

DECEMBER 2020

# newsletter

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## Put Your Shorts On! : postponed again

*Tier 2 forces us to delay, but we will be back in 2021*

We are deeply saddened and disappointed that, due to the placing of Norfolk under Tier 2 restrictions this December, **we are forced to postpone**, for the second time, our performances of **Put Your Shorts On!**. Our two casts have been doing a wonderful job of rehearsing over Zoom, and we remain determined to go ahead with the show as soon as Norfolk is allowed to move back into Tier 1 (which will allow for 'rule of six' indoors and our socially-distanced audiences). If you have purchased tickets, we will be in touch very soon to make the necessary arrangements.

As some people have pointed out, Tier 2 allows theatre to be open with socially distanced arrangements and COVID security. However, sadly this applies only to the professional theatre (as it counts as a "place of work" for those involved). The amateur industry has once again ground to a halt, despite the fact that we had all appropriate measures in place for the safety of both audience and performers.

At this stage it's not possible for us to provide alternative dates for the new year, as we are all living with such uncertainty. However, please watch this space, social media and our website for further details. If you, or somebody you know, has already booked tickets – we were delighted by the amount of support we'd already received – you will be contacted soon to sort this out. We were also very pleased to have been supported by the EDP with an article about the situation when the news broke; you can find it here: <https://bit.ly/36ksXAe>.

Thank you once again to our magnificent cast and crew for all their hard work, and we look forward to trying again as soon as we're able.



## A look back at the 2019-20 season

*Memories of the past, inspiration for the future*

It may only have consisted of four shows instead of the usual eight, but it included our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 300<sup>th</sup> show at the Sewell Barn. We have, ready for display in the corridor, our usual 'commemorative plaque' listing those four shows, and this has been provided in loving memory of Lizzie Vaughan, who we sadly lost in the summer of 2019.

Just as a reminder of the wide variety of colourful and exciting shows that have been performed, and the sort of thing you can look forward to as soon as circumstances allow, here are a few images of those four shows.

Clockwise from top left:

*The Tempest* (October 2019) Dir: Clare Williamson Photography: Sean Owen

*Mojo* (November 2019) Dir: Nick Meir Photography: Barry Parsons

*The Innocents* (January 2020) Dir: Richard Hand Photography: Sean Owen

*The Female of the Species* (February 2020) Dir: Mel Sessions Photography: Andrew Evans



## Stella Jay

### *Funeral arrangements*

Stella's funeral will be held on **4 December at 2pm** as explained below by her daughter, Theresa Dashley. While of course personal attendance is limited to invitation only, it is possible for us to attend virtually. In addition, there is a donation page if you wish to give in her memory.

Theresa explains: "If you click on the link below and use the username and password you should be able to access the funeral at 2pm (GMT) on 4th December, it will also be available to watch for 28 days. If you want to watch it live please try the link before the 4th and if you have any problems accessing the page email Peter, [peterjaymusic@gmail.com](mailto:peterjaymusic@gmail.com), and he will try to help you."

Link: <https://www.obitus.com/>

Username: Denu6486 Password: 262296

Donations to the Alzheimer's Society in Stella's name:

<https://stellajay.muchloved.com/>

There have been many lovely comments shared via email and social media in response to the announcement of Stella's passing. We have collated some of these on our blog, and you'll find them here:

<https://sewellbartheatre.blogspot.com/2020/11/stella-jay.html>.



**We wish all our friends, members, performers, crew, supporters and audiences a happy, healthy and safe Christmas, and our heartfelt good wishes for a happier 2021.**