

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CLUBNIGHT!!** March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Red Lion Little Missenden, 8.00pm. Bring along a skit, a play, a poem, a story to read...or just come and enjoy the scintillating conversation and the Craic!

**CLEARING OUT THE BACKROOM.** AS I am sure we are all aware the backroom needs a serious tidy up! We have initially set aside the 20<sup>th</sup> May for this task...all help would be appreciated. Watch this space for more news!

**THE CEMETERY CLUB** by Ivan Menchel will be performed on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May...please let Archie know if you can help with props, set, backstage etc.

**QUIZ.** A quiz will be held on June 30<sup>th</sup> in aid of the Thomas Ball charity. Your quizmaster for this is none other than Archie Wilson!

## THE CEMETERY CLUB

### CAST:

IDA.....SANDIE KING

LUCILLE.....JACKI DANN

DORIS.....MARLEY HIGHAM

SAM.....RICHARD HIGHAM

MILDRED.....BERNADETTE NOLAN

THREE JEWISH WIDOWS MEET ONCE A MONTH FOR TEA BEFORE GOING TO VISIT THEIR HUSBANDS' GRAVES. IDA IS SWEET TEMPERED AND READY TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE, LUCILLE IS A FEISTY EMBODIMENT OF THE GIRL WHO JUST WANTS TO HAVE FUN, AND DORIS IS PRIGGISH AND JUDGMENTAL, PARTICULARLY WHEN SAM THE BUTCHER ENTERS THE SCENE. DORIS AND LUCILLE SQUASH THE BUDDING ROMANCE BETWEEN SAM AND IDA BUT ARE GUILT STRICKEN WHEN THIS NEARLY BREAKS IDA'S HEART.

## ALADDIN....REVIEW

I attended the show on the first Friday evening and as usual for PTC collected tickets from box office situated at the rear of the hall. Easy to find, efficiently manned and with ushers to show patrons to their seats presented no problems whatsoever.

Programmes were good value at £1 and gave all the necessary information.

At curtain up the hall was nearly full, an excellent audience for the first Friday of a panto....well done to the PR team!

After an amusing and informative introduction by Vic the curtains parted to reveal the wicked Abanazar berating the audience frightening the children and filling the hall with a chorus of boos and hisses. All as it should be in the lunacy of a traditional English pantomime! Sophie Atkinson's baddie got the panto off to a great start. She has stage presence and clearly knows how to hold an audience.

Chiltern Academy provided the dancers and kept up their exceptionally high standard, full of colour, wonderful dance routines and smiles!

Louis Graham was the perfect cheeky Wishee Washee, plenty of banter with the audience he showed a stage maturity that belied his age. It is very gratifying to watch such a talent develop over the years with PTC.

Clover Brown is a seasoned professional and her professionalism shone through as she strode through the pantomime as our hero Aladdin. She has a good clear voice and soon had the audience on her side cheering her every move.

The Widow Twankey is an essential part of Aladdin and it takes a really top class stage presence to carry it off. Jos Van Oostrum's performance in the part shone like a beacon from his first entrance to his last exit. He held the audience in the palm of his hand and played them like an orchestra. I understand that this is the first time he has been on stage which makes his performance all the more extraordinary. He has a great future on stage if he wants to take it up.

The entrance of a giant panda on stage delighted the children and adults alike, a lovely touch.

All the cast played their parts well and judging from the applause at the end the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Panto would be rather dull without the music so a big well done to Liz Kirton, ably assisted by Rob Aldington for providing the live version...always so much better than canned music...and to the much missed Michael Ward-Allen for three of the songs.

Lighting and sound were up to PTC usually high standard as we have come to expect from the estimable Andy Turner, despite the failure of an essential component half way through. This did not detract from the performance in any way as the cast handled it with skill and maturity.

Costumes were excellent, and PTC are lucky to have Jane, Judith and Sandie whose skills with the needle would rival the best Saville Row has to offer!

I did think that a little more scenery would have been productive as there were some scenes with just a black curtain backdrop thus relying on onstage props to provide the right feel for the scene....lacked a little authenticity.

I sat to the side of the hall and could see through the side curtains and actors waiting to come on stage on occasions...maybe something for future productions.

Rob Aldington's directions in general were top class and kept the panto moving at a good pace.

Overall an excellent production clearly well received by the audiences and enjoyed by all who took part.....well done!

*Archie Wilson*

**“An actor must never be afraid to  
make a fool of himself.”**

*Harvey Cocks*

The great Sir Laurence Olivier tells of the time he was onstage when the phone rings. He knows he is expected to answer it but as soon as he picks it up he forgets what he is supposed to say....with great presence of mind he turned to a fellow actor and said "It's for you"

## ANNIE

Rob Aldington has proposed performing Annie the musical in October. This is still under review by the committee but if he is able to cast it then it is likely to go ahead. If you are interested in taking part please contact him here:

[rwja63@gmail.com](mailto:rwja63@gmail.com)

And finally a huge thank you and a very well done to all who took part in Aladdin in whatever capacity. It was a huge success and looks to have earned the club something in the region of £1500.

**Movies will make you famous; television will make you rich; but theatre will make you good.**

*Terence Mann*

That's it folks! See you at the club night!!



*from Archie Wilson*