

Milton Musical Society

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

April 2009

Editorial

So that Vice Chairman, Vicky Clarke, can have more time to concentrate on the vital responsibilities of Social, Fundraising and the 'Friends', I have agreed to carry on producing the monthly newsletter.

Thank you for all the kind comments over the first issue, I hope you find this one equally good.

It's interesting when you pull everything together in one place what an exciting, enjoyable and challenging time ahead to which we can all look forward.

If you have any articles or comments you would like included, please email them to me.

John Teather

View from the Chair



Is it just me or has the milder weather bought a new upbeat mood with it? That certainly is the feel in MMS right now.

Each week we add to our fold with a new face or two, which is fabulous. So far this month we have welcomed, Alison, Andy, Mat as well as Emmie (sorry I forgot you last month) and the four brilliant youngsters that Shelley has introduced to us, Stephen, Courtney, Shannon and Megan.

I sat on the side on last Wednesday and

watched Val put some more touches to the opening number and I was really proud of the team that we have.

There was so much energy and enthusiasm and everyone looked as if they are really enjoying themselves. Keep feeling like that because it really does show.

Of course, outside of KMK life at Milton does go on. One of the things that we always wanted to do was to be able to plan ahead and the Committee is working very hard in the back-

ground, not only to pull this show together but also planning for future shows.

As well as "This Thing Called Love" in Autumn 2009, "Titanic" in Spring 2010, we have already pinpointed a show for Autumn 2010 and have an good idea of something we would like to do in Spring 2011.

Keep up the good work everyone.

Michele

Kiss Me Kate Wednesday 3rd - Saturday 6th June

We are desperately seeking two "active" men to complete the casting of "Kiss me Kate" - where are you? - please come forward!!

Despite a few gaps we have reached the end of Act 1 and rehearsals have gone well. Now for the opening of Act 2 which everyone is looking for-

ward to - "It's too Darn Hot". Yes we have some wonderful songs in this show and the company have risen to the challenge of the 4-part harmony.

Dancing rehearsals have been fortnightly due to the other commitments of our choreographers, Shelley and Leanne but they will shortly be able to manage

twice a week. Routines are looking good and we still have the Fosse number to master!!

Principals are working overtime to "brush" up their Shakespeare and overall I am pleased with the progress of the show. Keep up the good work.

Val



Tickets for Kiss Me Kate

In order to encourage further ticket sales, the committee has agreed to leaflet drop the neighbourhood for individual houses. However, there are many bigger businesses around who have social outings for staff. We have arranged for a toolkit to be created for staff who arrange these events and are looking for volunteers to help drop off the tool kits to local businesses/organisations. If you are happy to work with

others to drop off the kits, or, if you work for an organisation who you think would utilise the kit-or someone you know does, please contact Vicky or Marlene to get hold of some tool kits. The tool kit will comprise of a poster, an order sheet and flyers for the employees and a covering letter of instruction. Tool kits will be available from April 1st. We will be organising a session to support anyone unsure of "how to sell the tool

kits" and days when we can go in pairs to really optimise our selling strategy. We should all be aware that the show needs to reach a capacity of at least 70% per performance in order to break even.

Your society may be at risk if we cannot collectively fill these seats.

Vicky



Front of house is getting just 'too darn hot'.

Lots of lovely ladies are volunteering to dress up and entice the general public to come and watch us perform.

Thank you to all of you who have put your name forward. I will be in touch with you all when I get home from holiday. Now chaps, its time to step up and match the ladies.

We still need men to dress up and represent Milton Musical Society on the show nights generally making the public have a good time and feel welcomed to a Milton event in the hope they keep coming back.

So just in case you lost it, my number is 07948 494018.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Sian



BREAK A LEG!

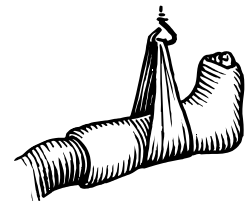
We have all heard this expression used to wish us good luck before a performance. Where does it come from?

Wikipedia suggests the following as the "traditional explanation" for the phrase:

"Rather than receiving tips directly from the company or theatre, tipping was left to the audience. During the final bows or curtain call, audiences would throw money, usually coins, onto the stage depending on how well they enjoyed the performance. In some bad performances they would throw rotten vegetables, but in the good cases, money. Actors would then 'take a knee', effectively breaking their leg line, on stage and pick up the money. As a result, when a person wishes someone to 'break a leg' it refers

to wishing them success in their performance so in the end they would have to kneel down and collect a welcoming tip. Theatre evolved and the tradition of tipping changed to one of throwing flowers on stage, as well as presenting flowers".

What happens if you do break a leg in a Milton Musical production? You might be able to make a claim on our NODA Insurance Policy. The Society pays a premium of nearly £200 (it was actually £196.93 this Financial Year) for this insurance. A maximum of 45 people (aged up to 80) associated with the production are covered by the Personal Accident Section of the Policy. This is funded from your Subscription of £25 (£10 for Junior membership) .



This is one of the reasons ("fair play" to the other Society members is another !) why The Society insists that your Membership Fee MUST be paid BEFORE you go onto the stage and since accidents can also occur during rehearsals you should ensure that your Subscription Fee is paid at the first rehearsal of each Financial Year, i.e. on October 1st or very shortly afterwards.

Unlike many other policies the NODA Policy does cover Member to Member Liability. So if you are the cause of your mate's broken leg you will have the insurance to cover you !

Roger

Kiss Me Kate Publicity

Kiss Me Kate leaflets are now printed, please pick up at rehearsals as many as you think you can manage to distribute. If you know anyone working in shops, see if they will have one in their window. And lets make use of this gorgeous sunny weather - put your shades on and canvas your neighbourhood with leaflets.

Make it snappy!

Press releases are scheduled for next month so I'll be along in the next few weeks to be taking photos, "give me gorgeous dar-

lings!".

Facebook Frolics

For those of you on Facebook but not too sure how it all works. If you click on the Kiss Me Kate event page which you can type into the Search box (1) our Milton Musical version is about the third page along, there lots of other musical societies doing Kiss Me Kate as well in the run up to June! And then click Invite People to Come (2) and click on all your friends names so they can see the event.

Lucy



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

'This Thing Called Love' is a scripted revue, written by Roy Sault of Capricorn Productions. It follows the aspects of love from 'courtship' through 'marriage' and to the 'golden years'. It has over 40 songs in each act (not whole songs!) interspersed with some very funny and poignant sketches and poems.

The show is to be performed at St Marks Church Hall, Highcliffe, from 23rd to 25th October 2009. The hall will be set up cabaret style, with candlelit tables and chairs. A fish and chip supper will be served during the interval of the evening shows and afternoon tea served during the interval of the matinee shows. This means that we will require a lot of help front of house. If you are keen to be involved with the show, but not to perform, your help will be very welcome. Please have a chat with Sian, our Front of house committee liaison officer.

Rehearsals will commence during

August, on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Sopley Village Hall, 7.30pm – 10pm, and some Sundays from 2-6pm. (A full rehearsal schedule will be available at the read through)

As St Marks is a little compact, in respect of the stage and changing area, I will be looking for a maximum cast of 18 people; ideally an even number of men and women. It will be difficult to accommodate under 16 year olds in the changing space that we'll have.



Concept meeting/read through:

This will be held on Thursday 9th

April, 7.30pm, at Sopley Village Hall.

Audition:

These will be held on Tuesday 21st April, from 6.30pm till 10.30pm, at Sopley Village Hall.

Audition requirements:

There are no 'parts' to go for in this show as such. The songs and sketches will be allocated after the show is cast. The auditions are a chance for you to show off your talents generally. As it's a limited cast, I'll be looking for those that are good all rounders in particular.

Singing: Everyone will need to sing a solo/duet song of their own choice, to their own backing track.

Michele has kindly offered to help you find a backing track from within her extensive library, if you want her to. Please give her a call on 01425 674949. Alternatively, Ian Carter can put piano backing onto a CD for you. He will make a

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charge for this service. If you'd like to see if he can be of help, give him a call on 07808 931875.

The singing part of the audition will be from 6.30pm – 8pm and you will be given an audition time slot during these times, as I appreciate not everyone will be able to get there for 6.30pm. Please make sure you ring me, Jo Mansfield, on 07825 250419, to be given your time slot, if you want to audition.

There will be a CD player at the auditions for you to use.

Acting: Everyone will be required to perform a sketch, monologue or poem. This can be of your own choice or taken from the script. I will bring copies of some of the sketches to the read through for you to use if you wish.

Dancing: There isn't a huge amount of dancing in the show, although this hasn't been finalised yet. Anyone who would like to be considered for the dancing that there will be, will need to take part in the dancing audition. This will be

a fairly simple routine that you'll have time to learn and practice on the audition evening, before having to do the audition proper.

Audition timetable:

6.30pm – 8pm Singing
(don't forget to book your slot!)

8pm – 8.30pm Dance
warm up and learn the audition routine.

8.30pm – 9.30pm Acting
(sketches, etc.)

9.30pm – 10.30pm Refresh
dance / dance auditions

I will endeavour to email the results of the auditions within 24 hours. If you don't have email then please ensure I have your contact phone number.

If you are unable to make this audition and need an alternative date, then please let me know. (Only for a very good reason though)

Pre-rehearsal meeting:

On Wednesday June 10th, 7.30pm, at Sopley Village Hall, there will be a pre-rehearsal meeting. I will

hand out scripts and CD's and allocate all the songs and sketches. This means that you will have a few weeks before rehearsals start to learn your songs and sketches, as we will have a fairly short rehearsal period: approximately 8 – 10 weeks only.

There will be four people on the audition panel, who are:

Director: **Jo Mansfield**

Choreographer: TBC

Musical Director: **Alistair Hume**
Committee member / technical advisor : **John Teather**

These auditions are open auditions and non-members are always very welcome. Please feel free to invite people along to either take part or just to meet us and find out how friendly we are.

I would like to wish you all lots of luck for the auditions. I know how scary they can be, but remember they are your chance to show what you can do and everyone else is just as nervous as you are!

Jo

TITANIC THE MUSICAL - APRIL 2010

With all of our energies focused on *Kiss and Love - Titanic* is slightly on the back-burner.

However, the production team is growing with the addition of Jane White as Stage Manager, Alison Peach as Associate Musical Director and Jo Mansfield as Choreographer.

We have settled on Sunday 12th September for the auditions. The plan is to have an introductory evening the week before at which the scope of the show can be pre-

sented, and audition material circulated. We don't need anyone to learn a number, just simply have a 'best shot' based on CD music.



The Sunday will be an all-day event as there are so many parts

to cast. We are also allocating an evening in the following week to do any follow-up auditions.

Rehearsals will then start in November and continue right through to the show in April. Our plan is to run January 'light' to deal with all the absences caused by the pantomime season.

More in the next issue.

John Teather - Director

SOS - Socials Occasions Soirees - Support our Society

New events include:

Spring Lunch Party - see below.

'Carousel' Swanage Musical Theatre Company present the American love story of good eventually presiding over bad. Packed with memorable songs like "June is Bustin out all over", "Clam Bake" and of course "You'll never walk alone"

Currently looking for numbers in order to book tickets and possible pre theatre dinner. If interested, telephone or text Vicky on 07510 274113.

Are you a keen gardener? Bedding plants available from £2.80 a tray grown professionally by a local garden centre. Various varieties available, available from May 9th, all delivered to you (via rehearsal or to your door if not currently rehearsing for the next show for a nominal fee of 50p) Need orders by March 27th.

Telephone Vicky for more info. 07510 274113 all proceeds to Milton Musical Society.

<p>SUNDAY OVER SOPLEY</p>	<p>Sunday 19th April at Midday Spring Lunch Party</p>	<p>Anyone for croquet!! Weather permitting! The Vicarage at Sopley Lunch with games. £5 per person, Bring a bottle.</p>
<p>SAUSAGES OVERTURES SINGING</p>	<p>Saturday 9th May Karaoke Bar-Be-Cue</p>	<p>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!!</p>
<p>SUITS ON SIR!</p>	<p>Saturday June 20th Post Show Dinner Dance and Annual Awards</p> <p>Awards Ceremony with Entertainment at Shorefields</p>	<p>Organisation is now in full flow-this is the event of the year, we need to know your interest, either way. Please contact Vicky to register your interest so we can gauge the function room size required. Plans are already underway to make this a great value evening of entertainment and celebration of your great work. 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</p>
<p>SAUSAGE ONIONS SALAD</p>	<p>Saturday 18th JULY AMERICAN SUPPER</p>	<p>Barton Court Rd, Barton On sea Bring a dish, bring some wine, Bring some friends and have some fun! Long established hugely popular event.</p>
<p>SOCIALS OF SOCIETY</p>	<p>Sunday 9th August - CROQUET</p>	<p>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.</p>

Milton Musical Society

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* New since last
Newsletter

March	*Saturday 28th @ 7.00pm	*Spring into Summer Quiz Night
April	*Thursday 9th April 7.30pm at Sopley	Concept for 'Love'
	*Tuesday 21st April from 6.30pm at Sopley	Casting for 'Love'
	*Sunday 19th @1200 Monday 20th	*Sunday over Sopley Committee Meeting
May	Monday 11th *Saturday 9th	Committee Meeting Karaoke Bar-be-cue
June	Wed 3rd at 7.30pm Thu 4th at 7.30pm Friday 5th at 7.30pm Sat 6th at 2.30 and 7.30pm Monday 8th *Saturday 20th	<i>Kiss me Kate</i> <i>Kiss Me Kate</i> <i>Kiss Me Kate</i> <i>Kiss Me Kate</i> Committee Meeting Dinner Dance
July	Monday 13th *Saturday 18th	Committee Meeting American Supper
August	*Sunday 9th Monday 10th *Friday 21st	Croquet at Sopley Committee Meeting *Air Show Social
September	*Sunday 12th Monday 14th	Casting for <i>Titanic</i> Committee Meeting
October	Monday 12th Friday 23rd Saturday 24th Sunday 25th	Committee Meeting <i>This Thing Called Love</i> <i>This Thing Called Love</i> <i>This Thing Called Love</i>
November	Wednesday 3rd Monday 9th Monday 23rd	<i>Titanic</i> Rehearsals start Committee Meeting Annual General Meeting
December		
January		
February		
March		
April	13th - 17th	<i>Titanic</i>