Coming soon to the streets of old Balcombe the Victory Players bring you

Aladdin

17th to 20th November 2010

If you wish to find out further details you can email Aladdin himself at:
Aladdin@victoryplayers.co.uk

The Victory Players in association with Balcombe Social club present Oscar Wilde’s

The Importance of Being Earnest

Programme

Wednesday 14th April to Saturday 17th April 2010 7.30pm
The Victory Players
in association with Balcombe Social Club
present an amateur production of

The Importance of Being Earnest
A play by Oscar Wilde

Cast List
In order of appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lane, Valet to Mr Moncrieff</td>
<td>Rodney Saunders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Algernon Moncrieff</td>
<td>Rhys Whiteside</td>
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<td>Mr John Worthing, J.P.</td>
<td>Greg Field</td>
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<td>Lady Augusta Bracknell</td>
<td>Shirley Michel</td>
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<td>The Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax</td>
<td>Helen Savage-Butcher</td>
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<td>Miss Prism, Governess</td>
<td>Nicola Preston Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Cecily Cardew</td>
<td>Hannah Tullett</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Reverend Dr Chasuble</td>
<td>Douglas Wragg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriman, Butler at Woolton Manor</td>
<td>John Bunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Housemaid at Woolton Manor</td>
<td>Helen Sweetman</td>
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be impossible to thank everyone by name, let me say that as a newcomer I have been heartily welcomed to the company, and I thank everyone who has had even the remotest involvement in the play since November. Everyone has a role to play in the group, and they all know it well.

To the people I need to thank by name:

Martin Allitt; for being the producer to a director who knew no one in the Village, and for putting up with my "panic attacks", Isabel Gordon; for all the many things she's been responsible for or involved in with this show, whether that be box office, costumes, props, prompting, you name it, Jacqueline Wiginton; who seemed to know what props I needed before we discussed it, or had even met, Douglas Wragg; who must be equally praised for the appearance of Lady Bracknell, and others, in this show (he'll know what I mean!), and Shirley Michell; for giving me her spare bed when I was stranded in Balcombe during the heavy snow!

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to thank and praise a great cast, who have performed and rehearsed with energy and passion refreshing to watch and direct. I thank you for coming, and I trust you will enjoy watching this show as much I have enjoyed being part of it.

We hope to see you all supporting the Victory Players' next show, Aladdin. To paraphrase Lady Bracknell, to watch this show would be fortunate, but to then miss the next would seem like carelessness!

Ronnie Whitehead
Director's Note

I first became aware of the Victory Players last year when I happened to be enjoying a piece of the delicious home-made Battenberg in the Balcombe Tea Rooms, and there was a My Fair Lady poster on display. The performance was only two weeks away, and my plan was to join the group to see if there was anything I could do to help backstage. That same Sunday afternoon, I remember standing at the Victory Hall door, listening to the cast rehearsing on the other side, not quite having the courage to go in. Hence, I came along to see the show on the Wednesday instead, and was impressed to see two things; the scope of talent on display from the Village, plus the pull with which this comparatively new group seemed to have on other talent from other local societies. Shortly afterwards, I was in contact with Douglas, and the rest, as they say, is history!

Having stepped into the abyss that is the role of Director, what show could I possibly direct? The Importance of Being Earnest, or "TIOBE", as it has affectionately become known in emails since last November, was a show I'd been dying to be involved in for years. I never imagined I'd be directing it at my first attempt.

The play itself is nothing but a satirical masterpiece. First performed in 1895, at the St. James Theatre, London, the text manages to subtly poke fun at Victorian social hypocrisies. It is a farce in all but name, using the ruse of the main characters maintaining fictitious identities whilst not employing the modern "in-one-door-and-out-the-other" style we all expect a farce to present. The challenge in this performance has not been to just master the lengthy speeches, but to research and understand the multi-level characters which Wilde so expertly created.

There are several people that I must thank. Firstly, as it would

The Importance of Being Earnest

Scene List

Act One
Late Afternoon, the Rooms of Mr Algernon Moncrieff, Half Moon Street, London, W

Interval of 20 Minutes

Act Two
Early Afternoon, the Garden at the Manor House, Woolton, Hertfordshire

Interval of 15 Minutes

Act Three
Late Afternoon, the Drawing Room at the Manor House, Woolton, Hertfordshire
Forest Players Present

KinderrTransport

By Diane Samuels

Tuesday 20th April

to

Saturday 24th April

at Freshfield Hall, Forest Row

at 7.45 pm. (Doors & Bar open from 7.15 pm.)

Box office: Foresta Travel, Forest Row Tel: 01342 822607
& Bullfrog Music, East Grinstead Tel: 01342 315602

Tickets £7.50

Wednesday Night only - Senior Citizens & Students up to 18 concession £6

Charity Night

Tuesday 20th April in aid of the Holy Trinity Church Clock Appeal

For tickets please ring Tel: 01342 823070

Production Team

Director
Ronnie Whitehead
Stage Manager
Martin Allitt
Lighting
Keith Major & Brian Couchy
Set Construction
John Randell, Richard Harris
Wardrobe
Manuela Warburton, Isabel Gordon,
Props
Isabel Gordon & Jacqueline Wiginton
Make-up
Penny Jennings & Christine Needham
Prompt
Isabel Gordon
Front of House Manager
Robin Williamson
Front of House Team
Nancy & Botts Bottomley,
Maria & Steven Daultrey, Alan Dearden, Sue Etheridge,
Margaret Hartman, Norman Howard, Martin Nee, Julie &
Chris Walker, Chloe Warburton,
Priscilla Williamson

Publicity
Martin Allitt, Isabel Gordon
Poster Design
Carol Rogerson
Box Office Manager
Isabel Gordon
Producer
Martin Allitt

If you are interested in joining The Victory Players please contact us on
info@victoryplayers.co.uk