



## Why Are You An Apollo Player?

Back in the early sixties I joined the Newport Repertory Club, helping out with props and putting up sets in the Queen's Hall. After a break to attend college on the mainland, get married and start teaching, I rejoined what had then transformed into the Apollo Players in their very own beautiful theatre. In the late seventies I was "bullied" into broadening my commitment to the Players by taking a small part in a play; something I'd steadfastly resisted. Although I have enjoyed being an actor in over ninety Apollo productions, my main reason for membership is to be part of a group that is actually maintaining and running a real theatre. As a Caulkhead, I appreciate the enormous social value of such a worthwhile asset to our Island community.

There are so many different tasks that need undertaking in running our theatre and I will carry on doing whatever is needed: cleaning lavatories, building sets, making props, running Coffee Mornings and even acting. But membership has to be constant, not occasional and certainly not affected by personal squabbles. We are a social group and there are going to be inevitable tensions, but we are adults and must focus on the real reason for our membership of this wonderful theatre.

Well, that's my reason for being an Apollo Player,..... what's your reason?

**Michael Arnell**

**There are many dates for your diary inside including various ones for the new season, details of audition dates/characters for 'The Kitchen Sink' to be directed by Michael Arnell and a first come first served offer for an amazing bargain.**

**No unsigned copy will be accepted.**

**Please use full names (of members or authors, etc) at all times.**

**Copy deadline is the FIRST Saturday of each play.**

**Editors email address: [postmaster@sleptite.force9.co.uk](mailto:postmaster@sleptite.force9.co.uk)**

**Apollo Website: [www.apollo-theatre.org.uk](http://www.apollo-theatre.org.uk)**



Director's Chat

Amy Burns

amy@masexodus.co.uk or 07886 389 561

So as we see the end of this our 43<sup>rd</sup> season approaching we can also see the gleam of light for the 44<sup>th</sup> season over the footlights.

Maggie Cardew has got an excellent season up together and her directors are beginning to plan their shows. If you are interested in learning more about the shows I am sure that Maggie will send you in the correct directors direction

There are always jobs at the Apollo in helping run the theatre for a performance. The committee members have all committed themselves to undertake at least one role on the rota for front of house for each show so please membership don't hold back, come forward and keep the theatre thriving and running to it's usual high standards.

As always thanks to all that do jobs and tasks whether they be onstage, backstage and front of house. And finally remember that a smile costs nothing. 😊

## **WANTED URGENTLY BY MICHAEL ARNELL.....**

The "recycled" forecourt banners advertising our productions have proved effective, but I am finding impossible to re-recycle them. At the moment I am using the reverse side of a few 7' x 2' printed banners supplied by Roger. If you have "access" to any similarly printed plastic ones that I could recycle, then please contact me. Any sized between 7' to 10' by 2' to 3' would be gratefully received.

## **The Little Theatre Guild**

The Southern Region's Conference and AGM took place during just one day at Rainham in Kent instead of the more usual weekend. Unfortunately, its original host theatre had to pull out at fairly short notice and Rainham stepped into the breach. I was unable to attend but Cheryl Barrett agreed to be my proxy at the AGM. She has sent in a glowing report and thoroughly enjoyed the whole day.

Mike and I will be attending the National Conference and AGM at Bingley in Yorkshire, the furthest north in England I will ever have been, over the weekend of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May. The planned workshops and talks include Michael Corbridge from the RSC on Spoken Shakespeare, The Set – the development of the set design for the current play as experienced by the Designer and Director, Publicity – Old and New, Northern Stage will present modern developments in Lighting, and we can take a guided walk around Bingley taking in the Five Rise Locks on the canal.

We'll report back on the whole Conference in the next Apollonius, D.V. Cynara LTG Rep



Membership

**Pam Cranfield** ([pamelacranefield@yahoo.com](mailto:pamelacranefield@yahoo.com)) **01983 856237**

I am sorry to have missed the deadline for the last Apollonius but would like to welcome the following new members to the Apollo – Sylvia Robertson, Brian Curtis, Edith Pal, Bob Hooper, Florin Robinson and Joel McSorley. Many of these new members have been seen helping around the theatre and we thank them for their support.

At the time of writing, we have 176 paid up members with 51 of last year's members not re-joining. Should you be aware of any reason why someone you know has not re-joined, it would be good to know or if you know of anyone who has just forgotten to join for 2015 perhaps you could remind them!!

Another appeal to Directors – please ensure your cast are all paid-up members of the Apollo.....

## 100 Club

I must apologise most sincerely for the fact that I don't seem to have reported lately on the winners of the 100 Club so I'll start with the beginning of this New Year. £50 was won at the end of January by Paul Stevens, the second highest win of the year at the end of February of £250 was won by Peter Gustar, the March winner was Mike Crump and in April Bill Buckell's name was drawn, both these two last winning the usual £50.

If you are interested in finding out more about the 100 Club the forms can be found in the Foyer of the Theatre but please follow the instructions carefully if you decide you'd like to be part of it. You would be supporting the efforts of the Apollo Trust in its work of maintaining the Theatre and of its object of education in the Arts amongst the Community. Cynara :- Tel 527606



**Art's Manager 2014 - 2015**

**Michael Arnell**

**296388**

Hearty congratulations to Michael Whitehead and his team for the splendid staging of Shakespeare's last great comedy, "The Tempest". Apart from getting his actors to cope with the Bard's beautiful but fiendishly antique script, Michael also had to re-cast several parts.

This is a "problem" I have expanded on elsewhere in this issue.

Alain Smith and his team are busily rehearsing for this season's final production, a sparkling witty cabaret cocktail of songs and sketches celebrating the Bard...."the Shakespeare Revue".

# AUDITIONS for “THE KITCHEN SINK” by Tom Wells.

Directed by Michael Arnell. (dates: 16 – 24 October.)

**Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, at 7.15 p.m. on Stage or at Unit....check later!!**

This deceptively old-fashioned-sounding family comedy drama is set in the kitchen of modest home in a fading seaside town. It deals with big dreams and small changes.

**Kath:** typical loving “Mum” with some very atypical ideas. School dinner lady who thinks it a good idea to serve her family sushi for Christmas dinner!

**Martin:** solid Dad, doing his best for his family. A milkman coping with a shrinking milk-round and a decrepit milk-float

**Sophie:** daughter, with anger-management issues....she hospitalised her patronising jujitsu instructor!

**Billy:** gay teenage son, hoping to go to Art College....has fixation on Dolly Parton!

**Pete:** painfully shy plumber boyfriend of Sophie

Please contact me for more details or to express your intention to audition for a part in this delightful new play by a young award-winning playwright.

## Important Dates for Next Season’s Productions

At the committee meeting on Monday night a plan was presented concerning dates and meeting for the next season. It is reproduced here for you to put dates in your diaries. Obviously due to circumstances beyond our control some of these dates may be subject to change so keep looking in Apollonius.

The plan that here will be five important dates for the read through, auditions, first pre production meeting, second pre production meeting and changes deadline. The first two are self explanatory but the last three are ‘new’ and will involve:

### Pre production 1

- Rough set plan (if final version not completed)
- Any anticipated challenges/requirements (eg running water, fire on stage, difficult props)
- Design ‘concept plus costume/set/prp initial requirements

### Pre production 2

- Finished set plan plus model if available
- Confirm production crew
- Confirm wardrobe requirements (by this time it is anticipated the play will be cast)
- Confirm props list
- Confirm any special requirements

- Last date any tweaks to set plan will be accepted. **Unless there is a major catastrophe, no changes will be made after this date.**

All this can be seen in this table:

Those to be invited to the meetings are: Director, Assistant director, Technical manager, Arts Manager, Set designer, Lighting designer, Sound designer, Stage manager, Wardrobe mistress, Properties manager, Set build rep, Marketing manager.

*In addition, any crew that have already been confirmed and of course any other persons are welcome to come.*

Play	Director	Performance dates	Pre production 1	Pre production 2	Changes deadline
Ladies in Retirement	Eve Cardew	28 <sup>th</sup> Aug - 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June
The Kitchen Sink	Michael Arnell	16 <sup>th</sup> Oct - 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> August
The Witches	Amy and Dan Burns	4 <sup>th</sup> Dec - 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October
An Inspector Calls	Di Evans	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb - 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November
The Birthday Party	Marylyn ford	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr - 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February
Little Gem	Maggie Cardew	20 <sup>th</sup> May - 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
'Allo 'Allo	Steve Reading	8 <sup>th</sup> July - 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May

#### Please Note

Auditions will normally be on the Sunday after a play has come down and the read thought two weeks before that. These will be posted as usual in Apollonius

# About The Apollo Theatre (Isle of Wight) Trust Limited

*(for those who don't know why we have an Apollo Trust nor what it does)*

The Apollo Trust is not only a Registered Charity but also a Limited Company, limited by Guarantee. It was formed in 1971 just after the building was acquired, and immediately applied for Registration with the Charities Commission in order to take advantage of the law regarding charities and Tax and Rates, among other aspects. Its Objects are:- the promotion and encouragement of education in the arts among the public; in order to do this we have a prime responsibility towards the Grade II\* Listed Building known as the Apollo Theatre and its equipment etcetera.

Being a Registered Charity means that 80% of the Rates on the buildings is, by Government Mandate, rescinded, with the remaining 20% available as a Discretionary Grant on application to the IW Council. Every member of the Apollo Players is an Associate member of the Trust (I believe that this happened partly to be sure that everyone was covered by the Trust's Insurance in case of accident) and a subscription was paid directly to the Trust. The subscription aspect was cancelled, for simplicity, by the Trust some years ago. The Associate members play no part in the Trust's affairs; however, Guarantor Members are invited to any General Meetings, AGMs or, if there were need, EGMs. Anyone can apply to become a Guarantor Member. Contact any member of the Council of Management if you are interested. The Guarantor bit means that the you guarantee to pay £5 towards the costs of winding up the Trust should that ever become necessary. It is from the Guarantor Members that the Members of the Council of Management of the Trust (the Trustees, also known as Directors by Companies House) are elected. There must never be fewer than seven and no more than fifteen in the Council. One third retires by rotation each year but there is no restriction barring them from being re-elected.

The Trust owns the buildings, equipment and furnishings, deals with Insurance, major repairs and maintenance, and replacement and upgrades of the equipment. The Players are wholly responsible for donating their annual surplus of income over expenditure to the Trust as notional (and variable) rent.

The Trust's AGM will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in the Theatre.

Current Members of the Council of Management are:- Paul Jennings (Chairman), Cynara Crump (Secretary), Amy Burns, Dan Burns, Mike Crump, Kate Fysh, Peter Gustar, Gill Kennerley, Glenys Lloyd Williams, Ian Moth, Roger Simpson, Mike Whitehead

Cynara

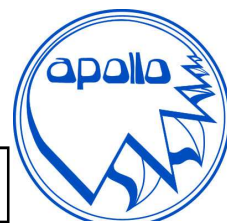
[Tel:- 527606](tel:527606)

or

email [cynara.crump@virgin.net](mailto:cynara.crump@virgin.net)

## Community Outreach Update

Since the last Apollonius issue we have welcomed three more Women's Institute groups for tours of our lovely theatre and basic "Page-to-Stage" workshops. We have also had similar visits from Holy Cross Primary schoolchildren and a group from the I.W. Chamber of Commerce. Please contact me if you know of any other groups who would be interested. MA.



House Manager

Paul Stevens

postmaster@sleeptite.force9.co.uk

As you know the box office has been using Ticketsource to provide us with a means of providing our punters with an online ticketing system. It has now been running successfully since the beginning of the season with only a few hiccups along the way. Our punters seem to have taken to it with no problem and now our advanced bookings and people appearing at the box office during the day has diminished. For the present there are no plans to change the way the box office operates. We are still going to be asking for two people to do the day time box office each day.

Having chosen Ticketsource as our 'supplier' we have been slowly introducing new things such as discounts for block bookings and discount codes for special situations. This will continue and if you want to book for the whole of next season in one go you only pay for six shows. WE have been keen to introduce payment by card in the box office and that now can be done and should be available for 'The Shakespeare Revue'. Obviously training will be required. Also we have been keen to introduce the scanning of our customers tickets. We bought four pads to do the job and have found that they are lacking an auto focus camera and so are not reliable. Dan is going to using one to help him remotely set up the lights which leaves us with three pads that are surplus to requirements. They are a ASUS MeMO Pad 7 and we are offering them, first come first served, to you for the knock down price of £65. Please contact me if you are interested.



## KEEPING IN TOUCH

During rehearsals and the run of a play a company can form a novel bond, sharing the building of a piece of art, getting to know personal things: the kudos of children, the dog-days of a cat, the agony of aunts, sharing first night nerves and the oddly prosaic atmosphere of the dressing room. And then it's all over, ways part, normal life resumes. But a good way of keeping in touch is by doing a coffee, bar or box office duty. It's also a good way to meet other members and there's plenty of time to chat, catch up, exchange ideas and discuss future work together. So check your diary and sign up for a duty. Your theatre and our patrons will thank you.

Marylyn Ford - Programme seller and Coffee maker, Actor and Director

### For those that knew Ann Wilkinson

After a short illness of meningitis, Ann is now terminally ill. She has been discharged from hospital and is spending her last days with her daughter who lives in Wiltshire.

The funeral service will be in Beckenham, Kent and, because of Ann's many connections to society's on the Isle of Wight, her daughter Tessa is planning to arrange a minibus for anyone who wishes to attend the committal when the time comes.

For further informaton, or details of the funeral arrangements, please contact Tessa by email [tessa@lanstein.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:tessa@lanstein.freeserve.co.uk)

Tessa also wishes to thank the members of the Apollo as Ann really enjoyed attending productions whenever she could. Pam

If undelivered, please return to: Apollo Theatre, Pyle Street, Newport,  
Isle of Wight, PO30 1JT



☎: 01983 527267

43<sup>rd</sup> Season

**The Apollo Players**

present

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

and

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July**

**7.30 pm**

**Box Office Open Daily ☎: 01983 527267**

From Saturday to Saturday (except Sundays)  
between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and from 6.45 p.m. during the run

For information and booking online go to

[www.apollo-theatre.org.uk](http://www.apollo-theatre.org.uk)

An enchanting collection  
of witty music and skits  
about the Bard

# ***The Shakespeare Review***

by

**Christopher Luscombe**

and

**Malcolm McKee**

