

Milton Musical Society

December Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 1

DECEMBER 2009



April 13th - 17th 2010

Well now rehearsals are under way, behind the scenes the "show fairies" are starting to weave their magic. To take some of the responsibility off JT, I suggested that as Producer I should write a bit in the newsletter about the production. It seemed like a good idea at the time and then I thought "OMG what am I going to write that is not dreary stuff about set building?"

So leaving JT to do the dull 'boy' stuff of dealing with scaffold companies, I have had a very pleasant time with Sue Helps and Ann Ponting discussing 'girlie' stuff - like costumes. I have to say that we have had a lot of offers of fur coats and stoles and luggage items from the cast and thank you for that. At some stage we will want to look at what you have and see how we can blend it in with Ann's costumes. One of the areas, however, we have identified that we will need help with is nightwear.

Now not all of you will be in nightwear. The Titanic hit the iceberg at 11.40pm, so some had gone to bed and some were still partying. But what we would like you to look out for is old fashioned dressing gowns, pyjamas and slippers (the sort of things your father or grandfather may have worn.) and white cotton night dresses for the ladies.

We want to be as authentic as possible, in both style and colour. Colours need to be dark or muted - navy, wine, green and plaids

and checks. Fabrics were of natural fibres, cottons, wools, silks - Nylon didn't make an appearance until 1935, so many of the bright colours that we are familiar with would not be suitable.

1st and 2nd class gents and officers we would like black lace shoes or brogues please - no slip-ons! Depending on your character in 3rd class you will need either shoes or boots.

Ladies, lace up shoes or boots for outer wear and we will use characters for inside wear which we will dress with adornments if necessary. Heels were low and waisted, so any evening court shoes you have may be suitable.

Finally, for now a quick word on props. Margaret Trickett is already sourcing props that we need but please take time over the Christmas break to have a look at your character and see what personal props you might need that you can supply. The sooner we can start to use these when JT starts setting then the more they will become part of your character.

Thankfully, I am running out of space here but if I get given a spot next month I would like to expand on how what you would have been wearing on board the Titanic effected how you would have walked and sat..

Michele Moulin White, Producer

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

VIEW FROM THE NEW CHAIRMAN

It is a great pleasure to be serving the Society as Chairman and also a very exciting one too. Having seen the voting in of a new committee, I am confident you will be in safe hands as we "lift up the ramp and let go the lines..... and sail on towards "MMS Titanic". Our new committee consists of some old hands and new ones, namely Marie Coltman. Marie will be our Honorary Secretary and brings experience for this role from a previous company where she was secre-

tary, Marie will also be helping out with social events. Jo Mansfield moves into the role of Honorary Treasurer and also Vice Chairman, so if ever I am away from business, she will extend her experience and knowledge to deputise.

John remains firmly connected to the Technical Director role, separate to the role he has as Director for the forthcoming show. John brings oodles of technical and directorial experience to the Soci-

ety and has sat on several committees previously and this experience is also highly valuable to us all. Les and Jonathon will continue to develop their roles in publicity, both are keen networkers and have commercial experience which will enhance their roles no end. Marlene is heading up "Front of House" and her role will extend to ensuring rehearsals run like clockwork in terms of organising the collection of your subs and making sure there are

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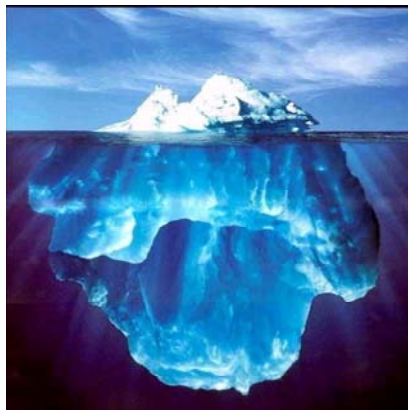
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refreshments. You also have a new President, Alison Peach. Alison has been a committed member of the society for many years along with her late husband Brian. Alison has been our MD for many productions and is a much loved member of our society. I am sure you will join me in welcoming the new committee and on behalf of the committee we look forward to serving you in the next year.

On the note regarding rehearsals there will be some changes to rehearsal subs and format around tea break. To aid the smooth running of rehearsals and to avoid losing precious rehearsal time, due to the large volume of people, the committee have agreed to the following. Firstly, we would ask that you have a ten minute break and then get back into your seats for "parish notes". This is a vital communication opportunity and our aim is to make them as succinct and pertinent as possible. Therefore one person will deliver all notices and if you have an announcement to make, please contact me at the beginning of the break in order to get your notice put on the list. Further information regarding the new subs are detailed later in this newsletter. There will be a tuck shop at break times to compliment the teas and coffees. You can purchase cans or water, nibbles if you choose. Your tea and coffee are still included in

your subs.

So now I would like to draw your attention to the photo of an estimated 300,000,000 tonne iceberg.



The significance of the picture may seem appropriate to the show we are doing, but there are some characteristics of an iceberg that can be likened to our situation in the Amateur Dramatics world. Did you know that only approximately 1/10th of an iceberg can be seen above the waterline? Did you know that ticket sales are similar in that only approximately 10% are sold on the door, which means we need to sell 90% as a cast. What does that mean to you as an individual member? Well with a capacity of approximately 2000 seats over the performances, and with 70+ cast and society members (you don't have to be on stage to sell tickets, everyone, even our patrons get in-

involved!!). Now with 15 weeks to the show, that's only 1 ticket per week each to ensure we break even. You have your voucher booklets, if you need anything else to help, please let any of the committee know. If you thought Michele's' catchphrase was going to retire with her, think again!! Tickets are our life jackets, it's what keeps us afloat!

Secondly, the iceberg is like the society in general. There is a huge bulk of people, and perhaps 1/10th serves on the management committee. Similarly, you get visibility of approximately 1/10th of what your committee do for you. Everyone on the committee spends countless hours working on your behalf, so we can deliver what the society members need to move forward. I have been on committee for 5 years with this Society and have seen many changes. We are now doing two shows per year again, we have new members joining us, including men! Our reputation in terms of our performances and our ethos as a society continue to grow. Please support the committee and help us to continue to serve you better. If you have any queries or concerns, please talk to one of the committee directly. As I always say, "if you are enjoying it, tell everyone, if not tell me!!!"

Vicky Clarke, Chairman



Ticket Sales For Titanic

A very big thank you to members of the our society who have already sold tickets for Titanic.

Most members have now been given their allocated 10 tickets to sell a.s.a.p. If you have not received your allocated tickets please ask at rehearsals. It is vital **all cast** sell at

least 10 tickets, if we are to keep Titanic afloat, (at least until the final scene on opening night)! The more tickets we sell, prior to the show, means more money in MMS funds. Final words, for now, 'KEEP SELLING TICKETS'.

Marlene Lewis

Christmas Singers update

Rehearsals have started and the backing track and lyrics are sorted. A 30 minute programme is being prepared!!

Rehearsals are at Barton on Wednesdays from 6.15pm, as well as other impromptu places as decided by the group. Be there to be in the know!!

Venues are on the Red Funnel car Ferries sailing on Saturdays from the 5th

December. Meet times will be agreed within the group depending on number of cars being used. We aim to sail on the 10.30 morning boat each Saturday

Final performance will be Saturday the 19th, plus other as yet mystery locations. Les will reveal all soon.....I Hope?

Regards
Jonathan Shiner



JUMBLE SALE

An enormous thank you to all who helped at the recent jumble sale. £275 plus was added to MMS bank account from this event. It was a lot of hard work on the day, and the days building up to the sale, but worth it. Special thanks to members, past and present, who worked exceptionally hard on the day to make the sale a success. Without these willing helpers it would have been impossible to organise and run the event. Next time there is a similar event,

more help from some of our new members would be very much appreciated. Jumble sales are not everyone's 'cup of tea' but many hands make light work!

Many thanks again to all who helped, especially on the day.

Marlene



A Note from your Social Secretary

Another great evening was had by those attending the quiz night-not for the weather an altogether pleasant experience. Thanks to those who continue to support this event.

The teams had an exciting race to the finish line, but in the end (and possibly due to Mr Teather's team playing the joker on the "Titanic Round"), the eventual winners were a team that has a name harder to spell than any of the questions were to answer (and some were tough!) The team consisted of Suzanne and John Teather, Jasper and Jonathan Shiner, Sian Goodborne and Dave

Coward. Congratulations to them and bad luck to the other teams - well there's always next time.

The event would not have been as successful if it wasn't for the bar, and our thanks go to Chris and Doug for running that. Special thanks to Doug for being our licensee.

Each event takes a lot of organising-so if you want to join the "Social Team", to help organise, support the social secretary (and therefore your Society) - let me know.

We have lots of exciting events planned

for 2010, please put the dates in your diary. If you have any other ideas, please let me know so we can add them to our agenda.

Remember, we are keen to welcome your family, friends and colleagues to any social event, remind your fellow members to attend, old or new. Please talk about these events in case anyone hasn't read the newsletter, get everyone interested - remember the more the merrier.

Your Social Secretary,

Vicky x



December	Friday 18th - Eurobeat - fully booked. See Michele for details
January	Saturday 23rd - Purple Pantomime with Dinner at Shorefields , £14.50 for carvery and show, or £5 for the show. Dinner option starts at 5.30pm. RSVP social@miltonms.org All profit goes to Milton Round Table.
January	Saturday 30th - "A Night to Remember" , an evening of history and nostalgia. The evening will start with a talk about the Titanic disaster by a local marine historian. There will then be a hot supper together with a showing of the 1958 feature film 'A Night to Remember' a 1958 Golden Globe Award winning docudrama film adaptation of Walter Lord's book of the same name, recounting the final night of the RMS Titanic. It was directed by Roy Ward Baker, and filmed in the United Kingdom. The production team, used blueprints from the ship to recreate sets, and Titanic's fourth officer, Joseph Boxhall and ex-Cunard Commodore Harry Grattidge both worked as a technical advisors on the film. The film was premiered in the United Kingdom on Tuesday July 1, 1958, and was in the United States on Tuesday December 16, 1958. This evening will be open to all Members and Friends. Venue: St Marks Hall, Highcliffe. The bar will open at 7.00pm, supper will be served at 8.30 after the opening historical talk and this will be followed by the film. The details on cost and supper will be confirmed in the next newsletter. Please let me know your attendance by return as this helps in terms of catering, costs and choices.
February	Saturday 20 th from 7.00pm - Milton Entertains Milton An evening of entertainment laid on by you! Supper with a variety of performances by members of the society. If you are a newer member, don't be reserved - get on the playlist. Song, poems, acting or comedy welcome. More details to follow. Call/txt or email to reserve your table (07525 389204, social@miltonms.org) Now booking Acts.... Let me know what you want to do!!!
March	Saturday 27 th at Shorefield's Skittles Evening , other games and food in a basket. Get your team together, more details to follow Put the date in your diary.
April	Karaoke BBQ TBC
May	Annual Dinner Dance - details to follow
June	Murder on The Med. Date tbc. Supper and "Sleuthing"!! An evening of intrigue and suspense. Volunteers needed to play the character parts - call Maggie or Vicky for more info.
July	American Supper TBC
August	Annual Croquet TBC



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- White Star Line was the company that built the Titanic, and was owned by J.P. Morgan, an American tycoon.
- The cost to build the RMS Titanic was \$4.68 million
- RMS stands for Royal Mail Steamer.
- It took 3,000 men two years to build the Titanic. Three million rivets held its massive hull together.
- The Titanic was never christened. It was not the practice of the White Star Line to hold such ceremonies.
- Price of a single first-class ticket was £2,900. (equals £31,250 in today's economy)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* New since last Newsletter

December	Saturday 5th	Carol Singing on Ferry
	Saturday 12th	Carol Singing on Ferry
	Saturday 19th	Carol Singing on Ferry
January 2010	Saturday 30th	A Night to Remember
February	*Saturday 20th	Milton Entertains Milton
March	Saturday 27th	Skittles Evening
April	13th - 17th	<i>Titanic</i>
	*TBC	Karaoke BBQ
May	*TBC	Annual Dinner Dance
June	*TBC	Murder on the Med
July	*TBC	American Supper
August	*TBC	Annual Croquet Match
September		
October		
• November	17th—21st	<i>Autumn Show</i>
	<i>Brockenhurst Village Hall</i>	
• May 2011	16th—21st	<i>Main production</i>
	<i>Regent Centre</i>	

Dates marked with • are subject to confirmation

EDITORIAL

I have relegated myself to the back page to give space to two very important articles. One from the out-going Chairman and one from the in-coming. It's all change at the top for MMS following the AGM on Monday 23rd November. Details of the new committee are on the left of this page.

There is never much to say about AGM's as they are normally technical events to ensure the business of the society is properly conducted. However there were two notable presentations made. Michele Moulin White was presented with a glass musical trophy with a treble clef on top. The stem of the trophy was engraved with 'Presented to Michele Moulin White in recognition for her part in the re-birth of Milton Musical Society. Chairman 2006 – 2009' and she was elected as an Honorary Member. Roger Dag-

nell was presented a glass clock with gold plaque engraved with 'Presented to Roger Dagnell with thanks for his long service as Treasurer of Milton Musical Society from 1996 – 2009' and he was elected as an Honorary Life Member.

Michele, in her Producer role, has been as busy behind the scenes as I have been with rehearsals. At the moment the rehearsals are just for music and we do not start on the floor until February. But what promise we have already heard from this large talented cast. I genuinely enjoy each Wednesday and Friday to hear the beauty of this music. So, no big report from me as it is all 'work in progress'.

It just remains for me to wish you all A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Teather

