

Milton Musical Society

APRIL Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 5

APRIL 2010

April 14th - 17th

Well this is it, the last report before the show! **Please make sure that you read this carefully.** I can't promise that I haven't missed anything out, but when we do get to the theatre it would be really helpful if everyone has an idea of what is going on.

"GET IN"

We can get into the theatre from 1pm on the Sunday. **Once we are in the theatre Martin Short is in charge** and you will take any instructions from him. Those of you who have volunteered to be "stage hands" for the afternoon, or who have family or friends who have volunteered, please can you make sure that you are there at the stage door, ready to go by 1.00pm. Be prepared for some hanging around and if you have tools, (from my past experience the Regent Centre are notoriously ill equipped), please at least stick them in your car. I always work on the basis that if we have it – we won't need it, but if we don't.....If you are needed at band call at some stage then of course you will be able to slip out.

BAND CALL

This is running from 2pm-6pm in the Studio. **THIS IS LEE'S REHEARSAL** for the band as it will be the first time in all probability that they will have played the music together.

It is normal for the company to attend, especially soloists, so that we all know what is going on but as there are rather a lot of us I will leave Lee to tell you whom he wants and when.

TECH RUN

Sunday Evening. This will be a "top and tail" run so that the lighting plot can be set. Full cast are required as per the rehearsal schedule.

DRESSING ROOMS

I have asked **Vicky** and **Marie** to sort out the organising of the dressing rooms so that they are ready for Sue to bring the costumes into. You will be able to get into the dressing rooms during show week from 6pm.

Ladies you will be in the studio. I know it is a big space but there are a lot of us and there will be loads of costumes. We will sort out dressing rails but I know some of you have your own small ones and I would suggest that you bring them along. There are times when we will probably be using the stage side of the studio to filter cast from the wings, so it is vital that we keep the place tidy. I would suggest that you supply yourself with a small storage box so that all your personal possessions can be put away under the tables and keep personal "tut" to a minimum.

Gents you will have the two dressing rooms upstairs.

Children you will be in the principles dressing room on the first floor.

DO NOT LEAVE ANY VALUBLES IN THE DRESSING ROOMS.

Costumes these will be brought into the theatre during Monday. I have to finalise all the details with Sue Helps. If you have any costume issues during the week then she will be on hand.

Hair and Make up will be in the Green Room on the top floor. Carolyn will be responsible for the hair, which in the main will be the women. As there are rather a lot of us then it is possible that we will sort out time slots but I will confirm this closer to the show.

For make-up, again we have volunteers to make you all look beautiful. If you are comfortable doing your

own make up (ladies), then please do so. Remember we are representing real people, so keep it real.

Props will be on the props table at the end of the cross over. Margaret Trickett will be running props at every performance. **You are responsible for your own personal props, collecting them and returning them.** If you need anything setting on the stage, then please speak to Margaret about it and she will make it happen.

SHOW WEEK

From Monday evening we will be running the show at performance level. We have two Dress Rehearsals, which will be done in costume, makeup and mikes.

RADIO MIKES

We have about 20 cast members who will be wearing microphones. If you are going to be "miked" and "wiggged" make sure you do it in the right order!!! All mikes will need to be sound checked before each performance, before the house opens at 6.45pm, so again, leave yourselves plenty of time. Collect your mike from the stage door and return it at the end of each performance. If you need to have your mike change at all then please don't just rip it off yourself – have the mike fitter do it. If they get damaged they cost upwards of £180 to replace!

Finally, after all of this have a good show. You have all worked so hard and deserve it.

ENJOY YOURSELVES!

Signing off.....

Michele

The Box Office for the show is at the Regent Centre. You can either go online at www.regentcentre.co.uk or ring 01202 499199

'TITANIC' - LAST WORDS FROM THE DIRECTOR

From the first Introductory Evening, it was clear that this was going to be one of those shows that would last long in our memories.

We managed to amass a talented team of players and production people who have worked exceptionally hard to realise the potential of the show in a very professional, yet friendly way.

I have truly enjoyed every rehearsal. Whilst writing this I am mindful that the show week can be challenging and stressful. But I am confident that everyone will play their part, and produce a work of which we can all be truly proud.

Of course the rehearsals would not have as enjoyable or even possible without a lot of people behind the

scenes. If I mention specific people then I run the risk of missing someone out—but nevertheless.....There was 'Sally the Cakes' who fed us all on Sundays with her supply of delicious cakes. 'Jilly the Keys' who locked and unlocked the Barton Hall even when she was not called! 'Margo the Drinks' who always ensured we had a hot drink at the break. Then not least of all 'Martin the Door'

who ensured our contributions were collected and our raffle tickets served. Behind all of this were the many committee members and other supporters who made it happen so smoothly. A show well done - and we haven't even got on the stage yet!

JT

View from the Chair



This month's newsletter is full of exciting information about our show Titanic, and so I am not going to mention how well you are all doing on, behind or front of stage. Milton Musical Society is not a one show society and it amazes me how we get better every show. But whilst embarking towards the biggest budgeted show we have ever done, it will certainly not be the last (keep selling tickets mind you!!)

With an amazing new level of membership with oodles of talent, it is possible to look forward to a great many more shows ahead. Work is already underway for our autumn show, "Hitchhikers Guide to the Musical Galaxy", our Spring 2011 show "Scarlet Pimpernel". Ideas are already on the table for the 2011 autumn concert and the committee are now considering contingencies for the 2012. So, don't think your journey with Milton need come to an end when Titanic closes, there is so much more to do this year and beyond.

Of course with Emily now firmly placed to look after the social scene, there are a raft of opportunities coming up for all. Put the dates in your diaries now, don't be disappointed when we are gloating about the fun time you missed!!

You will have noticed we have cut out parish notes during weekday rehearsals. These will now be done once a week to update you, followed by an email to confirm any news you might have missed. (At last I can have a cup of tea and you can have some peace, it has also been nice talking with my old and new friends-seeing as no-one wants to talk to Alice during rehearsals!!)

We have some proposals for educational club nights between show rehearsals breaks and your thoughts for content/feedback on this would be appreciated.

A few thank-yous this month. Normally Margot is in the kitchen and it was very sad to hear of her husband, Marks death this month. Our thoughts are with Margot at this time, she has been missed.

A huge thank you also to Josie for organising the hoodies/poloshirts, looking good!!

Finally, thank you for reading the important information contained in this publication. Following the instructional advice from our Producer/Director will ensure a smooth running show week. So.....

Anchors away.

Bon voyage et Bon chance!

Vicky

MORE TITANIC NEWS & INFORMATION

I have provisionally set up a photo shoot opportunity with the Lifeboat at Calshot for the last Sunday in March, which is the 28th.

I need to know how many of the cast of Titanic could make it down there for 11.00am sharp (we have a rehearsal in Highcliffe at

2.00pm.) on that Sunday, in costume or at least pyjamas and lifejackets!!! to make the most of this fantastic offer. Its a real seagoing R.N.L.I. Rescue boat, not a rib on a trailer, and we would need at least 20 people, mix of passengers and crew to attend. We could all go for a pub

lunch afterwards????

Further to this I have now learned that we do not have full costumes available for this date, so those who would be able to attend need to consider suitable garb for the occasion - i.e.: pyjamas under overcoat. Long Evening dress and cloaks, Uni-

form for the officers and crew; Even dinner suits and hastily put on warmer clothing over. Just need to look like Edwardian toffs on a cold night out!! or Irish refugees!!!

Jonathan Shiner

TICKET SALES

Ticket sales have increased and Saturday night is almost sold out! Well done to everyone who helped

to these sell tickets, but we desperately need to sell more tickets to keep our society afloat. It would be fantastic to perform to full

houses each performance! **Please keep selling tickets.** I will obtain tickets if you are unable to take the pink coupons or buy tickets

from Regent Centre personally. Please see me at rehearsals with your ticket orders, cash or cheque (made payable to Regent Centre).

FRONT OF HOUSE

Thank you for the offers of help for front of house. Help is still required for some performances. Email or see me during rehearsals if you know of suitable people to help.

RAFLE PRIZES

In the past MMS has made up 'posh' food hampers. These have proved to be popular raffle prizes and a successful way of raising funds., suitable items of non per-

ishable food (not smart prize, or out of date), tins, packets, wine, champagne etc., will be gratefully received. Very large wicker baskets or something similar to present the goods are also needed is bubble paper (not with greetings on). Please add an extra item or too you're shopping list and hand it to me during rehearsals **as soon as possible**. If you don't 'do' food shopping, please grab something from your local convenience store, petrol station, etc., when you pop in for a bar of choc, snack etc. A big thank you to members who 'ave already contributed items.

Spelling errors are deliberate, and have hopefully encouraged you to read this info and act upon it! How many errors did you spot?

Sale on Titanic!!!

TEA & COFFEE BREAKS

Thank you to members of the society, especially Margaret, who helped me with the tea/coffee during Margo's absence. Margo has now returned, therefore you will all be pleased to know 1st Class Service has resumed, rather than the 3rd Class you have recently received!

Marlene

Milton Entertains Milton

Our first "Friends of Milton" evening went very well, according to feedback from all concerned and was enjoyed by paying guests, friends and those entertaining. An array of musical numbers, dance and drama were staged under the Directorship of Jo Mansfield. The cheese and wine supper certainly was appreciated and one guest told me it was the best "supper theatre" meal she had had in ages.

There are many people to thank for the efforts and for helping raise just shy of £250 for the society. A huge thank you as always to the committee for assisting with the apparently effortless evening-(who am I kidding..... effort-less?..... we were shattered!!). Thanks also to Michele for shopping for

the food, my favourite bar tender Chris and our lovely licensee Doug, Jo for her extra support with the entertainment, Justin for his help as technical engineer and Zarene for helping back stage as Stage Manager. Well done to all the entertainers, Bravo! Couldn't possible tell you which one was my favourite. At least two of our members had to sing to backing tracks for the first time ever, and a good job done by you both too.

Of course we would not have been heard if it wasn't for the sound system that Henry and Roni kindly lent us, thanks to both of you for setting this up. There are several others who helped, thank you. It certainly was a pleasure to entertain our friends and

continue to welcome new friends to our society.

Last Night of the Proms

Musical Director Lee Marchant

July 10th 2010

Tickets from £18 including a three course meal at the Royal Bath Hotel

Ask Vicky for details, reserve a seat on a Milton Table.

TREASURER'S MEMBERSHIP THRIFT CLUB

We are already half way through our membership year, so I thought it would be a good time to suggest ways of saving for your membership fee, due on 1st October 2010.

(To the very few of you who have yet to pay this year's membership, **SHAME ON YOU!** I will be starting a rogue's gallery next month, so be-

ware!!)

I thought it would be a good idea to offer a savings club to all our members so that you can choose how to pay your membership fee. Although our membership fee is very cheap in comparison to other Societies, the Committee realise that this is still not an easy amount of money to

find for some people.

Therefore, you can choose the amount you wish to save, e.g. £1 a week or £5 a month. All you have to do is see me at rehearsal and I will keep a record sheet of what you pay and when. Then, on 1st October, all you will have to pay is the difference between what you owe and what you've

saved, which may mean you don't owe anything at all. How nice, job done!

Just see me at rehearsals to get your saving plan started.

Jo Mansfield

Treasurer

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* New since last Newsletter

April	Tuesday 6th 14th - 17th *Saturday 24th	Committee Meeting TITANIC Karaoke After Show Party
May	Monday 10th *Saturday 15th *Wednesday 19th at 7.30pm	Committee Meeting Games Night Hitchhiker Presentation Evening at Brockenhurst
June	*Sunday 6th (12.00—6.00) *Saturday 12th Monday 14th	Hitchhiker Auditions at Brockenhurst Annual Dinner Dance Committee Meeting
July	Monday 12th TBC	Committee Meeting American Supper
August	Monday 9th TBC	Committee Meeting Annual Croquet Match
September	Monday 6th *Monday 13th *Sunday 19th	Introduction to Scarlet Pimpernel Committee Meeting Scarlet Pimpernel Auditions
October	Monday 11th	Committee Meeting
November	Monday 1st 8th - 14th Brockenhurst Village Hall *Saturday 20th St Marks Highcliffe Monday 22nd	Committee Meeting Hitchhikers Guide to the Musical Galaxy Quiz Night AGM
December	*Sunday 5th	Scarlet Pimpernel 1st Rehearsal
May 2011	16th - 21st Regent Centre	Scarlet Pimpernel the Musical

Social Events (see the calendar for more events)

Hello All!

There is a lot going on over the next few months so please make sure you all take a good look at the dates for the social events and get them in your diaries!! I want to see you all there! Titanic week is getting nearer and nearer, there will be a separate newsletter containing information on the plan for after show meals and drinks...watch this space.

We have moved a few things around in the social calendar, there will be a Games night in May and the Dinner dance in June. These events are still being planned so if there is anything

you would like to include on these evenings please let me know.

I have had a few people come to me with ideas for future social events, if there is anything that you want to do please let me know! I am keen to include something for everyone and all ideas are welcome, just remember, if i don't know about your ideas i cant do anything about it so please speak up!!

I am getting started on the social front by planning the much deserved after show party. Plans for this are taking shape the date is going to be the 24th of April - put this date in

your diary now!

This is going to be a great evening and I hope you can all make it. We have all worked so hard for Titanic, I don't know about the rest of you but I am going to miss seeing everyone for rehearsals three days a week, this will be a great opportunity to catch-up, reminisce and celebrate Titanic and all of the work that has gone into it, I really hope to see as many of you as possible!! There will be more information soon on the final details very soon....

Emily