

Thurso Players Update Feb 2012

Mark your calendar and book your tickets now for the annual **SCDA – Scottish Community Drama Association One-Act Play Festival**, taking place on stage at **Thurso High School 7pm nightly on 24th and 25th February.**

Each evening will feature three different plays in the Youth and Open (Adult) categories, and both nights culminate in an informative critique by visiting professional adjudicator, Colin Peter. Lord Lieutenant Anne Dunnett opens as Festival Chair, and will present the awards following Saturday night's adjudications.

The high quality community theatre productions are deep into rehearsals, bringing together talents of local adult and youth actors, writers, experienced directors and backstage crew, and includes three plays from Thurso Players featuring spine-chilling comedy drama, historic drama, and a comedy.

Philip Arthur, directs one of Thurso Players Youth entries "**Freydis and the Raiders**" by Geoff Bamber, a comedy set in 980AD about a plucky young girl wanting to become famous by getting into a Viking Saga.

"**Cafe Parisienne**" by Glyn Jackson is a fictional drama bringing characters together during the last half hour on board the sinking SS Titanic. The play is in the unique position of being entered in both the Youth and Open (Adult) sections of the festival, due to its casting of 18, and includes a live string sextet playing offstage

"**I am Hamlet**" by Richard James, directed by Audrey O'Brien is a comedy thriller with a two man cast. When a man shows up at a theatre audition, it is slowly revealed that all is not according to the script. The play

recently featured in a Shakespeare themed evening at The Mill Theatre, so you have a chance to enjoy it again.

Friday 24th Feb. plays are Mount Pleasant After School Drama Club with "The Stolen Locket", followed by "Cafe Parisienne" and "The Gauger's Engagement" a comedy from Halkirk Drama Club. Saturday's plays are "Everything Alright Sir?" a farce from Ormlie Drama Club, "The Saga of Freydis and The Raiders" and "I am Hamlet".

Festival tickets are available at MacBeath's Jewellers, Thurso and The Flower Patch, Wick.

Thurso Players Junior Showcase is scheduled this year for Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th March. This is the chance for family members to see what the Juniors have been working on during their Friday night workshops. Tickets, when available, will be strictly limited and on a first come first served basis.

This year Thurso Players has a very full **performance schedule:**

To coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Titanic disaster on the 14th & 15th of April, there will be a Titanic night featuring "**Cafe Parisienne**" written and directed by Glyn Jackson, along with other themed offerings. This is your chance to see the play if you missed the SCDA Festival, come along in Edwardian dress if you fancy, and enjoy an evening's entertainment.

A **Shakespeare radio play**, directed by Denise Imrie and Sara Donaldson, will be broadcast, probably around late April, on Caithness FM to celebrate the life of the Bard in Jubilee year.



Moliere's "**Hypochondriac**", adapted by Roger McGough and directed by John Glen, is set for early June and following on from a club night reading, Philip Arthur will be directing "**Art**", with a cast of three males, in August.

The musical "**Oliver**", directed by Andrew Crawford, will be a mixed cast of adults and juniors, rehearsing throughout August and September, due to be performed at the end of that month.

Panto and Whoops for the Juniors will also go ahead as usual. If you are interested in any of the productions, as either cast, crew or audience, please keep your eye out via the usual channels of communication.

Communication - Thurso Players is an amateur drama club run by volunteers. The committee consists of the Office Bearers (Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) and 5 ordinary members (elected annually at the AGM); a variable number of co-opted members who have volunteered for particular necessary positions (e.g. Professional Programme Manager, Child Protection Officer etc.) and two Representatives from the Junior Players. The committee meets approximately once a month. Members involved in a particular task may be invited to attend a particular meeting, but any member may attend a meeting as a non-voting participant if they have any reason (although it may be advisable to inform the secretary in advance in case there have been changes to the agenda). The minutes of all committee meetings, including the date & time of next meeting, are posted on the corridor notice board.

We try to communicate information to all members via email or letter. Thurso Players website (www.thursoplayers.org.uk) contains a document section and some information is available on Facebook using the link on the

website. (Please note that only the above sites are official – our Constitution forbids the use of the Thurso Players title to any information printed or recorded privately.)

Copies of all the main Constitution, Legal, Licensing, Health and Safety, Mill Procedure, Keyholder Responsibility, Guide to Members, Policy documents (which have been agreed by the committee and must be adhered to), Guidelines for various situations as well as Forms are filed (along with a catalogue of contents) in the top drawer of the filing cabinet in the cupboard under the stairs in the lounge (middle door near the front entrance). There are duplicates (labelled D)

which can be taken, otherwise these documents are for reference only. Personal copies not provided as duplicates can be obtained through the Secretary. *Betty Bradstreet*



Wardrobe Mystery!

During the run-up to the pantomime in December a plastic storage box (possibly containing ladies' blouses or waistcoats) disappeared from the top shelf, left hand side of the storage area. Can anybody please explain?

Re missing things – please can I make a plea to members that they READ and FOLLOW the notices (on the wall by the phone) in the wardrobe about Cast Clothing, Borrowing and Returning clothing and other articles from the wardrobe and the responsibilities of individual Wardrobe Persons for each play or show. Garments taken off hangers and not returned and boxes “raked through” and not tidied, and smaller items (especially shoes!) not returned to their labelled bags makes it much more difficult for people using the wardrobe after you, leads to losses, and creates a lot of work reorganising.

Our wardrobe is a valuable resource to the club and to the community. Please help to keep it so! *Betty Bradstreet*