

Dear Friends -

In the previous newsletter, we anticipated a welcome to springtime and sunny weather after so many weeks of wet weather and posed the question of the possibility of more to come? Well, now we know; wet and chilly until mid-June, sunny for a few days then more rain until a couple of weeks ago with the 'start of summer'. So many events this year adversely affected by lousy weather conditions; we do hope that you haven't suffered so far this year and that you're now 'out & about' in the sunshine.

Celebrating Cof4 Junior Members:

Exciting news from Cof4 who are proud of their Junior Members who have devoted a great deal of time and effort in various events in recent months -

- Anabelle Ward, Charlotte Donaldson and Bella Richardson took part in a ballet show in mid-March.
- Sam Ward played 'Stan' in The Incredible Adventures of Superstan at his school production in March.
- Kensi Stout won 2 bronze medals in her recent/last gymnastics County grades competition. Bronze in Vault & Bronze overall for her age in the County.
- Violet Ellis played Dorothy in Wizard of Oz for PQA, she is learning to play Violin and sang some solos at the Christmas concert for Planet Music at The Seckford Theatre.
- Isla & Edie Shotter both love to dance & recently attained honours in their disco freestyle exam.
- Ava Goddard & Allyssa Bowmaker participated at the O2 Arena for the 'Young Voices Choir' performance.
- Taia Scott has been working towards badges in both Gymnastics (Pipers Vale) and Trampolining.

Stage Costumes - For Hire -

Costumes are available for Hire; for more information, please contact Katy Spall 07871218233 or by email - katyspall@gmail.com

Fred Reynolds Accommodation - For Hire -

The single storey 'Fred Reynolds Centre' in Woodbridge is available for hire. Anyone wishing to hire a single storey building for a birthday party, an afternoon tea, or are looking for a suitable venue for group or Club use, then please contact Oliver Fosker - 07759 180960 or email - frcbookingsecretary@gmail.com to check dates and/or to make a booking.

Fred Reynolda Accommodation - Can you help? -

The grounds need continual maintenance and Cof4 are looking for tools and larger equipment to leave on site in secure enclosure(s). Are you aware of any garden tools, equipment including for grass cutting, hedge trimming and general strimming; that is no longer required and which may be of interest? If you can help, please contact Vernon 07881790004 before 18th August and Oliver Fosker 07759 180960 from 18th August onwards.

PREVIOUS C/4 PRODUCTION

SpongeBob the Musical for Juniors

Huge amount of praise and thanks to everyone involved with the latest production 'SpongeBob Musical' at Woodbridge Community Hall; whether it was on-stage, behind the scenes, the technical crew at the rear of the Hall, members dealing with refreshments, etc., etc. The cast thoroughly enjoyed themselves as did the audience who were applauding from early on in the production. The youngsters of the cast had so much talent and could be seen to be giving of themselves 100%.

Penny organized a fund-raising Raffle at each of the three performances as she and the Friends of The Company of Four willingly do and have done for approximately forty years. The profit of £122.50 was very pleasing and will be forwarded to Cof4 Club funds. Thank you for prizes that were donated.

FUTURE C/4 EVENT & PRODUCTIONS

COMPANY OF FOUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Monday 16th September

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN - (Adaptation by Mike Kenny, by arrangement with Nick Hern Books)

The Seckford Theatre, Woodbridge School - October 2024.

Show Dates - 24th October 7.30pm

25th October 7.30pm

26th October 2.30pm and 7.30pm

The story follows a prosperous Edwardian family - A Mother and three Children forced into near poverty in the rural north of England. The Children meet a host of characters during their time in Yorkshire. A wonderful story that captures the anxieties and exhilarations of childhood with great tenderness and insight.

TICKETS - available Seckford Theatre via 'Ticket Source'; by either -

- a) Access via Link <https://www.seckfordtheatre.org/event/the-railway-children/> or
- b) Telephone Woodbridge School Box Office 0333 666 3366

NOTE - Tickets are on sale for first two days for **Friends of Cof4 only during 19th & 20th August**. For these two days, Friends will be prompted/asked for a password which is - **cof4friends**

Ticket Prices - Adults £16.50, Concessions £14.50, Children £12.50.

There may be booking fees in addition the above.

PANTOMIME Dick Whittington - February 2025

Les Misérable School Edition

The Seckford Theatre, Woodbridge - 23rd, 24th May 2025.

Les Misérable will again give our Junior Members the opportunity to show off their exceptional talent; auditions taking place very soon after Panto. This production will be for members aged 8 to 18. More information will be available later.

This Production will be Performed entirely by students.

A musical by ALAIN BOUBLIL and CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

School Edition special adaptation licensed by

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and CAMERON MACKINTOSH (OVERSEAS) LIMITED

PANTOMIME Mother Goose - February 2026

PREVIOUS OUTING

THREE ON THE TROT - Wednesday 5th June 2024

Another successful outing blessed with bright weather and with Galloway providing the coach hire. Pleasant journey to first stop at Fritton with time for refreshments and shopping. Short journey to Lowestoft; stopping close to the theatre and shops. Entertainment was *Neil Sands and two lovely lady singers and musicians who brought back many musical memories' The Fabulous 40's, The Rocking 50's, The Swinging 60's and The Sensational 70's*. The publicity promised to "provide a feel-good afternoon mixed with stunning voices, dazzling costumes, tons of good old-fashioned fun, and a truly unique atmosphere that will brighten our day". From comments received we believe that it was mission accomplished. The show was a little longer than usual which shortened time available to visit M&S before the coach was to leave. Penny and friends were seen disappearing in the distance to the shop with a reminder of time available and that there would be no exceptions for being late. Would that threat have been carried out you are wondering...?

Next stop Lt Glemham Lion for a lovely buffet, raffle and chatting.

From Young Performer to the Professional Stage

Adding to the number of young members who over the years, have gained stage experience with Company of Four and who have gone on to professional theatre, we include a piece written by India Crittenden which we hope you will enjoy reading.

India writes - I first performed with The Company of Four in 2007 and from then, was lucky enough to be part of many pantomimes and musicals. I will forever be grateful for the experiences, memories and love of theatre that I got from it and even now love to travel home when I can to support the Company and catch their latest production. I have now chosen a career in writing and directing and in the Summer of 2023 my first original musical 'Spotlights' premiered in three venues across the country, even making it to 'The Other Palace' in London. I am now going into my 3rd and final year of studying Film and Television in London hoping this will provide me with a successful career for the future.

I have never lost my love of theatre and have teamed up with Lucy's Princess Parties for my next project, a new musical, 'Enchanted Pages'. We are only a few weeks into rehearsals and the show is already looking wonderfully magical but I must say one of my favourite parts is working with one of my oldest friends, Katie (Higgins), who I met all those years back at Co4 and seeing how the skills we learnt there have helped us both develop in our careers. We would love to see you at the show.

Synopsis:

Join book-loving Charlie as she discovers the true magic and meaning behind her favourite fairytales. With a little help from everyone's favourite pixie, Charlie soon learns how to be brave even when others try to bring her down.

Show times - Tuesday 29th October 11am and 2pm

Venue - Venue 16, Tuddenham Road, Ipswich

Tickets - £12.50, includes meet and greet with the princess after the show. Ticket(s) will be available nearer to the date of the show. In the mean-time, you can contact Penny & Vernon and we will make note of your requirements and contact you when tickets are on sale.

... **and finally**; Best Wishes to you all as we continue through the summer months and we look forward to seeing you soon

Membership and Social - Vernon and Burrows - 91 Seckford Street, Woodbridge IP12 4LZ -
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