



Balally Players NEWS

February 2008

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SPRING 2008

At The Black Pig's Dyke – Happy Birthday Dear Alice

'At The Black Pig's Dyke' has come and gone already. It was a great success and we're looking forward to our next production 'Happy Birthday Dear Alice' on 26, 27, 28, 29 March in The Mill. Jean Monaghan is directing this one; Margaret Twomey, Jack Kelly, Oran O'Rua, Judy McKeever, Hilary Madigan, and Dave Foley are the stars, Dympna Murray is designing the set, Patrick Hand is stage manager, I'm in there as well, also Caroline Williams and Teresa Dempsey, but there will be need for others to "row in" so to speak. This one's a comedy (well, at least nobody dies in the end). Have you noticed all our recent plays ended in someone's death?

The Moon Cut Like A Sickle

Oran O'Rua is directing 'The Moon Cut Like A Sickle' in April. This will be for our younger people. Don't know what it's about at this stage (is it another tragedy – do they die in the end?). It will be on in the Mill Studio for 5 nights.

Studio Scenes at The Mill

After that we'll have Gary Wall producing scenes, again for The Studio by way of an in-house production. He'll be looking for directors for this, indeed there are one or two already in line.

Shakespeare in Airfield

After that we'll be into Shakespeare territory. This year, it's to be 'Romeo and Juliet' (another tragedy – they die in the end!!). Karen will be directing this for our annual outdoor production in Airfield in mid-June. Casting etc. later on.

Partytime

The Christmas Party!!!! How come, we always find it so hard to have a party at the festive season? Anyway, again, it's to be in the Spring. We're hoping to have a karaoke night. If you remember, the last one a few years ago, was great fun. I know once I start, you can't get me off the floor (I don't care if I'm a rubbish singer). Anyway, we're (that is, the committee) doing our damndest to try and organise this. And rumour tells me that we might even have a summer BBQ as well. With this in mind, keep April 12th in mind (not 5th), we're trying to organise something for that night.

One For The Road

Congratulations to our lovely Wes Scully for his production at the Bray One-Act Festival. He directed 'One For The Road' (another tragedy!) by Harold Pinter and came away with the Adjudicator's Award for Best Director. Paul Sharpe got Best Supporting Actor award and Anna O'Duffy was awarded a Certificate of merit. All in all, a great achievement. They'll be heading off to the Isle of Man for a drama festival there last weekend in February and we wish them all the best of luck.

Riders To The Sea

At this stage, everyone must know of our great win at the All-Ireland One-Act Drama Festival in West Cork. We won again for the second year in a row (never been done before in the approx. 50 years of the DLI and we should feel very proud of such an achievement, 'Riders To The Sea' (a tragedy) directed by our Chairman, Geoffrey O'Keeffe and last year it was Gary Wall directing 'Melody' (a comedy). So, we're putting these two plays on for one night only, as a way of celebrating and so that people can come and see them. A date hasn't been set yet, but you'll be informed. It'll be soon though.

London Theatre Visit

While Wes and crew are heading off to the Isle of Man, some of us are going to London for a weekend on 22 February as part of our 25th anniversary celebrations. We'll be seeing a show called "Wicked" and perhaps one or two others as well. So looking forward that, of course. For anyone not involved, we're hoping to have play readings. This has been "on the menu" so to speak for years, but the major problem is a space. However, we'll see how it works out.

In the meantime, hope to see you all very soon (for our Christmas Party, ha! ha!).

Doris Cullen
Secretary

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