

 **BOARDREADER**
SHINFIELD PLAYERS THEATRE

July 2021

Shinfield Players' Theatre's mission is to provide a venue for creating and experiencing theatre in all its forms. We aim to continue to train and develop our membership so that everyone enjoys socialising, working together and participating in theatre.

From the Chairman

Each month that goes by we are hopeful that theatres return to some kind of normality and we can return to the hobby we all love.

At the moment the "rule of six" is in operation so there are restrictions on what can be safely and legally take place at the theatre but that does mean we can do all those jobs around the place before we start rehearsing, play reading etc. Please find a list of jobs in this edition. We are so lucky to have our own theatre, but it does fall on us, the membership, to ensure that these chores are done on a regular basis.

The youth group have been meeting over the last few months and thanks to the dedicated leaders and backstage crew the shows are nearly ready to perform. At the time of writing, these are due to be streamed on line but do check the website, social media and Ticketsource for the latest information.

It may be July, but the pantomime read throughs are starting and it would be lovely to see you on the zoom call reading through the script!

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Gordon

GORDON BIRD

Revised dates for **YOUTH GROUP SHOWS**

Owing to current restrictions, the junior and middle group's performance of Alice in Wonderland and the seniors production of Blue Stockings have been changed.

BLUE STOCKINGS by Jessica Swale. This is now being broadcasted on line (14th to 17th July). Tickets are available via Ticketsource.

Please spend an evening supporting the talented group of youngsters in this enjoyable play about Cambridge female students battling for the rights for a degree following their studying. Battling against sexism, classism and 800 years of history, as well as their own problems, it is not going to be straight forward.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND - the junior and middle group are hoping to perform their show on Wednesday 21st July (either live in the theatre or on line). Please check website and social media for updates.

JUNIOR AND MIDDLE YOUTH GROUP LEADER URGENTLY REQUIRED

We are looking for a new leader for the Junior and Middle Youth Group. There are currently three leaders who are extremely committed and enthusiastic about the group and would love an equally dedicated person to join the team.

Unfortunately one of the members is leaving in the summer so we will need another leader.

Unless we have a full quota of leaders we will have to close down the group which would be a massive shame for the youngsters and all those have worked so hard for the group over the years.

If you are passionate about theatre and wish to be part of the future of our theatre then this could be an ideal opportunity for you.

The youth group meets every Wednesday 6pm – 7.45pm and the occasional Sundays during the lead up to the Summer Show.

The role requires a DBS check and a chaperone license.

If you are interested in this fantastic opportunity then please contact Gordon Bird, chairman@shinfieldplayers.org.uk by Friday 30th July.

Back to Theatre

In recent weeks more and more people are beginning to use the theatre within the latest social distancing rules and it is important that we all follow a few basic rules to keep everyone safe and healthy.

1. Please let Rachel@shinfieldplayers.org.uk know that you are visiting the theatre so that she can update the calendar and ensure that your visit does not clash with anything else that might interfere with your plans.
2. When entering the building, please sign in (for COVID track and trace regulations) and use the hand sanitiser.
3. If you are in the foyer, then enter through the side entrance to open up and close, otherwise come through the main entrance and stay "front of house". Bear in mind that people may be working backstage so please be respectful of their space and their work.
4. If you are working backstage, then come through the side entrance (stage entrance) and stay "back stage". Please remember that people could be rehearsing or meeting in the foyer so please respect their space and their activities.
5. Although not compulsory, please wear a mask when moving around the theatre.
6. If you are in any doubt about the current rules and restriction then please contact the committee on c@shinfieldplayers.org.uk.

Looking forward to welcoming you back to the theatre in whatever capacity but please keep safe and obey the current COVID rules.

JOBS AROUND THE THEATRE

There may well still be restrictions but the theatre itself knows no restrictions and there are plenty of essential as well as practical jobs that are needed for the up keep and maintenance of the theatre.

A number of jobs are required and it is up to all of us, the membership, to do our bit to keep the theatre well maintained.

- The car park desperately needs weeding and due to Mushy, the other neighbourhood cats and our resident hedgehog, weed killer is out of the question so please can volunteers come and weed the car park by hand.
- The Foyer and Auditorium could always do with a Hoover.
- As the building is starting to be used by a lot more people all the toilets could do with a clean.
- Once the restrictions have eased and we are officially in the closed season, (August), a list of jobs will appear on the noticeboard at the theatre and in the Board Treader.

The theatre belongs to ALL of its members so it would be appreciated if we could ALL do our little bit to help out.

My thanks go to all those who have helped out over the last 18 months on keeping the place in good shape.

Gordon Bird

Panto - Jan 2022 - Snow White and the Four Swedish Popstars

Planned show dates: January 14-16th and January 21-23rd

(4 shows per weekend)



We hope that you are looking forward to the future when Sharon Young and Sue Gowen bring you the Panto!

We are looking to holding more read throughs in September, subject to COVID restrictions:

After summer:

Read Throughs: **6th (Mon) and 8th (Wed) September 7.45pm (foyer)**

Sing Throughs: **13th (Mon) and 15th (Wed) September 7.45pm (foyer)**

Auditions will be held end of September 21

We hope to start rehearsals in October 21, predominantly Monday and Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

Planned show dates: January 14-16th and January 21-23rd

(4 shows per weekend)

Look forward to seeing you all again

Sue & Sharon



MusicBox

Review of songs from the Musicals

Friday 22, Saturday 23 October 2021

Thursday 28, Friday 29 & Saturday and 30 October 2021

The auditions, all done live and socially distanced at the theatre, have now been completed.

We are happy to announce that we have found a great cast with a superb array and variation of songs and styles for us to choose from. We had quite a decision to make to get the right mix to also fit in with the MusicBoxers style and words.

The following people have all been successful and are ready to rehearse and tread the boards once again so we can finally bring a musical review of songs from shows back to SPT for everyone's entertainment.

Amelia Bright
Cara Broadhurst
Martin Butler
Sherrie Carslake
Matthew Chishick
Joanne Fox
Catlin Lammin
Rachel Lockwood
Charis Ann Luke
Jane Minchin
Lara Savory
Sami Sharp
Karen Todd
Simon Trinder

Tickets go on sale on 1st August 2021 for show dates 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30th October at 7.45pm

Martin Butler & Jane Minchin

Martin Butler – Director: martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Jane Minchin – Co-Director: jane@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Kath Billing

We were saddened to receive the news that Kath Billing has passed away. She was a valued member of our bar team and we have sent our condolences to Robert her husband.

Graham and Carol

Changes of Responsibilities and Running the Theatre

It has been a while since we had a production at Shinfield Players Theatre but throughout the time that we have been closed, we have looked at ways of improving our processes. The Committee have continued to meet virtually to get us to the point where we can re-open again when restrictions are lifted. The foyer and auditorium have been refreshed and a new sound booth has been installed and hopefully this summer we will be upgrading the toilets. All this, so when we are ready to have limited audiences back we are ready to go!

Sue Gowen has now taken on the full role of SPT Treasurer and I am the person who will be in contact with you all when looking for help Front of House and in the Bar while continuing my role in Publicity and Communication,

Simon Trinder is now Bar Manager and will manage all aspects of running the bar.

The theatre will be working within all current COVID guidelines and when we are able to open it will be with social distancing and with a limited audience. This will mean changes in the way in which we organise things as we find a new way forward for the theatre.

The bar will be re-stocked in the next couple of weeks and once open, we will serve drinks directly into disposables so that audiences can take drinks straight to their seats. For the time being, no coffee shop will be open and no raffle will take place. Two people front of house will manage the social distancing and checking that everyone is checked in correctly.

I would like to hear from people for the following:-

- 1) If you do not wish to receive Bar and FOH email updates, please let me know so I can ensure you are removed from my list.
- 2) Long term we are looking to complete new bar and Front of House training / and or update training. Let me know if you are interested in training to help in future.

With thanks

Martin

Martin Butler
Publicity and Communications
martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk;

Thinking of Directing a Show?

Whether you want to put on a play, a musical or a panto, we'd love to hear from you and to help you carry out your vision on the Shinfield stage.

If you're a first time director, don't be daunted, many of our shows are put on by people making their debut and we have experienced directors who are ready to help. The first step is to let us know your ideas, so please contact Cate Naylor who will explain the process and send you a proposal form to complete to give us information about the production you would like to put on.

So, send Cate an email on secretary@shinfieldplayers.co.uk with your ideas and questions and let's look forward to putting on a show!!

SPT Raises Money for the RSPCA



Just a reminder that If you would like to donate any of the items for the RSPCA then please contact Debbie Wheeler on debraaw1960@hotmail.com and she will be happy to organise the donations to be collected and sent to the RSPCA.

What you can recycle:

- **Gadgets** – mobile phones, iPods, satnavs, games consoles, games, tablets, cameras and video cameras
- **Jewellery** – gold, silver, costume jewellery, watches, broken and damaged items (like odd earrings or snapped chains)
- **Unwanted currency** – old and new, UK and foreign banknotes & coins; including all the pre Euro notes which are now worthless
- **Stamps** – loose/single used stamps, albums, first day covers/presentation packs, collections, postcard collections

Thanks Everyone!

Please email items for the August Boardreader by July 26th to:

editor@boardreader.org.uk; editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk;
boardreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk; shinfieldboardreader@hotmail.co.uk