

# SAVOYARDS NEWS

APRIL 2009  
ISSUE NO 90

A Happy Easter to you all. Well - Spring has sprung and we hasten towards Summer and our main show in June with the usual optimism that this one will be the best yet – certainly everybody concerned is doing their best to make that the case. With that in mind much of this letter is about the future –but firstly – our

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope to view the fourth Savoyards' SORCERER from the audience. For Number One I was part of the chorus (dressed as a Schoolmaster- we all had "parts"), in Number Two I was the Vicar and in Number Three "that very deaf old man" (no comments please) the Notary, so I cherish lots of hilarious memories. I am certain that Number Four will break all records and true happiness reign everywhere. Clearly the venturers who launched the 1979 PINAFORE had no notion of what would be happening 30 years later : members watching a D V D (what was that again?) of a show with a somewhat J W Wellsian theme, written and composed by two of us, mounting G&S's own "magic opera"(with added matinee) and eight days later helping the Little Theatre by accepting His Lordship's invitation to "Come to my mansion, all of you."

May joys abound!

Alan

Since the last Newsletter, Sheringham Savoyards have been entertaining Little Theatre audiences again and being as sociable as ever.

**JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup>.** At a concert jointly performed by ourselves, Sheringham Players and The Sheringham & Cromer Operatic & Dramatic Society we sang various solos, duets and other ensemble pieces (mostly not G&S) and two G&S choruses, to popular acclaim. This helped raise £800 for Little Theatre funds, for which we have been duly thanked by Debbie Thompson.

**FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup>** Over 40 Savoyards and sundry guests spent an enjoyable evening in Gresham Village Hall at a Ceilidh.

**APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>** Fifteen members viewed the DVD of "The Magic Lozenge " in the home of Andy & Julie Weston complete with the usual accoutrements pertaining to such an occasion. It could be said that a good time was had by all and that the breathing rota worked well with no casualties!

## FUTURE EVENTS

### **MAY 16<sup>th</sup>**

As most readers will know there will be no Annual Dinner this year because our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be celebrated on board “The Southern Comfort “ paddle-boat leaving from Horning with a passenger list containing the cream of Norfolk’s amateur musical performers as well as lots of good food and a disco. Val Williams has taken £5 deposits from over 40 of you but is keen to take more ASAP. The total cost is only £20 pp. There will be plenty of room on board away from the disco if you prefer to talk rather than dance.

**Boarding** begins at 6.40pm and the boat leaves at **7pm PROMPT** from the landing stage beside “The Swan “ public house. Car parking is available adjacent to that but fills up quickly so later arrivals may have to park in the road further into the village –so best to arrive early!

The Society has been given four colour “Thespis Lithographs “ the auctioning of which we thought would be a entertaining addition to our evening on the boat. These prints are by Charles D’Albert and are reproduced from illustrated music covers of dance arrangements of music from Gilbert & Sullivan operas. They will be auctioned as four separate items. The operas depicted are The Pirates of Penzance, The Sorcerer, Trial by Jury, and Patience. The prints will be on view at the rehearsals of 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> May and, of course, during the evening of “cruising down the river” The proceeds of the auction will be divided between the Society and East Anglian Air Ambulance . We have been lucky enough to procure the services of an experienced auctioneer - Andy Wagstaff – who many will remember as a past member and who is now among that esteemed body known as Friends of Sheringham Savoyards.

**Memo to Friends of Sheringham Savoyards** - you are **ALL** very welcome to join us on this auspicious voyage and hope that a good number of you will do just that !

Val Williams’ Phone Number 01263 860499

## JUNE

### The Sorcerer

First Theatre Rehearsal	Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm
Costume & Orchestra Rehearsal	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm
Full Dress Rehearsal	Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm
First Night / Guest Night	Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm
Evening Performances	Thursday	11 – Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm
Matinee	Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 pm

Friends of Sheringham Savoyards will find their Vouchers for this Show enclosed with this Newsletter and will hopefully join with the cast on Guest Night or for the party in The Hub after the Saturday night performance.

### Mannington Hall

As noted in the January Newsletter we will be taking the above production for an open air performance on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 6.30pm with Alan Spoor giving a narration in place of dialogue .

**JULY** Our beloved President reaches his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year and has invited members of the Society to help him celebrate the event by dropping past his home on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> from “ Noon to twilight”. He is hoping that the weather is kind enough for the party to be in his garden as well as the house. Plans are afoot for a display on this day of all the programmes and posters from all the shows we have performed since 1979.

Our Archivist Hazel Randall is looking to complete this display soon but has found one or two gaps in the collection. She would be very grateful if all our readers could look in their own archives and be prepared to lend certain Posters to Hazel to be copied before being returned to your own safe keeping.

The shows concerned are Patience 1999, Yeomen 2000,  
Mikado 2003 and Candle Light Capers 1999.

**AUGUST** Sheringham Carnival day is on Wednesday 5th. Hazel is organising the Savoyards contribution to the Carnival Procession. Participants will be processing on foot and will not be asked to hang around to be judged. They will not be needed until just before 6pm for the start of the procession. Interested parties are asked to contact Hazel.

**SEPTEMBER** Rehearsals start for our Autumn Show on Friday 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our **AGM** will be on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>** - in the Oddfellows Hall as last year. Having this meeting as a separate event instead of being held before a rehearsal seemed to make for a happy occasion. Plans are being hatched for post meeting entertainment again – more news in July!

The Treasurer and Publicity Officer, as well as some Committee Members, have indicated that they will not be seeking re-election this year so this is perhaps a good time for Members to be thinking about whether they can help their Society by offering themselves for election . Nomination papers will accompany the formal AGM Notice and will be posted along with the July Newsletter.

**NOVEMBER TAN TAN TA RA TZING BOOM!**

Yes folks- we now have a name for our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show! and how very appropriate it is.

The Show will be on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> November with a dress rehearsal on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The Producer, Pam Warren, is determined to include as many members as possible, past and present, in the show and is in the process of contacting them – in some cases after a number of years – and persuading them to tread the boards again. We await the results of her endeavours with interest. She is also looking for anecdotes pertaining to the last 30 years of shows, and rehearsals!!, to form part of the between numbers commentary. So “ let’s be havin’ you!!” (to quote a certain cook and football director). To help you all make your own contribution to the cause please find enclosed a form, which we hope you will all complete and return so giving Pam and her helpers a really good choice of material with which to work. Pam is contactable by ‘phone :- 01692 650778 , by post: Old School House, North Walsham Road, Bacton, Norfolk NR120LN or by e-mail : pamshiftitwarren@yahoo.com

Please ensure you give your contact details on the back of the form. Our Musical Director will be Sarah Coleman and we are promised TWO pianos to accompany us. Jason Bell will be our Narrator for this show

**DECEMBER** We have obtained a licence for Carol singing around Sheringham again – this will be on 12<sup>th</sup> -further details to be confirmed later.

**WEB SITE** We have been updating the Savoyards website and in particular adding photos, posters and programme details from past shows. This is a “work in progress” and will take some time to complete but do take a look at our own contribution to the World Wide Web on

**www.sheringhamsavoyards.co.uk** and look at our history, photos ,and newsletters as well as information on future productions .

If any readers wish to contribute in any way to future editions of Savoyards News please contact me, David Allison on 01263 822030 or at : [groveend@btinternet.com](mailto:groveend@btinternet.com). Next Issue July 2009