

Shawbury Village Players News



Newsletter August 2010

Newsletters are e-mailed out whenever possible so if you've received this one by post (or hand-delivered) and have an e-mail address, please let me know – it makes my life so much easier (and saves the club postage as well!). And just so you know if you've missed one, the last newsletter was April 2010.

DIARY DATES

Contact Richard & Angela by 15th August if you would like to take part in the Murder Mystery!

Next Committee Meeting: 24th August, 7.30pm at 12 River Gardens. Apologies to Mariella 01939 290702

Saturday 30th October: Murder Mystery at Shawbury Village Hall.

Saturday 6th November: Possible Murder Mystery at Edgmond

“And Then There Were None”

I write to thank all of you involved in this year's summer production, which I feel was a great success for the group.

It seems a long time since we first met for a reading and auditions and I was pleased to be able to give parts to most of those who attended but as often happens there were some to whom I was not able to offer roles. To those, I would hope that they will have opportunity to take part in future productions.

Rehearsals moved forward, first in the Village Hall and later at Acton Reynald Hall. I had planned for the play to be performed both outside and inside the Hall. The first act and the arrival of the characters on 'Soldier Island' was to take place at the front of the house with the sound of the waves crashing and the seagulls crying! The following two acts were to take place in the library with the audience shepherded round to new seats during the interval! However, as frequently happens the weather played its part and in the end all the acts were performed inside. The cast had been prepared and rehearsed to perform both outside and in, which placed an additional demand upon them and I thank them for their efforts and patience.

I am always amazed at how Shawbury Players can bring a play together in the few days before the first performance! This occasion was no different, the hall

was transformed into a theatre and stumbling and forgotten lines were delivered and a polished performance presented to the audience!

My thanks go to all those who helped in the Green Room with costumes and make up, in particular to Ann, who again captured in costume the flavour and feel of the 1930's and the back stage crew who built the stage, set up lights and sound system and provided monitors for the cast. We missed Geoff, but he had helped prepare equipment and plans to enable the team to continue in his absence. Co-ordinating the back stage team, Viv took on the role of Stage Manager and kept everything running on time and stopped me flapping about!

Thanks to the Front of House volunteers led by Josie who manned the car park, served refreshments and saw the audience to their seats. This year they were presented with an additional problem, when on Thursday night gale force winds demolished the refreshment tent. Again, with help from many in the audience the Shawbury Players Team moved into action and a difficult situation was dealt with and the show went on! (particular thanks to Trevor who had the patience not to tie the director down with the guy ropes !!)

My thanks go to Stuart who acted as Producer and gave an overview to the production and helped co-ordinate the event. Finally, to the cast, who provided good pace and delivery - a group of actors who supported each other and worked together to give excellent performances. Well done.

My thanks to you all.

Richard

Murder Mystery Evening on 30th October at Shawbury Village Hall

After the success of Becky and Dave's evening, Angela and I have become keen to resurrect Hercules Parrot and provide a further crime for him to solve! An idea has been evolving and we have spoken to some members about the possibility of using an extract from Midsummer Night's Dream as the basis of the plot for a murder most dreadful!

We have now booked Saturday 30th October as the date for the Murder Mystery evening (and possibly a

second performance at Edgmond on Sat 6th November if enough people are free). There will be a need for a planning meeting before this date; rehearsals would take place during Saturday 30th with the performance in the evening. As yet the full story line has not been completed – therefore if you would like to take part will you please contact us before 15th August in order that we can establish the number of characters required. If you would just like to help on the night please also let us know (01939 250612).

We hope this will be a fun event and help raise funds for the group.

Angela and Richard

Pantomime ? Alice in Wonderland?

We now hope to put on a pantomime version of Alice in Wonderland during the February half-term, 23rd to 26th February. Watch out for more news!

News from NODA

NODA provides professional support for amateur theatre and e-mails out a very interesting free monthly newsletter to all members. You don't need to be a member to receive it, just contact Julia@noda.org.uk to get on their e-mailing list.

For those of you who read the last News from NODA, I gave details of a new Channel 5 programme "Don't Stop Believing" and gave you details of how to apply – well, that programme is now on and had it's first airing on Sunday evening 18th July!

Shropshire and Telford Arts Partnership

The Shropshire & Telford Arts Partnership (STAP) is made up of representative local authority officers with responsibility for the Arts in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. The aims of the group are:

- To strengthen communication between local authorities and to network and support arts organisations, individual artists, promoters and volunteers working in the arts
- To raise the profile of, and to advocate for, the arts
- To coordinate arts activity across the subregion
- To maximise funding for the arts within the subregion

Thanks to Mariella, I'll be able to include some "titbits" from it from time to time which may be of interest to some of you, such as the following:

Shropshire Gets The Beat

Would you like to learn a hip hop dance move to perfection? Are you over 35? Would you like to be in a Shropshire based short film made by a Shropshire based film company? Then you're just who we're looking for. 'Shropshire Gets The Beat' will be made this Autumn in various locations around Shropshire.

Amongst others I am looking for solicitors, walkers, medical staff, librarians and policeman. If you are interested please contact Lynne Harvey at joekennethme@btinternet.com For details please go to my website; www.lividfilm.co.uk

And also:

Volunteer Event Organisers and Stewards Required

Shrewsbury Summer Season was recruiting volunteers to help deliver the exciting season's programme. They wanted reliable people happy to steward, talk to visitors, help performers get ready, prepare the event site and clear up after, hand out feedback forms and generally think on their feet and in return, gain event management experience, get to see some great theatre or hear some fab music for free.

I don't know if it's too late to apply halfway through the season, but it may be worth emailing your details to - joy.durrant@shropshire.gov.uk. All the following events and many more are listed on their website, www.shrewsburysummer.co.uk

August:

8th - The Secret Garden, Shrewsbury High School grounds, Town Walls, Shrewsbury, 4pm for 5pm. Heartbreak Productions outdoor performance of Frances Hodgson Burnetts's tale of a young girls discovery of a secret garden. A family classic suitable for age 6yrs upwards. Bring a picnic and a low backed seat or rug.

18th - An Ideal Husband, Shrewsbury High School grounds, Town Walls, Shrewsbury, 6.30pm for 7.30pm. Heartbreak Productions outdoor performance of the Oscar Wilde favourite, full of intrigue, romance and razor sharp wit. An Ideal conundrum for a summer's evening. Bring a picnic and a low backed seat or rug.

September:

3rd-5th Shrewsbury International Street Theatre Festival - 3 fun packed days on the streets of Shrewsbury.

Got something to shout about!!

If you are involved in an activity or event, have won an award, or just want to advertise something – please let me know and I'll get you in print!

Interested in writing the Newsletter?

A new editor for this Newsletter is eagerly sought! The newsletter is sent out mainly by e-mail, with a few in the post, and some hand-delivered in Shawbury (which could easily be posted).

If you are interested, please contact me on 01939 251094 to find out more.