

www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk

Woged Sisters

Adapted by
Stephen Briggs
from
Terry Pratchett's [®]
novel



May 2011

I do hope you enjoyed our last production **BRASSED OFF** which we were all thrilled was a complete sell-out - a first for BCP for some years.



This evening I am delighted to welcome you to, what is for BCP, something else new. Our production of **WYRD SISTERS** - adapted by Stephen Briggs from Terry Pratchett's® fantasy novel - takes *Macbeth* (amongst other Shakespeare plays - see how many you can spot) and "turns it up until the knob comes off" A wicked Duke and Duchess, the ghost of a murdered king, strolling players and a land in peril. Who stands between the Kingdom and destruction? Three witches!

This production has been accepted onto the *Royal Shakespeare Company's Open Stages* project - details of which you'll find further on in this programme - and BCP look forward to reaping the cultural benefits of being involved with such an exciting project.

We venture further afield in June with our entry into the Abingdon and Didcot Festivals with **A STRONG SMELL OF BURNING** directed by Helen Williams who you last saw here as *Sandra* in **Brassed Off**.

We end the season in July with **THE GARDEN PARTY** by Jimmy Chinn and Hazel Wyld. Trish Thompson directs for the first time with BCP and brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the production.

Our Play Selection Committee have completed their huge task of selecting plays for consideration for our 2011/12 Season - to be announced at the end of this month. Keep a lookout on the BCP website for the details of another season of entertainment to attract you to our endeavours here at the Mill.



Banbury Cross Players have been entertaining Banbury for over 65 years, and continue doing so with your valued support. Our web site - www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk - will keep you up to date with all our activities.

John Hicks
Chairman



Photography - Marc Rogers / David Sullivan

IN REHEARSAL

Director

Linda Shaw

Stage Manager

Liz Riley

Lighting

John Hicks

Sound & Projection

Mark Neale

Props

Dee Robinson

Sam Robinson

Jane Young

Costume

Jane Shanahan

Set Construction

Richard Ashby

Peter Bloor

Rehearsal Prompt

Gill Huband

Production Manager

Tara Lacey-Rousou

Original Score Composed by

Michael Betteridge

Magrat Costume Design by

Ysabel Hudson

Mini-Fool Designed & Built by

Tim Jones

Wyrd Sisters

Granny Weatherwax (*Witch*)Nanny Ogg (*Witch*)Magrat Garlick (*Witch*)Verence (*Late King of Lancre*)Leonal Felmet (*Duke of Lancre*)Lady Felmet (*his Wife*)Vitoller (*Actor-Manager*)

Fool

Tomjon (*Son of Verence*)Hwel (*Playwright*)

Bowman/Guard

Mrs Vitoller/Robber/Actor "Witch"

Sergeant/Demon/Guard/Wimsloe

Chamberlain/Peasant/Guard/Actor "Bedlin"

Robber/Actor "Witch"

Robber/Actor "Witch"

Guard/Actor "Gumridge"

Trish Thompson

Anne Bloor

Rachel Sullivan

David Sullivan

Terry Gallager

Anne Bennett

Dave Robinson

Helena Boughton

Matthew Hatt

Bruce Walton

Steve Hatt

Tara Lacey-Rousou

John McCormick

Richard Oliver

Sam Robinson

June Ronson

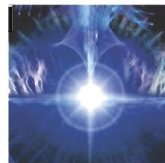
Jem Turner

Discworld is a strange flat world carried on the backs of elephants on a giant turtle. 10,000 miles wide with a 10-mile-high spire of rock lying at its exact centre known as Cori Celesti

Ankh-Morpork (*where we sometime lay our scene*) is the principal city of the Sto Plains

Lancre is situated in the Ramtop mountains 500 miles Hubwards of Ankh-Morpork

*Or, if that's all bit too detailed ..
"wherever your (and our) imagination will take you"*

**Front of House Managers**

Dave Ellis, Mike Jack

Foyer Display

Clare Lester

Members of the Society
built the Set and
staffed Front of House

The Mill Management & Staff

Banbury Guardian

The Banbury Cake

Radio Horton

BBC Radio Oxford

Castle Quay Shopping Centre

Fairprint UK

Alan Davies Photography

Pan Designs

Mr Fenemore

St Mary's Church

Great Bourton Village Hall

KallKwik

Holt Hotel

Carousel Costumes

Dressing Up

Scenery Hire Ltd

Pub Stuff

StarTech Productions

Liz Bambridge

BANBURY CROSS PLAYERS are delighted that *Wyrd Sisters* has been accepted onto the RSC's OPEN STAGES Project

- 300 amateur theatre groups in the UK are taking part in OPEN STAGES - performing their own Shakespeare themed production
- Groups are invited to attend Regional Exchange Events where they take part in workshops aimed at exchanging skills and inspiring ideas for use in their productions
- OPEN STAGES culminates in a national showcase of amateur performances at the RSC's home in Stratford-upon-Avon to coincide with the World Shakespeare Festival in July 2012



RSC Artistic Director Michael Boyd says of the project;

"There are over 5000 amateur theatre groups in the UK, with over a million people taking part each year. Theatre is definitely alive and kicking and it seems madness to ignore the passion and creativity on our doorstep without harnessing it."

OPEN STAGES is slap bang in the middle of our ambitions to connect people with Shakespeare and celebrate live theatre. I want the RSC to lead a step change in the relationship between professional theatre and the amateur sector; to celebrate its rich traditions, open our doors to its work and collaborate with partners nationally to leave a significant legacy."

The OPEN STAGES project is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation



Look out for details of our involvement at
www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk
 and on the RSC's own website
www.rsc.org.uk



THE GARDEN PARTY

by Jimmie Chinn & Hazel Wyld

20-23 July 2011

Stephen Briggs was born in Oxford in 1951 and still lives there with his wife and two sons. In what would generally pass for real life, he works for a small government department dealing with the food industry.

He has been involved for many years in the world of amateur dramatics with the Studio Theatre Club - which is how he came to discover Discworld. Following their adaptations of *Monty Python's Life of Brian* and *Holy Grail*, someone said "Try Terry Pratchett - you'll like him".

He has since adapted 15 Discworld novels, collaborated with Terry Pratchett on the *Discworld* and *New Discworld Companions* and *Nanny Ogg's Cookbook*, voiced Discworld characters in 17 recordings and plotted the various maps of Discworld.

As he says himself, since touching Discworld, his life "passed into another leg of the trousers of time".

Other interests include sketching, back-garden ornithology and Christmas. He claims never to have read *Lord of the Rings* all the way through.

Wyrd Sisters was first performed, very nearly 20 years ago to the day, by the Studio Theatre Club at the Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon 15-18 May 1991.

SIR Terry Pratchett was born in 1948 in Beaconsfield, Bucks. Aged 13, his short story *The Hades Business* was published first in the school magazine and then, commercially, two years later. With the proceeds he bought his first typewriter. His first book, *The Carpet People*, was published in 1971.

In 1980 he was appointed publicity officer for the CEGB (Powergen) with responsibility for three nuclear power stations! In 1987, soon after writing *Mort*, he decided to devote himself to full-time writing.

He was Britain's best-selling living fiction author in the 1990s with sales running at 3 million+ books a year. In 2001, it was reported, during the first 300 weeks' existence of the British Bookscan chart, over 60 titles had been in the top 5,000 bestselling titles and the author with the most titles in this listing was Terry Pratchett with 12 novels.

He has now written 49 books (37 Discworld novels) and co-authored a further 50. Between them they have sold 65 million+ copies in 37 languages.

In 2009, he was included in the New Years Honours List being appointed a Knight Bachelor for "services to literature".

GOLD CARD HOLDER



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11 October 2011

7.30pm

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