

CENTRE STAGE



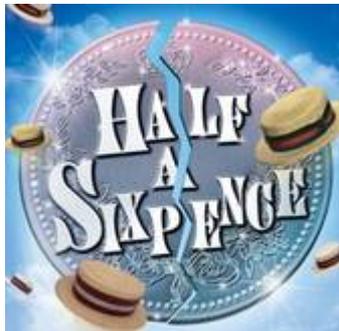
Welcome to Centre Stage's Spring Newsletter.

Rehearsals are currently underway for our summer musical and this year we are performing the classic *Half a Sixpence*, made famous by Tommy Steele. The musical, which is based on the novel 'Kipps' by H.G. Wells, was written by Beverley Cross with the music and lyrics supplied by David Heneker.

The updated version by Warner Brown includes many new songs but don't worry, you can still sing along to the classics; Flash, Bang, Wallop; I know what I am and the title track.

The backstage crew are working as hard as ever to create an inventive set and the musicians are getting in tune to accompany our fantastic cast.

Make sure you mark the dates of the performances in your diary!



**Monday 25th to
Saturday 30th June 2012
(including Saturday Matinee)
Eggescliffe Community Centre**

OLIVER TRIP

Centre Stage is organising a trip to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to see one of our past members. Ryan O'Gorman is starring in Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular new production of this family favourite. *Oliver* is at Newcastle from 12th September to 3rd November. To find out more about the trip, ring Cynthia (01642 651268) or Maureen (01642 782649) for details.



Happy Birthday

One member of Centre Stage's backstage crew attended a very special celebration earlier this year. Alex Farr's Auntie Joan celebrated her 102nd birthday with family and friends and also received a bouquet of flowers from Stockton Mayor, Paul Baker. Congratulations from everyone at Centre Stage.

This May 1st be sure not to miss Aristophanes hilarious comedy

Lysistrata

Our story begins in Athens during the Peloponnesian War. The Women of Athens are becoming increasingly frustrated with their men and it is up to Lysistrata to change the power struggle and she does The best way a woman can.

**May 1st Stockton Riverside College tickets £5/£4 adult themes
Box office number 01642 865465**

Tom Thumb A tiny star guaranteed BIG laughs at Centre Stage's pantomime in February. Paul Reake's story of Tom Thumb was performed to appreciative audiences who cheered the miniature hero and his friends as they battled against the evil Giant and his horrid sidekick, Slugslime. Be sure not to miss our next Panto, Aladdin coming in 2013.



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Message from Dubai

After making the decision to move to Dubai and now after spending 3 months here, all I can say is wow! I am now settled in to a new apartment at the marina and feel like I have been at my new school for years! I'm working at Emirates International School and enjoying embracing all the different cultures and nationalities I am meeting.

There are over 19 just in my class! However, England is not forgotten about and I can definitely see a use for all the trimmings and materials from the shops at Old Town Dubai in the next pantomime.

This weekend there is a street festival at the marina which even has an act performing that I watched at Stockton Riverside Festival. Unfortunately, I won't be back to the UK at the right time to see Half A Sixpence but from what I hear and know about Centre Stage it will be a great show!

Lots of Love - Becca



WELCOME TO CENTRE STAGE

A big hello to our newest members.

Jessica Marshall, Kyle Smith, Lauren Smith (no relation), Amber and Logan Parks, Olivia Pottage, Esme Howard, Robin Wharton, Connor Welsh and Mike Tyson.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Faye Hall and Katie Peel are travelling to the Prague Fringe festival in June with Windermere Productions.

Sue Brewster, Linda Roots, Sarah Passman and Jim Smith appeared as extras for Ellen Kent's performance of La Traviata at the Sunderland Empire in February.

Kyle Smith is starting Teesside University in September doing Foundation Degree in Performing Arts. Robin Wharton will be a fellow student when she starts her degree in Forensic Science.

Caitlyn Meynell has passed her Grade 3 Saxophone in March.

Tom Wells is currently rehearsing for a production of Hair which is to be performed in June 2012 at Stockton Riverside College.

Faye Hall, Paul Simpson and Katie Peel, are performing a selection of comedy sketches at the Sage theatre in Newcastle in front of 1700 people in honour of the Egglecliffe School's 50th anniversary.

Update on Paul and Beth.

As you know Paul Simpson and Beth Mullen started university in London in September. Here are some details of their punishing schedules.

Paul's day at Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance begins at 9.00am and continues until 9.00pm, with only short breaks. An international mix of students means that the course is always exciting and varied and he has already made some very good friends and had two holidays in Paris!

Guest artists and teachers of international renown are part of the tutoring process and the practitioners are drawn from professional theatre, film and television, the music industry and other complimentary professions teach and lead projects. The college has direct links to the creative industry, the amenities are fantastic and although hard work at times, he's loving every minute of it.

Beth's day at ALRA, the Academy of Live and Performing Arts, begins at 8.00am and if anyone is a little late arriving they have to miss the whole day's tutoring. If late for afternoon classes they have to wait until the next day! Up to now Beth has been on time for all!



The tutors are both trained and professional practitioners drawn from all aspects of theatre and she has been learning acting strategies and techniques for stage, screen and microphone, training her voice and body and understanding how the creative industry works. She also is enjoying it all and it is so uplifting to see both of them so enthusiastic about their chosen further education.

Maureen Tait

www.centre-stage-online.co.uk