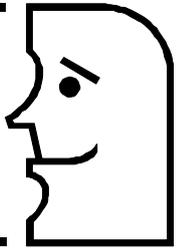




The Guild Players



www.guildplayers.org.uk

part of Finchley Methodist Church

info@guildplayers.org.uk

Newsletter - March 2008

Peter's Tale

We are now heavily engaged in rehearsals for this year's Holy Week production. The dates and venues for the performances are:

Tuesday 18th March

8.00 pm at St Paul's Church, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill, NW7

Wednesday 19th March

8.00 pm at St John's URC, Mowbray Road, New Barnet, EN5

Thursday 20th March

8.00 pm Camden Road Baptist Church, Hilldrop Road, Holloway, N7

Friday 21st March

3.00 pm at St Cuthbert's Church, Fordwych Road, West Hampstead, NW2

8.00 pm at Finchley Methodist Church, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3

Get along to a performance if you can - the cast will welcome the support. Plenty of publicity material is available. Just pop in on a Monday or Wednesday and collect some (or download from www.guildplayers.org.uk/publicity).

Gaslight

Rehearsals for the Spring Production are also now well under way with Judith directing. Within the small cast there is a good mix of old and new faces. Performances are at 7.45 pm on Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th April 2008 at Finchley Methodist Church Hall.

Help Required

Help is needed for building the set for Gaslight. This need not be on Monday or Wednesday nights but could be at other times and on other days. If you have never thought about set building now's the chance to find out just how we create the stage settings for our productions. It's quite good fun actually. Not only that. It's essential! Email or speak to Mike if you can help. Remember, you may well be acting in a future production and will want someone to build the set for you.

We are also looking for someone to take on the role of props manager for Gaslight. Again, if you want to be involved in this way speak to Mike or Judith. Also Jenny could always do with help on costume.

It's not too early either for you to make it known whether you can help front of house with Gaslight. Paul will be Front of House Manager for this production and would be glad to hear from anyone who can lend a hand. Call him on 020 8440 4960 or email firebright@beeb.net

There is a desire to produce higher quality publicity materials using a professional printer. However artwork will still need to be provided. If you have an artistic streak and are able to help, please contact Judith or Mike as a matter of urgency.

Summer Production?

We will have quite a long break between the completion of Gaslight at the end of April and the start of the new season in September. The committee are thinking of putting on an additional production, probably early in July. Some of you will recall that we took a production to Brookside Methodist Church in East Barnet in July 2006 and we might do the same again this year. Certainly our visit was very well received and we would be welcomed back again. If we go in this direction, rehearsals should start shortly after Gaslight ends. Let us know if you are interested in any way. We can then make a final decision.

Pantomime 2008

Before we reach the end of our 2007/08 season there will be a read through for pantomime. This will probably be some time in July, so that we can start to build the cast and get things underway quickly at the start of September. The current thinking is that we will be doing Aladdin. A good number of parts and lots of chorus needed. Watch out for more details.

Publicity Officer

We are still trying to fill the role of Publicity Officer for the Players. If anyone is interested please drop Mike or Dave an email.

Moans Corner

Our membership secretary has been the recipient of a number of moans from people about the fact that the AGM increased the membership fee for the Players from £10 to £12 per year. Some felt that this was a lot and were unhappy about the fact that actors are also expected to pay a production fee of around £12 when taking part in a play.

Our membership fee is amongst the very lowest for amdram groups as any search of the web will prove. It equates to just £1 a month. Since we usually meet twice a week for up to 40 weeks of the year, it means membership costs around 15p a night. It costs far more to belong to the Brownies or the Scouts!

The production fee covers the cost of scripts, which are now usually £8, and the balance pays for tea, coffee and biscuits during rehearsals and performances. Not an unreasonable amount you would have thought.

Unlike many other drama groups we do not directly charge members for the cost of the premises we use. This is all subsidised from our careful budgeting and the revenue we make from productions which, in essence, subsidises members in taking part in the social activity called drama which we all enjoy.

Contacts

You can use info@guildplayers.org.uk as a central contact point for the Guild Players. As long as you state who the message is for it will be quickly forwarded to the relevant person.

Note to newcomers:

The Guild Players meet at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Finchley, London, N3 1NB. We use the back entrance to the hall for meetings & rehearsals. From the front of the church premises in Ballards Lane, walk 20 metres down Essex Park (the road alongside the hall). Turn left and walk along the tarmac pathway at the rear of the hall (towards the door marked 'Vestry'). On your left, up two steps, you will find a red door marked 'Kitchen'. Ring the door bell and somebody will let you in.