

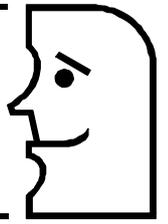


The Guild Players

www.guildplayers.org.uk

part of Finchley Methodist Church

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Newsletter - January 2009

Aladdin

Congratulations to all those involved in what was a very successful pantomime, with 450 paying guests seeing the performances. We haven't yet finalised the accounts but it looks as if we can look forward to having made a good profit. Any outstanding expenses claims should be submitted urgently. We will be making a donation of the Wednesday night profit to Disability Action in the Borough of Barnet as soon as we can calculate the final figures.

Additionally, donations for programmes made £180 for the Friends of Finchley Memorial Hospital.

There was a very favourable review of the Panto published in the 'The Archer', East Finchley's community newspaper. It can be read on their website www.the-archer.co.uk (Jan 09 page 11).

Forthcoming Productions

- Holy Week Production

We will be going out on our five venue tour in the week 7th - 10th April. Mike has written a new play entitled 'Caiaphas', which is slightly longer than recent Easter productions. It will be rehearsed in parallel with the Spring production. If you have not considered taking part in the Holy Week Tour before, please do think about it. It really is a good way to hone your acting skills in a variety of venues for widely diverse audiences. Plus it is also great fun!

- Spring Production

The Spring Production will be performed on 14th - 16th May. We have not yet settled on what play we will be doing, but a number of good ideas are being kicked around. As always, what we can do depends on who is available to perform onstage and work backstage.

- Taking Part

We will be holding read throughs for both of the productions on Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 21st January, starting at 8 pm in Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane.

ALL are welcome on these two evenings - newcomers and old hands.

To be absolutely clear, if you would like to take part in either production you **MUST** attend the read through evenings on 14th and 21st. If you are not sure, come along anyway and find out what is on offer - turning up 3 weeks later means you will have missed the boat!

A reminder that the church hall is an old building with a very high ceiling. The heating system does its best to keep it up to a reasonable temperature, but it is probably not as warm as your living room at home. Therefore if the weather remains very cold, please wear warm clothes.

Storage Space

We have been lucky enough to be awarded a grant of £9700 from the National Lottery so that we can knock down the leaky old shelters located behind the church and replace them with some freestanding garages. This new storage space will enable us to keep bulky scenery flats, set materials, and furniture safely, plus also provide some additional wardrobe capacity. Before the shelters can be demolished we are going to need a skip to take away the accumulated damp and decaying contents currently inside. We will need some help with this work on a Saturday morning later in January. Please be ready to volunteer some time - more details soon.

Future Events

As the Spring production is in mid May this year, we are not intending to have a summer show. However the committee is presently looking at the possibility of running a series of training workshops during June/July, probably be on selected Wednesday nights. Watch out for details nearer the time.

The Autumn Production will be in rehearsal from September onwards, with the performances on 26th - 28th November 2009.

Publicity Officer

We are still looking for a Publicity Officer for the Guild Players. Anyone interested in helping us promote ourselves better and to publicise our productions to more people should contact Mike for a chat.