

Curtain Call

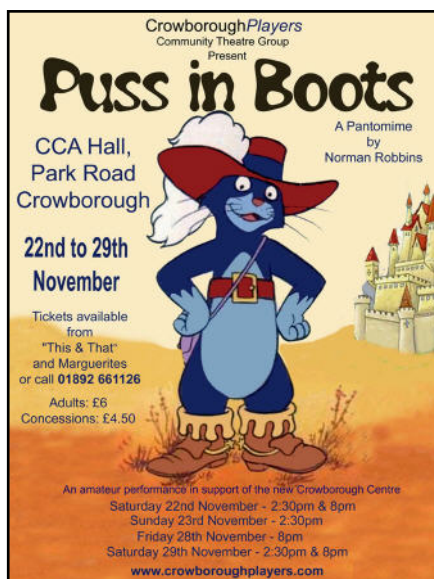
Newsletter of The Crowborough Players - Community Theatre Group

November 2008

Puss in Boots packs out CCA Hall

Audiences have flocked to the CCA Hall for our first 3 performances of Norman Robbins' panto – Puss in Boots – dispelling earlier concerns at the slow rate of ticket sales.

In total two-hundred people came through the doors, with Sunday afternoon completely sold out. Congratulations to everyone in the cast, crew, and front of house!



If you haven't been to see the panto yet, what are you waiting for? Our remaining performances are: Friday 28 November, 8pm; Saturday 29 November, 2:30pm & 8pm. Contact Ade on 01892 661126 to book.

As we 'went to press' tickets for Friday night and the Saturday matinee had almost sold out. There was plenty of availability for Saturday night though. So if you can tear yourself away from *X Factor* and *Strictly* come along and support our final night.

Join the Players

The membership year runs from June to May, but we are keen to welcome new members throughout the year. Anyone joining now will benefit from half price subs of **£7.50** (£3.25 full-time students). Send cheques (payable to The Crowborough Players) to Laura Holmwood, the Treasurer at: Tarka, Luxford Lane, Crowborough, TN6 2PJ.

If you're receiving this newsletter but have never been a member, it would be great to have you join us this year. There are lots of opportunities to get involved, whether you want to act or not. For the same price as watching a game of professional cricket (or half a game of football) it's got to be worth it.

If you're already a member and would like to give more financial support to the Players, or would like to support the Players without joining, have a look at the article overleaf for some options.

Contact the Players

Ade (Secretary) - 01892 661126

Laura (Treasurer) - 01892 652314

Joan (Membership) - 01892 664931

Email:

luv vies@crowboroughplayers.com

Web:

www.crowboroughplayers.com

Facebook:

"The Crowborough Players" group

Players BBQ

A great time was had by all at the Players' BBQ on 19 July at Ade's house. Twenty-six members and friends attended for an evening of good food, drink, chat, and an entertaining quiz with questions posed by Margaret. Some intrepid performers even had a go on Singstar karaoke in the living room! The famous Players' raffle was again well-supported, although the number of unclaimed prizes seems to rise each time... We shouldn't forget that the BBQ is a fundraising event, and it managed to generate the princely sum of £80. Thanks to all who supported this event.

Crowborough Carnival

Roger Rodeo and his trusty steed Brokeback (a pantomime horse) – aka Harry and Jason - represented the Players at this annual town event. They were joined by a collection of cowboys, who succeeded in winning the Players the title of 'Best Group, 5-10 people'. Thanks to Laura for coordinating this, and to everyone who took part.

Roger and Brokeback also joined Queen Fanny the Fifth (our panto Dame) for the Crowborough Vale Drama Group's fundraising review on 11 October.

Corporate Patrons

As part of our new fundraising strategy we are looking to introduce a corporate patron scheme. We realise that the current economic conditions are not a brilliant backdrop for such a scheme, but if you are connected with a local company – large or small – Ade would like to hear from you. It is likely that we will be offering packages from as little as £50. At this stage we would like to test some ideas, so please get in touch with Ade if you can help.

NODA members – almost!

As reported in our summer newsletter, the Players' committee agreed to apply for membership of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association. Following a Special General Meeting, at which we agreed to change the constitution, in line with NODA's requirements, we have now formally applied for membership and paid the very reasonable fee.

The title of this item refers to the fact that our application is now with the South East Regional Committee, who will (hopefully) ratify our membership at their next meeting.

In the meantime we are already enjoying the benefits of NODA membership, not least with a reduced insurance premium (for better cover). If anyone has any questions about this please get in touch with Ade.

Community Theatre Group

You may have noticed that posters and flyers for the panto (and our website) now refer to the Players as a 'Community Theatre Group'.

The decision to add this description was made by the committee, keen to highlight that the Players are THE drama group for the Crowborough community. It also helps to show that we are one of the key organisations supporting the building of the new Crowborough Centre.

This year we will be giving one-third of any surplus from our shows to the fundraising appeal for this vital facility. If anyone still doubts the need for a new hall remember that we had to turn folk away from the Sunday matinee of the panto!

Events round-up

Spring production meeting – TBA - Early January

Once the dust has settled on the panto, and Christmas is but a pleasant memory, we will be having a meeting to discuss the Players' Spring production. At present everything is up for grabs - from dates to genres to the name of the producer! Look out for more details soon.