

www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk



Neville's Island

by Tim Firth

14-17 July 2010

Welcome



I am delighted to welcome you to our performance of Tim Firth's **NEVILLE'S ISLAND** and hope your visit is an enjoyable one! This is my first 'Welcome' to you as I take stewardship of the society for the next two years and I have great pleasure in announcing our 2010/2011 Season, carefully crafted by our Play Selection Team, with the aim of providing a season of interest and variety which I hope will have you queuing for tickets.

We open in November with Peter Shaffer's **AMADEUS**, a superb costume drama, set in the late eighteenth century, which explores the rivalry between Mozart and Antonio Salieri, court composer to the Emperor of Austria.

March brings **BRASSED OFF**, adapted by Paul Alton from Mark Herman's film, about the troubles faced by a colliery brass band following the closure of their pit. We are delighted that The Hook Norton Brass Band will join us for the production - providing the all important music.

In May, **WYRD SISTERS**, adapted by Stephen Briggs from Terry Pratchett's fantasy novel. "Macbeth turned up until the knob comes off", a wicked Duke and Duchess, the ghost of a murdered king and a land in peril. Who stands between the Kingdom and Destruction? The Three Witches!

We close in July with something befitting the time of year - **THE GARDEN PARTY** by Jimmy Chin and Hazel Wyld. At Richard's 70th birthday party, the family gather to pay their respects and the scene is set for revelations, arguments and moments of tenderness.

Those of you who are **GOLD CARD HOLDERS** will hear more about these plays from the Directors at our Season Preview Evening on 12 October 2010. Those of you who are not may be interested in the discounts on offer.

I thank you for your continuing support of BCP, and look forward to welcoming you again in November. Meanwhile, www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk will keep you up to date with all our activities.



John Hicks
Chairman

IN REHEARSAL



CAST

Neville
Gordon
Angus
Roy

Jem Turner
Andrew Whiffen
Nik Lester
Andy Allen



Rampsholme Island, Derwentwater "All is very much as God intended"

Act 1, Sc 1	11.55am, Friday, November
Sc 2	4½ hours later
Sc 3	Dusk
Sc 4	Dusk
Sc 5	Night

Act 2, Sc 1	Saturday, Daybreak
Sc 2	One hour later
Sc 3	Immediately following
Sc 4	15 minutes later
Sc 5	Shortly after sunset
Sc 6	Two hours later
Sc 7	Night
Sc 8	Immediately following

Welcome to The Mill Theatre

May we request that mobile phones are turned off and remind patrons that photography and video recording is strictly forbidden.

May we draw your attention to the Fire Exits to the left of the stage area and to the rear of the auditorium.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	John Bennett
Stage Manager	Janice Lake
ASM	Gill Huband
Lighting	John Hicks
Sound	Mark Neale
Backstage Crew/Props	Helena Boughton, Kate Fricke Sue Martin, Liz Riley, Dee Robinson June Ronson, Sally Stretton
Costume	Jane Shanahan
Set Design	Nik Lester, Jane Young
Set Build	Richard Ashby, Nik Lester
Rehearsal Prompt	Anne Bennett
Production Manager	Linda Shaw
Front of House Managers	Dave Ellis, Mike Jack
Foyer Display	Clare Lester

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- . The Mill Management & Staff
- . Banbury Guardian
- . Castle Quay, Banbury
- . Fairprint UK, Dundee
- . Alan Davies Photography
- . Pan Designs, Woodford Halse
- . Mr Fenemore, Middleton Cheney
- . St Mary's Church, Banbury
- . Great Bourton Village Hall
- . Howarth Wrightson, Manchester
- . Startech, Oxford
- . Derngate Theatre, Northampton
- . Chelplin Players, Ipswich
- . OCVC, Banbury
- . BBC Radio Oxford
- . Gloria Lester-Stephens, Bloxham
- . Banbury Sound
- . Just for Fun, Southampton
- . Byfield Cubs
- . Lake District National Park
- . Jon Allen for use of his song *Going Home*

and not forgetting

- . June's garage
- . Gill's loft
- . Liz's copse
- . JB's shed
- . John's hallway

JOHN BENNETT's first contact with amateur drama was with the *Kings Langley Children's Theatre* - aged 11 (modesty forbids mention of the actual year). *KLCT* put on children's plays and pantomimes in the village hall and, although he restricted himself to back stage duties (too shy to appear on stage), he just loved the whole atmosphere of the theatre. (Ed : This is what John says when asked - we're not convinced it wasn't the abundance of chorus girls).



On moving to Banbury in 1960, he joined BCP, with the sole intent of set building and helping back stage. That was until one evening he was conned (Ed : encouraged, surely?) into reading in at a panto rehearsal - "just to help out for tonight". He was immediately given the part and, after the initial shock, realised he was not quite so 'shy' after al.

John expresses his gratitude to BCP for the opportunity to appear in many wonderful plays and to benefit from the guidance of some gifted directors. John lists amongst his favourite acting roles *The Hostage*, *Penny for a Song*, *Lion in Winter*, *Look After Lulu*, *Hobson's Choice* and *Not Now Darling*

John's previous foray into directing a full length play for BCP was *The Hollow* in 1966. Business commitments made it necessary for John to cut back on his involvement with BCP although he remained a member, attending most productions.

With more time on his hands since retirement, John directed the Season Preview play *Not Quite Sunset* in 2008 and is now back with a charming vengeance. He "loved and laughed out loud" when he first read *Neville's Island* but was concerned about the staging. As you will see tonight, the play has many unique challenges for the cast and the production team. However, with enthusiastic encouragement and support from other members

of the society, he took the plunge (pun intended, on this occasion) and has enjoyed every minute. He hopes you will share his enjoyment too.

From the BCP ARCHIVES...

1966

In order of appearance :



Mervilla Angheall	-	-	Pat Tompser
Sir Henry Angheall	K.C.B.	-	John Neal
Lady Angheall	-	-	Max Neal
Midge Harvey	-	-	T. Hodder-Smith
Colquhoun	-	-	Ronald Hooper
Edward Angheall	-	-	Michael Brown
Dora	-	-	Grace Jones
Gertie Crispin	-	-	Priscy Lester
John Crispin M.D., F.R.C.P.	-	-	Bryan Farnham
Noronica Crispin	-	-	Paddy Brown
Det. Insp. Colquhoun	C.I.D.	-	Robert Neal
Det. Sgt. Penny	-	-	Paul Bennett

The Play Produced by John Bennett



The Lake District ...



England's largest National Park includes Scafell Pike - its highest mountain, Wastwater - its deepest lake and thriving communities like Keswick and Bowness-on-Windermere. It boasts 8.3 million visitors a year and has the wettest inhabited place in England at Seathwaite with an annual rainfall of 3552mm. Bassenthwaite is the only one official "lake" - all the others are "meres" or "waters".



An inspiration to many, including Wordsworth and John Ruskin The Lake District is currently engaged on a project to gain recognition as a World Heritage Site.



Derwentwater

Derwentwater is one of the principal bodies of water in the Lake District and lies immediately south of the town of Keswick. It is approximately 3 miles long, 1 mile wide and 72 feet deep. A regular passenger launch (*Ed: without a disco*) operates on the lake taking passengers between various landing stages.

The Earl of Derwentwater title was created in 1688 though it was forfeited in 1716 after the 3rd Earl was beheaded following his part in the 1715 Jacobite Rebellion. Despite this, the Earldom continued to be used, as if it had not been forfeited, by the Jacobite heirs. The male line died out in 1814, and the title has not been used since.



Rampsholme Island



At roughly two hundred feet long by a hundred feet wide, Rampsholme is the smallest of the four main islands on Derwentwater. It formed part of the Earl of Derwentwater's confiscated estate and is called "garlic island" by the locals due to the abundance of wild garlic. At certain times of the year you can smell the garlic as you go past the island on the boat trips around Derwentwater.

It is also a Cormorant roost throughout the year as well as being home to Mergansers, Goosanders and Oystercatchers among many others (*Ed: so Roy tells us.*)

Banbury Cross Players



2010 / 2011 Season

Est 1945

AMADEUS

by Peter Shaffer
November 2010



Terry Pratchett's® **WYRD SISTERS**
adapted by Stephen Briggs
May 2011



BRASSED OFF

Adapted by Paul Allen
from Mark Herman's film
March 2011



THE GARDEN PARTY

by Jimmie Chinn & Hazel Wyld
July 2011

BCP GOLD CARD HOLDER

FOUR PLAYS for **LESS THAN** the price of **THREE!**

Vouchers for 4 (single) or 8 (double) tickets included -
you choose which plays to use them for & how many!

PLUS

- .Free Season Preview Evening Invitation
- .Free Quarterly Newsletter, *Prompt Please*
- .Advance Notification of News and Events

JOIN NOW for NEXT SEASON

£ 25.00 (Single) / **£ 45.00** (Double)

See Front of House Staff / Brochure for details

www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk

