



Pirate Productions asbl

March 2006

While it may appear that the Piratical year has not gotten off to a brilliant start, the view from behind the scenes is actually rather optimistic.

We've had to postpone the Spring show, but *Cage aux Folles* - now fully cast - is proceeding smoothly. The vocal workshop will be re-scheduled, and there is another quiz evening planned in May.

The website has been steadily improving, and we've even contracted for more capacity - to display pictures of YOU on stage.

On the domestic side, the costumes have been moved and the barn cleared out - both of which tasks have been a thorn in our side for some time.

Be sure not to miss *The Changeling* in April, or the theatre class planned in May. By then, it'll be time for FEATS, in which numerous Pirates are already involved.

Finally, YES, I do still aspire to direct *Wine & Toons* to a happy ending.

Alex

Dates for your Diary

<u>When</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
April (day TBD)	NWTC	Villon evening	TBD
24-25 Apr	Cheek by Jowl	The Changeling	Grand Theatre Studio
12 May	Pirates	Quiz Evening	Gasperich
12, 19, 26 May and 2 June	Lorraine Vella	Aleateia Theatre Workshop	Foyer European
2-5 June	NWTC	FEATS	Ettelbruck

Wine & Toons postponed

We regret to announce that Wine & Toons has been postponed; it will not take place this year. Director Alex Teligadas found that he was unable to concentrate fully on this project, which led to the conclusion that it is better to postpone than to present a show unworthy of our standards. Alex wishes to thank all those who auditioned and volunteered to help - your efforts are not forgotten!

Quiz Evening

The last one was amazingly successful, so we've decided to do another one!

Friday 12 May at Gasperich Parish Hall

There will be lots of great prizes, and hot food will be available.

All proceeds will go to charity.

Singing Workshop also postponed

The Singing Workshop was scheduled to be held on 18-19 February, led by Nigel Beavan, but he had to step down due to ill-health. When Janice Baldwin was approached as a replacement, she agreed immediately and was delighted to be asked. Unfortunately, due to the ill-health of her mother, the workshop had to be postponed but it will go ahead sometime soon - you will be kept posted.

Charity Donation: SOS Villages Enfants

We have chosen SOS Villages Enfants as the second recipient of our €1,000 donations. The SOS Children's Villages offer long-term family-based care to abandoned and orphaned children at 1715 facilities in 132 countries. For more information, please have a look at http://www.sos-villages-enfants.lu/mmp/online/website/content/notre_philosophie/index_EN.html

Website improvements continue

Webmaster Philip has been slaving away on the website - please take a look, he'll be SO happy! There is now a members' area which is only accessible to members: please send an email to Philip (email address at the end of the newsletter) and he will give you the details.

FEATS Kick-off

A reception to kick-off the hosting of FEATS in Luxembourg in June was held on Friday, 17th February organised by the FEATS committee and all the volunteers who have agreed to help during the 4 days of the festival were invited to attend the reception and partake of the champagne and canapes.

Steve Anderson, chair of the FEATS committee, talked briefly about FEATS and who was doing what. It was a very convivial evening and 352 were on hand to take photos which were printed in the following edition of 352.

Thanks to all those Pirates members who have agreed to help out at what promises to be a very enjoyable and interesting 4 days.

A reminder to those who don't know - FEATS is a theatrical extravaganza that runs over 4 days from Friday 2 June to Monday 5 June. This year it is being held at the lovely theatre in Ettelbruck. Each night there will be three 40-minute plays put on by different amateur groups across continental Europe. The plays are very different and the number of actors/actresses varies from 1 to many. At the end of the final evening the adjudicator awards prizes for the best actress, actor, director, best play, stage crew, set and so on - a very enjoyable time and not to be missed. People can go just to one night or all four. So book the date in your diaries - NOW!!

White Sheets Wanted

Fay is looking for some old white sheets which will be turned into La Cage costumes. People can contact Chris Wilson - tel. 26350897/ email chris.wilson@pt.lu, or drop them off at Chapter 1, or bring them to a LCAF rehearsal.

FEATS Fringe

With reference to the FEATS 2006 Festival being held in Ettelbrück at the Centre des Arts Pluriels (CAPe) on 2nd to 5th June 2006, information about the "Fringe" is now included on the FEATS Website - www.feats2006.org.

Besides the two pages of general information and technical data, an Application Form is available on a pdf file and as a Word document.

For those groups (or individuals) wishing to take part in the Fringe, please send your completed application form to FEATS Fringe Coordinator Pauline Lloyd by 28th April or contact her on fringe@feats2006.org for further information.

Moving Costumes

We received a phone call giving us 5 days notice that all the costumes had to be removed from Dudelage by Monday 9th January. Although we, and NWTC, knew this was coming, we had hoped it would be later rather than sooner but 'twas not to be!

Chris (Wilson) and myself had started separating Pirates/NWTC costumes from Alexandra's and realized only on the Friday that there were 10 rails worth of costumes i.e. over 1300 costumes! At the time of the phone call, there was no definite "new home", so my garage, spare bedroom and attic were about to be pressed into action, when - at the eleventh hour - Matthew confirmed that we could store the costumes in the attic at his house in Schuttrange.

So, on the Saturday, Philip and I hired a van, loaded up 80% of the costumes, and took them to Schuttrange on Sunday. There a human chain, from the van up both sets of stairs to the attic, shifted 1300 costumes until they were all on racks in the attic. The remaining 20% were collected late Sunday afternoon and also deposited in the attic. Many thanks go to all who helped in this mammoth task: Philip, Matthew, Alex, Steve (Wilkie), Chris and Les, Carol (Kahn), Jane, Fiona, Ciara, Athena and Simon Critchlow - apologies if I've forgotten anyone. A special thanks to Carol for her hospitality and good humour as we traipsed in and out of the house and up and down the stairs. I consider that we were blessed both those days because there was no rain to complicate matters!!

A good job well done! The costumes can be kept at Schuttrange for the foreseeable future but will be sorted and a culling session will take place and thereafter a full inventory taken. Valerie

Barn Clearance

Another mini-miracle was worked on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd January when the barn was transformed from a total jungle into a well-organised props area with sorted flats and wood and a decent working space for future set builders. A complete inventory has been taken and is available on both the NWTC & Pirates websites. Thanks again to everyone who helped make this happen: Matthew and Malcolm as overseers, Janice as shifter and chief-victual provider, Chris (Albrecht) as skip organiser, Mimi (Oedmann) and Fiona, Julie, Steve (Wilkie), Chris (Mitchell), Rachel and Brian, Tomas, Beverley, Tony (Kingston) and John (Brigg).

Now all three clubs (NWTC, Pirates and Round Tower Players) have a wonderful working space. We ask that everyone respects the other users by leaving the barn in the condition in which they'd like to find it. There is now a system for controlling the props: the complete inventory is available on the website via the members' area and we ask that the first user prints off a copy of the inventory, indicates which items have been taken for their production and then leave the inventory in the barn so borrowed items can be tracked.

Another good job well done!

Valerie

Grand Théâtre Studio

The Changeling

by Thomas Middleton and William Rowley

Monday and Tuesday, 24 & 25 April, at 8pm

One of the greatest plays in the English language ...

Directed by Declan Donnellan and designed by Nick Ormerod
Produced by Cheek by Jowl in a co-production with BITE:06 Barbican; Les Gémeaux / Scène Nationale Sceaux; Festival de Almagro; Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg

Following Cheek by Jowl's triumphant production of *The Duchess of Malfi* in 1995, Director Declan Donnellan and Designer Nick Ormerod again turn to Jacobean tragedy in this new production of *The Changeling*.

Beatrice-Joanna is in love with Alsemero but her father has chosen another husband. From afar, the misshapen de Flores also worships this untouchable beauty and would do anything for her. Anything at all. The desperate heiress uses the deformed servant to dispose of her unwanted bridegroom. In one of the most chilling scenes in English theatre, de Flores returns with gruesome evidence of his loyalty. When Beatrice-Joanna attempts to pay in gold, the obsessed servant insists he had another reward in mind * the beautiful Beatrice-Joanna herself. Their famous descent into hell is relieved by passages of startling humour. Lunatics and ghosts people this disturbing thriller of horror, sex and death.

Written by Middleton and Rowley, contemporaries of Shakespeare, *The Changeling* is one of the greatest plays in the English language.

Olivia Williams joins Cheek by Jowl to play Beatrice-Joanna. Her many stage and film credits include the psychological thriller, *The Sixth Sense*.

ALEATEIA THEATRE - MALTA

(www.aleateia.com)

is organising a series of workshops aimed at anyone who's interested in

- exploring the art of movement and voice,
- participating in creative exercise,
- meeting new people in a fun environment,
- discovering more about one's physical / vocal potential.

The workshops will be given by a qualified instructor with 14 years experience.

You need:

- enthusiasm, imagination, a sense of adventure,
- comfortable training clothes (no jeans or skirts please!)

You don't need:

- any acting experience

The first 4 sessions to be held in March are already booked but there will be further workshops held on the following Fridays: May 12, May 19, May 26, June 02

Venue: Foyer European, 12 Rue Heine, Luxembourg.

Participation is free; you need your European Institution id tag to enter!

Sessions will be conducted in English by Loranne Vella

EP 18TOA 029, tel: 4300 25608, gsm: 021683305, email:lvella@europarl.eu.int

PS: The sessions are limited to a maximum of 20 people so please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. Send an email at the above address with subject heading: "THEATRE WORKSHOPS"

Aleateia was formed in 1992 and is Malta's leading alternative theatre group. Apart from Malta it has also performed in Greece, Egypt, Scotland and Denmark.



Toastmasters International – new club in Luxembourg

- How do you feel when you speak in public?
- Do you express yourself clearly?
- Err...Ah...Um Do you have trouble finding the right words when speaking in front of a group of people?
- Do you get nervous when you are presenting something in public?
- Would you be more successful in your career if you could communicate more confidently?

If you answer 'Yes' to these questions, you are not alone! If you are interested in expressing your thoughts more clearly and more confidently when presenting in public, you will want to know more about the NEW TOASTMASTERS CLUB being set up in Luxembourg.

Toastmasters will improve your communication skills, giving you specific instruction and the opportunity to practise the following:

- Writing and delivering speeches and presentations
- Developing impromptu speaking skills
- Learning to evaluate other speakers' strengths effectively

All this is provided in a friendly, supportive environment which makes learning enjoyable.

Toastmasters is a non-profit organisation which, since its foundation in 1924, has helped over 4 million in over 80 countries around the world improve their communication skills.

You can find out more by contacting either:

Margaret Murphy Tel : 45 85 18
 Email: Margaret.Murphy@education.lu

Mike Ferris Tel : 0032 63 60 15 19
 Email: pontifac@yahoo.co.uk

Membership Form

This form should be completed in the case of new members or in order to amend the details for existing members.

Name :

Address :

Telephone Number (home) :

Telephone Number (work) :

Email Address :

Nationality :

Would you like to receive the Newsletter in electronic format via email?

YES / NO

Do you agree that the above contact details may be included on a contact list, circulated to members on a regular basis?

YES / NO

Date and Method of payment for first annual subscription :

Subscriptions are due on an annual basis, payable in September each year. Please see the back page of the Pirates' Newsletter or the Pirates' web site (www.pirates.lu) for current rates and payment details.

Pirates Committee - 2005/6

	<u>Tel. (home)</u>	<u>Tel. (GSM)</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Chair			
Valerie Scott	2634 0076	021 249 376	valerie.scott@open.ac.uk
Secretary			
Julie Fraser	2643 2089	-	julie@juliefraser.net
Treasurer			
Pam Carlisle	356 339	021 247 886	pamela@sarumlux.net
Social Secretaries			
Hilary Guerra	481 210	021 274 972	hag@pt.lu
Athena Teligadas	421 690	021 493 100	a.teligadas@eib.org act415@lu.coditel.net
Pirate Relations			
Steve Wilkie	359 532	-	sjwilkie@pt.lu
Webmaster			
Philip Dutton	-	021 526 253	philip@duttonsonline.co.uk
Backstage Liaisons			
Matthew Kahn	-	021 777 296	dionysian_wazoo@yahoo.com
Philip Dutton	-	021 526 253	philip@duttonsonline.co.uk
Newsletter			
Alex Teligadas	-	021 378 509	alextv@pt.lu

Subscriptions are due on an annual basis, payable in September. We would therefore like to inform the membership that subscriptions for 2005/2006 are now due. Fees due for the different categories of membership are as follows:

Individual:	20 Euro
Family:	37 Euro
Overseas:	75 Euro
Junior/Student:	6 Euro

The appropriate amount should be paid by virement to the Pirates' account with Dexia/BIL – account number LU51-0022-1561-0680-0000 – Pirate Productions Asbl, mentioning “Subscription 2005/6”, your name and the category of subscription required, clearly indicating your address so we can verify it on our Membership database.

Please ensure that the Membership Secretary is notified of any change of address or other details (the membership form is to be found in the Newsletter).

Only members who have paid their subscription will receive a Newsletter.

Please note that the cast and crew of all Pirates' shows must be fully paid-up members, otherwise they will not be covered under Pirate's personal accident insurance and will therefore not be able to be involved in shows.