

The Chorus Line

The Newsletter of The Company of Four

March 2023



Welcome from the Editor:

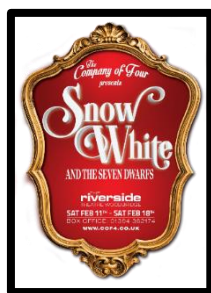
Hello everyone. Beyond my duties as editor of the NL, I would like to say as Vice Chair of the Company, a massive Well Done to everyone who was involved with Snow White, from the people on stage, to backstage crew, the tech guys on the balcony, the children's chaperones and the Front of House teams. It was the first time for me being an official member of the stage crew, as one of the backcloth team, and the atmosphere backstage (as well as being incredibly foggy!) was wonderful. It was great to hear from the Chaperones and Mums, in how they had been made to feel very welcome by the other members of the company, a lovely family feel around the place was one of the comments. The cast were also a delight in the wings, and the pure enjoyment from being on stage was apparent in everyone's smiles and enthusiasm. This is what keeps this great Company thriving, and I really hope, that many of you return for our next and future productions. With that waffle out of the way, please enjoy this month's edition of the Newsletter.

Oliver

You know, people say they pick their nose, but I feel like I was just born with mine.

Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs:

Wow! What an awesome show! Well done to everyone who worked so hard performing on stage and a huge thanks to everyone who helped out behind the scenes. It was an amazing team effort and listening to audience and cast feedback, everyone had a fun time. NODA visited us on Wednesday night, and their review can be viewed here (It's too long to be included in the NL - Ed): <https://www.noda.org.uk/show-reports/snow-white-and-the-seven-dwarfs-1676804059>. Other comments from our social media pages can be found beyond the back page of this NL, and they are some fabulous postings. Final ticket sales for the panto were 2,414 which is an 84% take up. Ticket sales doubled from 29th January, just two weeks before the start of the run, with some 15% being bought during the show week itself! This maybe showing a change in trend of how and when tickets are being purchased, so something we as a company will have to keep in mind in the future. The bucket collection on behalf of the Ipswich Deaf Children's Society, raised a fantastic total of £1,426.60, of which we shall present them with a cheque at the earliest opportunity. Once again, thank you to everyone who helped, and we look forward to doing it all again very soon.



Penny, Mary & Paul

Panto Party:

It's great to hear that a lot of people have been asking and are looking forward to attending this year's Panto Party, that is just around the corner. An evening to let your hair down and enjoy some fun and games, including 'Little Willie', 'The toilet roll game' and dancing to all the usual hits 'The Music Man', 'The Conga' and 'The Hokey Cokey!' So come and join the fun at Martlesham Community Hall on Saturday 4th March from 7pm. Ticket price is £5 Single Ticket and £10 Family and are available on the door. Please bring your own food & drink.



Did I tell you the time I fell in love during a backflip? I was heels overhead!

Sister Act Junior:

Based on the hit 1992 film and Tony-nominated Broadway musical, Sister Act JR. is the feel-good musical comedy that will have audiences jumping to their feet!

A little about the plot for those who don't know it...When disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, witnesses a murder, she is put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be a found: a convent! Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and uptight Mother Superior. Using her unique disco moves and singing talent to inspire the choir, Deloris breathes new life into the church and community but, in doing so, blows her cover. Soon, the gang is giving chase, only to find them up against Deloris and the power of her newly found sisterhood.

This show has 21 named roles and an ensemble. We have put character descriptions and audition pieces in a Facebook group which you can access by clicking and requesting to join the closed group: <https://m.facebook.com/groups/871305157435024>

Auditions will be held at Millennium Jubilee Hall in Kesgrave on Sunday 5th March. There will be a workshop in the morning from 10-12:30 and then auditions 1-4. Please bring a packed lunch and clothes you can move in. The production is for children aged between 5-18 inc. If you need any more details, or cannot join the FB link, then please do drop us an email, all the details on the back page. See you there!

Sarah & Lily

Little Shop of Horrors:

Lots more details to come about this production in future Newsletters, however, we can confirm that the audition is to take place on Sunday 25th June, so save the date!

Future Productions:

As well as Pantomime next year, the Company is hoping to stage two musicals and a play has also been submitted. Costing and final details are still being sorted as this Newsletter comes out, but more details will be available in the coming months, so watch this space.

Spring is here! I got so excited I wet my plants.

Fred Reynolds Centre Clear Up:

Thank you to everyone who got in contact about helping with this. If you haven't got in contact with us, you would still be more than welcome to come and lend a hand, even if it's for an hour or whatever time you can spare. A list of jobs is being created at



present and it would be nice to get as much as we can done on that day. Jobs include trimming the hedges right down, mowing the lawns short and possibly giving the boundary fence a coat of paint or two. At the same time, the inside of the FRC needs to be sorted, with a clear out of the office space, cleaning of the windows and a general tidy up. So, if you feel



you could help us with any of these, please let Oliver or Neville know, or do come along on Sunday 26th March from 9am. Vicky has also said she'll be on hand with tea/coffee/cans of drink and bacon rolls to feed and water the hungry workers! It would be great to see you there *(This is all dependent on the weather of course!)*.



Quiz:

Thank you to everyone who has shown interest so far in the Quiz. Could you be the ultimate winners on the night, or going home with the wooden spoon? Well, please do come and join us to find out, at the Woodbridge Royal British Legion on Thursday 4th May, doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start. Teams of 6 and the cost is £4 per person. As before, a bowl of nachos and chilli will be available during the break for your refreshment. If you're interested in coming along to the evening, please let Vicky know, so we can keep an eye on numbers for food etc.

Is this pool safe for diving? It deep ends.

Friends of The Company of Four:

Congratulations to all involved with 'Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs' Pantomime, both on-stage and behind the scenes. As you know, 'The Friends' organised a fund-raising raffle at every performance and sold programmes. This year, we had to buy a few more prizes than usual for the raffle but nevertheless raised £671.00. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and who helped us with the fund raising in the entrance foyer.

We see that preparations are already in hand to produce 'Sister Act Jnr.' with auditions taking place very soon. Very exciting news and something our members will look forward to seeing on stage.

Vernon & Penny.

I wouldn't buy anything with Velcro. It's a total rip-off.



Star Spotlight

Welcome back to the Star Spotlight page. Every month we try to bring you a snapshot of the members of the Company, some who may have been around a long time, some new members, some who have been or are members of the Committee and sometimes, like this month, a pair of members who just love being part of the Company and being on stage. I (*The Editor*) had the pleasure of dancing with this young lady many times back in the late '90s and early '00s when we were chorus members together, and after a break to start a family, she is back, bringing her daughter along for Panto. The Star Spotlight has swung to centre stage as we introduce Mother & Daughter...**Helen & Abbie Makings**.

Name: Helen Makings

Age: 46

Occupation/School? Registered nurse in School nurse team

Do you have any Pets? 2 cats - Wally and Penny - we got them from a cat rescue 2 years ago and they are my favourites

First Cof4 show you were involved with? Over Here Again in 1992

First Music Album you brought? Now 11 in 1988

Favourite Food? Chocolate

Tea/Coffee (If neither, then what)? Coffee - I can't stand tea

Who's your Hero? Frederick Banting, he discovered insulin and if he hadn't, as a type 1 diabetic I wouldn't be alive writing this!

Favourite Book? I love reading but don't have a favourite book

Do you have a Nickname? No

Favourite Film? Hairspray- I was going to say the new one, but realised it is actually 2007

Your Favourite Saying/Quote? You can only do your best.

Do you Collect Anything? No

Favourite Tv Show? Greys Anatomy, Call the Midwife or Saturday Night Take Away.

What would you do with a Million Pounds? Get a bigger house, go on holiday, start a cat rescue.

Name: Abbie Makings

Age: 13

Occupation/School? Kesgrave High School

Do you have any Pets? Yes 2 cats

First Cof4 show you were involved with? The Panto that's just finished - Snow White

Favourite Song (And who by?)? I don't have one

First Music Album you brought? I haven't bought one

Favourite Food? Mango

Tea/Coffee (If neither, then what)? I don't like either I prefer squash

Who's your Hero? I don't have one

Favourite Book? I don't like reading

Do you have a Nickname? No

Favourite Film? Tangled

Favourite Tv Show? Gilmore girls

What would you do with a Million Pounds? Go on holiday

Thank you both for being the ***Stars*** this month, if anyone wishes to be next months, please do get in contact, and I can send you over the questions, everyone is welcome to be a ***Star***.

THE BACK PAGE

The Committee:

Chair: Lily Griffiths

Vice Chair: Oliver Fosker

Treasurer: Neville Woolnough

Secretary: Neil Thorpe

Committee Members:

Natalie Barker, Catherine Dale, Vicky Fosker, Adam Kearney, Allan Rogers, Katy Spall, Adam Thorpe & Sarah Wheatley.

If any member has any questions, issues, concerns, or suggestions, please do speak to any of the committee members above, and if they can't help, we shall guide you to who can. We are here to support the Company and you as the membership, so please do get in touch with us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

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

Saturday 4th March - Panto Party

Sunday 5th March - Auditions for Sister Act JR

Sunday 26th March - Garden Clear up at the FRC

Thursday 4th May - Quiz

Saturday 17th June - Sister Act Junior at the Woodbridge Community Hall

Sunday 25th June - Little Shop of Horrors Auditions

October Half Term Week - Little Shop of Horrors

February Half Term Week 2024 - Jack & The Beanstalk



*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. The deadline for submissions for the March Newsletter is **March 25th**.*

Follow us on our socials:

www.cof4.co.uk

facebook.com/thecompanyoffour

twitter.com/Companyof4

instagram.com/thecompanyoffour

EMAIL: cof4secretary@gmail.com

BEYOND THE BACK PAGE

I thought it might be nice to include some of the comments that the Company received on our social media pages for Pantomime. I was going to write each one out, but a screen shot of the page was easier to insert!

