

## It's panto time again!

Rehearsals for *Dick Whittington (and his cat)*, under the direction of Bev Nicholas, with choreography by Jo Hubbard, accompaniment from Gerry McNalty and choral direction from Kim Peeters, have been underway for several weeks now.



In addition to directing singers, Kim Peeters is also principal boy this year and, newcomer to TSC, Meghan Wright is principal girl – yes, she's Chris Wright's daughter. Michelle Steele is Tammy, the cat – great part for anyone who doesn't like learning lines, although, in this case "Mee-how?" (get it?) is a pretty important line. Brenda Stewart, also a newcomer to TSC, is the Dame and we have previous TSC pantomime veterans, as well as several new young people, rounding out the cast.

And, let's not forget – this year we have a four piece 'orchestra', comprised of Gerry on the piano, percussionist Bob Bagnell as well as Michel Malcoux on guitar and Wayne Peeters on keyboards and saxophone – probably not at the same time.

This is our only entry for the ACT-CO Festival this year – our other productions don't fall into the time span of the competition. Last year we won an adjudicator's award and received three nominations. However, our small audience did not escape the adjudicator's notice. Adjudication night is Saturday, January 25th. Let's nudge, at least friends and family, into buying their tickets for that night, and guarantee a bigger turnout this year.

*Dick Whittington (and his cat)* opens on January 24th and runs to February 2nd. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:00 pm and Sunday performances are at 2:00 pm. Tickets are available at our usual ticket outlets – Caravaggio IDA, Holmes Appliances and Music Store and the Shelburne Town Hall – and can, as always, be purchased online from the website.



## Jenny's House of Joy

Auditions for our Spring production will take place on February 9th. Five women will be cast. They are Jenny of the House of Joy, the best little whorehouse in Kansas, and her three ladies and the irate wife of one of their customers. Ages range from twenties to fifty.

All the roles in this Norm Foster comedy are great opportunities for actors to really strut their stuff. While there are lots of comic one-liners to deliver, the play also focuses on the humanity of the ladies of the bordello and how they've come to be what they are. If you have a good sense of timing and can also convey pathos, thwarted ambition and be a bitch, too, there's a part for you in *Jenny's House of Joy*.

After our last Norm Foster comedy – *Drinking Alone* – in the Spring, many audience members said how much they enjoyed the way the play involved them. It made them laugh and it made them cry... and they loved it. They said the cast seemed like a real family and they could relate to each one. Our great cast members fully developed their roles and made this possible. We can do it again with this next Foster play – although, of course, the men in the audience won't relate in quite the same way as the women!

## NOTICES

Ushers are needed on the weekends of January 24th to 26th and January 31st to February 2nd for the six performances of *Dick Whittington*. If you are able to commit to an evening or afternoon, please contact Jean Miller – [jeanmiller@designandcopy.ca](mailto:jeanmiller@designandcopy.ca)

We are still accepting submissions for plays to be considered for production in the 2014-2015 season. Contact one of the members of the Reading Committee – Bev Nicholas, Jo Hubbard, Amanda Philip, Jane Turnbull or Jean Miller – with your suggestions.

Articles to be included in the March newsletter should be emailed before February 28th to [info@tiplingstagecompany.com](mailto:info@tiplingstagecompany.com). Attach a Word file or cut and paste them into the email message.

## November General Meeting

The November General Meeting took place on November 19th in the small meeting room at Dufferin Oaks. Bev Nicholas updated us on the pantomime casting while Jean Miller had the less enviable task of itemizing our expenditure on our cancelled October production. Hopefully we can make up the deficit by selling lots of tickets for the pantomime.

We made the decision to cancel participation in the Shelburne Santa Claus Parade since there were not enough members able to take part. This was unfortunate since, apparently, it was the best parade Shelburne has ever had.

The minutes of the November meeting, together with the agenda for the Annual General Meeting, which is scheduled for February, will be sent out in lots of time to make arrangements to attend. We will make it a social occasion by having a (finger foods) luncheon before the meeting, as we have done for the last two years. More news on this in February.

TIPLING STAGE COMPANY PRESENTS  
**DICK WHITTINGTON**  
(AND HIS CAT)  
DIRECTED BY BEV NICHOLAS  
CHOREOGRAPHED BY JO HUBBARD

GRACE TIPLING HALL  
SHELBURNE  
JANUARY 24th to  
FEBRUARY 2nd

TICKETS:  
Holmes Appliances  
& Music Shop  
Caravaggio IDA  
Shelburne Town Hall

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