



# PAUL'S PLAY PREPARATION

## PROCEEDS APACE

**The Taming of The Shrew** is now over half-way through rehearsal under the direction of Paul Toy. The play has been blocked and the cast are nerving themselves to do without their scripts. Across York set is being constructed, props tracked down, costumes designed, music rehearsed, lighting plans considered and publicity planned.

Much has been achieved, yet much also remains to be done. Paul writes "The hardest, but most rewarding part of rehearsals- the transformation of an idea into a reality - is about to begin." Many people are working very hard; please support them not only by turning up to a performance with as many friends and relations as possible but also perhaps by answering these appeals for help:

Able Sewing People (well, Sewers doesn't look right does it?) could you sew even one costume? If so please contact Judith Ireland, Production Co-ordinator on York 641490 or Beverley Chapman, Costume Designer on York 785007.

Publicity and Front-of-House volunteers, to distribute posters and flyers and/or assist the Front-of-House operations at the venues. Please contact Judith Ireland.



reaching for the heights at an early Shrew-taming workshop

photo: Jamie Searle

All of this in readiness for the performances which are to be presented firstly at the Pocklington Civic Arts Centre on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30, with a Saturday Matinee at 2.30. Tickets here are £5 (£4 conc.), from their box-office (01795 301547). There will also be a free Taming of the Shrew workshop held at the Arts Centre on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May from 2.00 to 4.00. The

play then moves to the Joseph Rowntree Theatre on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June also at 7.30 and with a Saturday Matinee at 2.30. Tickets for the York performances are priced at £7 (£6 conc.) and are made available for YSP members to sell: please contact Anne Walker, 21 Tamworth Rd., York YO30 5GJ (tel. York 479877) to obtain tickets; you can make use of the form enclosed with this newsletter.

Tickets will also be on sale at Ticket World on Patrick Pool and from the Tourist Information Centre at The De Grey Rooms.

### Annual General Meeting Plus

There will be an AGM on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm, held at The Stables, 10a Nunmill Street, off Scarcroft road (behind The Good Food shop). This will be an opportunity to elect new members to the

YSP Executive Committee; we are particularly looking for people who would be interested in continuing and extending the outreach programme, in publicity and in becoming treasurer. During the evening some video clips from Richard III will be shown, Paul Toy will talk about The Taming of the Shrew production and there will be wine and other refreshments provided. Please come along and support your project.

### The Next Production

is to be 'A Comedy of Errors' and Chris Rawson has been chosen to be its director. It will be performed at three York Community Centres:

Burtonstone Lane : Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Tang Hall : Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November

Foxwood : Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and later at the Friargate Theatre.

### Education & Outreach

Amanda Strevett-Smith and Paul Toy ran an open workshop in January which attracted some 20 people of a range of ages. That this was a lively and stimulating event is reflected in comments from those participating : "fast moving", "good atmosphere", "nice to understand what Shakespeare's on about"



Amanda & students working at Burnholme College

It is hoped to run more open workshops this year. Amanda also ran two Macbeth-based workshops in February for Year 9 students at Burnholme Community College. Students who had shown little interest in reading the play really got involved when able to act out some of the scenes, showing how these workshops help to make Shakespeare more accessible. As mentioned, the next workshop will be at

Pocklington on 31st May- you are advised to pre-book!

### Fundraising

needs to be actively in focus for the project to succeed. We are in the process of applying for various grants, including 'Awards for All'. We need to carry out other fundraising activities to ensure the success of the project; we shall be running a cafe at St. Crux's Church on 11<sup>th</sup> December: help will be needed there. If you have any ideas or experience please bring them along to the AGM and get involved.

### Competition

Helen Giovine fought off the competition with her unique caption to this picture; she wins a bottle of 'Shakespeare's Tipple' juice for her entry.



Our next competition

prize is a real treat: it's the

a good case for the separation of Church & State...

Oxford Illustrated History of Shakespeare



photo: Jamie Searle

my caption :

On Stage, a quality account of the presentations of the Bard's works over the centuries with some excellent illustrations.

This could be yours- all you have to do is come up with the best caption for the picture above which was taken at the open workshop in January.

Please send your contributions for the July issue of *Will* to me, Jamie Searle at: 20 Bootham Row, YO30 7BR or e-mail: jamie.searle@bbc.co.uk.