

Rustington Players

February 2024 Newsletter

Blood Brothers (Play Version)

Wow, what a run that was! We had some great reactions from the audiences even giving the cast a standing ovation!

The play has been very well received and with plenty of feedback on the socials. Well done everyone involved.



NODA have published their review by **Keith Smithers**:

I first saw "Blood Brothers", the musical early in the 1990's. Since then, it has been on my list of top favourite shows. This production was the first time that I had seen the original play version of this inspired Willy Russell story. Apart from the alternative ending, the dialogue and plot were very similar to the script that I have come to recognise. I consider that the final scene with the death of the two brothers was a dramatic high as the curtains closed slowly and solemnly to bring the action to a gripping ending.

The story Narrator (Jody Bull) was the sombre person who led us convincingly from the beginning, through the superstitions of Mrs Johnston and on to the appalling consequences of her connivance with Mrs Lyons whose desperate desire was to have a child. The two ladies, abandoned and happy-go-lucky Mrs Johnstone (Veryan Jennings) and the calculating and persuasive Mrs Lyons (Natasha Mills) were like chalk and cheese, very well chosen for their acting abilities as the two mothers. The two boys were well cast for their roles of Mickey (Craig Parker) and Eddie (Jay Griffiths). They had the difficult but accomplished job of playing from seven years old (nearly eight!) to adults in their late twenties or early thirties. They had the energy of the young children who could not sit still and were continually rushing around playing games and as the story continued Mickey's depression and uneventful existence and Eddie's privileged life were again portrayed effectively. The two mothers and the two children acted out most of the action of the story and they were very ably complemented by four others - their parts were Linda (Lucy Drive), and cameo characters of Milkman (Gordon Keys), WPC (Claire Mitchell) and Kid (Dominic Webster). The Liverpool accents required by some of the actors were maintained solidly throughout the performance.

For a comparatively small stage, this company always come up with a well designed set. This production was no different. One side of the stage was the Johnston's house and on the other side, the Lyons' room. In front was an extension representing the open fields - was cleverly done. Lighting and sound were executed with expertise. Congratulations to all involved with this play - director, actors, pianist, backstage and production team.

Christmas Gathering

Massive thanks go to Jenny and Rob for hosting us at their home for Christmas. We all had a good drink and chat and brought food for all to enjoy.

Vic Moss



It is with great sadness we share the news that a former member of Rustington Players, Vic Moss died on Friday 12th January. Vic had been unwell for some time.

For those of us who knew and acted with him, he shall be remembered as a gentle giant with a great sense of humour and lots of laughter.

Our love and sympathy go to Sue and his family.

Funeral Details: Thursday 8th February at 1pm Worthing Crematorium (Kingswood Chapel).

March Production

The rehearsals are going well for David Tristram's **Going Green** and it looks like it will be a fun production! Jane Vrettos and the cast are having a great time with this comedy.



Checkout the poster with all the booking details at the end of the newsletter. Tickets on sale now www.ticketsource.co.uk/rustingtonplayers or via the phone with no booking fee **07546 306438**

Audition Notice! A Fete Worse Than Death



There will be a partial read through followed by an audition on **Monday 12th February 7.30pm at the John de Bohun Room**, Woodlands Centre, Rustington. If any call-backs are required these will be held on Wednesday 14th February 7.30pm at the same venue. 3 females and 4 males form the cast.

Rehearsals are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 19th March 2024 7.30–10pm

Performance dates: Wednesday 12th – Saturday 15th June 2024 at 7.30pm

Synopsis

The action takes place over a couple of hours in the Country Produce tent of the Thornton Village Fete. Ray Martin, an actor, known for his TV character Inspector Brady, has been invited to open the Thornton village fete. Little does he know that ambition, infidelity and marrow envy will lead to murder, and he will be left to solve the murder without a script!! For further details go straight to our auditions page on the website for more information www.rustingtonplayers.org.uk

Jam and Jerusalem

We also need a good number (not hundreds!) of jam jars as props for ***A Fete Worse Than Death***. We'll also need bunting to decorate the set and around the hall. If you are able to help, please contact us on info@rustingtonplayers.org.uk, so we can muster the troops and plan what we want and when. Thank you.

Upcoming Socials

Keep your eyes peeled for this year's socials. We have already booked those wanting to attend Walberton Players musical comedy 'Nonsense' and there will be more to come throughout the year, including a Murder Mystery & Supper on April 27th.

Raffle Prizes

We are currently sourcing raffle prizes in advance for next month's production and would be very grateful for donations of unwanted items including biscuits, chocolates, wine, cuddly toys, novelty items, jigsaws, gift sets, etc, etc!

These are needed asap as we have to plan ahead.

If anyone has something they are willing to donate (no matter how large or small) please get in touch with Ros at ros.maule@outlook.com or mobile **07933 255845** who will happily arrange to collect from you.

Thank You

New Stage Lights



The committee have bought a new pair of lights that will offer much more scope to our productions. These are a 'moving-head' spotlight that can be placed pretty much anywhere we want, within it's range. It has seven colours and gobos (cut shapes) it can use and can be programmed into our light desk! They are portable so could be taken with us to other socials or events as they have their own built-in light show.

Light and Sound Technicians

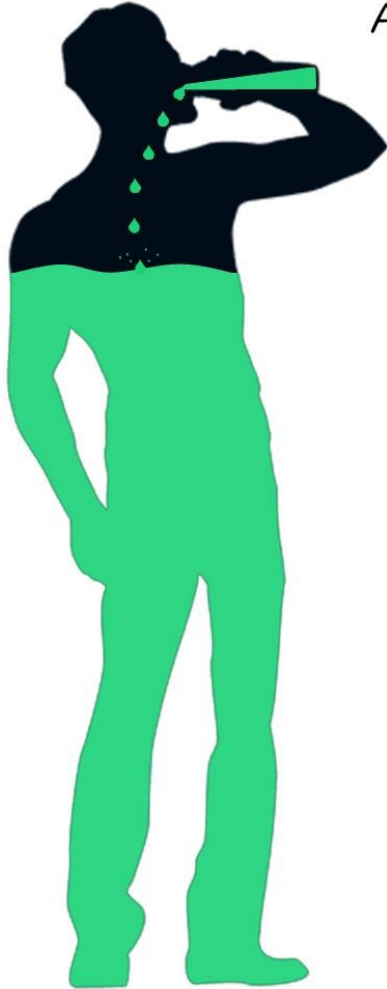
Do we have any budding techies who would be interested in joining us to run the sound and lights at our productions? You'll be able to use new tech like the lights mentioned above. Contact the committee if you're interested or know someone who might be. For further information email us on info@rustingtonplayers.org.uk

First Aiders

About a dozen of us attended a first aid course so that if in the event of an emergency at any of the shows or gatherings, we'll be able to give prompt treatment to anyone requiring it. You'll be in safe hands.

Going Green Poster on the next page.

Rustington Players present



A witty, current tragic comedy
by

David Tristram

Going Green

Directed by
Jane Vrettos



Weds 13th - Sat 16th March 2024

@19.45, Doors & Bar open at 19.00.

Woodlands Centre, Rustington, BN16 3HB

www.ticketsource.co.uk/rustingtonplayers

or call 07546 306438 Also available on the door. Tickets £12

This amateur production of 'Going Green' is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk.

Registered Charity Number 1173735