



Horfield Theatre Company
www.horfieldtheatre.co.uk

HTC Newsletter

ISSUE 1: JULY 2011

HTC Singers Summer Concert



**Sunday 31st
July
From 3pm
Tickets £5
to include
scone and jam
Plus
Harold's Bar**

After months of hard work, the newly formed HTC Singers are very excited to announce their inaugural concert, with a relaxed, summer affair for ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY on Sunday July 31st 2011.

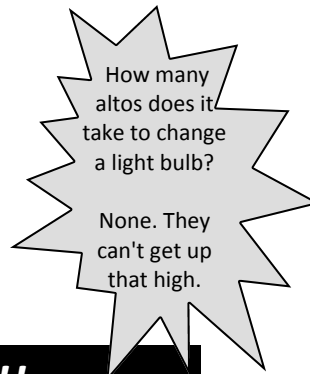
With a wide range of music, including chartbusters, Broadway, Disney, traditional and some new pieces, there is something for everyone to enjoy, all performed in perfect harmony by the choir!

Tickets will soon go on sale for this exciting event, so please put the date in your diary to support this

exciting new venture from Horfield Theatre Company.

There will also be a charity raffle with proceeds being shared between Parkinson's UK and Motor Neuron Disease Association,

If you would like any information about the concert or about HTC Singers, please get in touch with Hannah Gibson at htcsingers@gmail.com.



How many altos does it take to change a light bulb?

None. They can't get up that high.

Audition Notice for Adult Roles!!

**FRANKY
PANKY**

A pantomime by
Graham
Barraclough

**Fun for all the
family**

Performance Dates

26 – 29 October 2011 with
matinee on 29th

Read-through

17th July 2011 2pm – 5pm
**when material will be
distributed to learn for the
audition**

Auditions

24th July 2011 2pm – 5pm
**wear loose, comfortable
clothing and appropriate
footwear for dancing**

Main characters will be expected to sing, dance and act
Chorus will be expected to sing and dance in groups

Rehearsals will be:

*Wednesdays from
3rd August 7.30pm – 10pm*

*Sundays from
7th August 2011 2pm – 5pm*

To take place at:

**Horfield Parish Hall,
Wellington Hill, BS7 8ST**

Expressions of interest to
Dafydd Owen on

**07981 346282 or
dafhtc@blueyonder.co.uk**

**WE NEED YOUR
HELP!!**

on
**Saturday 6th August
AND
Saturday 13th August**

**Can you spare some time
between 11am—5pm?**

WHY?

**To empty and sort the
two HTC lofts at the
Parish Hall which are full
of costumes, props and
all sorts that we might be
able to use in produc-
tions, if only we could
find them!**

**So if you can help in this
task we would be very
grateful, please contact
Teresa Derrick on**

**htc_sec@btinternet.com
or just turn up at the hall.**

THANK YOU

**Congratulations to
all HTC members
involved in Sweet
Charity—well done
on a great show**



Committee Members 2011 - 2012

Phil Hall Chairman	Sam Williamson Vice Chair	Neil Bracken Treasurer	Teresa Derrick Secretary
Anna Daniell Representative	Karan Du-Cann Representative	Hannah Gibson Representative	
Louise Hall Representative	Laura Humphrey Representative	Amanda Mattocks Representative	
Greg Nicholson Representative		Laura Thomas Representative	

Panic Guarantee....!!!

A third of the way through the opening show, very softly, no emotion, no sarcasm, not sure which headset it came from..... This comment is sure to give the Stage Manager a panic attack

".....uh-oh"

The Gaffer — Phil Hall



My interest in amateur drama began in my early teens, as a member of St Saviour's Drama Group.

Over the next dozen or so years, I was involved both as an actor but primarily backstage, eventually ending up as stage electrician. During this time, I met and married Jen and as the church was about to merge with another, the drama group closed.

Moving on to the formation of HTC which Jen and James

were in from the beginning, I gradually got involved backstage and more lately with the bar.

Having served on the Committee for three years, I was looking forward to a rest, but then in a moment of madness, I agreed to become chair. So here we are!!

by Amanda Mattocks



I joined HTC last year because a long standing member encouraged me to... and I've never looked back!

The production she encouraged me to audition for was *Bad Girls—The Musical* and from what I knew, it was

one of the first amateur productions of the musical in the South West. I attended the auditions, very nervous, not at all knowing what to expect.

From the moment I walked into the hall, I received smiles, handshakes and welcomes. This continued as I passed the audition and went into rehearsals.

Since then, I've performed in a musical show and have also joined the committee.

Calling all you novices to veterans in amateur dramatics, I would strongly recommend joining HTC. There is an amazing community feel, a real sense of family and no matter how much experience you have, everyone encourages you to do more. I've made true friends here, have grown in confidence and challenge myself to do the most unthinkable things (like singing a solo) and it's been less than a year since I joined!!

It's a remarkable company.

Definition of Hands...

Appendages at the end of the arms used for manipulating one's environment, except on a stage, where they grow six times their normal size and either dangle uselessly, fidget nervously, or try to hide in your pockets

My most ever embarrassing moment

10 years ago, one of my bosses kindly gave me a lift to a colleague's house in Somerset that we both had to visit. I had worn a very long green silk skirt that had 'Velcro' on each side of the waistband to keep it on.

During the long drive, one of the Velcro strips must have come undone, as on stepping out of the car on arrival, it started to slip on one side. I was a little annoyed because this particular side of the skirt had kept coming loose, so as I stepped out of the car, I closed the car door with one hand, whilst testily pulling the Velcro strap which had loosened, with the other hand. Suddenly, my skirt flew off and away from me and landed in the middle of the road!

I was stood there wearing just a blouse, an unflattering thong and a pair of boots!! What I had not realised was

that 'both' of the Velcro straps, either side of the waistband had come undone!!

It looked like I had got out of the car, waited for the Boss to get out, and pulled my skirt off and said 'taarraa...look at me in my pants'!....!!! I was completely mortified.

Not only had my skirt landed a few feet away from me on the road, the very 'unflattering' back view of me was facing a very surprised old couple in their cottage garden. I immediately fell to the floor with a shriek and tried to crawl over to my skirt to cover myself up. Meanwhile the boss looked at me in absolute horror, and his whole face looked like it would explode in embarrassment, then, within moments he was leaning over the garden wall gasping, half in horror and half with laughter.....

I thought he was going to have a heart attack!

At this point the colleague we were visiting came out of his house and up to his garden gate. He was met with the scene of me running past him and into his house, with my skirt wrapped in front of me howling in horror, as the boss clung to the garden wall...

Goodness knows what he initially thought had happened.

It still makes me cringe to this day when I think about it.

But at least the boss is decent enough never to mention it... And yes, he is *still* my boss to this day!!



Can you work out who was in that green skirt for such a very short time?



Then, in **October 2012**, we can look forward to '**Calendar Girls**' which is being released with 50% of the fee being donated to charity!

This play has been released for amateur production for just *one year only*, starting September 2012 and will be withdrawn from amateur release in August 2013. We will therefore be amongst the first groups to be allowed to perform this West End hit and are therefore very privileged to be accepted as one of the few groups to be allowed to perform this excellent piece.



"After finishing University, I moved to Bristol and, keen to carry on with musical theatre, a quick Google search brought me to Horfield Theatre.

After five years, many of my closest friendships have been made at HTC (and friends I made elsewhere were soon 'encouraged' to come along and loved it too). I've tried to give something back to the group along the way; as well as standing on the Committee, I've organised theatre trips, branched out into 'directing' (loose use of the title) with a showcase performance this Spring and most recently have established a new venture for Horfield, HTC Singers.

Despite relocating to London later this year, I hope to carry on helping out at Horfield and know I'll stay in touch with the wonderful people I've met along the way!"

Hannah Gibson

And looking forward... by Bob Derrick



I didn't quite realise just how difficult it was to read and select a play for production.

Samuel French produce a thick catalogue of plays and musicals and if I scanned through this once, I must have read it a dozen times. I considered the make-up of cast, the possible staging, and most of all, what enjoyment the cast and crew can get out of it!

Of course I am very lucky as I'm not on my own, I have my partner in crime, Judith Claypoole, to bounce ideas off and who made suggestions for suitable projects.

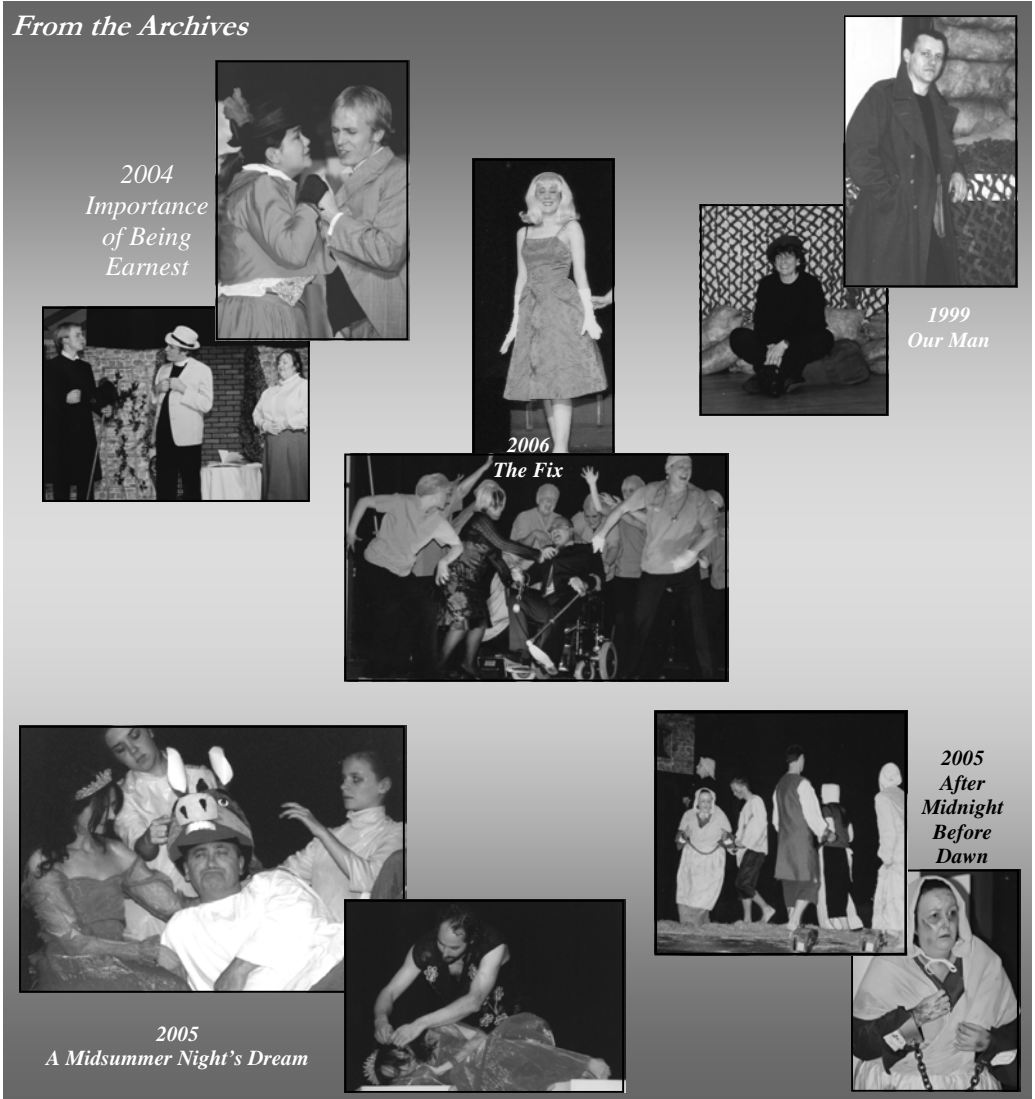
After what seems like an ice age of trawling, we think we have pinned down a suitable vehicle for our **February 2012** production... '**Confusions**' by Alan Ayckbourn. This is a set of interlinked playlets, which give us an opportunity to create very different settings and some exciting staging opportunities. There are plenty of dark comedy moments in the Ayckbourn trademark style and is guaranteed to be a crowd pleaser.

HORFIELD THEATRE COMPANY

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Wellington Hill
Horfield
Bristol
BS7 8ST

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If you have any news, production information you would like to share, jokes, or perhaps memories, please send them to htc_sec@btinternet.com



HTC

In September 1995 around 80 people from the Horfield area began work on a 'one off' production of the hit 70s musical, 'Godspell'. In February 1996 Horfield Parish Productions' cast of 27 performed to packed houses and received sparkling reviews.

Following an invitation from the Bishop of Bristol, the group gave its final performance of 'Godspell' at Bristol Cathedral in September 1996. However, high levels of energy and commitment remained with many members of the original cast and production team.

**Thus
Horfield Theatre Company
was formed**

The Theatre Company was formally launched in December 1996, when we performed a selection of song,

dance, comedy and drama. Since this time we have gone from strength to strength. In line with our constitution, we delight in providing our membership opportunities to develop their performing talents and backstage skills. More importantly, we are about enjoying drama.

We aim to stage at least one major production every year and have already successfully performed a variety of musicals and plays. Our productions have included 'Fiddler on the Roof'; 'Macbeth'; 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'; 'Season's Greetings'; 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'; 'The Pajama Game'; 'Importance of Being Earnest'; 'Rumours'; 'Bad Girls - The Musical' and many others.

In addition, we aim to stage regular entertainment and our membership has enjoyed variety shows, youth productions, poetry readings, open

air Shakespeare, 'Murder Mystery' evenings, have entered the Avon One-Act Drama Festival, including 'First Class Lives', which was written by the cast and very favourably received.

Although our primary aim is to provide accessible drama and entertainment for our supporters in the Horfield area, we have completed two very successful runs at the Alma Tavern. We also performed the play 'Father and Son, Son and Father' in Wells Cathedral and at the Henbury Festival. In October 2010, the group successfully presented 'Bad Girls - the Musical' at the Olympus Theatre, Filton.

We are delighted that each production introduces new members to our Company.

If you would like to direct or have ideas for future productions, please speak to a member of the committee.

To act is human, to tech is divine.

Without lights, it would just be radio.



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