theatre in Porthcurno (www.minack.com) from Monday 5th to Friday 9th August 2013.

Parade is the true story of a man falsely accused of murder, brought to emotional and theatrical life by acclaimed playwright Alfred Uhry, with music by Jason Robert Brown. Set in Atlanta, Georgia in 1913, this Tony Award winning musical features a gripping storyline and truly wonderful music drawing on influences from Sondheim to rhythm and blues and gospel.

The poignant and tragic story focuses on the evolving relationship between the accused, Leo Frank and his wife, Lucille, who fall in love in the midst of adversity. Already guilty in the eyes of everyone around him, the sensationalist press, a politically motivated prosecution team and a janitor's false testimony seal Leo's fate. In fact, the only person who eventually steps forward in his defence is his wife, who finds the strength and love to become his greatest champion.

Shortly prior to the Minack tour, on Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th July 2013, there will be a chance to see a series of Preview Performances staged in the open-air on 'The Larks' (formerly Laverock School) tennis courts located adjacent to the Barn Theatre's rear car park. Tickets for these Previews will be going on sale via the Barn Theatre website in the next month or so.

Please visit www.thebarnstormers.co.uk for further details of this production or alternatively contact Richard Allen on richard@thebarnstormers.co.uk.

Spud n' Bubbles

For what has now become a Barn tradition, for the first **Sunday Club** of the New Year, on 6th January we are again having a simple baked potato lunch with a meat or veggie option and like last year it will also include a glass of 'bubbles' or a soft drink. 'Spud n' Bubbles' will cost £7.50 (all profits to the theatre) and if possible please order and pay upfront. I can collect the money any time I am at the theatre or make contact if you haven't seen me. I shall serve at 1.00pm and everyone who has ordered and paid for their meal by 12.45pm will be guaranteed a spud but after that they will be available to anyone who turns up on the day and pays. Please e-mail me on:

carolyn.rowley@btinternet.com with orders as soon as possible (last e-mail orders 4th Jan) as I intend to restrict numbers to 50, on a first come, first served basis. Also, if you need to cancel please do so by 4th January or expect to be asked for the money as last year we had some 'no-shows'!

Caro