



DAODS
Newsletter

June
2021

Welcome to DAODS' new newsletter,

The past year has been a tough one, and for many of us, not being able to spend time with our friends and family at DAODS has been particularly tough. As we start to see light at the end of the tunnel however, we feel it is time to start up the DAODS Newsletter again. This is a chance to keep up to date with everything that the society is doing, everything going on in our friends' lives, and hopefully some light entertainment to go along with it all!

We are hoping to build this over time, so if anyone has any ideas or suggestions, or would like something announced in the newsletter, then please let Alex Freeman know and we will try our best to get round to everything.

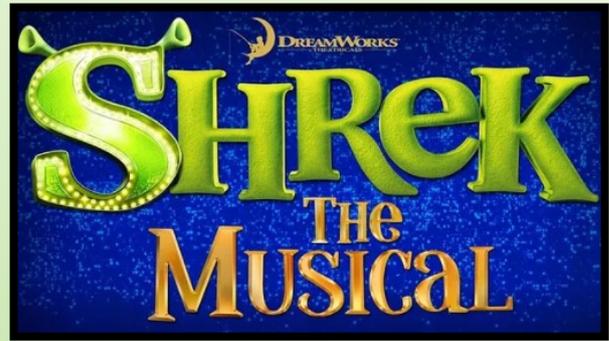
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Contents

- ◆ Intro—Page 1
- ◆ News—Page 2
- ◆ Birthdays—Page 2
- ◆ In Memory—Page 3
- ◆ Fast Five—Page 4
- ◆ Games—Page 4

News...

We are very much looking forward to the rescheduled DAODS Dinner Dance (and Sam is looking forward to getting the decorations out from under her feet...) Keep an eye out for the new dates in your emails.



We are so pleased to announce the return of rehearsal for our next production, Shrek. Tickets are also on sale from The Orchard Theatre website, so please start spreading the word. Attendance at rehearsals is going to be so important for this show, so please make every effort to attend as many as possible.

There will be some principal rehearsals starting next week, and the chorus rehearsals will start from 21st June. Rehearsal schedule will follow soon!

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all of our members born in June!

Laura Gillham

9th June

Tracy Knapp

22nd June

Rebecca Bartlett

10th June

Ellesse Cooke

21st June

Rebecca Thornhill

18th June

Patrick Walsh

30th June

Sean McDermott

15th June

George Harvey

10th June

In memory

It has been a sad month, as we have had to say goodbye to two longstanding members of the society, Roy Poole and Brian Smith.



Roy was very much an active member of our Society. From singing and dancing in several productions to stage managing and supporting the Society in many ways.

His profession was an engineer, but he was also a great carpenter and built many sets at the hall, including Bussy Malone for our youth group, Calendar Girls, Whistle Down the Wind, Sweeney and many more. A favourite role for Roy was being Audrey the plant in Little Shop of Horrors.

Roy acted as Stage Manager at the Orchard Theatre for several of our productions. For *Witches of Eastwick*, he even attended a pyrotechnics course so he could take charge of blowing up the church. His efficient, kind and precise ways made the productions he managed just great to be a part of. If there was any kind of problem, be sure he could fix it.

During the building of Heathfields Hall Roy was never far away from the action and could always be relied upon to turn up and get stuck in.

If there was a job or repair to do at our Hall Roy would be always ready to help out. Look up in the Hall and you see the lighting bars, installing these was just some of Roy's work. The tiered seating that we use in the hall was designed by Roy. Last November we found our external fire doors were in need of replacement, "I don't mind having a go at that" he said, and as usual he did a great job.

Brian was very much part of our techie team and built some fantastic sets and props for us including the Train in the opening of *Mack and Mabel*, the staging and the round steps for *Hot Mikado* and just recently the suitcase bar for *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He also helped with the construction of the chair and trapdoor for *Sweeney*, just to name a few!

He was also very much part of the team who built our stage and then worked backstage for many productions. His Daughter Jo Newman was also a member of our Society for a long time. Both Brian and his wife Sheila were patrons and supporters of Daods.



Fast Five

A quick five questions with a DAODS member. This month, our host of "Meet A Member", Meg Walsh.



What is your favourite musical?

I am a huge fan of Les Miserables. It is such an exciting show!

What is your favourite song from a show?

Send In The Clowns from A Little Night music holds a special place in my heart.

What part would you love to play?

Elle Woods in Legally Blonde would be a dream role.

What's your funniest on stage moment?

Panto with Keely Brown, Alex Tyrrell and John Woodley. They'll know what scene—"IN THE CELLAR!"

What show would you love to see DAODS do?

Godspell. It reminds me of my Grandad and the harmonies are lovely.

Games

A little quiz, just for fun. First person to send me all the correct answers gets a shout out next issue!

1. Lionel Bart is most famous for writing which West End hit?
2. Imelda Staunton is due to copy DAODS by appearing in which upcoming West End revival?
3. What was the name of the first musical written by the partnership of Rogers and Hammerstein?
4. Which show was turned into a successful film starring Meryl Streep and Amanda Seyfreid?
5. Launched in 1969, which controversial show is the longest running review in Broadway history.
6. What connects these five shows?