

Milton Musical Society Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 3

May 2009

Editorial

Some call us sad! But we have just returned from my 7th and Suzanne's 6th trip to Disney, Orlando.

To me it is a lung-full of fresh air to breathe in the ideas, the designs, the colours, the smells, the performances, the sets, the lighting, the sound, the sheer expertise and panache! We saw more shows in 2 weeks than you could do in a year.

I expect that some of it will wash off on how we tackle Titanic— as we even found a Titanic Exhibition there - I just wish it would be with the same budget!

But first, all of our attention is on 'Kiss Me Kate' and ensuring it's undoubted success, playing to the full houses which I am sure you are working hard to achieve!!

John Teather

View from the Chair



Well Easter has been and gone and next week is May Bank holiday. Help where is the year going?

We've had a very busy month. Apart from KMK rehearsals which continue at a rate we held the first of our many social events. The first quiz was held at Sopley Parish Hall and was attended by 65 people. As well as members we had teams from Arena Theatre, and members from New Forest Players, Theatre 2000 and Highcliffe Charity Players. Congratulations go to Jo Corbin and Donna Raine and their team who swept the board, not only winning the main competition but also the picture round. More

recently, we held the first of our outings at the Old Vicarage, with a casual Sunday lunch. Again, a lovely fun day with lovely fun people. Sorry I forgot to turn the thermometer up on the weather.

This week we also had the auditions for "This Thing Called Love" – more of which from Jo further on – but I was delighted to see so many new faces and that the standard was so high. So well done to Dan White, Roni Notcutt, Sally Crumper, Henry Champion, Les Delnero and Ann Ponting, Jane Melling, and Stephen Hutt for having the guts to come into a room of strangers and perform so well. Congratulations

should also go to Andy for his very first solo – where did that voice come from?

Speaking of Les, of course we are not complete strangers to him and I would like to welcome him officially to the Society as our newest member. In the short time we have known him, both he and his wife Jan have been big supporters of the social events.

And that's it for this newsletter. Keep up the good work everyone and have a relaxing Bank Holiday – it's all downhill from then!

Michele

Kiss Me Kate Wednesday 3rd - Saturday 6th June

Only 12 rehearsals to go!

Doesn't sound many when you say it quick. And quick it will be. After the May Bank holiday we really are in the final run. If I have one word to say I'm sure you won't be surprised that it would be TICKETS!! But sometimes you can over egg the pudding.

Rehearsals are well on schedule. The show has all

but for a few loose ends been set I did have a little tear the other Friday when (I think we had a full cast) and "Too Darn Hot" was running. I couldn't believe that this was Milton! It was HOT! HOT! HOT! So, well done everyone for all your hard work.

We now need to turn our attention to the pretty things like Hair, Costumes and Makeup. Ann Ponting

is doing a great job putting together really authentic clothes for us but if anyone does happen to have a wardrobe of Vintage 1940/1950's gear then please look out anything that might be suitable. Remember people were smart in those days. Suits, hats and shiny shoes were the order of the day.

A quick plea for a bit of help from any carpenters/handy

men/women amongst you.

We have the set on order but it does not come with a Wine Vat for the girls to dance in. So we will need to make one. I don't think it's a big job but we would appreciate any willing volunteers to help.

And so I will end with one final word – **TICKETS!**

Publicity, Tickets & FOH for Kiss Me Kate



Now we are into the final stretch before the show the publicity is being really beefed up, especially in the press. Linda Kirkman has already given us a plug in this month's edition of Scene One and a show preview will be wending it's merry way to her shortly. Other Previews will be going to the Echo, Community News and the New Milton Advertiser.

Look out in May for the adverts in the New Milton Advertiser. John has designed us a lovely, funky ad, which will be going in from the 8th May. Huge thanks go to our Treasurer Roger, who as in previous years is paying for two of those weeks as a donation to the show.

John has also written a piece to go to the Echo, with an angle about the true relationship between our male and female leads! We look forward to reading it.

Our President, Julian Clegg who many of you will know works for BBC Radio Solent will be plugging the show for us, especially during show week and he is coming to the Dress Rehearsal.

A mass leaflet drop is being organised over and above those leaflets which you all have been delivering.

Ticket Sales for Kiss Me Kate

Many thanks to members of the society who have sold tickets for Kiss Me Kate.

The weeks are passing by very quickly, but unfortunately tickets sales are not selling as quick! Everyone is working extremely hard during rehearsals to make the show a success, NOW is the time to work just as hard to sell tickets!

Up to date, approximately 150 tickets have been purchased for all four performances, potentially MMS could sell approximately 1760! Performing to a small audience at the Regent Centre would be disappointing, but more sinister, without good audience attendance every performance, MMS will be unable to continue!! Therefore, please can all members make every effort possible, to sell as many tickets as possible, as soon as possible?

Remember tickets can be purchased or reserved, on line, in person at the Regent Centre, or through members of the committee.

Marlene Lewis

Front of House for Kiss Me Kate

A decision has been made that the front of house uniform for the production of Kiss Me Kate will be white and black, and be blouses and skirts for the ladies and black tie, preferably a bow tie for the men.

The names I have had put forward to me so far are:

Ladies: Chris Eastwood, Lucy Kellher, Vicky Clark, Sue Rattew

Gents: Jon Smith? Pauline's husband?

Please can all of the above contact me and advise if they are still available and what nights so that we can sort out rota's.

(Apologies to Sue who has left me a message once which I haven't responded to and have now lost your number!!)

Also please advise if the clothing will be an issue for you and we will all try and help out. Thanks, in advance for all your help, and here's to a good production!

Sian Goodbourn

Friends of MMS

The Committee are in the process of updating our 'patron's' scheme to make it more attractive to potential members and to give recognition to our most ardent and loyal supporters.

The new scheme will be called **'FRIENDS OF MILTON MUSICAL SOCIETY'** and members will benefit from:

- Recognition of their Membership in all of our show programmes.
- A free programme for every MMS show throughout the year.
- A Membership card.

- An annual 'Friends of Milton' social event in recognition of the support they give to the Society

- A regular monthly newsletter, keeping them up to date with all the Society's news and social events.

- An invitation to all MMS social events.

- A 'last night' back stage pass to meet the cast and join in with the after show celebrations.

10% discount off all MMS merchandise.

The cost of membership will be **£20 per annum**, payable by

cheque to **'Milton Musical Society'**.

If you would like to enrol a friend, relation, or admirer there is an application form you can download from the web and send it with the cheque to:-

Jo Mansfield, Secretary of MMS, 9, Boreham Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. BH6 5BW

New Friends will receive a welcome letter, Membership card and list of benefits by return.

An application form will also be available from Jo at rehearsals and meetings.

This Thing Called Love Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th October



Firstly, I would like to thank all of you for the effort that you put into your auditions, resulting in some wonderful performances. You have made the job of the audition panel extremely difficult and believe me, if there was room to have you all in the show you would be! It gives us no pleasure at all in disappointing any of you and I want you to know

that I would be delighted to cast any one of you in the future. For those of you that are unsuccessful this time, please don't take it personally. Please stay involved with the Society, where you'll be very welcome, and know that when the auditions for Titanic come about in September we'd love to see you there.

I have put the cast for This Thing Called Love into couples, with an idea of the life/love stage you'll be representing.

As you will see, we still need a couple for the wedding section, who I would like to be aged approximately 25-30 and a young girl 16-20 for the courtship section. I will be auditioning for these roles as soon as possible. If any of you know anyone within these age ranges, or who look like they are, who you think would like to audition, please let me know.

For those of you that haven't been cast I have created a reserve list for you. If you would prefer not to be a reserve then please let me know. It would be great to see you at rehearsals and you'd be welcome to learn all the group singing with us if you wanted to. Please also remember we'll need lots of help front of house for the show and your help will be welcome for this too.

Thank you once again for such wonderful auditions.

Jo Mansfield

CAST LIST FOR THIS THING CALLED LOVE

MEN	WOMEN	LIFE/LOVE STAGES
Syd	Suzanne	The Golden Years
Max	Vicky	Love on the Rocks
Lee	Gaynor	Marriage
Martin	Roni	Marriage
Andy	Jane	The Wedding
??	??	The Wedding
Stephen	Franki	Courtship
Dan	??	Courtship
Dave	Michele	Barman & Waitress
Reserves		
Les	Anne	
Ray	Sally	
Terry	Pat	

The other stages of the show are...What Is Love, Looking For Love, Going Dancing & The Joy Of Love ...in which everyone will be involved. Some of you will also cross over in the other stages too. The stage you've been given is just a guide to the stage you'll be highlighted in.

I look forward to seeing you all at the pre-rehearsal meeting on **Wednesday 10th June**, 7.30pm at Sopley, where you'll be given your scripts and CD's and allocated your songs and sketches.

TITANIC THE MUSICAL - APRIL 2010

I can now confirm the dates for casting which have been arranged to fit around the rehearsals for 'LOVE'.

On **Thursday 10th September** there will be an introductory evening designed to explain the show - the parts available and how the auditions will run.

On **Sunday 13th September** it will be an all-day audition. I will publish time-slots for each part so as not to waste people's time. I have reserved **Thursday 17th September** as an additional casting evening for people who cannot make the Sunday, or for any follow-ups. Also, I will be as flexible as

possible with those of you who might have difficulties with these dates due to holidays etc.

Part of the problem for the production team of a show like this, with some many people involved, is the



administrative nightmare. Keeping tabs on everyone really becomes very difficult. There are 41 named parts apart from chorus and a

score with 72 numbers.

Material for the show will be made available long before September, so that there is a chance for you to look at the parts and work out what you may wish to go for. As you will be playing real people part of the selection process will not only be singing capabilities, but size, shape and age. This a show with an assemble cast with a part for everyone of all ages.

Just to give you a flavour, here is the cast list together with the known age at the time of the sinking:

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OFFICERS AND CREW OF THE R.M.S. TITANIC:

Captain E. J. Smith (62)
 First Officer William Murdoch (39)
 Second Officer Charles Lightoller (38)
 Third Officer William Pitman (34)
 Frederick Barrett, Stoker (28)
 Harold Bride, Radioman (22)
 Henry Etches, First Class Steward (41)
 Frederick Fleet, Lookout (24)
 Quartermaster Robert Hichens (29)
 Fourth Officer Joseph Boxhal (28)
 Chief Engineer Joseph Bell (50)
 Wallace Hartley, Orchestra Leader (33)
 Bandsman Bricoux (20)

Bandsman Taylor (32)
 Stewardess Annie Robinson (40)
 Stewardess Hutchinson (28)
 Bellboy (14)

PASSENGERS ABOARD R.M.S. TITANIC:

First Class:

J. Bruce Ismay (49)
 Thomas Andrews (39)
 Isidor Straus (67)
 Ida Straus (63)
 J. J. Astor (47)
 Madeline Astor (18)
 Benjamin Guggenheim (46)
 Mme. Aubert (24)
 John B. Thayer (49)
 Marion Thayer (39)
 George Widener (50)
 Eleanor Widener (50)
 Charlotte Cardoza (58)
 J. H. Rogers (?)

The Major (?)
 Edith Corse Evans (36)

Second Class:

Charles Clarke (29)
 Caroline Neville (?)
 Edgar Beane (?)
 Alice Beane (?)

Third Class:

Kate McGovern (22)
 Kate Murphey (18)
 Kate Mullins (21)
 Jim Farrell (25)

Coupled with this, there is a good deal of doubling to fill in the other many parts.

Lots more to come - so watch this space!

John Teather, Director

Barton Harvest Festival Supper 19th September 2009

Barton Methodist Church has asked Milton Musical Society to supply the evening's entertainment for their Harvest Festival Supper on Saturday 19th September 2009.

We would do an hour performance starting at 7.30pm and it would be a selection of songs from the shows and possibly some G&S as they have mentioned that.

The stage will take about 12/14 people and my initial feeling is that depending on the level of interest we

would look at giving priority to those who are not involved in the Autumn show.

Obviously any performance we did would need rehearsals and a pianist so if anyone is interested could they let me know.

Michele



Kamya Rawstron Brake

What a pleasure to be invited to contribute to your newsletter this month and to be involved in your autumn production this year! Jo and I formed a great partnership as Director and Choreographer for HCP's recent production of *Sleeping Beauty* and it will be super to have the opportunity once more! A big thank you to those of you who took part in the audition process for *This Thing Called Love* and for really "strutting your stuff" in the dance audition! I left with the impression that people really did have fun and I was thrilled to see how everyone threw themselves into the spirit of the evening. Thanks also to Ellie for her assistance and for putting more auditionees through their paces on the Wednesday night.

I hardly know how to begin introducing myself to you as I'm a great believer that no matter how impressive a CV, people will decide how good someone is by the quality of what they produce and the level of positive

impact they have on the people around them.

However by way of a bit of background: I'm trained in music and the performing arts and continue to teach both in school and through private sessions and youth groups. I've always supported amateur theatre and since my first acting experiences with The Wessex Players at 7yrs old, I've been involved with almost a dozen theatre groups. These include a 15 year relationship with P&P and almost 7 years with Theatre 2000. With both I've performed in a variety of lead and principal roles (usually well disguised in a different coloured wig!). I've also gained award nominations with each and a Curtain Call Award with P&P. I have an active involvement with Carry On Productions, teaching on their courses for their summer and winter school shows as well as instructing the youth choir.

I'm lucky to have married a fellow "thesp" and my husband Andrew is also our Sopley

Parish Council Chairman. I know that he is delighted to welcome MMS into our community to rehearse in the Parish Hall - long may the mutual support continue! We live in the heart of the village with our dogs - two Chihuahuas and a Chinese Crested Hairless who loves to sing and loved winning first prize for his pirouettes at the Sopley Garden Party!!

Over the years it's been a great privilege to experience the work of a wealth of different Directors, Choreographers and MD's, most of whom have been, or continue to work professionally in their field. It's these experiences that continue to shape my approach and which I look forward to sharing with you during rehearsals. Whilst I know the opportunities to choreograph big dance numbers may not be readily available to us in *This Thing Called Love* due to the type of show, we'll certainly have great fun getting our moves together and putting on a great production!

Socials Occasions

Following the successful start to the season with our Quiz Night followed by Spring at Sopley, there are a lot more exciting social events to come.

There are also new ones! An additional Quiz Night has been added on 23rd May following many requests for

more. On Saturday 5th September plans are afoot for a Murder Mystery Evening, and on Saturday 31st October there will be a Halloween After Show Party. More details for these events will follow in future Newsletters - SO WATCH THIS SPACE

Saturday 9th May from 7.00pm

KARAOKE BAR-BE-CUE

9 Boreham Rd, Southbourne

£5 per person, (non singers may pay a forfeit!) It pays to sing! Price includes food and a drink. Bring a bottle-and your backing tracks!!

Saturday 23rd May from 7.00pm

QUIZ NIGHT

£3 per person—Teams 4-6

Following the brilliant Quiz Night at Sopley - here is another chance to test your skills , this time at a different venue of St Marks, Highcliffe.

Book a table now! Telephone or text 07510 274113

Saturday June 20th

Dinner Dance and Annual Awards

Awards Ceremony with
Entertainment at Shorefields

£25 a head including 3-course meal

Interest in this event has been very high, and table reservations have already begun. Don't miss out! Join in the fun, bring your family, or if they don't like you, bring your friends.

Book a table now! Telephone or text 07510 274113

Saturday 18th JULY at 7.30pm

American Supper

32 Barton Court Road, New Milton

Bring a dish, bring some wine, Bring some friends and have some fun! Long established hugely popular event.

Friday 21st August

AIR SHOW SOCIAL

at Beach Hut 2329 Bournemouth

Still in the planning stage - but designed around the Air Show and Fireworks on Bournemouth beach using Hut No 2329 which is just down from the pier. Current thoughts are a daytime get-together for the Air Show followed by a BBQ at 7.00pm ready for the fireworks. **More details to follow**

Sunday 9th August at 1200 Noon

CROQUET

Anyone for croquet!! By popular demand, The Vicarage at Sopley will be hosting this years croquet competition

£5 per person, bar-be-cue and games. Bring a bottle.

Milton Musical Society

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GOSSIP CORNER

Congratulations to our lovely Zarene who recently announced her engagement to Regent Centre Stage Manager Martin Short. They have already set their date for August 2010 and we wish them every happiness for their future together.

(The Editor would be delighted to publish information on what members are up to! - please email him or scribble it down or ring. Contact details at top of this page)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* New since last Newsletter

May	Saturday 9th	Karaoke Bar-be-cue
	Monday 11th	Committee Meeting
	*Saturday 23rd	Quiz Night
June	Wed 3rd at 7.30pm	<i>Kiss me Kate</i>
	Thu 4th at 7.30pm	<i>Kiss Me Kate</i>
	Friday 5th at 7.30pm	<i>Kiss Me Kate</i>
	Sat 6th at 2.30 and 7.30pm	<i>Kiss Me Kate</i>
	Monday 8th	Committee Meeting
	*Wednesday 10th	<i>Love Pre-rehearsal</i>
	Saturday 20th	Dinner Dance
July	Monday 13th	Committee Meeting
	Saturday 18th	American Supper
August	Sunday 9th	Croquet at Sopley
	Monday 10th	Committee Meeting
	Friday 21st	*Air Show Social
September	*Saturday 5th	Murder on the Med
	*Thursday 10th	<i>Titanic</i> Introduction
	Sunday 13th	Casting for <i>Titanic</i>
	Monday 14th	Committee Meeting
	*Thursday 17th	More <i>Titanic</i> Casting
	*Saturday 19th	Barton Harvest Festival
October	Monday 12th	Committee Meeting
	Friday 23rd	<i>This Thing Called Love</i>
	Saturday 24th	<i>This Thing Called Love</i>
	Sunday 25th	<i>This Thing Called Love</i>
	*Saturday 31st	Halloween After Show
November	Wednesday 3rd	<i>Titanic</i> Rehearsals start
	Monday 9th	Committee Meeting
	Monday 23rd	Annual General Meeting
December		
January		
February		
March		
April	13th - 17th	<i>Titanic</i>

The Highcliffe Charity Players biannual review "**I'm Not Being Funny But....**" will take place 22nd-25th July at St. Marks Hall, Highcliffe. It is a comedy review and will be Directed by Georgina Smith and Choreographed by Louise King. It will include, songs, sketches and dancing. There will be a ploughman's served and a pud and there is a cash bar and raffle.

Ticket prices have not been announced yet, but Michele has provisionally booked 2 tables of 8 for Milton on the Wednesday. She is more than happy to book more tables or other nights if there is the demand. Please contact her if you want to go. It's a good chance to see the venue where we are doing 'Love'