

# THE HERALD

Summer 2010 Newsletter

Let's get straight into it. Too hot. Too much rain. Bet we'll have a hosepipe ban. What about that World Cup, eh? Right. That's the topical stuff dealt with. Now to the important stuff...



## In this edition....

- Current production
- Productions for 2011
- Upcoming social events
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## current production

### AUTUMN 2010

Performance Dates: November 17th – 20th 2010

### “WHEN WE ARE MARRIED”

directed by Anne Leggett

Married life is about to get interesting. Set on a September evening around 1908, this classic British comedy centres on three couples who gather to celebrate their joint silver wedding anniversaries. As the evening progresses a secret is revealed: the parson who married them wasn't authorized to perform marriages, thus, they were never actually married and these uptight, distinguished couples have been "living in sin" for twenty-five years. When each couple samples a taste of single life once again, their relationships are vigorously and hilariously put to the test, and the elephant in the room can't be ignored. Do they really want to be married after all?

The team for When We Are Married is as follows:

Ruby Birtle.....Lisa Holmes

Mrs Northrup.....Katrina MacDonald

Nancy Holmes.....Rowena Gabe

Henry Ormonroyd .....Ross Welland

Alderman Joseph Helliwell....Simon Hurst

Maria Helliwell .....Audrey Hofmeyer

Herbert Soppitt.....Nik Romanov

Clara Soppitt.....Heather Meldrum

Lottie Grady.....Melanie Seymour

Councillor Albert Parker.....Jim Trowers

Annie Parker.....Rita Brown

Rev Clement Mercer.....Michael McOnegal

Gerard.....Oliver Byng / Laurie Eldridge

Fred Dyson.....Oliver Byng/ Laurie Eldridge

Stage Crew:

Stage manager.....Elaine Brace

ASM.....Jo Viner

Rehearsal Prompt .....Hilary

Sound.....Jono Clarke

Lights.....Roland Trice

Set design & construction...David-Hemsley Brown

Director..... Anne Leggett

Props.....Rita Brown

Costumes.....Kris Benjafield

## future productions

Time to get your diaries out, folks!

### SPRING 2011

We've got a bit of a bumper crop for the Spring. Read on....

### **“INSIDE OUT”**

directed by Elaine Brace

**Performance Dates:** 26th-29th January at Guildford Library

Inside Out is the title of a new play by our very own Thérésa Hedges which is set to be directed by another of our very own, Elaine Brace, for a scheduled run of performances at Guildford Library from 26 to 29 January 2011. It's the perfect venue for a comedy drama which is set in – yes, you guessed it – a library.

This is going to be a 'workshop' production offering members of the cast – including you? – a real opportunity to contribute to the development of the script and the action. Come and make history with us!

There are five actors required:

2 x Female aged 40ish

1 x Female required to play a variety of cameo roles

1 x Male aged 40-50

1 x Male again required to play a variety of cameo roles

Interested? Of course you are. And you're invited to either of two read boroughs being held at Thérésa's residence on Monday 19th July and Friday 23rd July.

Please call Elaine on 0755 44 55 731 if you'd like to participate, or if you need directions to Thérésa's, or if you'd like to be involved but can't make either of these two dates.

Rehearsals will start in early November but don't worry if you're in the cast of *When We Are Married*, allowances can be made for you!

Don't miss out on a unique opportunity to be part of a wonderfully funny new play!

## **“SHADOWLANDS”**

**Performance Dates: April 2011**

directed by Jim Trowers

Auditions for our Spring 2011 production at The Electric Theatre are scheduled for September and the details will be emailed to you shortly.

The play is based on the true story of C. S. Lewis, author of *The Chronicles of Narnia* and his relationship with Joy Gresham in the autumn of his life. Lewis, known as Jack to his friends, is a confirmed bachelor, successful author and Oxford Don. Joy is a Jewish American lapsed poet with a young son who is a fan of the Narnia books. She and Jack have been corresponding for some time.

When Joy comes to England with her son and visits Jack, all his preconceived impressions of her are overturned and when her divorce comes through he surprises himself by agreeing to a registry office wedding in order that she can remain in Britain. As this relationship develops his basic religious belief is called into question by his slow realisation that she is his soul mate.

Her son's childish belief in Narnia and magic only serve to highlight the heartrending tragedy of this late in life romance.

Apart from the main characters, there is a strong, well drawn supporting cast who offer sharp insights into the attitudes of the late fifties and early sixties.

## social events

Here's a cornucopia of theatrical fun, hot from the Box Office of the Electric! It's an initiative called 'Café Culture'. Here's an outline of what's available....

### Electric Eclectic Café Culture

Fancy being entertained but don't fancy sitting through a whole show?

Why not join us down at The Electric Theatre on a Sunday or Monday night for our 'Café Culture Events'. The following events happen once a month in the informal setting of the Café Bar and offer a great alternative night out. (See website or brochure for dates).

### ScriptTease

Lynchpin Theatre Company bring rehearsed readings to The Café Bar performed by a professional cast with discussions afterwards. This is a new endeavour (started just before Christmas of last year) which is really gathering a following. The company concentrate on new writing and neglected gems with pieces ranging from the 'Palestine Monologues' by Sonja Linden and 'HIM' by E.E Cummings. Two evenings have been organised in partnership with Amnesty International and debates have been heated. This is an arena for people passionate about theatre to experience something new.

Events take place one Monday a month and are £5.

### Open Mic Night

Fasten Your Seatbelts organise a Musical Theatre Open Mic Night with a monthly theme and great demand for performance slots.

Designed to showcase local talent combining musical theatre and short play extracts the audience gets bigger each month and is totally free!

If you're a performer looking for a slot please contact Paul at [paul@fastenyourseatbelts.co.uk](mailto:paul@fastenyourseatbelts.co.uk)

If not just come along and hear singers from GSA, Ghosts, GTG, Compton, MDS, String of Pearls and many more.

### Comedy Club

The Electric Theatre Comedy Club has been going almost as long as the theatre and always provides an evening full of vibrant talent.

With tickets at £7.50 in advance or £8.50 on the day the events often sell out and it's definitely a different way to spend your Sunday evening!

Thanks to Amy at the Electric for sending the information in.

## other news – midsummer night's dream

Here's something for the diary from Nigel Dams. Performance dates are 21 to 24 July.

"We have a week to go before Midsummer Night's Dream opens, and we'd love to see you there.

We have a fabulous cast - including some amazing new faces! We have the luxury of young people's parts actually being played by young people and they're really good!

We have the luxury of holding the show in a really good venue - the Frensham Heights School performing arts centre. It's a first-class venue.

Everything is going right for this show . . . . except that we're not sure if you're going to be there.

Please, go to <http://www.farnhamshakespeare.co.uk/> for details and to book.

Come on everyone - this show is going to be good. Make sure you don't miss it!

Hope to see you there!"