

FOOTLIGHTS

The Newsletter for Barton Theatre Company

Issue 5: September 2011

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1. EDITORIAL

Welcome to the September issue of Footlights.

Two remarkable things have happened this month.

Firstly, this newsletter is on time. Yes. I know – it surprised me too!

Secondly, the group in their, erm, wisdom voted me in as Secretary at the recent Annual General Meeting. (More on the AGM follows). This means I am now in a position of power and influence from which I will rise to Conquer The World!!! All will obey! All will kneel bef...

(At this point trained medical professionals restrained me and made me take my medication. Sometime later, I shooed the white cat off my lap and picked this up where I left off)

Seriously though, one reason that was mentioned for nominating me as Secretary was the work I've done on this newsletter. I said in my first editorial that I believed Barton needed a newsletter. I was just happy to be given the chance to prove that. This makes me think that maybe other people agree with me. Even if they don't, it does mean they think this thing I do every month(ish) is a force for good*

As well as being remarkable, this month has also been busy, which means lots of news to get through. So let's get on with it – before I start trying to take over the world again.

Andrew Nevill (Editor)
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*Mostly good. After all, this is ME, remember?

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting took place at St Mike's on Thursday 18 August. It was good to see that it was well attended. This isn't intended as a minutes or a blow-by-blow of the AGM, just a summary of what happened.

The meeting opened with the
Chairman's Report:

Brian Cogswill, the Chairman, said that it had been a good year.

We have been able to do lots of different things. As well as putting on regular plays we had taken part in the various festivals as part of the Bridgewater 250 celebrations and we were also involved in Eccles Rail Station open day organised by FRECCLES (Friends of Eccles Station)

We have also been able to plan things better this year.

We have also been able to help Salford Arts Theatre in many ways and they have been grateful for our help.

Brian also praised the costume store saying that it was now working very well. He also gave particular thanks to Elly Hayton for all her hard work throughout the year.

Looking forward, we now have the pantomime to concentrate on, which will be performed from 1 December 2011. This will be followed by our production of Macbeth next year

Treasurers Report:

Elly Hayton, took us through the Treasurers Report. As usual the books have been audited by an accountant.

Editor's note: Due to the financial year the productions included in the figures are

Good Things and The Trouble With Thunder: Ladies Down Under and the Bridgewater 250 activities will be in next year's figures

Overall we made a small loss (£86.03) on productions

The group's overall expenditure was £1979.36. Our income was £1181.29. This means that this year we made a loss of £798.07.

The main expense we've incurred has been the rent on the Rehearsal room which has increased.

Elly noted that although the value of our assets has gone down we do have a healthy bank balance of over £5000.

In addition, we will have money coming in from the grant which we are being given for our participation in the Bridgewater 250 events. However this will show in next year's figures

Elections

The following were elected onto the Committee:

Chair: Brian Cogswill

Treasurer: Elly Hayton

Secretary: Andrew Nevill

Officers: Janet Johnston. Bev Greenhalgh, Joan Breen, David Milne.

As I said, this is only a summary, anyone who wishes to see the minutes of the AGM, should probably speak to Janet as she was taking the minutes. If you would like to see the financial figures, then I'm sure Elly would be pleased to provide you with a copy.



3. QUIZ OF THE YEAR

As the AGM has just happened, this quiz tests your recall of what's been happening with Barton Theatre Company in the last

1. In the play Good Things, what colour were the shoes that the character Susan wanted.
 - a. Blue
 - b. Red
 - c. Pink
2. Our piece for the Eccles Rail Station Open Day retold the tale of William Huskisson's death. But which constituency did Huskisson represent as MP?
 - a. Liverpool
 - b. Manchester
 - c. Guildford
3. Our Christmas show Trouble with Thunder climaxed with one the Baddies turning into a Goodie. Which character was struck with a change of heart?

year. As ever, answers are at the end of the newsletter.

- a. Blizzard
 - b. Aunty Cyclone
 - c. Lightning
4. Now to Australia, the setting for Ladies Down Under. Much of the action took place at Uluru. But what is Uluru?
 - a. The aboriginal name for Ayers Rock
 - b. An opal mine in Cobber Pedy
 - c. A river in Alice Springs
5. Now we're getting meta. A quiz question about quiz questions. In the very first issue of Footlights, what was the theme of the quiz?
 - a. Musicals
 - b. FIRST lines of Shakespeare plays
 - c. LAST lines of Shakespeare plays

4. RAPUNZEL

Like last year's Christmas show, The Trouble With Thunder, Rapunzel has been written and will be directed by one of our members. This time, it's Joan Breen pulling double duty with the writer's chair and director's quill (or is that the other way round?)

Capitalising (we hope) on the success of Disney's Tangled, Rapunzel is a return to Pantoland for this year's seasonal show.

Joan offered to write a pantomime earlier in the year and the first reading was in early August. Everyone at the reading agreed it was a great script and definitely worth performing. It just needed a few tweaks.

So Joan went away and tweaked. The revised script was read last Thursday (25 August). She's added in more comedy and beefed up some of the roles.

The second reading was also a casting reading and so we do now have a cast. However, there are still some parts not filled and of course we always need people for those small but important – and often really fun - parts such as villagers.

So if you'd like to be in this year's panto do come down to St Mikes at 7:45 on Monday and Thursdays.

If you can't take part, you should definitely come and see the show. It's on

from Thursday 1 December to Sunday 4

December at Salford Arts Theatre.

BRIDGEWATER 250

Last time we reported on the Right Royal Regatta, where Barton performed their recreation of Eccles Wakes. Well, thanks to Joan Breen we now have a few pictures.

Top Left: Brian Cogswill as the Elixir Salesman

Centre: David Milne (Sorry Davis, I don't know what part you played)

Right (L-R) Joan Breen as Gypsy, Elly Hayton as Strumpet (or as she was being called in rehearsals, the Trollop)



The next and indeed, final event in the Bridgewater 250 is the Eccles Festival, which takes place on 17 September at Eccles Recreation Ground.

We'll be performing Eccles Wakes again at 2pm.

We'll also have our customary stall at the event, which usually kicks off around 10am. Anyone who can come down and

help mind the stall or give out leaflets, even just for an hour or so would be made very welcome.

In addition, Eccles Town Hall, which is currently being refurbished for use as a community space is also holding an Open Day as part of the Eccles Festival. So we'll also be performing the Eccles Wakes there as well at 11am and 2pm.

5. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BTC Dates:
Rapunzel
Rehearsals: Monday and Thursday - St
Mike's 7:45
Performance 1-4 December 2011 – Salford
Arts Theatre

Committee Meeting: 13 September 2011 –
8pm – Janet's House

Bridgewater Canal 250:

Eccles Festival – 17 September 2011 –
Eccles Recreation Ground & Eccles Town
Hall

Other Dates:
Edgefold Players
Bedroom Farce by Alan Ayckbourn
19-22 October 2011 at 7:30pm
Methodist Community Hall, Memorial
Road, Walkden
Bookings 0161 7028708
<http://www.edgefoldplayers.co.uk/>

6. THE FINAL CURTAIN

Well that's it for another issue. We'll be
back next month.

Before we go two final things. Firstly
congratulations to longstanding member
Mages Ridings who finally passed her
driving test after several attempts. She
didn't fail; the DSA kept cancelling!

Secondly, just as we went to press Elaine
McCann sent an advert round for extras for
a film about legendary United manager Sir
Matt Busby. For anyone who might be
interested in taking part, I've put a copy at
the end of the newsletter. Hope you don't
mind, Elaine.

If you've any stories, photos, jokes or
anecdotes that you'd like to contribute, I'd
be really pleased to get them. One of the
hardest things about writing a newsletter is
finding stuff to put in it.

See you in October!

Contact Information:
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Barton Theatre Company Committee
Chair: Brian Cogswill, Treasurer: Elaine
Hayton, Secretary: Andrew Nevill
Officers: Joan Breen, Beverley
Greenhalgh, David Milne, Janet Johnston

Quiz Answers:
1b
2a
3c
4a
5b

Oh and one last quiz question that ties in
with both Ladies Down Under and the
Right Royal Regatta. One of the choices
for Question 4 was a river in Alice
Springs. The river in Alice is actually
called the Todd. It's where the annual
Henley-on-Todd Regatta is held. But do
you know why it had to be cancelled in
1993? The surprising answer is at the
bottom of the page

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MANCHESTER

FILM EXTRAS

WANTED

FEATURE FILM FOR THE CINEMA

THEATRE OF DREAMS

IS A FICTIONAL STORY ABOUT SIR MATT BUSBY WHO HELPS A WAYWARD BOY FULFIL HIS DREAM. THINK *BILLY ELLIOTT* MEETS *BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM*. IT IS AN UPLIFTING AND INSPIRING FILM SHOOTING IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER IN AND AROUND MANCHESTER STARRING BRIAN COX AND NATASCHA MCELHONE.

WE NEED LOCAL FACES TO MAKE THIS FILM GREAT AND ARE LOOKING FOR ALL TYPES OF PEOPLE AGED 16-100 TO JOIN US AS FILM EXTRAS. THIS IS UNPAID BUT THERE WILL BE GOOD FOOD AND GOOD FUN.

IF YOU THINK THIS COULD BE YOU PLEASE EMAIL YOUR NAME, CONTACT DETAILS AND A CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

TODEXTRAS@LIVE.COM