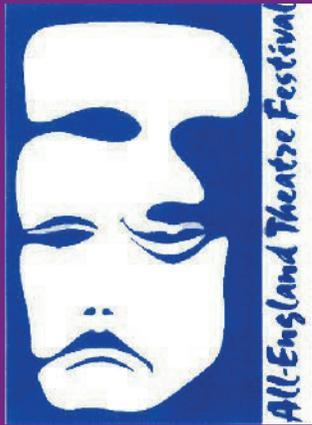


The All England Theatre Festival



The All-England Theatre Festival has a history dating back to 1919 when the British Drama League was formed. By June 1923 there were 360 affiliated societies which included amateur and professional bodies. In 1938 the final of the National Festival was held outside London for the first time, following the invitation of the Scottish Community Drama Association. Entries had

totalled 602. The war brought a significant reduction in the League's membership but activities continued as best they could throughout. The emphasis changed somewhat to encourage Youth Clubs and military units for educational purposes. The All-England Theatre Festival organises an eliminating series of festivals which leads ultimately to the English Final.

England is divided into four Areas for the purposes of this Festival: Northern, Central, Eastern and Western.

Each Area is also divided into a number of Divisions according to the size and/or history of the areas.

The winner of the English Final goes on to compete against the winners of similar festivals in Wales, Scotland and Ireland.



ICB Group is proud to sponsor SCDF. Privately owned and locally based, ICB Group is amongst the top 20 independent insurance brokers in the UK providing Insurance and Risk Management services to businesses and individuals. If you would like to know more about these services or obtain a quote for your business or personal insurances, please contact Grant Pye on 0208 282 8510 or email grant.pye@icbgroupuk.com www.icbgroupuk.com
Authorised and Regulated by the FCA

Festival Information

Venue

Barn Theatre
Bluehouse Lane, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0AA

Dates of the Festival
20th - 25th February 2017

Festival Adjudicator

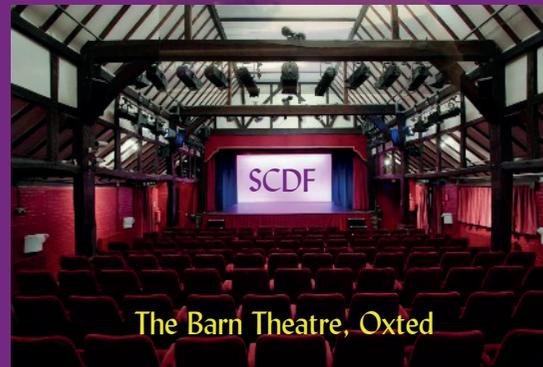
Mike Tilbury G.o.D.A.

If you wish to take part in this "Friendly Festival" you can obtain more information by contacting

The Secretary

Southern Counties Drama Festival
15a High Street, Westerham,
Kent, TN16 1RA

Telephone 01959 561811
email scdfatbarn@btinternet.com
www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk/scdf.html



The Barn Theatre, Oxted



Southern Counties Drama Festival 2017

20th - 25th February



"Can't wait to come back next year it was so much fun"



"Such high standards, a super week of live theatre"



"What a tremendous week of festival and so very friendly, we shall return"



"A great week of theatre, thanks so much"

"The premier festival of the AETF Eastern Area"



The Barn Theatre
Bluehouse Lane, Oxted,
Surrey, RH8 0AA

Southern Counties Drama Festival

"The premier festival of the AETF Eastern Area"

The Southern Counties Drama Festival has been an important part of local amateur dramatics in Surrey and Kent for 65 years. Traditionally the venue of the Festival had moved around with different groups hosting the event each year. As time moved on, the standards of technical facilities were found lacking in some of these venues, which were in the main church halls, hurriedly converted for theatre use on the morning of the technical rehearsals. In 1989 the Festival moved to the Barn Theatre, was a great success and since that time the Barn has become the resident home to the Southern Counties Drama Festival.

Eight years ago there was a change in the Festival Management team who have since rejuvenated this popular Festival.

The 2016 Festival

The Southern Counties Drama Festival enjoyed another successful season in 2016 at the Barn Theatre, Oxted. The standard from the youth and adult entries was particularly high and it was not easy to forecast any of the winners until the final play had been performed on the Saturday evening. SCDF are pleased to support the winning team as they progress to the successive rounds of the All-England Theatre Festival and were delighted to watch as Glow Theatre Group topped the competition to represent the Eastern Area at the English Finals in Maidenhead.

The new sponsorship provided by the ICB Group is warmly welcomed and will enable SCDF to continue their support for the winning teams in future years.

The adjudicator, Arthur Rochester, who was making his third visit to the Barn as an adjudicator, praised all the teams for their contribution towards some memorable performances. He also congratulated all the of youth entries for rising to the challenge of entering a competitive festival and wished the winning Glow Theatre Group all the best in future rounds.

2016 Overall Festival Winner and Youth Winner

Glow Theatre Group with their production of "Edelweiss Pirates" by Ayub Khan Din.

2016 Adult Winner

The Oxted Players - "Lions and Donkeys" by Steve Harper

SCDF 2017 Adjudicator Mike Tilbury GoDA

The adjudicator for the 2017 festival will be Mike Tilbury G.o.D.A. Mike has been actively involved in theatre all his life and has divided his time between acting, directing and adjudicating. He has been a Council Member of the Guild of Adjudicators, a position he held on a number of occasions and as a past Chairman he played a key role in bringing about considerable change and modernisation within the Guild. He was Chairman of the Drama Festivals Consortium for 15 years.

He has sat a number of times on the examining panel at the Selection Weekend for prospective adjudicators, run acting workshops and appeared several times at the famous Minack Open-Air Theatre in Cornwall.

As an actor he has appeared in everything from Ayckbourn to Ibsen and as a director has particularly enjoyed the challenges of Tennessee Williams, Howard Brenton and French farce. He last directed a production of Michael Frayn's Donkey's Years.

His adjudicating work has taken him all over the United Kingdom as well as to Gibraltar, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany and Spain where he adjudicated the Costa Del Sol Festival - in English, with temperatures in the 90's and bats flying around the auditorium! He has adjudicated the English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish Finals as well as the British Final for the All-England Theatre Festival. He has also adjudicated three All Winner's Festivals for the National Drama Festivals Association.

Mike has adjudicated the Betchworth Festival on five occasions and is now delighted to be returning to adjudicate his third Southern Counties Drama Festival at the Barn



Pictured above from left to right are Nicholas Owen, one of the very popular Patrons of the Festival, Jackie Driscoll, Director of the winning Festival entry for 2016, the Edelweiss Pirates by Glow Theatre Group and Peter Calver, the Chairman of Southern Counties Drama Festival.

Our Festival Patrons

Nicholas Owen, is a household name as a presenter of the news and current affairs on BBC and ITV. In 2006 he was a 'Strictly Come Dancing' contestant and in the same year he appeared on the ITV game show 'The Mint'. Nicholas was a member of Reigate Amateur Theatrical Society where he fell in love with live stage and was awarded the Best Actor award in the 1977 Festival at the Barn for his performance in "Two Gentlemen of Soho".

Jill Perry, a founder member of the Student Players (now The Oxted Players) and Oxted Operatic Society, societies who both celebrated their 70th anniversary at the Barn in 2016 has experience of more plays and musicals than most and the Festival was always a highlight of her year. Jill was Best Actress in 1979 for her portrayal as a maid in 'The Respectable Establishment'.

The 2017 Festival

If you belong to a drama society or youth group who would be interested in competing in the 2017 Southern Counties Drama Festival, you are warmly invited to contact the Secretary who will be delighted to send you an entry pack. This information is also on our web site or you can e-mail us. Full contact details are on the back of this leaflet.