

LIMELIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
GRIMM PLAYERS



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Affiliated to
Maidenhead Theatre Council
and Maidenhead Arts Council

January 2011

Well, are you all recovered from the Christmas excesses, bored with tv (and the relatives), sick of the foul weather, and now looking for a surfeit of real entertainment

First on offer from the Grimms to bring a little colour into your lives –

BRIGADOON

Tuesday 15 to Sunday 20 February 2011 – The Desborough Suite

Tuesday 15 to Friday 18 February at 7.45 pm

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 February at 2.30 pm

Box Office 01628 624798

No, we haven't made a mistake – 2 matinées but no Saturday evening performance – we're trying an experiment as some of you seem reluctant to leave your television screens on a Saturday evening to venture into Maidenhead. And to enhance your experience, we've managed to arrange an exclusive "meal-deal" arrangement with a local Italian restaurant, Forenza, which is only a very short walk from the theatre. For orders to be taken between 5.30 and 7.00 pm (evening performances) and 12.00 to 1.00 pm (matinées) there will be a pre-theatre dinner/lunch menu at a reduced price for *Brigadoon* ticket holders (please present your ticket(s) on arrival).

Everyone's been working their socks off, particularly our director, Laura-Anne, and rehearsals have been going on apace (we're lucky she gave us Christmas off). The set is under construction, the cast are being measured for their costumes, our lighting and sound experts will be attending rehearsals so they're prepared for whatever demand is thrown at them ... and we're sure the cast are aiming for word/note perfection – eventually! And the dancing – be prepared for the sword dance! And the bagpipes – be prepared! An evening/afternoon of enchantment is promised so please come and join in the fun, as you're really rather important

*(Once again we are very grateful to the Prince Philip Trust
for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for supporting this production.)*



Forenza
Ristorante Italiano

1 Bridge Street, Maidenhead SL6 8LR - 01628 633233 - info@forenza.co.uk
To view pre-theatre menu - <http://www.forenza.co.uk>

The second offering for your ongoing pleasure during the year will be –

GRIMMBOURNE 2011

**Tuesday 12 to Thursday 14 July – Taplow Court
TRIAL BY JURY & THE WHITE HORSE INN
Box Office 01628 624798**

We are so grateful to SGI-UK for the opportunity again to perform in their marvellous Ikeda New Century Hall, set in such lovely surroundings. *Trial By Jury* is a little gem by Gilbert & Sullivan – the tale of a breach-of-promise court action. As MD for *Trial By Jury* we'll be welcoming William Branston to his first Grimms' baton-waving experience: you'll remember he sang Frederick in our last July's *Pirates of Penzance*.

The White Horse Inn is another Grimms' resurrection of quality, 'big company' musicals from the past: it offers a variety of soloists' roles as well as a wealth of interesting choral singing – one description mentions "six-part chorus work"(!) but we'll leave that to the experienced judgment of its MD, David Hazeldine.

The charity we shall be supporting is Target Ovarian Cancer which was set up by Joanna Barker in memory of her mother and sister, especially as very sadly we have recently lost a long-time and much-valued Grimmie, Chris Clark, to that disease. To continue on the sad note, John Sheppard also died recently; you'll remember his idiosyncratic Samuel in *Pirates*, and who can forget his show-stealing appearance in *Salad Days* as the hypocritical MP, Augustine Williams? And we lost another of our faithful Grimmbourners, Valerie Lummis, in the summer. We shall be celebrating their friendship and their contribution to enriching the local amdram scene.

Details of everything (dates of rehearsal start, auditions etc) will be on our website after *Brigadoon* is over (and in its programme). For more information for prospective singers, please contact Jill jlucking@tiscali.co.uk or David djbh@btinternet.com



Our final entertaining offering will be a double bill in the autumn in a different vein from Graham Barker's riotously satirical *Tomfoolery* last October –

LICENCE WITHDRAWN AND COX & BOX

**Tues 27 September to Saturday 1 October
The Studio, Norden Farm
Box Office 01628 624798**

Licence Withdrawn is a further short play (with extracts from Sullivan's music), based on an event in G&S history, written by Tony Joseph who wrote "*Don't Call Me Schwenck*", our successful production in 2009. *Cox & Box* is another gem by Sullivan and librettist Francis Burnand – often used as a curtain raiser before the shorter G&S operas. More information about this in newsletters later in the year.

So, we promised you entertainment in 2011 ... do hope we'll have the pleasure of your company at our productions, and best wishes for a Happy New Year!