

York Shakespeare Project

Newsletter 2009-10, issue 4

Much like my lunch-box, this issue is dominated by two topics. Well, actually, my lunch-box is dominated by two s. (Yes, you can still get them.) So, if you take them in chronological order of when they are going to happen, these two topics are:

The York Shakespeare Project Fundraiser

The time is here. As Shakespeare's birthday is upon us, it's time to get out into York, raise some awareness about YSP, and raise some cash to help fund the second  in my lunch box. Er, I mean the second topic in this newsletter.

The format is similar to last year – we'll have a day of Shakespeare-related Shenanigans in York. So this Saturday 24th April we'll be in **King's Square** (the one at the top of the Shambles, with Millie's Cookies and the Last Drop Inn). There will be loads of chances to get involved, and do some performing, with plenty of unrehearsed, on-the-spot fun to be had. So if you've got a bit of spare time, come down! Whether you can make it all day, or just for twenty minutes, it'll be much more fun the more people come along!

The timetable will have to be flexible, but here is a rough plan so you can

turn up for the things that will really get you interested:

Fundraiser Timetable

(subject to change, of course!)

6:30am - *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*
9:30am – *Music/setting up*
10am- *The Sonnets*
10:30am - *Romeo and Juliet*
11am - *Hamlet*
11:30am - *As You Like It*
11:50am - *Henry V (Tennis Balls)*
12:10pm - *The Sonnets*
12:30pm - *Hamlet*
1pm - *Macbeth*
1:30pm - *Henry V (Crispin's Day)*
2pm - *Hamlet*
2:30pm - *Macbeth*
3pm - *Twelfth Night*
3:30pm - *A Really Good End To The Day to be decided on the day!*

This is just a guide, and anyone who has any ideas need just turn up on Saturday and let us know. Or just get up and do it!

There will be parts being doled out on the day for *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night* and both *Henry V* extracts.

So, in short, please pop along for as much time as you can – otherwise it'll be me trying to play all the parts in everything, and tempting as it may be for you to try and make that happen,

don't! (That says DON'T!)

Finally (finally on  number 1, that is), props and costume!

One of the most important aspects of street theatre is to look striking, so if you can make it along, then please bring any props or costume that you might have! Any cloaks, daggers, helmets or crowns would be much appreciated.

We don't want William Shakespeare (uh, Jeremy) to be the only one dressed up!

Henry IV update

The observant among you will already know some of what I am about to tell you, but that doesn't matter.

While news has been quite quiet on Henry over the last few weeks, the committee has been working hard and are very close to securing a venue which we (and Tom) are really excited about. It looks great, and combine that with the plays (which are really great – have a read, they're among my faves) and all the great parts on offer, and this is definitely something to get excited about.

So, if you'd like to get involved as a cast member, see the info below...

Further to that, if you want to get involved in any off-stage capacity, please get in touch at info@yorkshakespeareproject.org.

Auditions

The search is on for a cast of over 30 people to take part in the productions of Henry IV parts one and two.

Auditions are:

Sunday 9th May, 2:00pm – 6:00pm,
St Luke's Church Hall, Burton Stone Lane. (map at www.stlukes.org)

Monday 10th May, 6:30pm – 9:30pm,
Southlands Methodist Church
Bishopthorpe Road, YO23 1NX
(map at www.southlandsmethodist.org.uk)

Sunday 16th May, 2:00pm – 6:00pm,
St Luke's Church Hall, Burton Stone Lane.

Auditionees should bring along one speech of their own choosing from anywhere in Shakespeare. It should be around 20 lines in length and can be verse or prose. You will then be asked to read from the text of Henry IV part one: you do not need to prepare this. You can either book a slot or just turn up on the day!

To find out more or to book a slot, email our lovely director, Tom at henryscasting@hotmail.com.

See Tom's brief in full on the web site at www.yorkshakespeareproject.org.

Finally, photographs

We're looking at pulling together a better archive of the productions we've done. If you've got any photos from any YSP productions or events, please could you get in touch to let us know at info@yorkshakespeareproject.org