

The Drama

It has been brought to my attention that there has been some concern that The Fullarton no longer provides sufficient live theatre in its programme. This situation has evolved rather than being planned. Over the past 20 years we have lost tens of thousands of pounds through programming professional live theatre. This was unsustainable.

The re-introduction of (Digital) mainstream cinema and livestream event cinema (while being a major capitol outlay) has been an income lifeline without which we probably would have closed the doors several years ago.

As an alternative to a return to programming only professional live theatre, here is my suggestion...

"The Drama"

"The Drama" would be a programme/season of plays, live theatre pieces performed by any of our local groups wishing to take part.

The Programme

The Fullarton will be provided free of charge on a regular basis. My initial suggestion is every sixth Saturday (depending on planned programme commitments) commencing Sat 12th May.

The Event

I'm suggesting (open to discussion) an evening starting at 7:30pm of two One Act Plays of up to 45 minutes in length with a 30 minute interval where a free "Play Piece" will be provided (drink, nibbles, sweeties etc).

The performance should then be finished around 9:30pm giving plenty of time to head back home, to the pub, or to our Bar to discuss the evening and polish off any grub left over from the interval.

The Deal

There will be no charge made to performing clubs for the use of the venue or its equipment.

The profits from the tickets will be split three ways. A third to each performing club/group and The Fullarton.

The tickets will be priced at £6.00 and will include the Half-Time "Play Piece". All ticket sales will be handled by our Box Office

Publicity, Copyright

The event will be advertised on our website and print advertising.

Performing clubs will be required to provide advertising copy and image at least six weeks prior to the performance.

Performing clubs must secure appropriate performing rights before a play is added to the season.

Staging

While not wanting to restrict any particular director/designer's vision I would suggest "simple is good" with regard to stage set and lighting.

It is however your decision and full box set with fifteen flats, doors, French Windows and backing flats will be just as welcome as one with two chairs and a

table. (That was painful to write!)

The Techs

Techs for the plays will take place on the performance day in two sessions

2nd Performing Play: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

1st Performing Play: 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Theatre Tech staff will be in attendance to program lights, operate, assist etc in our usual polite, friendly, helpful manner ;0)

It does, however, seem to me to be good opportunity for clubs to give any of their members with an interest in the technical aspects of staging a performance to get some experience and learn new skills on a (reasonably) non-threatening situation.

Tech Preparation

In the same way as for Festival, performing clubs/groups would be expected to submit Tech Info in advance.

It may also be possible to meet at the theatre to discuss your production requirements. We have a weekly Management Committee Meeting every Monday at 7:00pm and I could meet anyone after that at 7:30pm.

What Next?

Are you interested in taking part? I hope so, I think this could be an opportunity for clubs to perform more often, good fun and provide great entertainment for our audiences, who we know from experience, really get behind quality, "home grown" shows.

Let me know what you think. Am I talking complete rubbish, again? But, be gentle with your comments please - I'm really a sensitive old grump.

Allan Scott

Chairman, The Fullarton

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