

TOWER NEWS

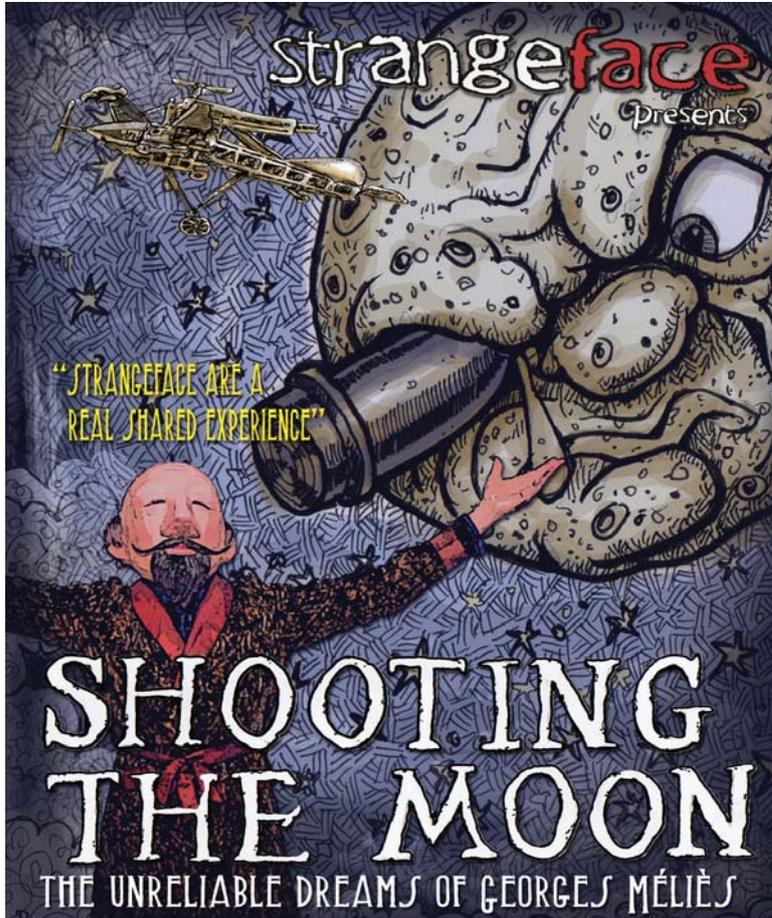
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FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

January 2014

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Strangeface Theatre Company Presents:

Shooting The Moon

Imagination knows no rules...the fantastical life of illusionist Georges Méliès.

Experience the magic of a full-mask and puppet performance from acclaimed theatre company, Strangeface, with this fantastical new show. Through a series of surreal and comic scenes, the life of French illusionist and filmmaker Georges Méliès, will be brought to the stage before of your very eyes.

Méliès combined his passions for magic and the moving image to create the first ever special effects to be seen on film. His astounding images entranced audiences in France and still inspire today; most notably in the Mighty Boosh and Martin Scorsese's film 'Hugo'. Strangeface ingeniously transports the trickery of cinema to real time revealing how Méliès escaped his fate as a boot-maker to make fantasy, science fiction masterpieces such as 'The Impossible Voyage' and 'A Trip to the Moon'.

Having earned fame and fortune for his pioneering cinema, Méliès' career then suffered a devastating blow as others, Thomas Edison among them, began to use his ideas. He eventually had to close his New York office, sell his film stock and give up his Paris studio to be used as an army hospital during WW1. Strangeface cleverly tells the tale of Méliès' fascinating life through a series of unreliable and often surreal dreams.

The Tower Theatre

Saturday 1st February at 7.00pm

Tickets: £9.00 Child £8.00



Much like early cinema and the recent hit, 'The Artist', 'Shooting The Moon' is non-verbal, the full-masked characters tell the story through movement. Accompanied by a live musical score and original projections, this piece of theatre highlights how used to film effects we have become but how amazing they are to see live in real time.

Both mask theatre enthusiasts and those who have never experienced mask theatre before will be amazed, entranced and moved by the way the characters come alive to convey this fantastical tale of illusion, film and fame.

**Book your tickets now on
01303 223925 or on line at
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk**

Miss Saigon



In a drive to boost numbers within the Youth Section and to give the opportunity for local youngsters to appear in a major musical the FHODS are staging Miss Saigon. This is particularly auspicious as this production will take place just before the show opens again in London. With such hits as I Still Believe, Sun and Moon and the American Dream, this is still one of the most powerful and talked about musicals. The musical's inspiration was reportedly a photograph, which Schönberg found inadvertently in a magazine. The photograph showed a Vietnamese mother leaving her child at a departure gate at Tan Son Nhut Air Base to board an airplane headed for the United States where her father, an ex-GI, would be in a position to provide a much better life for the child. Schönberg considered this mother's actions for her child to be "The Ultimate Sacrifice," an idea central to the plot of Miss Saigon. Highlights of the show include the evacuation of the last Americans in Saigon from the Embassy roof by helicopter while a crowd of abandoned Vietnamese screams in despair, the victory parade of the new communist régime and the frenzied night club scene at the time of defeat.

Production Dates and Times

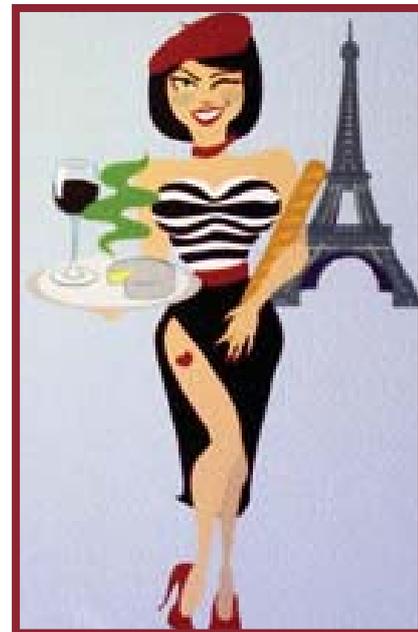
Thursday 20th
7.30 pm

Friday 21st
2.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Saturday 22nd February
2.30 pm & 7.30 pm

They're back!! The Farndale Ladies make yet another Crisis out of a Drama!!

"Chase Me Up
Farndale Avenue,
S'il Vous Plait"



Those with long memories (and stronger dispositions) will remember the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's previous attempts at AmDram, i.e. the Murder Mystery and A Christmas Carol. Well, the doughty members of FAHETGDS are back with a bang (which will probably be a vacuum cleaner sound effect, on the wrong cue).

Yes, Mrs Reece, Thelma et al return with - wait for it - a valiant attempt at a French Farce, along with the usual misunderstandings over similar names and dropped trousers. And that's only about who makes the dressing room tea.

They do try very hard, do the Farndale ladies. They do TRY to learn the words, and they do TRY not to bump into the furniture - but they usually fail on so many counts and in so many, many ways. And one day they will get the knack of erecting scenery the right way up

"Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait" will be presented at the Tower Theatre from April 2nd - 5th. A very strong cast has been chosen, and will be announced just as soon as its members have been quietly notified and prevented from leaving the country.

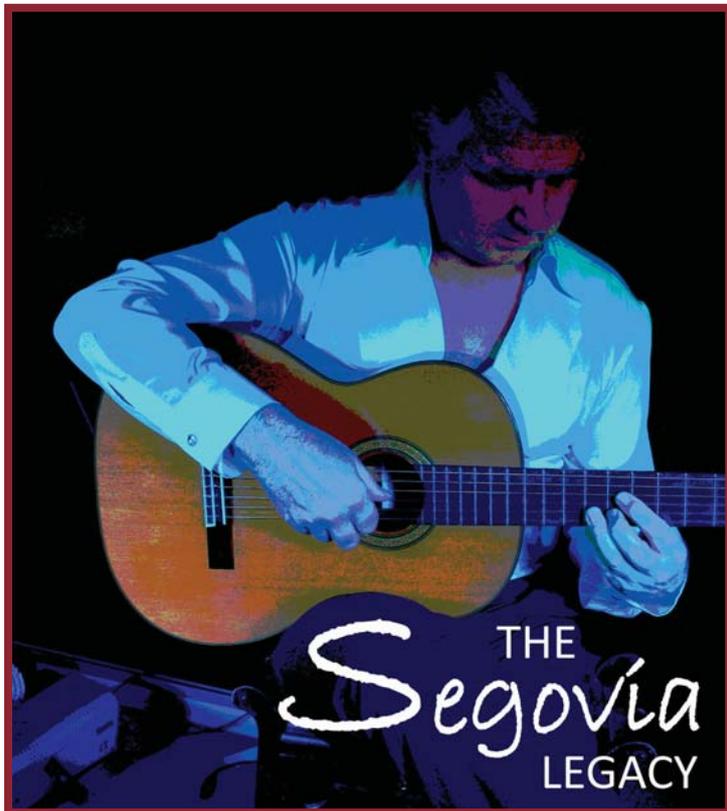
This super show will undoubtedly be a sell-out, so here is a message to members of that much smaller and less efficient Group, FHODS; Get Your Tickets Soon, or you will be disappointed by Mr Cock.

Exciting year for FHODS and the Tower Theatre ahead

Following a marvellous 2013, the Folkestone-Hythe, Operatic and Dramatic Society's centenary year, the year 2014 has all the potential to be just as fabulous.

The year starts off with a number of very special Jazz events. Through January the Folkestone Jazz Club has a fantastic programme which just goes on and on through the year. They really promise to bring a busy and exceptional year of Jazz. As always, the details of the Jazz events can be found on the Tower website or by ringing Beryl on 01303 277175.

On the 1st February Strangeface will be presenting **Shoot the Moon**. Many of you will recall the splendid productions brought by Chalkfoot Theatre Arts who have been superseded by the new Strangeface Company. This followed by Robert Drury and his look at the sounds of Segovia, with his concert the Segovia Legacy on the 7th February.



Next up is the Youth Section's production of **Miss Saigon** followed by **Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue S'il Vous Plait**, both of which promise to be stunning productions.

FHODS and the Beddow Academy will be running its normal Easter workshop from the 7th to the 11th April. The Easter workshop is traditionally a song and dance show and this year it is called **Movie Mania**. All the youngsters that take part have a brilliant time and really look forward to the next workshop.

In May, we can look forward to *Up Pompeii*, the fabulous comedy based on the TV series of the same name. This sees a welcome return to the Tower Theatre of the Baroque Theatre Company who on this occasion will be here on both the 16th and 17th May.

The summer blockbuster this year will be a look back at the WW1 and its impact on the local area. Told by song, poem and sketch FHODS **Pack up your Troubles** will be an uplifting and reverent start to the many commemorative events of 2014. **Pack up your Troubles** will be part of the Hythe Festival week with performances on 26th, 27th & 28th June and 3rd, 4th & 5th July.

July/August will see the return of the summer workshop which will run for two weeks from Monday 28th July through to the 9th August. FHODS and the Beddow Academy have great plans this summer and hope to stage the junior version of the **Sound Of Music**.

September will bring us another fine comedy **Sailor Beware**, followed by a Youth Section Production in October and finally a musical in December. Along with all usual the music nights, 2014 is a parcel bursting with surprises just waiting to be opened.

December 2013

It was Carols all the way at the Tower Theatre this December. For the first time ever the Tower Theatre held a Carol Concert which raised nearly £1000.00 on behalf of Water Aid for Africa and FHODS Charities.



A Christmas Carol



2014		Diary Dates
1st Feb	7.00pm	<i>Shoot the Moon</i> Play
4th Feb	7.30pm	<i>FHODS Club Night</i>
7th Feb	7.30pm	<i>Segovia Legacy</i> Concert
7th Feb	7.30pm	Get-together <i>Pack up your Troubles</i>
12th Feb	7.30pm	2nd Get-together <i>Pack up your Troubles</i>
20th, 21st & 22nd Feb	2.30pm & 7.30pm	<i>Miss Saigon</i>
23rd Feb	2.30pm	Auditions <i>Pack up your Troubles</i>
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Apr	7.30pm	"Chase Me Up Farndale Avenue, S'il Vous Plait" Comedy
7th - 11th Apr		<i>Movie Mania</i> Workshop
16th Apr	7.30pm	<i>Brigadier Thomas Memorial</i> Competition
16th & 17th May	7.30pm	<i>Up Pompeii</i> Baroque Theatre Co
26th, 27th & 28th Jun 3rd, 4th & 5th Jul	7.30pm	<i>Pack up your Trouble</i> WW1 Review
28th Jul - 9th Aug		<i>Sound of Music</i> Workshop
10th, 11th, 12th & 13th Sept	7.30pm	<i>Sailor Beware</i> Comedy

**Folkestone Jazz Club concerts
at The Tower
every Thursday.**

For details see www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk