

MUSICAL NOTES

Number 23
April 2008

The Newsletter of Newtown Musical Theatre Company

Message from our New Chairman

As I write this I am contemplating *Calamity Jane*, our currently-running showstopper.

The preparation has been done, fine-tuning completed and audiences already experiencing another NMTC production.

As you read this you will be, or have been, exhilarated, excited, even exhausted. Your hard work and commitment will have paid off and your audiences will have left the theatre with smiles on their faces and rhythms tapping at their fingertips and toes.

You will have a week to recover before starting

your next batch of rehearsals for *Princess Ida*.

We hope to see you all back, if not performing, then lending a hand in some way.

Thank you all for making 'Calam' a happy show, but especially those of you we regard as friends for overcoming such difficult personal times you have recently faced. In true theatre style, you have been real troupers. "The show must go on" has been a well-used phrase. We are grateful to you all.

Let's raise a glass of sasperilly to our next venture.

Chris Clarke

Future Shows

Following the decision that the Autumn 2008 show would be a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta, the NMTC future performances subcommittee have recommended - and the General Management Committee have approved - that *Princess Ida* be staged in October 2008.

On Wednesday 5th March 2008, members of NMTC were able to vote on a shortlist of shows for Spring 2009 and Spring 2010.

After long discussions and careful consideration, the future performances subcommittee recommended a shortlist of: *High Society*, *Oliver* and *The Slipper and the Rose*. Members were given information on the three shows and the General Management Committee expressed the opinion that the Company's

finances would significantly benefit from staging a box office bestseller such as *Oliver*.

The votes were cast as follows: *High Society* 6, *Oliver* 34, *The Slipper and the Rose* 1. Therefore *Oliver* will be staged in Spring 2009 (and the licence has since been received).

The vote was carried out on a 'single transferable vote' basis, so that the second count votes could be used to choose the show for 2010. The results were: *High Society* 29, *The Slipper and the Rose* 12. Therefore *High Society* will be staged in Spring 2010 (subject to receipt of the licence).

4th - 5th October 2008 *Princess Ida*

25th - 28th March 2009 *Oliver*

Autumn 2009 to be confirmed

Spring 2010 *High Society*

Diary 2008

30th April Read through for *Princess Ida*
(all welcome)

7th May Sing through for *Princess Ida*
(for auditionees)

9th/11th May Auditions for *Princess Ida*

24th/25th May NODA regional weekend

26th June Concert for Thursday Club

11th July 25th Anniversary Dinner

3rd August Duck Race and picnic (Hafren Forest)

30th August Cake stall in Bear Lanes

31st August BBQ at Jackie & Ian's (Tregynon)

4th/5th Oct *Princess Ida*

31st October Hallowe'en bonfire party at Jill's
(Llanmerewig)

We also have a provisional date of 26th July for an NMTC trip to the Arts Centre in Aberystwyth to see their summer show *My Fair Lady*. Please see Emma Breese if you are interested.

Welcome to New Members

We are pleased to welcome to the Calamity Jane cast Rachel Stokes, as well as welcoming back Jeremy as a last-minute stand in for Henry Miller.

Website:
www.newtownmtc.co.uk

Party Pieces VI

Dozens of NMTC members, friends and family gathered at Powys Theatre on Saturday 23rd February 2008 for our sixth 'Party Pieces' - the opportunity for everyone to perform their favourite songs and pieces, both musical and spoken.

There was a comprehensive selection of numbers - lots of singing, of course, covering a broad range of genres, but also instrumental pieces, comedy, drama and dance.

Thank you particularly to the team led by Chris Clarke and Frances Western who did the catering: light snacks in the interval and a sumptuous buffet at the end of the performances.

As well as being an excellent social event, Party Pieces is a fundraiser, this time making a profit of around £180.

NMTC Committee

Chair	Chris Clarke
Vice Chair	John Harbron
Secretary	Emma Breese*
Treasurer	Ian Hogg
Business Manager	Jackie Titley
Publicity Manager	Frances Western

Committee Members:-

Karen McMurdo
Harriette Lane
Jill Peters

(*responsible for social events)

Non-Committee Posts:-

Librarian	Jill Peters
Archivist	Chris Clarke
Newsletter Editor	Ruth Hendry
Website Editors	Emma Breese Harriette Lane

The Society's Social Wedding of the Year

Doesn't time fly when you're enjoying yourself? February 16th will be about 8 weeks away by the time you're reading this. We just want to say a big thank you to all of you for the lovely engraved crystal bowl and jug which you gave us as a wedding present.

We, and we hope yourselves, had a super day and you as a company, of course, added your own touches. An arch outside the church and 'pink and fluffy' items at the reception were a real surprise to us. Thanks to Kat and Andrew, the Ceilidh was ideal for all of us, and I think we made a few converts to Ceilidh.

Thank you all for your support and company.



'Mr & Mrs Titlehog'

A couple of photos from the dress rehearsal for Calamity Jane this week: 'Hive Full of Honey' and 'Can-Can'.



**CALAMITY
JANE**

*This is YOUR
newsletter!
Please give any
contributions of
ideas, articles
and photos to Ruth.*



Calling all Patrons

You are all so much an element of our company that we thought it was about time you had your own corner of our newsletter.

May we thank you all for your generosity towards the much-needed funds. Many of you give useful amounts and also still pay for your theatre tickets to the show, a bonus for us. We hope you will be able to keep abreast of our social calendar which is in this issue. You are all very welcome to join us and find out just who we are 'off the stage'. One of our patrons, Mr Weadon, says he is past his sell by date for helping but we love to hear from him and he is very enthusiastic about our shows: keep it up for as long as you can please!

You are no doubt aware that our October show is G&S - *Princess Ida* - and our spring show is to be *Oliver* - quite a venture but we know the talent is both in the company and waiting to join.

Enjoy this show and we hope to see you at a social event too.