

Woking Community Play Association

registered charity number: 1010788

January 2010 Newsletter



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TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

The Vision is a stunning community play. Music and song, action and lights, props and costumes and a huge cast will all come together to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Ockenden Venture and Ockenden International, which has helped to look after and educate thousands of refugees from Poland, from Tibet, from Vietnam and a host of other countries.



Performances of The Vision will be held on:

April: Tue 27, Thur 29, Fri 30

May: Sat 1*, Sun 2, Tue 4, Thur 6, Fri 7, Sat 8

* includes a matinee performance

All performances start at 7:30pm except the matinee performance (2:30pm), and are held at Winston Churchill School, Hermitage Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 8TL.



THE
AMBASSADORS
WOKING

For ticket bookings, telephone:

0844 871 7627

Mon – Sat 9am – 10pm

Sun 10am – 8pm

or book online at:

www.ambassadortickets.com/woking

Wanted Actors Wanted Actor

It's not too late to get involved! Rehearsals have been going really well but we still need more actors, male and female, young and old, experienced or with no experience at all, from all sections of the community.

Impressive Start

After a rocky start to rehearsals due to the snow and people being ill I'm really impressed with the work we have got done. The scenes we have rehearsed are really coming together and it's great to hear the music played with them thanks to Anna and Nick attending with their new addition, Imogen. The show is starting to come alive already and I'm really happy with the progress we are making and the great cast we have.

Emily-Frances Thorp, Stage Manager

Props Workshops

We are currently working with schools throughout Woking providing free workshops in a variety of different skills. We have had great success and must say a particular big thank you to Woking High School for letting us take over an art room for the day.

So far we have completed basic mask making, cardboard structures and fabric printing. We hope to offer silk painting, embroidery, mirror embellishment, pattern cutting and much more. If you would like us to visit a school near you, please contact Ele Slade via enquiries@thevision.org.uk and we shall book you in on a first come first served basis.

If you are not a school and would like to be involved and are free for a few hours or even half an hour we will be holding workshops in The Vision Information Pod, Wolsey Walk, on Saturdays starting from 16 January. We will change the topics every week and post the up and coming subject on the website and in the shop window. We would like to see you all down there, absolutely no previous experience required and everything made will be used in the play.

Sharon Davey, Designer/Large Scale Props Maker



LOTTERY FUNDED





From the Chair

Happy New Year from the Woking Community Play Association and the team from *The Vision* – Woking's biggest ever community play.

Emily had a rotten Christmas spending it in hospital but we are delighted she is fully recovered and back with us.

A new year and a new play and less than four months to go. Workshops, rehearsals, publicity, running the Pod, helping with the finances, technical support and soon selling tickets – there are many ways to be involved and we hope you feel inspired to take an active part. Please don't wait to be approached but get in touch with Suzie now!

We held the Woking Community Play Association's AGM on a very snowy day and it was no surprise that few could get to it. We agreed to introduce a membership charge of £5 a year (£4 concessionary). This will clarify who is a member and who can vote. If you don't want to pay you will still be very welcome to take part in any plays we put on.

To enable all who couldn't get to the AGM to have a say we agreed to hold an Extra General Meeting in early June when we can congratulate ourselves on how well the play went and consider where we want to go next. You will have an opportunity then to stand for the committee and contribute your ideas (more on this at a later date).

Keith Scott, Chair

'We're delighted to be supporting the retelling of this fascinating story. At the Arts Council, we believe that taking part in the arts can bring a sense of understanding and shared experience to communities and that's why I hope many will take up the opportunity to be involved in this inspiring play.'

Jenny Roberts, Arts Council England, South East

Costume Workshops

I will be running workshops in schools to make bits and pieces of costumes and be visiting places that we can hire, borrow and buy costumes from. I'll also be sorting through fabrics that have been donated to *The Vision* and will eventually become costumes and/or pieces of set.

That's where you come in – if you haven't already volunteered your sewing skills and/or your sewing machine please do contact me via enquiries@thevision.org.uk

If you haven't sewn before and would like to have a go we'd be happy to help you have a go. We are hoping to have a sewing workshop at The Vision Information Pod at some point. If you can help out with sourcing and finding/sorting costumes during February do please let me know.

Many thanks, and look forward to hearing from you.

Ele Slade, Costume Assistant

... News From Suzie ...

Well goodness, a bit of snow and everything goes topsy turvy! I'm very happy things seem to be settling down now and that rehearsals are well under way.

I just wanted to do some thanks here, there are so many people to thank all of the time who are associated with our fantastic community play *The Vision* but I'd like to thank the Woking Flute Choir. If you were in Woking on Saturday, 12 December, you may have passed by the Information Pod and heard the selection of carols and other beautiful tunes they played. We are hoping they will come and visit again to play some more for us. You can contact Woking Flute Choir via pauline@musicmonsters.co.uk or on 01483 757708.

Another thank you, and it is a really big thanks, to Dr Geoff Lane – *The Vision's* web designer who updates it (and he was doing that pretty regularly on snow days)! Thanks Geoff for all you do with *The Vision's* website and all on a voluntary basis we all really appreciate it.

Very importantly the website brings people in to *The Vision* from everywhere all over the world in fact. We recently had a lovely letter from a lady who appears in the famous photograph with Ingrid Bergman and all she had was a tiny copy of the same photograph. We were able to put her in touch with our friends at The Surrey History Centre who were able to supply her with a full size image much to her great delight. Another huge benefit is that the website has also bought to us a signer who is going to be available to sign on our designated signed performance on 4 May.

The biggest news this month is that we announce tickets are now on sale. A community play of this size does have some challenges and one of those would have been our ticket sales operation so a real huge thanks must go to Sue Morley, Chief Executive of The Ambassadors Woking; Calum Kemp, Operations Director and all the box office staff. Sue said "We are committed to offering live entertainment and encouraging participation in the arts to the residents of the Borough of Woking. The WCPA is a vibrant partner in the mix of arts and culture within the Borough and bringing so many people together in this project is a huge achievement. We are very proud to be managing the ticketing operation on their behalf and wish *The Vision* every success".

Choreography Workshops

Choreography workshops will start from Sunday, 24 January so if you're interested in being part of movement or dance, please come along. You do not have to be a dancer or an expert, just someone who enjoys physical movement or wants to gain experience working in a group to develop a community production. Open to all ages and backgrounds.

Techniques will include Western contemporary and Eastern style. Workshops are available - if you are an interested school please contact me via enquiries@thevision.org.uk

Nabilah Hussain, Choreographer