



SIGHTLINE

5th December 2005

NODA & SCDA

Carnoustie Theatre Club

Issue 107

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

PANTO 2006!

Panto 2005 isn't even over yet and already we are thinking about the next one! The committee would welcome written applications for the following posts:-

Producer	Musical Director	Lighting Manager	Sound Manager	Stage Manager
Panto Manager	Choreographer(s)	Wardrobe Manager	Props Manager	Music Team

Please put your applications in writing to Karen Simpson, 16 Mackenzie Street, Carnoustie, Angus, DD7 6HD, to arrive no later than Friday 6th January 2006.

“A WITCH, A WIZARD AND A DUMPLING”



It is now panto week and everyone involved is looking forward to being part of an excellent show. It won't be long until it is the final night and everyone dons their glad rags and heads off to the after show party. Please remember that under 18's must be collected from the party by no later than 1pm. The party is great fun and gives everyone a chance to relax and socialise after an exhausting week, but do not forget that there is still work to be done! So be up at CHS at 9.00am on Sunday morning and let's get the clear up done in record time.!

BRICKS!

At long last we have decided on the best way to give prominence to everyone who has supported the club by buying a brick. Once panto is over we will arrange for all of our brick sponsors to sign their bricks. Watch this space for more details!

WANTED

Chesterfield Sofa Our Festival entry for 2006, Lovers Losers by Brian Friel needs to borrow, hire or otherwise obtain a 2 or 3-seater sofa with a low back and arms to maximise the comedy cuddling. Perhaps a chaises longue would work. Any offers please to Dick Gibson 01241 852592. Thanks.



If you have any articles, information, news or views you would like to see published in "Sightline", then please let me know by e-mail (secretary@dibbletree.com) or telephone (01241 411359).



A while ago a lady from America made contact with us through our web site. This initial contact culminated in a visit, a generous donation to the club but far more importantly a friendship. The letter below tells her story.....

My incredible "dream-come-true" trip of coming to Scotland, and experiencing Dibble Tree Theatre can only be appreciated by going a bit back in time to where I was a year ago...

A bit of background: I have been active in community theater all my life, from the time I was 10 years old. As an adult I have been the president of one theater, and have produced and acted in countless shows in the others. It was my hobby and my passion. Seven years ago, I created a program to bring theatre into our only maximum security prison for women. And it has been very healing and successful for all the women involved over the years. But, a year ago, when my beloved dog, Raven, suddenly died the day before the prison show opened, I truly knew the meaning of 'the show must go on'. I knew as I finished that show, that I badly needed a break. I needed to take time off to grieve..... and possibly to experience a 'dream'.

I began to think about what I had always dreamed of doing.....and the one thing I always dreamed of was coming to Scotland. Why? I'm not sure exactly, but it was always in my mind for 20 years. At the age of 56, I decided it was about time to make this trip a reality.

I went online.... looking for a small community to visit and when I looked for a town of 10,000 people approximately.....up came Carnoustie!! I then looked if there was any community theatre, and whalla!! up came Dibble Tree! It was then that I started reading your beautiful website.....

As I read about the plays you did, your history, the fun of an intimate community theatre just jumped from the pages. Even seeing pictures of cast members visiting Betty Gibson in the hospital. It showed the caring that was a core part of your theatre group.

I will tell you that in my city of 350,000, community theater is strong, but over time, with new buildings, and other expenses, the push for dollars can sometimes replace many a personal experience. Volunteers can go unthanked, with too many shows going on simultaneously. What I saw in Dibble Tree was community theatre with a heart, with family involvement that was strong. I decided then and there to make my 'dream trip to Scotland' with the center at Dibble Tree.

I contacted Betty Gibson and she said to contact her the minute I came into Carnoustie. What a thrill that day was! When I arrived, I immediately walked down the street to see Dibble Tree and take a picture of it. I couldn't believe I was actually going to meet people that were before this, names on the website!!

I walked into such a warm atmosphere! Sam, Aileen, John, Frances, Moira, Dick, Betty.... and everyone helping out, rehearsing for the Christmas Panto. The 'chaos' of rehearsals are the same everywhere, with hearty hellos!, costumes, and smiles all around. It was as if I was transported back in time in my life as a child, watching all the kids rehearse. And there were so many of them! It was as if the whole town was a part of the theatre! I saw the articles on the wall... accolades of winning competitions; heard stories of everyone piling into buses to support the kids in the Finals, and, the best....later at Station Pub, of all the theatre stories that all of us can relate to, regardless of community.....the actor who forgets his lines onstage and leaves us to adlib out of it, the costume malfunctions, the set problems, the sicknesses, the laughter, the stress, the best parts, the worst parts. In theatre, as in life, we are more the same.

In the time spent at Dibble Tree, I gained a lot! To all you wonderful, wonderful people who were so open to share a piece of time with me, thank you so much!! You are the heart and soul of what true theatre is. I also gained a personal peace inside that told me I was ready to direct again.....and two weeks after coming home, I have just cast my tenth show up at the prison and started rehearsals that will continue until May, '06. Talk about a long rehearsal period!

It is an honor to be a supporting part of The Amazing Dibble Tree Theatre from my city of Des Moines, Iowa! We have six inches of snow on the ground now, but my heart is warm from the incredible experience of finally finding Dibble Tree! I will be back again, you can count on that! I raise a toast to all of you on your coming Panto!! It will be FANTASTIC from what I saw!

Until then my friends, Break a Leg!
Marti Sivi