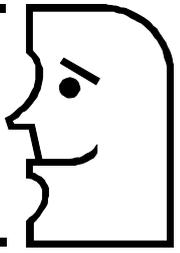




The Guild Players



www.guildplayers.org.uk part of Finchley Methodist Church info@guildplayers.org.uk

Newsletter - May 2006

'Good Night Mrs Puffin' (4th - 6th May)

A terrific success and congratulations to *everyone* involved in the spring production. From the Director, through to the actors and the many Guild Players who turned up to help front of house or as stage staff or on lighting, and not forgetting Betty at the Box Office. A very heartening production altogether.

The results were excellent. Paying audiences totalled 260 people over the three nights. This meant that over £1800 was taken at the Box Office. The collecting boxes for the '*Friends of Finchley Memorial Hospital*' contained £105 in donations. Plus the front of house team made over £80 profit on the interval refreshments.

Many complementary comments about the production and the quality of performances. Our audience once again went home smiling after a great evening of local theatrical entertainment. There are some production photos on the website.

'The Soldiers Tale' (11th - 14th April)

With a record five venues this year (three of which were new) and audiences totalling over 200, the touring team under Dave's direction and Martin and Andy's lights did a magnificent job with '*The Soldiers Tale*'. Many very complementary comments have been received and invites for returns next year. If things go on like this we will have to make it a five night run in future! If you have never taken part in the Holy Week touring production speak to anyone who has. You are sure to find out that it is real fun and a great learning curve for actors.

What's Next?

First and foremost a few days off. Our next get together will be on Wednesday 17th May at 8 pm in the Hall. Do come along. We will be discussing the next few activities for the Guild Players. These might include any or all of the following:

- **Summer Production**

We can have the use of another church hall in the borough for a two day run of something in July. If we take this on it will mean getting down to rehearsals very soon. The prospect of a decent one act play seems feasible, but peoples views would be welcome, especially so that we know who might be up for the challenge.

- **Summertime Singalong**

Last year's '*Summertime Singalong*' was so successful we might well be able to persuade Sonia to help us do another. Again, this would have to happen on a Saturday some time in late June or July.

- **Training Evenings**

We plan to hold at least two training evenings centred on voice production and stage awareness.

- **Bogus Callers**

The Trading Standards Department of Barnet Council have asked whether we can help by producing a series of playlets for touring around old peoples clubs and similar places, warning of the dangers of bogus callers who seem to be targeting the borough at present. This would not only be a public service we might offer, but be consistent with the ethos of our group and offer some interesting acting opportunities.

Autumn Productions

We have been giving some thought to what we might produce on 23rd - 25th November and the general consensus is that we should do a good Murder Mystery Play, but nothing has yet been finalised.

Given the present size of the company it might also be possible to arrange a short (one-act) touring Christmas Show for Churches and Schools if anyone is interested.

General Stuff

We are presently considering replacing the stage curtains which have been in place since Moses rowed his basket up the Nile. We are also looking to up-date some of the lighting equipment to make touring simpler and are hoping to obtain some modern lightweight and easily stored rostra. So, fund raising will have to be considered.

Guild Players Newsletter May 2006

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