

STAGEwrite SPOTLIGHT

1920 – 2020

A MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS

Dear all

Hello and welcome to this special edition of StageWrite. I have not communicated as Chair to the whole Society since the committee's decision to postpone all rehearsals and shows.

It seems a long time ago since everything was normal. No, it wasn't normal, our Society was thriving. We had a strong cast for **The Show Must Go On** and rehearsals were going well. We were looking forward to the **Celebration Quiz**. The **VE Day Show** and **Neighbourhood Watch** had both just been cast. A **Murder Mystery** was in its early stages of development, and a pantomime had been discussed.

Cue – Boris Johnson, Centre Stage, Monday 16th March.

I hope everyone is coping and feeling well. For those in self-isolation, I hope you have the support you need. If you are in Hutton Rudby there is a local group set up to help anyone who needs shopping, prescriptions, or just a voice to chat to via phone or text. (01642 706165 10am - 2pm daily or email hrisolationgroup@gmail.com).

This is not how any of us could have imagined our centenary year. For 100 years our Society in some form or other was able to carry on.

Although we cannot carry on physically rehearsing together, we can remain connected until we start again. This was brought home to me on Thursday evening when Sam instigated a Show Must Go On rehearsal via the internet (more on this from Mikey below).

I am heartened every day by the emotional support of the people in my life and hope you feel that way too.

**“Oh brave new world
That has such people in't”**

The Tempest Act 5, Sc 1

Anne.

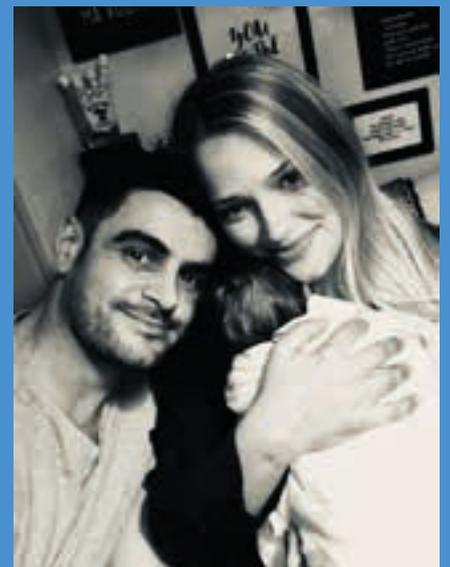
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CONGRATULATIONS GRANNY MAZ

Let's start off with some really good news. We are extremely pleased to be able to report that we have a new Granny in our membership.

Ziggy Edward Shishmanian was born on Sunday 15th March at 16:20 and weighed 7lb exactly. Congratulations first need to be sent to Emma and Phil. We hope you are enjoying the new addition to your family.

And congratulations to Granny Maz. We're sure you'll play your part, just as you always do, with exceptional skill and finesse.





HOLLY'S HELLO

by Holly Wilkinson

I just wanted to reach out to my fellow Dramatic Society members and say a little “hello”. I hope you are all managing to stay well. For those of you that know how I wouldn't mind video calling, talking on the phone, or WhatsApp-ing my fellow members if they would like to do so. For those of you that would like to take up my offer my number is 07799 390732.

I hope you're not all going stir crazy just yet. Lots of love and elbow bumps.

ONLINE MEETS

With everyone trying to adjust to life indoors and having less interactions with people, the call went out that some members of the Society were missing the social element of rehearsals. And so we attempted to hold an online sing-along for Revue members using Zoom.

It allows up to 100 people to connect via a computer or laptop, mobile device or tablet. Any piece of tech really that has a camera, microphone and speakers or headphones. The result wasn't quite as we had anticipated – it turns out that varying internet connection speeds means it's impossible for everyone to be in sync. But we had a good laugh whilst attempting to have a sing!

The social element of joining together and having a chat appears to have been a hit. So much so that we're planning on holding weekly 'meetings' on a Thursday evening. We'll be sending out an “invitation to join” email on Sunday. If you'd like to take part reply to the email and we'll add you to a **Thursday Social** email group.

We'll then email you each week with the details of how to connect to the meeting. As always, if you don't wish to participate there is no pressure, and if you wish to leave the meeting entirely simply unsubscribe and we will do the admin stuff immediately so that you are no longer contacted about the event.

We'll also use Zoom to conduct our committee meetings for the time being whilst we continue to be restricted in meeting in person. Committee members will receive details by email for this. The next committee meeting is due to take place on Thursday 30th April starting at 7 pm.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON – WELL – MAYBE ONE DAY!

by Sam Joyce

When the rehearsals for the show were cancelled I had mixed emotions. I was thankful that I didn't have to worry about risking bringing the virus home to Cameron. But I also felt sad. Everyone has worked so hard with learning dances and it was starting to come together with us doing the whole of Act 1.

I also felt a bit lost. Am Drams, for me, is my get out of being a mummy, a wife, and is about me! I wouldn't have that any more. I fully backed the decision and I know that once this is all over we can get back on track and as the title suggests The Show Must Go On!

AT HOME WITH SAM...

What book are you reading at the moment?

I am currently reading a book called Dead Lock which is number 8 (I think) of the Nick Dixon investigation set, written by Damian Boyd

What are you watching on TV?

Right now? Peppa Pig!!! It changes between various Youtubers, cars with eyes, noses, mouths and ears, and other crazy, seemingly entertaining videos on YouTube. When I do get hold of the controller I choose to watch the reruns of Glee on Netflix (getting ideas)!

What was the last film you saw?

At the cinema – Frozen 2, it was a trip with school at Christmas

On telly – Truth or Dare (very spooky)

What are you missing most at the moment?

Easy – my Am Dram friends. And my parents – we are all on 12 weeks stay at home. Thank goodness for all these video chat facilities! And I miss being able to pop out to the shops for that box of biscuits I forgot to add to the online shop.

Last thing you bought that wasn't a grocery item?

Rubbing alcohol, vegetable glycerine, aloe vera gel – making my own hand sanitizer.

Disney or Pixar? Disney!

Jam or Marmite? Jam

Wine or Gin? Gin (but wine if there isn't any)

Andrew Lloyd Webber or Sondheim? Andrew

Game of Thrones or Strictly? Strictly – I've never actually watched any GOT

Peppa Pig or Peter Rabbit? Personally – Peter Rabbit, however Peppa is ALWAYS on!!!

QUIZ TIME

by Quizmaster Barry Holley

We might not have been able to run the Celebration Quiz, but we have the next best thing! Whilst we intend for the quiz to take place at a later date, we thought we'd tempt you with some teaser questions.

Your answers can be submitted by email to the usual Dramatic Society email address. All correct answers will go into a hat, and one winner will be drawn at random. The prize is a roll of toilet paper!

QUESTION ONE

In 2013 the panto was 'Alice in Wonderland'. Craig Hills and Jack Butler played a pair of very daft lads – what were the names of this silly pair?

QUESTION TWO

In 2011 our panto was King Arthur. Of course there were knights such as Sir Cumference, Sir Charge, and Sir Veillance. But Richard Bradshaw of this parish played a sporting knight who I am pleased to say is still very much alive. Sir Who?

QUESTION THREE

Actors/actresses tend to be superstitious. Here are three examples – which one also makes sense because it has some practical value?

- a. Don't whistle in the theatre
- b. Actors should not leave their shoes on a table
- c. Leave a light on in an empty theatre

Closing date for competition entries: **10pm Friday 10th April 2020**
Winner will be announced in the next edition of Stage Write