

The Chorus Line

The Newsletter of The Company of Four

April 2022



Welcome from the Chairperson:

Hello everyone,

I can't believe we are in April already; this year is going so fast. We are approaching a very busy few months ahead and I can't wait. First up we have our 50th Anniversary Dinner, I am hopeful it will be a sparkly affair! I am looking forward to spending the night on the dance floor.

I am delighted to say we have a lovely cast for Thank You Very Much and the line-up of songs promises to have people singing and dancing in their seats. I encourage everyone to spread the word and get these tickets sold!

Finally, we will attend the NODA awards ceremony where we have been nominated for best panto for 2020, keep everything crossed for us!

Lily

Welcome from the Editor:

Welcome everyone to the April Newsletter. I would like to start with an apology to those members who haven't been receiving the previous NLs, I hope that this has now been sorted and you can enjoy the frivolity of The Chorus Line like everyone else does! All the past editions of The Chorus Line can now be found on our website. I'm also pleased to say that rehearsals have now started for Thank You Very Much, as this goes out to members, more on which can be seen further down. With that, I'd like to wish you all a very Happy Easter; grab yourself a cuppa and get ready for another exciting adventure into the Company and find out what's happening this month!

Oliver

I have a joke about chemistry, but I don't think it will get a reaction.

Friends of The Company of Four:

Not a lot to report from the Friends this month. We are all very much looking forward to our holiday away to Warner's, that was mentioned in last month's NL. Penny & I are also going away at the beginning of April to celebrate our 55th Wedding Anniversary (*Congratulations Penny and Vernon! ~ Ed*) and once back, we shall be looking forward to organising the raffle etc for Thank You Very Much. If you have any donations for these, they would be very much appreciated. Once again, if you or anyone else you know would like to become a member of the Friends, for only £7.50 a year, then please also get in touch. Our latest Newsletter is on the Cof4 website, details at the bottom of this Newsletter.

Vernon

I had a neck brace fitted years ago and I've never looked back since.

Thank You Very Much:

I'd like to Thank everybody who auditioned for the production, it was great to see so many faces, especially ones from our past membership. Hopefully by the time this NL goes out, you should all now have received the rehearsal schedule and started with the undaunting task of learning the routines.

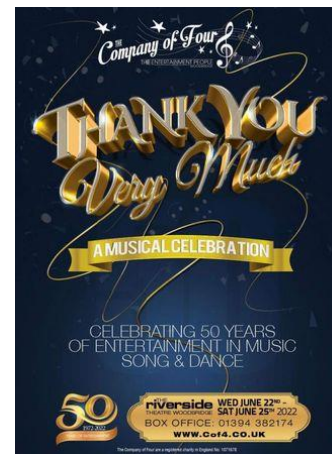
If any members who aren't in the production would like to help in any way, please do get in contact with either myself or Penny via the details at the bottom of the page, we would love to hear from you.

The 5 performances shall take place at our home of

The Riverside on these dates:

Wednesday 22nd - Saturday 25th June (7:30pm daily, 2:30pm & 7:30pm on Saturday).

The Dress rehearsal shall take place on **Tuesday 21st** and the Get In will be on **Sunday 19th** during the morning, after which a full run through of the show will go ahead.



Future Productions:

The Committee would like to ask for suggestions for future productions. We are looking for offers of Pantomimes for 2024, and a Musical for the Summer of 2023. Does anyone fancy producing a Christmas show for Winter 2023? If you have wanted to try your hand at writing or directing and can put a production team together, please get in contact with any member of the Committee who will be happy to discuss it with you and put your suggestions forward at the meetings.

I used to be addicted to soap, but I'm clean now.

50th Anniversary BBQ Birthday Bash

Planning is now in full swing for the Company's BBQ Birthday Bash at Bredfield Village Hall. Please remember the date to put in your diaries is **Sunday 10th July** from 1pm - 9pm. This will be open to all current and previous members, as well as the Friends of the Company, who wish to come and reminisce about the old days and have a burger or two! Fun & games will be taking place throughout the afternoon, and some entertainment is being organised. We would love to see as many people as possible to celebrate the 50th year of the Company. If you know any of any former members, please do spread the word and tell them to save the date, it would be great to see as many people as possible there from the past 50 years.



What do you call it when a snowman throws a tantrum? A meltdown.

Goodnight Mister Tom

No update yet from last month's NL, however, just to advise everyone, we are still planning on staging *Goodnight Mister Tom* this October at the Seckford Theatre. The auditions are likely to take place around July 24th with the 3 performances being October 20th, 21st & 22nd. These are not yet confirmed, but these are what are being looked at, at present. If you know of any children, especially young boys, who would like to be involved, please spread the word. More details of this production shall be in following Newsletters.

Accommodation:

Adam T, Neville, Lily & Oliver went to view a possible new building to house the Company's large stock of costumes and scenery workshop. The building is, in our opinion a very good replacement for The Hut, having two separate areas and a large enough space for what we intend to use it for. Final terms of lease etc are currently being drawn up and hopefully we shall have some good news in the coming weeks as to whether we have been successful or not in securing the building for ourselves.

Even if it turns out successfully, it is not the end of the accommodation issue, but the start of a different chapter in the way forward for the Company. We shall have to be looking at raising more money through possible sponsorship deals, to help pay the rent. If anyone has any experience in the sponsorship field, please get in contact with the committee, as we'd love to talk to you.

Where do you learn to make a banana split? Sundae school.

Big Band & The Spallettes:

Sunday 1st May, The Riverside, 14:00 & 18:00

Stardust Big Band members are a mixture of ages and musical backgrounds, but they all share a passion for jazz and a love of playing together, with music ranging from early swing to easy listening and modern big band and spanning the 1920s to the present day.

Of course, most of the membership need no introduction to The Spallettes, Helen, Amy and Katy Spall. Helen and Amy both now work in Stage Management, on tour and in London, and Katy is now Head of Wardrobe with a stage production on tour.

They love singing together and join with Stardust Big Band whenever they can all be in the same City at the same time! They are all very excited to be back in the town they grew up in and performing in the theatre that they call their second home.



Tickets for this wonderful event can be purchased at The Riverside or by phoning 01394 382174. Don't be too long in grabbing some tickets, they're sure to be selling fast!

Have you heard about the chocolate record player? It sounds pretty sweet.



Star Profile

Welcome to Star Profile time again! For this month's Newsletter we shine the spotlight of stardom onto a Company member who joined way back in 1994! She has been a member of the chorus over many years, an active choreographer and Queen of the social media...Welcome to **Julie Windermere**.....

Name Jools Windermere

Age 52

Occupation/School? Community & Business Centre Manager for West Suffolk College in Ipswich

Do you have any Pets? Yes two cats Misty & Amber

First Cof4 show you were involved with? South Pacific in 1994

Favourite Song (And who by?)? Can't say that I have a favourite song as I like so many !

First Music Album you brought? Would have probably been something by The Nolans

Favourite Food? Chinese or Thai

Tea/Coffee (If neither, then what)? I like both equally

Who's your Hero? My Mum

Favourite Book? Not really a big book fan but when I do read I like Dan Brown

Do you have a Nickname? Jools (Real name Julie)

Favourite Film? We watch loads of movies so don't really have a favourite but am a big Marvels Fan so anything from that series or Saving Mr Banks.

Your Favourite Saying/Quote? Good old Suffolk sayings like 'It's on the Huh'

Do you Collect Anything? Far too many clothes and Shoes !!

Favourite Tv Show? Ooh too many to name but 24, Lost, Agents of Shield, Homeland or anything that is a bit Sci-fi or to do with the CIA !

What would you do with a Million Pounds? Spend it ! By a fleet of motorhomes to rent out so that I can live in the life of luxury somewhere in the sun.

Thank you Jools for being this months candidate, if you would like to be featured in future NLS, then please do contact me - Ed.

A guy walks into a bar...and he was disqualified from the limbo contest.

Queen's Jubilee celebration in Woodbridge:

The Company has been asked if we would like to take part in the Queens Jubilee celebrations, to be held on Kingston Field in Woodbridge on Friday 3rd June. We shall be looking to perform a small selection from our Summer Show. More details of this shall be included in the future Newsletters, and discussed during rehearsals for *Thank You Very Much*.

How does the moon cut his hair? Eclipse it.



A Short Story:

Once again Geoff Jacobs provides the Newsletter with another of his short stories from his writing past.

It all began 5 months ago when wife said out of blue
I think I fancy Arthur much more than I fancy you.
Now this came as a mighty shock, and left me quite agog
Especially as Arthur is the next-door neighbour's dog.
I hastened to the mirror; one glance just put me straight
I looked completely knackered, quite like our garden gate.
I noticed that my manly chest had now begun to slip
And several extra inches were resting on my hips.
My thick brown hair, I used to brush, brush until it shone,
Was grey and full of dandruff, and virtually all gone.
The pearly teeth that used to shine, that were my pride and joy,
Now dull, and half were missing, the rest filled with alloy.
I had to face the cruel facts, admit the wife was right
This drooping, sagging body was a sad and sorry sight.
Time to try and lose some weight, head for the local gym,
Get a good instructor, shape up, get fit and slim.
On Monday met my trainer, a most peculiar shape
All complete with broken nose and hairy as an ape.
Breath that smelled of garlic, face like a garden gnome,
Beard in need of trimming, and hair that needed a comb.
Voice like a sergeant major that scared me half to death,
Wore a size 10 gym shoe and went by the name of Beth.
Three weeks of vicious exercise being worked into the ground,
My body ached from head to toe, I'd lost just half a pound.
I stuck it out a few more months, hard work began to pay,
Lost weight and gained a six pack, touched up my hair of grey.
Sorted out the dodgy teeth, botoxed my facial flaws,
Purchased brand new wardrobe then proudly marched indoors.
The wife was flabberghasted, began to rant and rage,
She said she now felt frumpish and every bit her age.
It seems when in my dodgy state it made her feel a queen,
But with me like an Adonis, she said she felt obscene.
All my work, the agony, the pain and sufferin'
When it comes to pleasing females, guys, it proves you cannot win.

Chaperones:

As many of you are aware, the children need chaperones for the run of rehearsals and during the performances. Please can we ask any member who has a current licence or is willing to help during the shows, to get in contact with us, so you can be rostered on and help us out, it really would be appreciated. Contact **Charlotte Lamb** for further details.

50th Anniversary Clothing:

As mentioned in a previous Newsletter, the Company is offering some 50th Anniversary clothing for our special year, embroidered with the Company's logo on one side, and the 50th anniversary logo printed on the other. We shall be offering: Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Polo T Shirts & T Shirts, all available in black. The individual prices are:

Adult Hoodie £30, Child Hoodie £26

Adult Sweatshirt £28, Child Sweatshirt £24

Adult Polo Shirt £17, Child Polo Shirt £15

Adult T Shirt £15, Child T Shirt £14.50

If you wish to order and purchase any of the above, please see Vic Fosker who shall have a size guide and she'll be happy to help.



60 Seconds with.....

This month we dig into the world of a new committee member for this year, who has grown up in the Company and has had several panto roles recently.....

Name - Charlotte Lamb

Occupation - Unit Manager of a dementia care home

Pets - None

First Company of Four show you performed in? - Snow White - 2011

Favourite Food - Sweet chilli salmon

Favourite Song - Anything by Flo and Joan!

Unusual Fact about yourself - I own more than 100 hair scrunchies

Proudest Achievement - At 17, getting a distinction in Musical Theatre Singing Grade 8



*There we are, another Newsletter completed. Please do feel free to send me anything you wish to include in a future Newsletter, this can be some good news you may want to share, a birthday shout out, a poem, a short story, or if you wish to be included in the Star Profile section, it really is as easy as emailing me on ofosker@aol.com. The deadline for submissions for the May Newsletter is **April 25th**.*

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