

SHENFIELD'S APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

'OKLAHOMA!'

Well the Show is over - & what a terrific show it turned out to be. Congratulations to all the cast members, whether principals or otherwise, the backstage crew, the Orchestra - and in particular our most accomplished MD, Adrian Ure and of course to Louise Byrne, our fantastic Director & Choreographer, without whose vision and expertise the show wouldn't have been the success it was.

The story has two young couples trying to come to terms with their relationships & our rising stars Libby Watts, who played the confused farm girl, Laurey & her handsome cowboy beau, Curly, played by Jamie Fudge were outstanding.

The other young couple - Jo Hunt, who took on the part of the naïve but willing Ado Annie & her love-struck & not-too-bright cowboy boyfriend Will - Jack Lloyd, were a joy to watch. Rick McGeouch as Ali Hakim added to the pleasure of this tangled twosome, but he got his come-uppance in the end!

Kerry Cooke, Aunt Eller, once again gave an excellent performance, commanding the stage in her feisty role, ably supported by the gun-toting David Cormack as Andrew Carnes.

The dark, brooding presence of Jud Fry was superbly played by Allister Smith, whose every movement on stage was guaranteed to make your flesh crawl.

We were fortunate in selling 76% tickets and we have made a profit on the show! In this day & age, that's quite exceptional & we thank everyone who begged, cajoled or forced family & friends into supporting our Society by buying tickets. Keep it up - we've got another BIG show next year & our 'small' show in Brentwood in June.

'JEKYLL & HYDE' - Brentwood Theatre 7th - 11th June 2016

This is a completely different show from 'Oklahoma!' and will show the versatility of our members. It is set in Victorian London and tells the intriguing tale of the young, brilliant Dr. Henry Jekyll, who - with the best intentions in the world - finds the extreme dark side of his nature, to the cost of the lives of several members of London Society.

The show will be directed by Kerry McGowan & our MD will be Ian Southgate.

The cast is as follows:

Henry Jekyll / Edward Hyde	David Pridige
Emma Carew, Jekyll's fiancée	Rachel Watson
Gabriel Utterson, Jekyll's best friend	Allister Smith

***The Board of Governors of St. Jude's Hospital**

*Sir Danvers Carew, Emma's father - Chair	Bob Southgate
*Simon Stride, Secretary & rival of Jekyll	Jamie Fudge
*Basil, Bishop of Basingstoke	Lloyd Bonson
*Lady Beaconsfield	Lauren Ramshaw
*Lord Savage	David Ward
* Sir Archie Proops QC	Dean Mobley
*General Glossop	Stewart Porter
Lucy Harris, a prostitute	Kate Smith
Nellie, a prostitute, Lucy's friend	Louise Byrne
Spider, Pimp & proprietor of 'Red Rat'	David Ward
Poole, Jekyll's loyal manservant	Dean Mobley

We only have 810 tickets for sale for the whole week so if you want seats for your nearest & dearest - please book early!

You can buy through Suzanne, our Box Office, either:

by 'phone on 07734 817418

or by email at boxoffice@shenfieldoperaticsociety.co.uk

Tickets are also available at the Theatre, but you might be charged a handling fee.

LOOKING AHEAD!

'Singin' in the Rain'

Keep a space in your diary for the first week of **February, 2017**, when the Society will be putting on this most popular musical at the 'Queen's Theatre in Hornchurch.

Feel free to splash the news to all & sundry!

SOCIAL NEWS:

Our Social Secretary, Caroline Green organised a Quiz Night at St. George's on Saturday 19th March; the evening was a great success and raised a fantastic **£483:00**.

Well done Caroline & helpers!

A SAD FAREWELL . . .

After numerous times as our very popular MD, sadly **Adrian Ure** is bidding us farewell. The family has moved to the far reaches of the County and the journeys to & from Brentwood & also the 'Queen's' Theatre are unrealistic in both time & petrol.

We are extremely sorry that Adrian will no longer be wielding the baton or coaxing us into song with his inimitable droll sense of humour & wit, but we wish him all the very best and thank him most warmly for everything he has done for our Society.

Good luck, Adrian - & please come back to us if you can!

If you have anything you would like putting into the next Newsletter, please send it to me secretary@shenfieldoperaticsociety.co.uk

Many thanks - sell those tickets & Happy Rehearsing!

Lynne