

Hi folks!

Spring 2013 already. We've had to make some changes this year. You may or may not know that Airfield will not be re-opened until the autumn, at least. That means, of course that our summer Shakespeare production will not be there, for the second year running. We hope to have a go at *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Bernard Doyle. We did this play before - as a matter of fact it was our first attempt at Shakespeare in the open and very successful it was too. We've run the full gamut of the Shakespearean comedies, so we thought it would be a good idea to start them again, but at the moment we've no venue. However, we're trying to contact the OPW and others to see if we can secure a place, and we have some places in mind. Further information on this will be forthcoming.

Our last production was a very funny farce, *Charlie's Aunt*, directed by Karen Carleton. This was very successful and we made a couple of bob on it, thankfully. Oran Ó Rua (he who is directing *Menagerie* above) was in this and danced beautifully. We also had our "Studio Shorts". Claire O'Donovan made her directing debut with *Desire, Desire, Desire*, a sort of skit on the above mentioned Tennessee Williams' *"A Streetcar Named Desire"*. We were hoping to enter this into the Bray Festival held at the end of January, but unfortunately they were overloaded with entries this year and were unable to take our entry. (We'll try again next year, I'm sure). Our other 1-act was *Afterplay* by Brian Friel, directed by Pat 'Grady. Pat took this out on the 1-act circuit. Unfortunately, we didn't win, but again, we hope to try this year.

*Our annual Xmas concert was held in Marlay House, Rathfarnham in December, due to the above mentioned Airfield not being available again for the second year running. Indeed it might not be possible to hold it in Airfield again as the capacity in the future will now be only 60 - 65 audience. I believe they're putting some contemporary furniture into the library etc. etc. This will be a great pity. However we'll see what happens. The actual concert was very successful, the room was very nice and very suitable for our concert. However, there were problems in the backstage area with not nearly enough volunteers to help out with the washing up etc. which was inconveniently downstairs. Hopefully these are only teething problems and we'll have more people to help out next Xmas.*

Oran Ó Rua is directing our next production, Tennessee William's "The Glass Menagerie".

Widely considered a classic of American Theatre, Balally Players present Tennessee Williams' award-winning, gripping portrait of an American family struggling to maintain the fragile balance between a difficult past and an uncertain future. Amanda Wingfield's young adult children, Tom and Laura, are desperately trying to pick their way among the romantic memories of their mother's past and the uncertain realities of their own future. In the process, they are haunted by both the beauty and the fragility of spun glass, and of human relationships.

Renowned for its vivid characters, exquisitely written dialogue and absorbing story, THE GLASS MENAGERIE has the capacity to move, to entrance and to dazzle. Don't miss this shattering production of Tennessee Williams' best-loved drama.

**20th - 23rd March 2013**



**Don't forget to tell all your friends about this forthcoming production. They'll really enjoy it.**

We're going to have a BIG celebration for our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Hopefully this'll be Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June (mark that in your diary). It's not fully worked out yet (it **will** involve alcohol) - probably a dinner, probably in town somewhere. Anne Lucas is sussing out things in this department. We'll keep you posted. We're having it in town because if we have it locally, people will bring their cars, thus defeating the purpose of the evening; not to get drunk you understand (God forbid!), but so that people will be in a relaxed mood.

We've tried to revive our Wednesday evenings in Dundrum House, but most people who came insisted on driving there, having a lemonade and going off, so we're aware of all that.

Anyway we're trying to encourage everyone to attend the Birthday Bash.