

Milton Musical Society

OCTOBER Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 6

OCTOBER 2011



Wednesday 23rd -
Saturday 26th
November at St Marks,
Highcliffe

BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

0845 872 3444

WWW.MILTONMUSICAL.ORG

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Things are going well and we have started on Act 2 and are sorting out the costume side of things.

If anyone has any 40s uniforms male and female which we could borrow we would be grateful, please let me or Marlene know.

The set is being made and I have seen the items Pauline's husband has made which are great.

We shall have to Pre-record two of the songs Jerusalem

& Santus, so if anyone would be able to do this with us, please let me know so you will be able to rehearse these with everybody.

Its time to book tickets so we have a large audience for all our work so come along.

Anyone will be welcome at a rehearsal so come and see what we are up to.

Margaret Coltman

FROM THE PRODUCER

First on my list of wants, is names of cast members and other society regulars, to help with leaflet deliveries in Highcliffe and surrounding areas in the run up to show week. We need to Blitz the residential streets, rather like the Luftwaffe did to London!!!

(Continued on page 2)

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Well as a Society we may not be rich in money, but we certainly are a Society rich in talent, if the "Oliver" auditions are anything to go by. First of all, we had the energy and enthusiasm of the presentation evening and then a repeat performance at the auditions. I am sure that JT has more to say on this subject, but from where I was sitting, I don't think I saw a duff audition.

When I think back to two years ago, some of you had never even been on stage and now you are turning out performances like these - well you should all be very proud of yourselves.

It is time now for us, as a Society to take stock and realise just how lucky we are.

Yes, recently we have been through some pretty tough times. Milton has always been a Society, that financially lurches from show to show, and that may continue for a while to come yet.

But, on the bright side, we are a Society with vision. I don't think any other Society in the area, has one show in production, with "Oh What A Lovely Parade", another in pre-production, "Oliver", and three more in the pipeline. We actually have our shows, either planned or being written, for up to autumn 2013. If that doesn't show a Society that believes it has a great future, then I don't know what does.

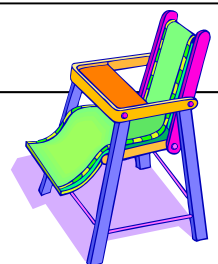
However - yes there is always an however - with the opportunity to perform, comes

the responsibility attached to it, and YES that is selling tickets.

Nick is doing a great job, in budgeting for the shows, but the unknown quantity is always our income. We never know how many tickets we are definitely going to sell, and we rely on you - THE COMPANY - not just the cast to sell those tickets.

"Oh What A Lovely Parade" is shaping up to be a great show. Margaret is now setting the scenes, the backing tracks are done, and the costumes are being sorted.

(Continued on page 2)



VIEW FROM THE CHAIR—CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

It is essential that we sell the tickets that Nick has projected that we need to sell.

So even if you are not part of this wonderful experience, you will be part of the next one, so please play your part, book

a table and come along and have a great time. It really is an audience participation show.

We already know that "Oliver" is going to be a fantastic show. There is already a "buzz" going around, that reminds me of the Titanic days.

As long as we keep our eye on the ball, there is no reason why this can't continue for a long time yet.

Michele Moulin-White

(Continued from page 1)

We'll do this on Saturday mornings, so I can be there to sort you all out!! First Saturday in November, Kick-off!!!!

I also need to know where people think I can put LARGE posters. We can print them off easily enough, but they need to go up somewhere you know will get noticed, preferably not out in the weather, unless you have a board and some varnish. I am getting an A BOARD made to go outside the Hall and hopefully along Highcliffe High Street.

Props and Scenery are well on their way to being ready, but I know that Margaret is anxious for anyone in the Show to source as much of your COSTUME as possible. This is not just about looking in the back of

your wardrobe, but also visiting the Charity shops and haggling for that bargain!! Go on, you know you love to find that real Treasure!!

From the Marketing & Publicity point of view, have already started Calling on Businesses in Highcliffe, and have leaflets in quite a few good spots already. I need suggestions and offers of Adverts to go in the Programme. We have 10 pages of Adverts to sell at £50 per page. or £25 for a half page. This will mostly be in Sepia/black & white, but Colour will be available for the covers and inside covers. I'm sure we all know of someone with a message to promote to the audience. Names to me at the weekly rehearsals.

Back to the Show itself, OWALP, of course; and I need volunteers to be the Kitchen Party. Teams of 4 who can cook off the Sausages, prepare

the big platters, put the Spots in the Dick, and generally get the meals out to the Waiting Staff on time.

Training will be provided, and Afternoon teams for Cream tea preparation are also needed. Names to me Please as soon as you can. This is a vital part of the Production, as food well presented and served HOT, will go a long way to keeping our Audience Happy and enthusiastic. The cast will be the table waiters so Kitchen staff only need to heat, prep and arrange the food, which will be delivered frozen in advance. I even have the offer of a freezer for the week!!

This show will go with a Bang(er) if we all pull together!!!!

Jonathan Shiner

Milton Musical Society THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL, Regent Centre, Christchurch Producer/Director: Michele Moulin-White

The structure of The Scarlet Pimpernel is unusual for a musical, with a very small nucleus of leads, and mainly male supporting roles.

The opening is unusual too, with the leading lady (Kamya Rawstron-Brake as Marguerite) stepping front-of-curtain to deliver a solo opening song. The piece is very demanding on its lead characters, both in singing and in acting, and this production really delivered the goods.

It was funny, it was romantic, it was tense and it was spectacular. There was very little in the way of set - a couple of stools, a few comfortable chairs and a guillotine. Projecting scenic backgrounds (black-and-white drawings) onto a cloth was something of a compromise.

Occasionally, upstage characters were painted with the background image, but most of the action was downstage, and the result was very slick transitions between scenes, so that the action was virtually continuous.

The story pits the English aristocrat Sir Percy Blakeney (Alex Cook) against The Terror phase of the French Revolution represented by Chauvelin (Andrew Rawstron) with Marguerite between them,

married to Blakeney but in the role of unwilling role of informer.

Most of the humour comes from Blakeney and his coterie of English Gentlemen - a very strong singing team, exquisitely costumed by Anne Ponting. The threat came from the revolutionary French - on behalf of Robespierre's Committee of Public Safety - and the spectacle was delivered by neat choreography, swordfights and the support of a huge chorus.

Stuart Arden
Noda Regional Representative 13

Oliver!

Lionel Bart's

Good feedback from the auditions, people seemed to very much enjoy the day. As Michele says - there wasn't a duff audition from anyone. But, the casting committee were unable to appoint a Nancy and fresh auditions will be held on Sunday 2nd October.

PRODUCTION DATES

We were pleased to be able to secure the show dates for OLIVER! for 18th - 21st April 2012.

SUNDAY 25th at SOPLEY - Kids Auditions - 10.00am - 4.00pm

We will audition both boys and girls aged 10 years by the date of the performance. Existing child members are exempt from this rule. It will be a long day for some and food, drink and quiet entertainment should be brought along.

Parents/guardians and children will be invited to meet at 10.00am for an introductory talk to explain the scope of the show and the responsibility of the par-

ents with regard to rehearsals and safeguarding. An introductory sheet detailing all of this will be provided. All children will complete a details form and allocated a number which they will wear on a badge.

All children will be taught 'Consider Yourself' together with associated dance steps. Following this the children will go to another room and then be called in groups of 4 or 5 to perform for the casting committee with parents still present.

Following an initial assessment, some will be told that they have not been selected and they can leave. The remainder will then be asked to audition again to get down to a manageable number. The casting committee will then decide on those who will be Workhouse Children and Fagin's Gang.

Those who want to continue to audition for Oliver and Artful Dodger will be asked to remain and the remainder will then leave.

The process of learning and performing will continue until there is a successful outcome. The results of these auditions will be notified by individual offer letters, offering the part on the basis that all planned absences are notified before rehearsals; that the Production Fee of £15, and membership fees (£15) are fully paid before the start of rehearsals on **Wednesday December 7th**.

FINAL AUDITIONS

If you still want to be considered, you must let me know and provide your postal address, phone numbers and email. Auditions will be on **Sunday 2nd October**.

THE RESULTS

I will send out offer letters to everyone who auditioned as soon as possible after the final auditions. The full list of the cast will be published in the November Newsletter.

John Teather

The AGM on Wednesday 30th November is held to allow members to re-elect and elect members of the management committee. Both Michele and Les will be stepping down this year and therefore we are in need of some other members stepping up. If you would like to be on the committee there are three easy steps:

- ▶Get Nominated-using a nomination form available from your Secretary (Marie). It should be signed by a proposer, a seconder and yourself.
- ▶Post/hand back the form at least 14 days prior to the AGM (last date for receiving this is Nov 15th).
- ▶At the AGM an election takes place and if you get elected you are on Committee

The following committee members wish to re-stand:

Vice-Chairman - Nick Squires
Hon Secretary - Marie Coltman
Hon Treasurer - Emily Manion
Technical/Newsletter/Website - John Teather

Marketing - Jonathan Shiner
Front of House - Marlene Lewis
Fundraising - Vicky Wharton
Social Secretary - Tracey Bryant

You can be nominated for any of these positions as per our constitution, we need to elect a new Chairman and Publicity Manager. If you would like to be nominated, please contact any of the committee who will be pleased to guide you as required.

Please note if you are unwilling to stand for committee, that doesn't mean you are not needed at the AGM. It is your Society, every member is liable under our constitution. If you need to raise any issues, or give feedback at the AGM, please let our Honorary Secretary know so it can be added to the agenda. This needs to be done at least 14 days ahead of the AGM. You will be expected to attend.

Details of the AGM, including our notice for the meeting will be sent shortly. Please let the Secretary have your apologies, if you are unable to attend.

Fundraising Report

Metal Vicky!

A huge thank you to the following people who contributed to the metal recycling day on the 4th September:



Christine Eastwood, Margaret Trickett, Michelle Phillips, Lee Tucker, Anne Jagger, Les & Jan Del Nevo. We have many other thanks to those of you who continue to bring in your aluminium drink cans too-please carry on! The biggest thanks however, should go to my boys, Chris and Louis who patiently surrendered their time to help collect and scrap the metal. Chris, my lovely fella took the majority of the metal to the recycling plant and got £60 for the load. (Louis ate most of the chocolate bribe!) This did not include the aluminium which needs some sorting to maximise the value. He will be doing this shortly and the aluminium cans cluttering my garden will be scrapped too. Please therefore, continue to bring in your aluminium cans, I do not need any other cans though. Please also keep all your metal to one side, we will repeat this in the new year.

I am still collecting print cartridges, (ask at work, look at home), old mobile phones and any £5 notes you don't need! Do you have your Smartie tube full yet? Remember this one. I have many tubes of Smarties ready for exchanging with your 20 pence filled tubes, who will be first?

Check out the social calendar at the back of the newsletter-these make up a lot of our fundraising effort. Unfortunately I am cancelling the Christmas Craft fair. Firstly New Milton Partnership are holding one a few weeks before with over 60 stalls, to date I have only had interest from two people within our society and so would like to revisit this next year when we have more time and potential interest. This is an important notice, because it highlights that we need to know

who is interested and who can help as these events take a lot of organising and a lot of elements that need to fit together all at the same time. Please continue to make you interest known about socials/fundraising etc as soon as you know about the events. It makes the organisers life soooooo much easier!

Upcoming events include:

Jumble Sale 22nd Oct - Scout Hut- Caird Ave, New Milton

Entrance fee for the event is 50 pence from 12.30-2pm

Helpers required from 9am-ladies and gents please volunteer your help. Could we also point out that whatever is left from the jumble sale has a potential for recycling. I need all textiles, shoes(pairs) and handbags put into sacks and stored. I will organise for them to be recycled when I get home. But we do need all other jumble to be disposed of so if you cant help in the morning please help at 2pm when it's time to pack up. Julie is still in need of helpers, please don't assume someone else can do it - come on you know you want to! In terms of the jumble. Please bring your jumble to the hall no later than 10am on Saturday the 22nd. If you are unable to do this, please contact Julie. We can also take some jumble from rehearsal on the 19th/21st October, more details to follow on that. This event is being advertised in the New Milton Advertiser. Julie Manion is organising this and all queries should now be directed to her (as I am on hols and have dissolved all responsibility to her-thanks Julie!) Julies telephone number is 07929482264.

Cowboy Cabaret 12th Nov

This is a cheese and wine with entertainment. The line up is looking mighty fine and as you may deduce from the title, it has a country and western theme. Fancy dress is definitely allowable and the more friends you rustle up the better! Tickets are only £7.50 which is a bargain when you think you get food and entertainment for a whole evening. The venue has changed and is now going to be at Beaufort Community Centre in Southbourne. We have changed the venue as the parking is a plenty (there is a field if you need to tie up your horse!) and the car park is very well lit. There is loads of space in the hall, which is heated, and there will be a saloon serving the bestest liquor in town! (at club prices!) Most

importantly there is a stage for our performers. We also hope to encourage some locals into the event to increase our fundraising opportunity too.

Tickets are available from Tracey Bryant, Joanne Mansfield or you can ring me to book and reserve a table. If you cannot make the cabaret, we will be repeating the show on the 4th December at the same venue. Please ask for details.

Carol Singing 10th, 17th and 24th December

We are now preparing the songs for the Christmas carolling on the Red Funnel Ferries for December. We still need volunteers for this. Please contact Vicky (that's me!) to tell me how you can help. 07510 274113. We will have one rehearsal, and as mentioned before, we will be singing from books-so you will have everything you need for a good time!

If you don't come to rehearsals because you aren't on stage for OWALP, please come once a month to catch up with us. We have a lot going on, we appreciate we are asking a lot at the moment, but I hope you appreciate the offering is to allow for different tastes, encourage a wider variety of members and for those of us who can, bring friends along to increase our audiences/friends of the society. Talking of "Friends", we have now printed some new flyers for our "Friends Of Milton" scheme which will be available from me at rehearsals or social events. Consider who you know who might be interested and able to join the scheme. More details on this in the next newsletter.

Finally, as Fundraising Manager, I am now moving my efforts towards finding other sources of funds aside from our social/fundraising events. If you have any contact where you work in terms of those who might be willing to donate for a good cause please let me know the contacts name. Do not confuse me with Nick Squires role in terms of corporate sponsorship-where we are looking for a different investment. Anything will help, so please let either of us know if you have any leads for us.

I will continue to inform you of our progress. In the meantime, thank you for your continued support.

Vicky. xx

Social Report

A big thank you to everyone who joined me recently in the social events.

The Scarlet Pimpernel DVD night went well, I am really pleased that we finally got the chance to see how we portrayed the show to our audience and we did good!! If you couldn't make the evening but do want a DVD please let me know as I always have a copy on me.

The Quiz night was a great success. There was some very fierce competition but congratulations to the OLD STAGERS who won the night and an extra big thank you to those of the society that brought their friends and family along.

Well done to our very own Michele Moulin-white who came first for the ladies at the skittles night joined by Marlene's son Duncan

who came 1st for the men and his son George who was consistently top of the children's category. Another Great night had by many and I hope to repeat it again in the future.

I only have the one event to sell to you for this month and its the big one!

I really hope this is well attended as this night is all about you, and you could win an award for your contribution to Milton Musical Society and/or the two wonderful productions we have put on in the last year, so it would be a real shame if you were not there. And don't forget to bring along your loved ones to share in what could be your moment.

If you have anyone that you would like to put forward for an award, please get in touch with

me or any of the committee to discuss it further.

Saturday 22nd October

THE ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS.....A NIGHT OF A THOUSAND STARS.

Dress code - Black Tie.

Time 7:30pm. Venue St Marks Highcliffe. Price £16.00

MENU:

Main Course

*Beef Bourguignon
Ginger and coriander Chicken
Vegetable Lasagne
All with Pilau Rice and Roasted vegetables*

Dessert

*Key Lime Pie
Pavlova*

Apple and Blackberry Crumble

As you can see the menu is very tempting, so all you need to do now is let me know that you intend to come along and your choice of meals and payment for the evening.

IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT I KNOW WHO IS COMING FOR CATERING PURPOSES BY OCTOBER 15TH.

I would also ask that you pay prior to the event if you intend to come along.

I look forward to seeing you all in your absolute best dress / suit for what I hope will be a great evenings entertainment.

Tracey x

FRONT OF HOUSE

Raffle

Love them or hate them, raffles are a source of income for MMS.

Recent raffles have raised much needed funds for our society and hopefully will continue to do so. Hence more prizes are needed for rehearsals, social events and OWALP. The raffle for OWALP will consist of a grand prize of £100.00, food hampers, wine, chocolates, etc. Please donate generously. Non perishable food items are needed, e.g. tinned food, packets, jars, bottles etc. to make up ham-

pers for each performance. Please place an extra item or two, or even three or more, into your weekly shopping and bring them to rehearsals, social events A.S.A.P.

Rehearsal Refreshment

Sally's cakes are delicious. If you haven't sampled them, please do. OK, they do add to the waistline, but most of us can justify eating one, or two. Buy some to take home; you won't regret it, unless you are doing the diet challenge! Thank you Sally for a great idea for fundraising. If anyone is available to help with refreshments at rehearsals, or knows of anyone willing to do

so, please inform me.

Costumes for OWALP

If any members of MMS have clothes, e.g. hats, helmets, dresses, skirts, trousers, dungarees, army, navy, air force outfits, etc., hidden in the depths of the wardrobe or attic, which may be suitable to be worn as 1914-1918 & 1940's outfits, inform me A.S.A.P. Borrowing these items from Milton members will reduce the cost of costume hire. All sizes of ladies and gents outfits required. Please start looking now!

Help is also required with costumes. Please contact me

if you can assist.

OWALP Front of House

Would you like to join in the fun of show week? Then why not volunteer to help with FOH during OWALP? The many tasks include preparing and serving food, selling programmes, raffle tickets, etc. Please put your name forward, because without sufficient help it will be impossible to cope. Ask friends, family, (and yourself), put the dates in dairies, and come and join in the fun! One last thing, please, please, sell tickets!

Marlene

Membership Fees

Annual membership fees are due for renewal on October 1st 2011 at the latest.

Full Acting Member	£30
Non Acting Member	£15
Junior Member	£15
Friends Membership	£25

You can still pay early if you are able to before the October due date. If paying by cheque please make it payable to Milton Musical Society and hand it to Marie Coltman at rehearsals or you can pay using BACS giving your name as a reference into the bank. Account Number 61506133 Sort Code 60 15 04 this is a NatWest account.

Your prompt payment of membership fees is greatly appreciated. Many Thanks

Marie Coltman
Hon. Sec.

The Committee

President

Alison Peach
alison.peach@hotmail.com

Chairman

Michele Moulin-White
 01425 674949 / 07795 192560
michelemw@live.co.uk

Secretary

Marie Coltman
 01202 581385 / 07971 106137
crazysmall@tesco.net

Treasurer

Emily Manion
 01425 629677 / 07835 366888
mmz6891@msn.com

Vice Chairman (Budgeting)

Nick Squires
 01202476642 / 07831 127344
nick.squires0@btinternet.com

Technical, Web & Newsletter

John Teather
 01425 610383 / 07802 203410
technical@miltonmusical.org

Marketing

Jonathan Shiner
 07890 510384
jonoshine@aol.com

Publicity

Les Del Nevo
 01425 623137 / 07786 993744
delnevo29@aol.com

Social Secretary

Tracey Bryant
 01202 380255 / 07919 051926
traceybryant76@hotmail.com

Front of House

Marlene Lewis
 01202 884758
marlene.lewis@talk21.com

Fundraising

Vicky Wharton
 07510 274113
vixsyclar@yadoo.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* New since last
 Newsletter

SEPTEMBER	Sunday 25th at 10.00am Sopley Village Hall	<i>OLIVER! Kids Auditions</i>
OCTOBER	Saturday 1st at Clapham	<i>Ragtime</i>
	Sunday 2nd at 2.00pm Sopley Village Hall	<i>OLIVER! additional Auditions</i>
	*Saturday 22nd at 12.30pm Scout Hut, Caird Avenue	*Jumble Sale
	Saturday 22nd at 7.30pm St Marks, Highcliffe	<i>Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony</i>
NOVEMBER	Saturday 12th Sopley Village Hall	<i>Cowboy Cabaret Friends of Milton Night</i>
	Wed. 23rd - Sat. 26th St Mark's Highcliffe	<i>'Oh! Wot a Lov'ly Parade'</i>
	Wednesday 30th at 7.30pm Barton	<i>Annual General Meeting followed by Carols rehearsal</i>
DECEMBER	Saturday 3rd at 7.30pm	<i>OWALP After Show Party</i>
	Wednesday 7th at 7.30pm	<i>OLIVER! First Rehearsal</i>
	Saturday 10th at 9.30am	<i>Red Funnel Carol Singing</i>
	Saturday 17th at 9.30am	<i>Red Funnel Carol Singing</i>
	Saturday 24th at 9.30am	<i>Red Funnel Carol Singing</i>
JANUARY 2012	Saturday 14th at 7.30pm St Marks, Highcliffe	<i>Crescendi Concert to raise funds for MMS</i>
	Saturday 28th at 7.30pm St Marks, Highcliffe	<i>OLIVER! Film Evening</i>
FEBRUARY 2012	Saturday 11th St Mark's Highcliffe	<i>Valentines Dinner Cabaret and Auction of Promises</i>
MARCH 2012	Saturday 3rd St Mark's Highcliffe	Quiz and Bingo
	Saturday 24th St Mark's Highcliffe	<i>Cheese & Wine Race Night</i>
APRIL 2012	18th - 21st Regent Centre	OLIVER!
MAY 2012		
NOVEMBER 2012	Venue TBC	<i>The Top of the Pops Years</i>
APRIL 2013 17th - 20th	Regent Centre	RAGTIME