

The Chorus Line

The Newsletter of The Company of Four

July 2023

Welcome from the Chair:

Wowee, what an incredible time we've been having. Sister Act Jr was an amazing experience, and I am so proud of our youth contingent, the future of the company is in safe and talented hands. They earned themselves a well-deserved standing ovation and I can't wait to celebrate their success with them at our summer party. Onto our next project of Little Shop of Horrors, it was lovely to see so many familiar faces as well as some new ones. We hope to welcome the new ones into the fold, regulars please make them feel at home. We are working hard behind the scenes to confirm the calendar for the year ahead so stay tuned. All the best...

Lily xx

Welcome from the Editor:

"Fantastic", "Wow!", "What a talented group of youngsters", "The future of the Company is in safe hands" are all responses I heard during the two performances of Sister Act Jr, And I'm sure any members who came to see it would agree wholeheartedly with all the statements above. What a production. The talent on show on Saturday 17th at the Woodbridge Community Hall blew my mind away. I knew it was going to be good from having a sneaky peak at the rehearsal a few weeks ago, but they went up to another level and boy did it show, culminating in a rousing standing ovation from the 275 or so members of the audience in the evening. A massive well done to all those involved on and off stage to make this a standout moment in the history of the Company of Four. I totally agree, the Company is in very safe hands with talent like this coming to the fore. Sorry, I know this isn't really a welcome to the Newsletter, but I just had to express my feelings and gratitude to all the youngsters for all their hard work in making the production a success!

Oliver

What do you call a pony with a sore throat? A little horse

Little Shop of Horrors:

We're really excited to be starting Little Shop of Horrors. We held our auditions on Sunday 25th June and it was wonderful to see so many talented people. We are in the tricky process of selecting the cast (*Incredibly tricky!*) which will be announced soon. We can then get rehearsals underway. This looks to be a fantastic show if what we saw on Sunday is anything to go by. Tickets will be available soon from the Riverside Box Office, this will be advised in a future NL. Can we ask all members to share any of our social media posts, advertise it yourself and generally get the word out there so we can sell as many of the tickets as possible. The production shall be stage at the Seckford Theatre from Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th October.

Sarah (Director) and Dermot (MD)



Future Productions:

The committee would like to invite members to put themselves or a team forward for the roles of Producers and Directors for our upcoming productions. We have a few show ideas kicking around at the moment, but nothing has been set in stone for Autumn 2024, as we would be looking for other members to take on these different roles. Not wishing to sound daunting, production is a seriously big undertaking, however, it is also one of the most fulfilling to see a show you have had a hand in working on, come to life on the stage (*I know from experience!* - Ed). If you or a team wish to come forward with a proposal for a musical or would be willing to take on one that the committee suggests, then please do get in contact in the usual way, details below, and someone will get back to you.

My friend named his dogs Timex and Rolex... They're his watch dogs.

Summer Picnic:

As mentioned last month, the committee would like to invite all Company members to a picnic, to be held at Bredfield Village Hall on Sunday 9th July from 2pm - 5pm. Hopefully good weather will spoil us, and this is a chance for all members to get together and have a bit of food and drink, play some games with some exciting prizes to be won and generally be together as a Company. Please bring your own picnic and drinks. If you are interested in attending, please buy your tickets by going to:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-company-of-four/t-yagdvme> so we have an idea of numbers. £5 per head or £10 family ticket, or they can be purchased on the day. It will be great to see as many of you there as possible.

Lily

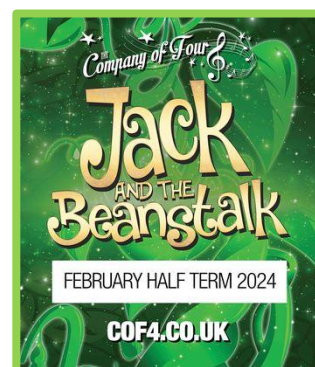


Jack & The Beanstalk:

With another re-write and edit of the script this last month, I can now advise members to save the date of **Sunday 10th September** for group auditions, with Script auditions being on **Monday 11th & Friday 15th September**. More details to come in future Newsletters, but just save the date!

Thank you to everyone who has offered to help with the behind-the-scenes stuff, it is great to have so many volunteers. There is still time though if you wish to be involved, please get in touch and I can add you to the list.

Oliver



AGM:

Yes, it's getting close to that time of year again, where the Company holds its AGM. So please save the date for your diary of **Monday 18th September**, 7:30pm at the Fred Reynolds Centre. Further details of the AGM shall be emailed out to all members once finalised after the next meeting of the committee in July.

I ate a clock for lunch yesterday. It was very time-consuming.

The Treasurer Writes:

The curtain is down on Sister Act Jr and now we move on to Little Shop of Horrors. Thank you to everyone for getting your membership fees paid over in good time. As I said last month, my focus is now on the finances and summary position for Sister Act Jr and then working over July on the Annual accounts, ready for examination in time for publication for our AGM.

Also, many thanks to those of our members who were able and willing to Gift Aid their membership fees, I can confirm we have now received £550 in Gift Aid from our latest application. If anyone thinks or feels they have any financial issues within the Company to be dealt with, please do get in touch with me direct at: new45313@aol.com and I will endeavour to answer your queries.

Neville

I used to run a dating service for chickens, but I was struggling to make hens meet.

Friends of The Company of Four:

How right we were, when watching a couple of rehearsals at the FRC, we came away assured in our minds that the cast of 'Sister Act Jr' were going to enjoy themselves when performing 'on the day' and ensure that the audience were going to have a great time. Wow! The young performers certainly did enjoy themselves. Aply supported by the entire team of producers, director, choreographers, technical guys, stage crew, chaperones, etc, WELL DONE to everyone concerned.

The audiences thoroughly enjoyed themselves, showing that by the level of applause and standing ovation. Many members of the Friends said that they enjoyed the show and wished that the musical was longer.

We held a raffle at each of the performances and raised a terrific sum of £207.00.

Many thanks to those of you who donated raffle prizes and/or bought tickets. *(Once again, Thank You Vernon, Penny & The Friends for being a part of the Company and helping to raise awareness and funds for our continued future - Ed)*

If you or anyone you know would like to join the Friends for a nominal fee of £7.50 a year, please do contact Vernon and Penny Burrows on 01394 384806 or email

vernon.burrows@talktalk.net

Vernon & Penny.

Noda Award:

Yet again the Company has been successful in securing an award from NODA. This time, we won The Perkins Programme Award (16-20 sides) 2022 for our programme of Goodnight Mister Tom. I must admit of being very happy indeed, this being my first programme that I have compiled...and it won! Thank you to Jonny Spall for all his artwork and laying out, Vicky for gathering all the information and to Stuart Wade and his team at Suffolk Digital Design & Print for printing such a wonderful programme.

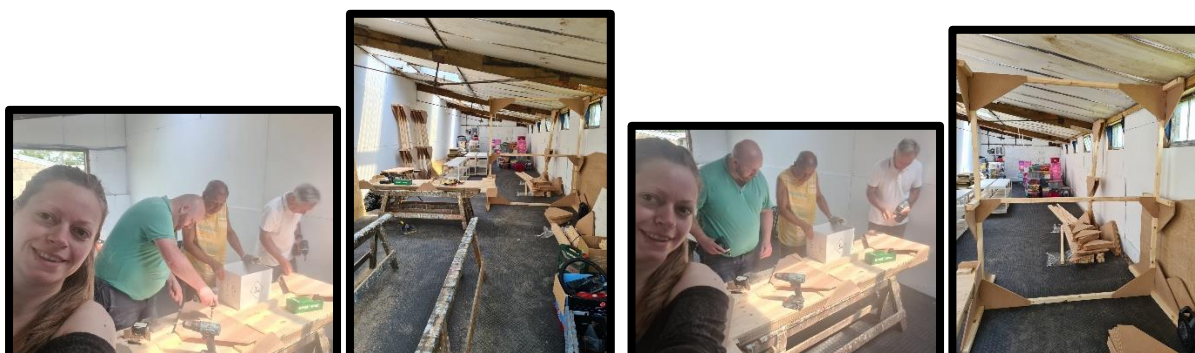
Oliver

I went to Hobbycraft yesterday to buy some camouflage paints... but couldn't find any



Accomodation:

Thank you to the small band of volunteers who came to help on 11th June to make a start with the new costume rails. It is finally great to see some progress being made and things starting to come together. Lots of the wood pieces were drilled and screwed together, thus creating part of the frame, then one was made up completely to show its size. Shelves from the old store were also unloaded and await re-erection. If anyone has any time free over the next few weeks/months and wish to get involved with this venture, your help would be most appreciated. Please do get in contact via the secretary or by speaking to a committee member. We will need as much help as we can once we start moving and sorting the costumes on rails, and hopes are this will be completed over the summer before we head into the cold dark winter nights.



Sister Act Jr:

Final mention in this months Newsletter must go to the wonderful cast and crew from Sister Act Jr, and this photo opportunity was a must ... Congratulations to them all again!



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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...**

Sunday 9th July - Summer Picnic Party

Sunday 10th September - Jack and the Beanstalk Auditions

Monday 11th & Friday 15th September - J&TB Script Auditions

Monday 18th September - Company of Four's AGM

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 August Newsletter is July 20th.

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EMAIL: cof4secretary@gmail.com

