



Hailsham theatres

NEWSLETTER



Issue: 01; January 2014

Welcome to Our First Newsletter



What is this all about?

Welcome to our very first newsletter. We hope to produce more of these throughout the year to keep everyone updated with our progress. As you

may or may not know, we have an excellent website to also keep you updated, and have a Twitter and Facebook account for the very same purpose. If there is something you would like to see included in the newsletter then please send us your suggestions.

Panto 2014 – Jack and the Beanstalk

Our next production is our annual pantomime which is always very popular with our audiences. Some people even reserve their seats a year in advance! Tickets are on sale now so please head online for more information. Our pantos are staged at the Hailsham Pavilion which has an excellent atmosphere and we really enjoy working with all the Pavilion staff and volunteers in what is a very hectic week for all involved!



This year's panto is directed by Roy Langstaffe, who was the rabbit in last year's panto. The musical director as always is the very talented Judith Brooke, who was also last year's director. Roy has been involved with the group for many years now, and we hope for many years to come too. Roy and Judith are also active committee members.

Spotlight

'Jack' in 2014 Pantomime, Jo Westwood is one of our longer standing members of over 7 years. You may know her better as 'Prince Charming' from 'The Swan Princess', 'Jill' from 'Mother Goose', the 'Director' of 'Aladdin', 'The Talking Wardrobe' from 'Beauty and the Beast', 'Fairy Bow Bells' from 'Dick Whittington', 'Story Teller' from 'Cinderella', and most recently the 'Queen of Hearts' delightful daughter, 'Princess Incontinenta' from 'Alice in Wonderland'.



Not only treading the boards, Jo is known within the group for designing the pantomime sets and sprinkling a little too much glitter! "It's not panto, if there isn't enough glitter".

A firm member of the group, Jo has also stood as Chairlady for two years, and as the treasurer, contributing many hours to the success of Hailsham Theatres.

Outside of Panto land, Jo is training as a Quantity Surveyor and has a comprehensive knowledge and experience of working within the Highways Construction and Maintenance Industry. Swapping the glitter and fishnets, for tarmac and high viz!

A keen musician she also plays the Piano and Flute and has been known to play at local pubs within the County. "My musical abilities do help with Panto, making sure my two left feet don't get too muddled or sing too off key!!"



A keen horsewoman also, Jo regularly rides the fields and lanes in the surrounding countryside, Lapping up the views and fresh air. Perfect experience for playing 'Horse Raddish' in Beauty and Beast!...





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Jo says:

"I love being a part of Hailsham Theatres. The group are really friendly without all the love-ness! The people are so diverse and you're never bored as there's always something going on or something to do, in fact there's always too much to do! And more hands are always needed. Each production fair auditions are held and everyone gets the opportunity to have their part. Show off their skills. We have some fabulous dancers in the group and singers. It really amazes me sometimes, the talent we have within our group. I won't lie, it is demanding sometimes and you do get really tired and fed up, but the final result is always rewarding and our audiences seem to enjoy our shows."

In the lead up to Pantomime she's always running around sorting out the 'business' part of the group with fellow committee members, such as booking the Pavilion, organising the brownies and the schools, set building and of course supporting the current director and producer.

Something silly – she can bend the top part of her middle finger on her right hand without bending the rest of it. She can also change the TV channel with her little toe! (Double jointed!!)

Something serious – never cut your finger or get a thorn, she is extremely squeamish and WILL pass out.

Favourite colour – Red

Favourite Musical – Currently, Sister Act!

Hate – Quiche!

RolePlay

Our last performance was RolePlay which was performed as part of Hailsham Festival of Music and Arts. These



performances were extremely well received by our audiences. Here are some snippets of the feedback

received:

"Last night's production was well cast, the set design was both imaginative and made you feel you really were in the flat and it was brilliantly executed."

"such a professional production""....., the setting, the performance, the atmosphere from a full theatre was truly fantastic evening...."

"We are still talking about our wonderful evening at your theatre, and will be looking to attend in future performances."

