



# The Chorus Line

The Newsletter of The Company of Four  
October 2022

## Welcome from the Chairperson:

Hi everyone. I can't believe we're into October already. Firstly, I'd like to say what a fantastic turn out we had for panto auditions, it was great to hear about so many people wishing to come and enjoy this wonderful hobby of ours. It's also great to see some new faces auditioning, as well as familiar ones! What a panto it will be! Secondly, if you haven't yet brought tickets for 'Goodnight Mister Tom'....you'll be missing out on an absolute treat! The rehearsals are going great and it's very encouraging that ticket sales have been strong. I do urge everyone though to spread the word as much as you possibly can, so we can sell the remainder of the tickets. Thirdly, you'll see a list of the next committee below, Thank You to all the members who attended the AGM, and thanks to those members who have joined us for another year of great fun. That's it from me this month, see you all soon at a rehearsal!

*Lily*

## The 2022-2023 Committee:

After a successful AGM on September 13<sup>th</sup>, attended by a good handful of members, a new committee has been formed and listed below. Once again, the three trustees from last year were re-elected thus:

**Chair:** Lily Griffiths, **Vice-Chair:** Oliver Fosker & **Treasurer:** Neville Woolnough

We now have several new members, as well as previous members returning, who's roles shall be decided at our first committee meeting in October. These are: Natalie Barker, Catherine Dale, Vicky Fosker, Adam Kearney, Allan Rogers, Katy Spall, Adam Thorpe, Neil Thorpe & Sarah Wheatley.

If anyone has any questions, suggestions, production submissions, or comments for the Company, please do feel free to talk to one of us, we are honestly a friendly bunch!

## Friends of The Company of Four:

We are in the process of finalising details for our next 'Friends' coach outing which will be a couple of weeks before Christmas when we will be going to see a show at West Cliff theatre, Clacton (after shopping) followed by a Christmas meal at Brantham Bull PH. Before that of course is 'Goodnight Mister Tom' production at Seckford Theatre, when we will be carrying out 'front of house' duties (as required), selling programmes and organising a daily fund raising raffle. It is the raffle that needs as much help as possible to maximise profit so please join in with us, donate a prize and buy some tickets. Any donations can be delivered to our home address - 91 Seckford Street, Woodbridge or brought to the theatre.

Have a Great Show everybody!

For any friends or relations interested in joining 'The Friends'; please contact us by phoning 01394 384806 or 07881790004 - Vernon and Penny.

### **Goodnight Mister Tom:**

by David Wood, based on a novel by Michelle Magorian.

The production is now fully blocked (in itself a feat with several members being unavoidably unavailable because of holidays etc) and now comes the daunting task of polishing everything by running it several times in rehearsals. The set is coming together at our workshop and many jobs (oh there are many jobs!) behind the scenes are getting ticked off. If any members have a large amount of newspapers or shredded paper they wish to dispose of, we need a considerable amount to fill 100 sand bags, then please let us know. If you haven't yet brought your tickets, they are on sale via the Box Office <https://www.theriverside.co.uk/programmes/cof4-presents-goodnight-mr-tom/> or by calling 01394 382174. As this issue comes out, we are just over the 50% mark in sales, which is very good, but still needs that final push, so please spread the word far and wide about this production by sharing our social media posts, handing out our handbills (they can be obtained at a rehearsal) and telling anyone and everyone you know. It's guaranteed to be a fantastic evening.

*Oliver*



### **Pantomime 2023-Snow White:**

We've had a great turnout to our auditions, which was amazing. Thank you to everyone who came along - we could have cast twice as many Dwarfs as we need! The cast list has now been sent out to everyone who auditioned, and we all very much look forward to starting rehearsals in early November.

*Penny, Mary & Paul*



### **Quiz Time:**

As mentioned in last month's NL, as part of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the committee are organising a Quiz to be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November at The Royal British Legion Club in Woodbridge. Doors will open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. We have space for 7 teams of 6 people, all for the magical price of £3 per head, which includes a bowl of chilli and nachos.....Ooooo!! (a veggie chilli option is available). So come on, get your thinking caps on, and join Quiz Masters Oliver & Adam for an evening of general knowledge. If you are interested in attending, please let Catherine Dale know, who will add you name to the list, it would be great to see as many of you there as possible!



**My dad told me a joke about boxing. I guess I missed the punch line.**



### **\*Star Profile\***

Welcome to Star Profile time again! Another month and we find another fantastic pairing, this time (and for the first time...oooo!) a Father & Daughter! So without further ado....take it away Maestro....We introduce to you...Jon & Ellen Gibbs.

**Name** Jon Gibbs

**Age** 40

**Occupation/School?** Westbourne High then University of East Anglia. Worked for many years with H.M Court Services now with The Royal Mail Group

**Do you have any Pets?** Yes two cats....Whoopi & Wilma

**First Cof4 show you were involved with?** End of the Pier Show in 1998 at the Spa Pavillion

**Favourite Song (And who by?)?** Nobody Does It Better from The Spy Who Loved Me

**First Music Album you brought?** Original London cast recording of Joseph

**Favourite Food?** Smoked Salmon

**Tea/Coffee (If neither, then what)?** Earl Grey Tea

**Who's your Hero?** Alan Humphrey, John White, Don Spall, Pat Taplin & Dennis Lowe - They all did so much for local theatre and the societies they formed and shaped are still going strong, thanks to their foresight.

**Favourite Book?** The Pickwick Papers

**Do you have a Nickname?** Wurzel

**Favourite Film?** Shine

**Your Favourite Saying/Quote?** "If you don't practice then you can't do anything wrong!"

**Do you Collect Anything?** Show Programmes and Posters

**Favourite Tv Show?** Hustle

**What would you do with a Million Pounds?** Pay next year's electricity bill!

**Name** Ellen Gibbs

**Age** 9

**Occupation/School?** Benhall St Mary's Primary School

**Do you have any Pets?** Yes, two cats...Whoopi & Wilma

**First Cof4 show you were involved with?** Thank You Very Much

**Favourite Song (And who by?)?** Black Magic - Little Mix

**First Music Album you brought?** Mamma Mia

**Favourite Food?** Sausage & Mash

**Tea/Coffee (If neither, then what)?** Lemonade

**Who's your Hero?** My Dad & My Teacher

**Favourite Book?** Harry Potter & The Half Blood Prince

**Do you have a Nickname?**

Ellen the seven toot Melon!

**Favourite Film?** Harry Potter & The Deathly Hallows - Part 2

**Your Favourite Saying/Quote?** "Sort of exciting isn't it...breaking the rules!"

**Do you Collect Anything?**

National Geographic kid's magazines

**Favourite Tv Show?**

Strictly Come Dance

**What would you do with a Million Pounds?** Send it to Ukraine to help the people there.

**My Thanks to Jon & Ellen for supplying this month's Star Spotlights. If you wish to be in a future month's edition, then please do drop me a line!**

**Where do math teachers go on vacation? Times Square.**

### **The Treasurer Writes:**

The AGM agreed and accepted the Cof4 accounts for 2021/2022; thank you all very much. These will soon appear on the Charity Commission website for public consumption. I must thank again our Accounts Examiner (Liz Howard) for the very thorough (and don't I know it) job she undertakes to help me and the Cof4 comply with our Charity status. It is not easy to find non-businesspeople to undertake this role and it is good that Liz (and her husband) have history with the Cof4 and therefore she has that extra interest and attention to the running of the Society (not just a 'tick and bash' exercise). I should also like to thank all those who get involved in assisting me with the finances of the Cof4.

I may do the actual accounting work, but several people are involved in the face-to-face finances of collecting membership fees; event monies; fundraising; merchandise payments to name but a few. Special thanks are owed by me to Ian and Sharon for the year-round attention to the FRC operation. Hire and maintenance, invoicing, and collection of charges. As with many things in a Society such as the Cof4, if tasks can be spread around, it helps 'keep the wheels oiled and turning'

From an accountability angle and protection of Officers, it is essential that no one person operates alone and that is why the accounts are brought to the AGM for scrutiny. Within reason I can be contacted at any time to advise, explain, or receive funding ideas on the Company's' finances.

A Treasurer is not there 'just for the AGM' !!

*Neville*

### **Beauty & The Beast London Trip:**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September saw a large collection of bleary eyed (well, some were!) passengers waiting for a coach to London to see Disney's Beauty & The Beast, starring our fabulous ex member Gavin Lee. With the coach loaded and a final comfort break ensued (the toilet on the coach was broken!), we set off on our trip. The A12 seemed to float effortlessly by as we chatted, laughed, and sung our way there. A stop was needed at Thurrock for breakfast and Greggs seemed to do a roaring trade with our coachload.....(sorry Adam for buying the last sausage roll!) Then a drive along the Southbank and into the centre of London, where we were dropped off outside The Palladium, where we had 2 ½ hours to ourselves before the show started. Several people went off in search of shops, apparently Liberty of London had just started stocking there Christmas items (!), so a few ventured in. Lunch was had and soon it was time to head into the Palladium and the stalls to find our seating. Wow what a show, 'Be My Guest' was certainly a showstopper and everyone was cheering and clapping. All too soon the show was over, but Kathy Hilton (Penny and Gavin's mum!) had arranged for Gavin to meet us all at the stage door for photographs and a catch up with the older members who he knew. Sam Bailey was the first cast member to show and had a selfie with us, and Kathy asked where Gavin was, stating she was his mother.....Sam dragged her in the stage door to go and find him. They returned and a cheer went up when they appeared. Thank you to everyone who attended this wonderful trip, both members and Friends of the Cof4, and a special Thanks to Vicky for organising such a trouble free and wonderful day. Photos below.....





**Adam & Mary meet the  
Beast - Shaq Taylor**



**Sam Bailey and her selfie shot!**



**Gavin and his Selfie Shot...**



**Old Friends: Gavin & June**



**Young and Older children  
With Sam Bailey...**



**The Coach Party at the Stage Door**

### **Christmas Meal:**

As part of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, we'd like to end the year on a high, with a Christmas meal out at The Cherry Tree in Woodbridge. We have provisionally booked 20 spaces for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm, but we need to advise them of numbers by the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. Two courses are £23 and three courses is £29. If you are interested in joining us for this evening of frivolity, please can you let either Lily or Oliver know, and we will need a £5 deposit and your food choices. There is a picture of the menu at the bottom of the Newsletter with the choices available...

### **Future Productions:**

The Committee shall be meeting for the first time for this year in early October, and we hope to advise of our future production and any future social events in the next few Newsletters. Watch this space!



### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:**

New This Month in **RED**...

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Goodnight Mister Tom at The Seckford.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Company of Four Quiz

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Company of Four Christmas Meal**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 - Snow White at The Riverside



*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 [cof4secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cof4secretary@gmail.com). The deadline for submissions for the November Newsletter is **October 25<sup>th</sup>**.*

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EMAIL: [cof4secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cof4secretary@gmail.com)

# **The Cherry Tree Woodbridge**

## **Christmas Menu 2022**

### **Starters**

**Cajun Sweet Potato Soup** granary bread (vg option)

**Thai Fishcakes** Asian slaw (df)

**Chicken Liver Pate** toast, red onion marmalade

**Mediterranean Vegetable Stack** feta, olives (gf)

### **Main Courses**

**Roast Turkey Crown** stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, roast parsnips & carrots, sprouts, gravy & bread sauce (gf option)

**Soy Braised Pork Belly** sticky rice, pak choi, mange tout, spring onions (gf) (df)

**Curried Monkfish** coconut curry sauce, cauliflower, basmati rice (gf) (df)

**Nut Roast** roast potatoes, roasted parsnips & carrots, veggie gravy (vg) (df)

### **Desserts**

**Traditional Christmas Pudding** brandy custard (gf option)

**Apple Pie** vanilla ice cream (vg option)

**Cheese & Biscuits** Stilton, brie, cheddar, fig chutney, crackers

**Chocolate brownie** vanilla ice cream

**Two Courses £23**

**Three Courses £29**

Any allergies or dietary needs please speak to a member of staff

01394 384627

info@thecherrytreepub.co.uk