Sleeping Beauty - Another Panto Success!
The Show Must Go On - Genesis begin rehearsals for their Summer Musical!
Triple Threat! - Op Soc, Civics and Genesis all nominated by NODA SW!
The Civics doubled header takes shape
More WAA News…

@wellyarts

Wellington Arts Centre
We must be heading into February. The signs are obvious! I’m suffering with the ‘Wellesley Cough’ - 10 days of being locked away with the Panto clan; Susan and I are out at least 3 nights a week at the WAA (excluding meetings); Elvis the cat has left the foot of the bed in favour for the radiator; and finally Cream eggs and Mini eggs are forming most of our impulse buys from Tesco Express.

A great show week from the Panto peeps - lots of new friends made and some great audience responses. Someone commented about mistakes this week - am I alone in thinking that the occasional ‘faux pas’ is actually what most of us remember in the years to come? And as always, it’s about looking forward to the next line, the next act and now the next show. The Civic Players (Wellington Theatre Company) have a doubled header planned for the Arts Centre stage, hot on the heels of their NODA Nomination for Calendar Girls - fully deserved!

The Op Soc machine is getting to full swing rehearsing, with new members present there too for Singin’ In The Rain, while myself, Jaspersan, Spurway and Searle (we sound like a bizarre firm of accountants) ponder what to do with all that water once we’ve plopped it on the Wellesley Stage. Your ideas for water features welcomed….

Plenty on stage from visiting artists, the Quiz and of course our regular events make up a busy spring…

Kevin, Susan and Elvis The Cat!
DEADLINES & CONTACTS

Your next deadline is...

Friday 21st March 2014 - miss it, miss out!

Send your submissions to:

waacry@w-a-a.co.uk

Or for those not interweb connected/bothered:

24 Chaucer Court

East Reach, Taunton, TA1 3FH

And then this ‘phone’ thing was invented - you could always try that:

07540 432394

Other WAA Contacts:

Wellington Pantomime Group
Rob Spurway (Hon. Secretary) 07518 801641 / robspurway95@hotmail.co.uk

Genesis Youth Theatre Group
Susan Green (Hon. Secretary) 07971 660767 / susanjgreen84@gmail.com

Wellington Operatic Society
Monica Spalding (Hon. Secretary) 01823 663597 / msspalding@tiscali.co.uk

The Civic Players
Paul Smith (Chairman) 07931 425471 / paulawsmith@gmail.com

The Critics Club (The WAA Bar)
Brian Green (Chairman) 07966 039826 / bdgreen57@btinternet.com

Spectrum Arts & Crafts
Rosemary Savory (Chairperson) 01823 663386

The WAA Management Committee
Margaret Liddel (Secretary) secretary@w-a-a.co.uk

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AWARDS

The Award season is here again and I’m pleased to say the WAA Operatic Society again features in the lists!

Congratulations to all involved with OLIVER on the following Nominations:

**NODA South-West Award:**
Best Musical Production

**Somerset Fellowship of Drama:**
Best Set
Best Male in a Supporting Role: **Leon Searle**

The NODA Award Dinner is at St Mellion on March 1st (Tickets from Councillor Nick Lawrence) and the SFD Dinner is on March 8th at Somerset County Cricket Club (details from me later)

SINGIN’ IN THE RAIN

Rehearsals have started in earnest under the Direction of Susan Green and are going well. If you still want to be involved in any way please speak to Susan, Mr Kev (Stage Manager) Yvonne Shire, re costumes, Dawn Morton re props or Simon Spalding re production and publicity. Having seen the recent show at Cardiff - you guys are in for a treat! Such a fantastic show full of pace and some original ideas regarding staging!
AUTUMN SHOW 2014:
50 years of BOND will be celebrated in a show devised and directed by John Walker and promises to be another exciting project. Please note that the date of the show WILL BE A WEEK LATER THAN USUAL, **NOVEMBER 11TH – 15TH**
Rehearsals will start in September on Mondays and Thursdays, immediately following the Civic Players production.

TOURING
Our next engagement is for The Friends of the Park on the evening of Saturday March 22nd at The Arts Centre. After much studying of the availability of the Arts Centre over the next few weeks, the Rehearsals are as follows, these being the only free times. (It may be possible to agree a different evening when we meet on the first rehearsal, on condition we can find another venue.)
Sunday February 23rd at 6pm;
Sunday March 9th at 4pm;
Sunday March 16th at 4pm
Run Through on Wednesday March 19th at 9pm (following Genesis)
Please let me know if you would like to take part.

SPRING SHOWS
The Committee has agreed to apply for licences for the following shows:
2015 SOUTH PACIFIC If anyone would like to be considered as Director for this please let us know
2016 SUGAR (SOME LIKE IT HOT) Director Paul Smith. We are very excited about this. If you have ever seen the film or show you will know what a great one it is.
Finally, thank you to everyone who sent me good wishes following my operation - Monica.
MOSCOW DRUG CLUB: 7th February

Acoustic  Gypsy  Tango  Swing

Moscow Drug Club is a curious musical place where certain elements of 1930's Berlin Cabaret, Hot Club de France, Nuevo Tango & Gypsy Campfire meet, have a few to drink and stagger arm in arm into the darkness of some eastern European cobbled street on a mission to find the bar where Django Reinhardt & Tom Waits are having an after hours jam with the local Tziganes.

Combining their original material with songs by the likes of Jaques Brel, Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits & Bertolt Brecht, Moscow Drug Club provide an intoxicating & intimate musical experience.

You are cordially invited to share a wry smile with us as you enter the darkly comic world of Moscow Drug Club…..this way please & mind the stairs!

With…

• Katya Gorrie - Chanteuse & purveyor of sinister lyrical adventures
• Den Ilett ~ Rhythmic & solo guitar administrations
• Mirek Salmon - Accordionistic chordal & melodic offerings
• Andy Crowdy - Providing eccentric bass-end rhapsodies
• Ben Cummings or Jonny Bruce - complimentary trumpet obligatos

“Nothing but praise for your performance, absolutely knock out, great musicianship and very entertaining!!”

“When Moscow Drug Club made their first appearances last year it seemed that they were artfully designed for success”

“Moscow Drug Club played a beautiful set consisting of musical talent beyond technology, beyond fx pedals and amp make, reminding us all of where music came from and what it is about.”

“The best entertainment we have ever had!”

“The music, songs and your voice were amazingly evocative, beautiful and inspiring, such originality just like the band’s name.”

Tickets £9 available in the New Year.

www.moscowdrugclub.com
LET SLEEPING BEAUTIES LIE OR NOT!

By the time you read this it will all be over for another year! Many members of the WAA, family, friends and the public flocked to see the show once again, the committee would like to thank them for their continuing support. A huge well done to all involved in the show. I am unaware of the amount of money we have so far raised for our retiring collection (having been in Cardiff the last five days) however as soon as I know I will let you know. This year’s collection was close to the heart of the group, “Friends of the Somerset Young Careers Project” seeks to give rest bite to young careers who have to care for family members in their spare time. We hope to raise as much money as we can to allow more young people to have the same opportunities as someone who isn’t in their position.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

You may or may not be aware that next year’s production is going to be “Scrooge - the Pantomime” directed by Colin Marshall. The show will packed with all the usual pantomime ingredients music, jokes and slapstick with the added extra of some fantastic special effects!

Interested? Don’t be afraid to contact me for more information. The show will run from 21\textsuperscript{st} January – 25\textsuperscript{th} January 2015.

Looking even further into the crystal ball… If you or know someone who
my be interested in directing a Pantomime, being on stage, backstage or want to be part of the production in some capacity. Please contact me with your contact details and your preferred role.

AGM – It’s that time of year again…Oh no it isn’t… Oh yes it is

It only feels like yesterday when I was giving notice of last year’s AGM. This year’s AGM will be held on the 16th April at 7.30pm at the Arts Centre. Your attendance is extremely important as it is your chance to share your views on our progress and suggest any ideas for the future. If you would like to join the committee, please fill in the attached form and hand it to the secretary before 7.30pm on the 16th April.

Rob Spurway

Hon. Secretary

waapanto@outlook.com
PANTO PHOTO MONTAGE

THE 2014 PANTO BAND
Oli, Msr Le Plonk and Skitters look in vain for the plot while Jo does her best Cowgirl impression. Mr Cross is simply dreaming of the next HP moment!

ASM Mr Kev get’s 40 winks during the Saturday triple threat!

Happy Memories for Kiera

Just...odd!

Kirk’s pre show checks!

Ok guys it's men's dressing room tea making time!
ian Jones David Waring Lawrence Hawkins Henry Wright-Fox
Bob will bring tea I'll bring milk who wants to bring something? We all bring our own mugs!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SINGLE SPIES

As mentioned last month we are delighted to be able to say that, following the auditions for our Spring production of Alan Bennett’s award-winning double-bill, we are can announce that it has been cast as follows.

An Englishman Abroad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coral Browne</td>
<td>Monica Spalding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guy Burgess</td>
<td>Paul Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tolya</td>
<td>John Skittrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailor</td>
<td>Peter Meredith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop Assistant</td>
<td>Jack Glanville</td>
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The play will be directed by Colin Marshall

A Question of Attribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sir Anthony Blunt</td>
<td>Richard Protheroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMQ</td>
<td>Mary Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chubb</td>
<td>Jack Glanville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restorer</td>
<td>Mike Leach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin</td>
<td>John Skittrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips</td>
<td>Peter Meredith</td>
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</table>

The play will be directed by Paul Smith
We are very excited to be able to put on these plays and hope that we will provide a great deal of entertainment with both as we take a witty look into the world of espionage, forgery and double-lives!

Tickets are all £8 and will be available from 1 February on 0844 997 9000 and from www.ticketsource.co.uk/wellingtonartscentre and from 1 March from Cloud 9

Performances will take place from Weds 26 – Sat 29 March 2014 at 7.30pm

DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT LIKE SOME WERE FOR ‘CALENDAR GIRLS’ – GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY!

CALENDAR GIRLS REVISITED

Just a quick thank you to Mary Lewis and some of our original Calendar Girls – and a few more ladies who wanted to get in on the act for providing the WAA Christmas Evening with something completely different!

Well done to all of you and thanks to those in the audience for their kind appreciation!

AND WHILE WE ARE ON THE SUBJECT…

We were delighted to be informed that our production of Calendar Girls has been nominated for the Best Comedy Production in the NODA South West Awards – we look forward to finding out if we made it to the winners rostrum!

As ever do keep in touch and to find out any further information, give Paul a call – paulawsmith@gmail.com or 07931 425471
From the company that brought you ‘Calendar Girls’

Wellington Theatre Company - The Civic Players presents

**SINGLE SPIES**

by Alan Bennett

A double bill:
An Englishman Abroad
and
A Question of Attribution

A witty investigation into the world of espionage, forgery and double-lives

Directed by Colin Marshall & Paul Smith

**Wed 26 - Sat 29 March 2014**

Wellington Arts Centre, Eight Acre Lane, Wellington, Somerset at 7.30pm

Box Office:
0844 997 9000 • www.ticketsource.co.uk/wellingtonartscentre

An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WAA PANTOMIME GROUP
which is to be held at the Arts Centre, Eight Acre Lane, Wellington on
Wednesday 16th April 2014 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

1) Apologies for absence
2) Minutes of the 2013 AGM
3) Chairman’s Report
4) Treasurer’s Report
5) Election of Officers

   Chairman: Colin Marshall *
   Vice Chairman: Crispin Buttle *
   Hon Secretary: Rob Spurway *
   Treasurer: Kevin Stratton

Committee Members:

   Fiona Hobday *
   Tony Woollard*
   Emma Vicarage

All of the above posts are open for election — those marked * are willing to stand for re-election.
We would welcome further committee members. All nominations should be handed to the Secretary
before 7.30pm on 16th April.

6) Closing Remarks

   A members’ meeting will follow.

NOMINATION FORM

Position........................................... Nominee’s Name .................................................................

Nominee’s Signature .................................................................

Proposer ........................................ Seconder .................................................................

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8 MARCH 2014
RICHARD & PAUL’S GRAND CHARITY AUCTION IN AID OF BRAINWAVE
@WELLINGTON ARTS CENTRE 7.30PM

Richard Matravers is running the LONDON MARATHON on 13 April and Paul Smith is walking the 100km GRAND UNION CHALLENGE 28/29 June – both are raising money for Brainwave.

*************
Great Auction lots to bid for!
*************
Load of fantastic lots in the silent auction
*************
Entry only £5 including food
*************
Raising money for a good cause!
*************
For more information and to buy tickets contact Paul on: 07931 425471
What a successful and unashamedly Christmas themed show we had last December! Those present, would have have been treated to our now annual rendition of ‘The Twelve Days of Christmas’ - however there was more to the show than this! Hilarious tales of inept wise men trekking across the desert with a present from the ELC; Finding out why it might not be acceptable to replace the baby Jesus with a frozen Turkey; and just what attraction does Ellie Harrison from Countryfile hold for a group of lonely shepherds. .

Fantastic response from the audience who had their part to play in singing some rousing carols. Congratulations and thanks to the committee (especially Susan) for pulling the show together - and a HUGE well done to all the Youth members taking on direction roles for the small scenes!

The Show MUST Go On - Genesis Summer Show 2014
The Story…
Rundown Middle School is in trouble. The Authority (a near-faceless entity) combine with a cruel developer and a corrupt Academy head to foil the school’s final chance at survival. However, a plucky young drama teacher and her class of misfits are there to prove the world wrong and even with the school faxing certain closure - simply, the show MUST go on. Couple that with some madcap teachers and music from Bruno Mars, Pink Floyd and the musical Matilda - you have the next offering from the Youth Theatre that brought you ‘The Herstory of The World’. The show takes place 19th - 21st June at Wellington Arts Centre, full details next edition! Written and Directed by Kevin Stratton with much assistance from the Youth Members!
Congratulations to Genesis!

I may need correcting on this, however, Genesis Youth Theatre are very pleased to announce that they’ve received a nomination from NODA SW: The Councillor’s Cup for Best Youth Production! Well done to all the youth group members, but special thanks and congratulations must go to Bob Higgins who wrote and directed the show! Well done Bob and thanks!

As always we will be busy organising our new intake for Genesis for September 2014 - contact susanjgreen84@gmail.com

NO REASON TO PUT THIS PHOTO IN HERE OTHER THAN - GOT HALF A PAGE LEFT DUE TO A LACK OF SUBMISSIONS SO HERE IS A CAT HOLDING A CAT!

IT AMUSED ME!

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER THE SMALL CAT WAS SURGICALLY REMOVED FROM THE BIG CAT.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 7th February</td>
<td>The darkly comic world of: Moscow Drug Club</td>
<td>Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 15th February</td>
<td>Wellington Acoustic Music club</td>
<td>Arts Centre Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesdays 4th – 18th March</td>
<td>Top Team Quiz (Rounds: 1-3)</td>
<td>Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 15th March</td>
<td>A return visit from: Reg Meuross</td>
<td>Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 26th – Sat 29th March</td>
<td>An Alan Bennett double bill: “Single Spies”</td>
<td>Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesdays 1st – 15th April</td>
<td>Top Team Quiz (Rounds: 4-6)</td>
<td>Arts Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 19th April</td>
<td>Wellington Acoustic Music club</td>
<td>Arts Centre Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 6th – Sat 10th May</td>
<td>Wellington Opsoc presents: “Singin’ in the Rain”</td>
<td>Wellesley Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 17th May</td>
<td>Wellington Acoustic Music club</td>
<td>Arts Centre Bar</td>
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For further information please visit: [www.w-a-a.co.uk](http://www.w-a-a.co.uk)