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NEWSLETTER MARCH 2006

DEAR MEMBERS,

Those of you who helped us sell out every performance of Humble Boy will know what a great production Val Taylor gave us! Thank you to all those who offered or donated flowers; the Hearts Delight garden centre kindly sponsored the show and helped us to create a really beautiful 'Summer garden' set.

There have been a few developments around the theatre to let you know about. The bar now has a licence to sell alcohol to members and the entire theatre has become non-smoking (apologies for the inconvenience this causes to anyone who does smoke). Some of you may have missed your ice-creams at the last production; this was due to freezer failure! If anyone has a freezer they are able to donate we would be extremely grateful. Our other need is unwanted kitchen wall units for storage and, once again, anything would be appreciated!

We will be holding a **Murder Mystery night on May 20th at 7.30pm** so come along for supper and sleuthing! Those interested in participating in the 20 minute murder mystery 'play' should come to the theatre on Tuesday 11th April or call Caroline Roberts on 01206 391354.

'My Friend Miss Flint'

Directed by Roger Licence

7th—10th June 7.30pm

Rehearsals are underway for this hilarious comedy. Set in the 1980s to coincide with our 21st birthday celebration; (the theatre opened in 1985!) the director is making a plea for various items to give our set the usual authenticity. An Eames style chair and a brass botanist's microscope are required for our celebrity gardener's bachelor apartment. If you can assist, give us a call on 01206 391309. Box office for 'My Friend Miss Flint' opens on Saturday 20th May at 10.30am. Tickets £5 plus £2 for non-members.

BRANTHAM ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL

The Brantham One-Act Play Festival is being held again this year and, hosted by BATS (Brantham Amateur Theatrical Society), it takes place over three days; opening on Thursday 2nd November and closing with the final entries and prize-giving on Saturday 4th November. The Manifest last entered the festival in 2004 with 'The Bunburyists' and took home several awards: Best Direction, Best Lighting, Best Costumes and Best Newcomer (Jo Cobbold). We would like to support a local festival and it's a great opportunity to get involved and do something a bit different. If anyone is interested in being involved please get in touch on 01206 391309 or drop into the theatre any Monday or Wednesday 7.30-10pm. Rehearsals would probably be once a week for a couple of months leading up to the production. If we get the interest we'll enter, so do let us know!

OLIVER!

We can now confirm that the Manifest's Autumn production will be the classic musical 'Oliver!' to be directed by Kerry King. Dates will be 21st to 27th October inclusive.

As well as a large adult cast, we will of course be auditioning for children to take part as work-house orphans and Fagin's gang.

Audition dates will be confirmed nearer the time but anyone interested can call Kerry King on 01206 391435 or come along to the workshops, see below.

WORKSHOPS

A series of workshops for anyone interested in being in Oliver (or those simply wanting to join in and improve their stagecraft), will be held in July. Dates to be confirmed in next newsletter!

VACANCIES

The Manifest committee currently has a vacancy for a Social Secretary and an Ordinary Member. The Social Secretary would assist with food for events, help organise occasional theatre trips to local productions and come up with ideas for Manifest members to get together! Ordinary members help make decisions on the upkeep and future of the theatre. Meetings are one Friday a month at the theatre. If interested please contact our chairman, Roger Licence, on 01206 391309.