



# The Warehouse Theatre

Brewery Lane, Ilminster, TA19 9AD Box Office 07943 779880

[www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk](http://www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk)

## Welcome to the January 2023 newsletter.

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2023 to all our members. We ended 2022 with our pantomime Aladdin directed by Bryan Hallett and a cast of all ages. We had good houses for this enjoyable and colourful pantomime with lots of audience participation. Thanks to everyone in every part of the theatre for putting on and helping with the show.

Looking forward, we have Sherlock Holmes and the Music Hall Mystery, an evening of Mediumship and our own evening of one act plays. Flood Warning by Fay Weldon and Nostalgia by Lynn Brittaney. More information below about the productions.

## Help and Volunteers

We have some new members on the Trustee's committee (thanks for volunteering), to run the theatre. But we still need other volunteers to help run the theatre on a day to day basis.

There are numerous jobs that need to be covered when running the theatre. We are looking for volunteers to:

- run the bar on show nights and somebody to manage the bar and keep it stocked
- to help the publicity team and get better publicity for all the productions at the theatre
- manage the fund raising team to help the theatre raise funds for the Old Bakery project to be completed and support the fabric of the theatre buildings
- front of house staff on show nights, including House manager, box office, teas, ice creams and selling programmes

Most importantly for a theatre, we are looking for actors (all ages) to tread the boards, we have found it difficult to cast plays. We are also looking for Directors and Producers for productions for the future and all other jobs to help run our theatre.

The other area of need is chaperones for our youth productions. This is not a difficult job but one that is vital as, without the required number of chaperones, a performance cannot be staged

If you have some spare time to help any of the above jobs at the theatre and would like to be part of our team, please contact me or any of the trustees at the end of this newsletter.

Charlie Carrington

## Old Bakery

Work has resumed with a new floor in the main part of the building and a staircase installed. Tenders are going out for the plastering and the completion of the plumbing and electrical work.

We still need to raise quite a lot of money but we are most grateful for all of our members who have been raising monies.

## **A Big Thank You:**

An enormous Thank You to our Front-of House Manager Guiseppina De Vallero for the way in which she has organised staffing box office, coffee bar, ice cream sales, door stewards, programme sellers, raffles and bar for such a full programme and attracted and trained so many new volunteers. And of course Thank you to all those volunteers without whom our theatre simply could not run. With some 38 evenings planned for 2023 we need all the help we can get so if you would like to be part of the team, please contact Guiseppina on [iesfrontofhouse@gmail.com](mailto:iesfrontofhouse@gmail.com)

And a big Thank You to Malcolm Young who has in the background, been pushing forward the commissioning of Old Bakery. Over the last year the floor has been levelled and stairs put in so we can access the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, a new gas main laid and first fitting of the plumbing and electricity within the building. The next steps are plastering and windows and doors. This does not come without money. Costs have risen considerably since covid and so we are having to complete the work as we get the money from shows.

This comes to the second part of the thank you, Malcolm has also been securing grants and money from numerous organisations, with extensive forms having to be completed with sometimes obscure requests for information. From this Malcolm has secured a good amount of money to help fund the renovation of the Old Bakery.

Last and not least is **all** the volunteers (too large a number to mention individually) who help to run the theatre, without you all we would not be able to run this little jewel of a theatre in Ilminster.

## **Members and Past Members Who Have Passed On in 2022**

Philip Lendon - long term member

Beryl Burden - long term member with husband Barry, has helped FOH

Bob Hammond - helped with staging, maintenance with the Wednesday Working Group

Rachel Hunt - used to do lighting with Brian, directed plays, was on programme committee and recently YT safeguarding

(Previous members)

Jane Brown - she was instrumental in theatre conversion

Kirsty Hughes - former trustee and involved in Literature Festival

## **Shows Coming Up**

### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30PM - ‘Sherlock Holmes and the Music Hall Mystery’**

Following their hilarious production of ‘AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS’ at the Warehouse Theatre last January we are delighted to be welcoming back the Rain or Shine Theatre Company with their Winter Comedy.

When Sherlock Holmes and his trusty assistant Doctor Watson are asked for help by a music hall performer in distress, the pair spring into action to foil a deeply dastardly plot of national importance that rocks London to the core!

### **Audience Comments**

“The single best theatre production I have seen in a loooong time!  
Wonderful cast, energy for days. Absolutely amazing!”

“Brilliant. Great build up of laughs throughout. I was in stitches at the end and have been smiling for days since. Superb acting. Roll on the next production.”

Tickets £12.00 (Students £6.00) online at [www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk](http://www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk)

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm - An Evening of Mediumship**

With Psychic Medium NIKKI KITT who is currently touring the UK with her successful Psychic / Mediumship Evenings.

As a Medium Nikki Kitt aims to provide evidence of life after life by getting links from loved ones in spirit for people in the audience with amazing accuracy in descriptions, personalities and all sorts of personal information to give both confirmation and comfort.

‘I have been aware of spirit my whole life and so have no doubt that we carry on after this physical life and my demonstrations are to prove the same to everyone else.’

Tickets £12.00 from [www.psychicmediumnikkikitt.com](http://www.psychicmediumnikkikitt.com)

### **23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm - Two One Act Plays**

#### **Nostalgia** by Lynn Brittney

Nostalgia is a gentle comedy and a thought-provoking play set pre-Brexit on New Year's Eve at Roy and Jean's house. They are celebrating with their close friends, Maurice and Eve, as well as Eve's wayward brother, David. Jean has decided that they will all play a board game, called 'Nostalgia', with questions all based on the 1960s, but it appears Roy, Maurice and Eve, have mixed feelings about the period in question. Perhaps this is because they are 10 years older than Jean and David! Some very interesting memories come to light and simmering resentments surface but that doesn't spoil the festive celebrations – well for some anyway!

#### **Flood Warning** by Fay Weldon

This is a humorous and finely observed study of family life. The local river has burst its banks, causing flooding in Cynthia's and Step's antiques business. Cynthia, immobile with her leg in plaster, can only comment on the rising tide to her husband and daughter Angela as they endeavour to save the stock by carrying it upstairs. Their elder daughter, high-flying city exec Jane, and her partner, Trevor, arrive to help, with Jane intent on organizing everyone. But the animosity between the sisters is apparent and it opens another flood - this time of family secrets!

**Please Continue To Support All Our Fund-Raising Events**

## Contacts for the Theatre

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