

# The Chorus Line

The Newsletter of The Company of Four

April 2024

## Welcome from the Chair:

Hello all. It's finally starting to look like spring! We are making great headway with The SpongeBob Musical, see below and it's wonderful to see that we have so much young talent once more. Thank you to everyone that supported our social events, it's always lovely to have a get together without the pressure of a rehearsal. Have a wonderful April and hopefully see you all soon.

All the best...

*Lily x*

## Musings from the Editor:

Thank you once again to those who have contributed to this month's offerings. It was great to see so many of the cast at the Panto Party (from what I remember of it!) and lots of people enjoying themselves at the Barn Dance back in March. It's wonderful to see that we have a thriving social scene behind the productions. I do hope this continues to flourish. It's also wonderful to hear about the cast for SpongeBob, with lots of new youngsters coming to join this wonderful Company, I hope you all feel very welcome and enjoy your time with us. I really am looking forward to popping into a rehearsal to see it coming together. With that, I'll leave you with this month's edition of the Chorus Line.

*Oliver*

**My girlfriend keeps accusing me of cheating. She's starting to sound like my wife!**

## The SpongeBob Musical - Youth Edition:

SpongeBob rehearsals have started very well and many of the children have already learnt their lines! We have started blocking some of the scenes and setting the major ensemble numbers. There are many opportunities for all of the children in this production and we are already hearing some of their vocal qualities and we can't wait to hear how they improve under Charlotte's guidance. The full cast list is included Beyond the Back Page. Tickets will be on sale soon, please keep an eye on your email inboxes and social media for an update on when this will occur, but the cost will be Adult £13, Child £8 & Family (2+2) £36. The production shall be staged at the Woodbridge Community Hall on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

*Lily, Charlotte, Sarah & Neil*



**Did you hear about the actor who broke his leg onstage? He's still in the cast!**

### **The Railway Children: (Adaptation by Mike Kenny, by arrangement with Nick Hern Books)**

Work has now started in the background on this production and before we know it, it'll be time to audition! The Railway Children will be staged at The Seckford Theatre, with four performances spanning the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024. A lot of people have been asking for details on this, so hopefully I can give you some more information now. Auditions will be held on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** from 10am and **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June** from 19:00 at the Fred Reynolds Centre. The cast list for the production is as follows: **Bobbie (Roberta)** - Oldest Child, **Peter** - Her younger brother, **Phyllis** - The youngest sibling, **Cook** - London, **Butler** - London, **Maid 1** - London, **Maid 2** - London, **Mother** - Mother of the Children, **Father** - Father of the Children, **Two Officials** - London, **Perks** - Station Porter at Oakworth (25 -45 in age), **Mrs Viney** - Housekeeper in Oakworth, **Doctor**, **Mrs Perks**, **The Perks Children** - 4-6 children, **The Old Gentleman** - Rides the Trains, **Mr Szezcpankey** - A Russian Author, **District Superintendent**, **Worker 1**, **Worker 2**, **Jim** - Young lad who gets injured in the tunnel (13-18ish). **Other Ensemble members will ride the trains, be villagers, and several will be 'hounds' who follow the paper chase etc.** The three main children can be played by older teenagers or young adults, as the story is narrated in retrospect. Some parts maybe/will be doubled up, depending on numbers auditioning. There are two versions of this play, please bare this in mind if you are buying a script! If you have any questions or would like any more information on this production, please do get in touch.

*Oliver*

**Why did the pharmacist walk on her tiptoes? She didn't want to wake the sleeping pills**

#### **Drink & Get Together:**

The committee felt that whilst the fantastic Youth of the Company take centre stage for our next production, the older members might be missing out of getting together. So, with this in mind, we thought it would be nice to have a night out in Woodbridge with a few drinks and maybe some food. If you are interested in getting together, you don't need to book, just come along to The Kings Head in Woodbridge (Top of the Market Hill) on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** from 7:30pm and join in the fun. There is no structure to the evening, and everyone would be welcome to join us.

#### **Future Productions:**

The Committee are very much looking forward to the next 18 months or so, with the Company looking forward to staging some wonderful productions. We have some exciting news on a future production that we have been granted a licence for, but alas we are having to hold off in telling you all about it for the moment whilst the last few minor details are sorted out, but watch this space for our October 2025 Production.

The Committee would also love to have more people involved with the production side of the Company. At present, we have a couple of teams working away at the next few productions, but we need more people to offer to produce, direct and offer shows for us to perform. If any of our members wish to get involved with this kind of thing, please do get in touch with any of the committee members. We promise we won't just leave you to it, help will always be given in whatever capacity is needed. We have ideas for Summer '25 but are looking for Pantomime submissions for February '26 and any productions after that. It can be anything, A Play, A Musical, A Variety Song & Dance - anything you think the Company might be able to perform, we would love to hear from you. If you are interested, please do contact the Committee in the usual way, all details are below.

*Lily & Oliver*

### **The Treasurer Writes:**

I said last month that by now I hoped to have a better idea of the Panto financial result and although there are still a few items to sort, I feel I can now say that we should have a surplus on the Production of around £2,800. Perhaps not the level of surplus of times gone by but still a commendable and pleasing result on an (in parts) high-cost production.

The Panto party was a very small cost, well supported evening that allowed us all to celebrate and enjoy a well-received and supported Panto. Then two weeks later we were onto the Barn Dance, which again proved a great success, fundraising around £200 and in thanking all those who were able to support the event, we must remember these things don't just happen, and thanks must go especially to Vicky for her planning and organisation of the evening. (I'm sure many of my Do-Si dos were more like Do-Si-Donts !!). As I always say, if any members have any queries regarding the finances of the Company of Four, please do get in contact, I'd be more than happy to talk things through with you, I don't just come out of the woodwork at AGM time!

*Neville*

### **Costume Hire:**

We have been busy behind the scenes hiring out many items of our extensive wardrobe. If you wish to hire anything for a fancy dress evening, a school book day, or know another group who wish to hire a set of costumes for a performance, then please do get in contact with us.

*Katy*



### **Workshop & Props sort out:**

We now have a deadline to be out of our workshop, The Hut, and we need to make a couple of final pushes to get the place cleared. We are also wishing to have a big sort out of our props store and make better use of some of the new space that we have in our container. With this in mind, we would like to start moving the Props on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April** from 09:30 the FRC. If anyone is willing and available to lend a hand, we would be most appreciated, please do get in touch. We shall be sorting a day or two in the near future to clear the Hut site also, please keep an eye on future newsletters for these details.

*Adam*

**My wife asked me to go get 6 cans of Sprite from Tesco. I realized when I got home that I had picked 7 up...**



### Panto Party:

Thank you to everyone who came and celebrated the fabulous success of Panto at our Panto Party that was held at the Martlesham Community Hall in March. It was great to see so many of you, especially joining in the games and having a boogie along to some cracking tunes. Some photos from the evening are below for those who sadly missed it.

*Oliver*

**What did the police officer say to his bellybutton? You're under a vest!**

### Barn Dance:

Well, we certainly grabbed our partners and Do Si Doed all night long! It was great to be able to hold another Barn Dance, our first since the lockdown of 2020. We were joined by many non Cof4 members, but this added to the wonderful atmosphere of the evening, dancing with new partners! Stumpy Oak were phenomenal as usual and got the most timid and shy of people up dancing throughout the night. During the evening, supplemented by a Fish & Chip tea, we held a raffle, aided by the massive help of the younger members who pulled out the numbers! A massive Thank You to everyone who supported the event, and we look forward to seeing many of you in the future.

*Vicky*

### Panto Party & Barn Dance Pictures...



# 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, Kayleigh Richardson, 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...**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** - Join us for a drink at The Kings Head in Woodbridge.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April** - Sorting of the Props at FRC

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024** - The SpongeBob Musical - Youth Version

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024** - Auditions for The Railway Children

**24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024** - The Railway Children

**February 2025** - Dick Whittington



*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 May Newsletter is April 25<sup>th</sup>.*

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[facebook.com/thecompanyoffour](https://facebook.com/thecompanyoffour)  
[instagram.com/thecompanyoffour](https://instagram.com/thecompanyoffour)  
EMAIL: [cof4secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cof4secretary@gmail.com)

## Beyond The Back Page

Congratulations to all the children who auditioned for *SpongeBob*, and welcome to The Company of Four to the newbies, we hope you all enjoy your time with us.

Here for our members is the cast list:

<u>Role</u>	<u>Actor</u>
Sardine 5 & Cowboy Fish	Daisy Andrews
Girl Fish	Amy Piper
Girl Fish & Electric Skates	Khaleesi Corness
SpongeBob	Benji Hughes
Patrick	Connor Farrell
Girl Fish	Chloe Short
Sheldon	Connor Farman
Pearl	Annabelle Ward
Karen	Caitlin Jackson
Sandy	Evelyn Wheatley
Squidward	Violet Wheatley
Krabs	Kit Widdup
Electric Skates & Cowboy Fish	Eva Duffy
Fish in Krabby costume	Elsie Moss
Sardine 1 & Cowboy Fish	Charlotte Donaldson
Sardine 6 & Cowboy Fish	Kensi Stout
Mayor of Bikini Bottom	Isla Shotter
Larry the Lobster	Troy Morden
Townfolk 3	Freddie Spall
Old man Jenkins	Jack Clarke
Gary	Betty-Rose Pearsons
Sardine 4	Louiza Longbottom
French Narrator	Alexandre Longbottom
Sardine 3	Mila Jackman
Peach Perkins	Maia Lily Howard
Mrs Puff	Imogen Burch
Townfolk 1	Arna Burch
Girl Fish & Townfolk 2	Ellie Close
Sardine 2	Olivia Close
Girl Fish	Annabel Baldwin
Electric Skates & Cowboy Fish	Samuel Phillippo-Clapp
Cowboy Fish & Girl Fish	Edi Watson