

TOWER NEWS

Vol. 8, No.2

FHODS Entertaining the area since 1913.

May 2016

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The Miracle Worker

For those who do not know The Miracle Worker recounts Helen Keller's discovery of language, through the teaching of Annie Sullivan, after losing her sight and hearing in early childhood. It was produced as a television play in 1957, was published in 1957, was produced as a stage play in 1960 and as a movie in 1962. There have been many versions since then. The story is set in the Keller family home in Tuscumbia, Alabama. In the opening scene, the family learns that baby Helen will survive a life-threatening fever. Her mother Kate, however, discovers the terrible price of Helen's survival when she realizes that the baby cannot see or hear. When Helen is six, her father is inclined to institutionalize her, but Kate wishes to search for better medical care. Alexander Graham Bell considers Helen's case but cannot help. Finally, the Keller's contact the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston; the director sends Annie to them.

When Annie first encounters Helen, the child has never been disciplined she is isolated in silence and darkness.

This is a delicious, rich heart-warming story which will be enjoyed by all the family. The superb FHODS cast are looking forward to presenting this play at the Tower Theatre.

Dates| 25th to the 28th May at 7.30pm plus a matinee performance on the 28th at 2.30pm

Tickets| £10.00, Concessions £9.00 & Children u14 £7.00



The Folkestone- Hythe Operatic & Dramatic Society

presents

The Miracle Worker

by William Gibson

Directed by Peter Heselden

25th—28th May at 7.30pm

& 28th May at 2.30pm

Ticket prices: Full price £10.00,
Concessions £9.00 & U14s £7.00

Box office 01303 223925 or online at
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

The Tower Theatre North Road Folkestone
CT20 3HL

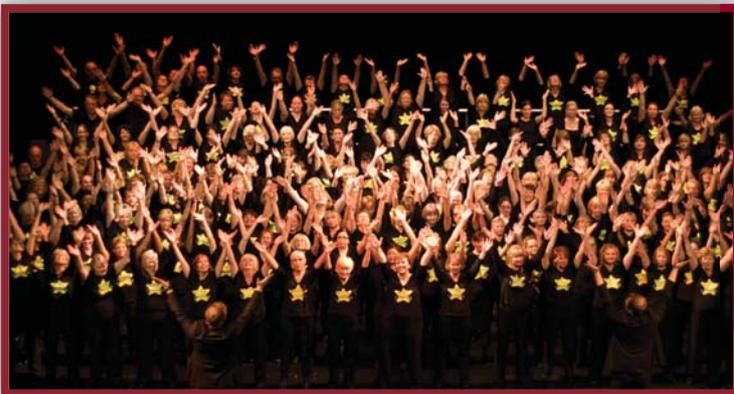
**Book your tickets now on 01303 223925
or on line at www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk**



2016 sees the first of many Music Festival's in Sandgate. The FHODS Tower Theatre is joining with other organisations to promote the music in the Village. Using a number of venues, the Music Festival covers all types of music to suit all

age groups. On Saturday 4th June the world famous Rock Choir kicks off the Festival at the Saga Pavilion along with local group the 'Orfillas'. This is a free concert for all the family to attend.

On Sunday the 'Saltdish Ukulele Group' playing their own blend of popular songs and shanties at the Chichester Hall from 7pm. The 'Saltdish' make a welcome return to Sandgate. 'Saltdish Ukulele Group' are a spin-off group from St Hilda's Ukes, formed in May 2014 and their first gig was Lydd Live!



On Tuesday we see a return of the Tea Dance. This much loved event springs back to life at the Chichester Hall under the firm control of Maggie and Geoff Forrest. In the evening there will be a myriad of musical stars in the Bar/Foyer at the Tower Theatre with music from Andrew Hedges.

Wednesday evening sees 'Cantores Dominicae' who are a local chamber choir founded in 1979 and based in Lyminge perform in St Peter's church. Their Musical Director is Adrian Bawtree,

who is also assistant organist at Canterbury Cathedral. They perform around 8 concerts a year ranging from sacred music to more modern and popular works. Their programme for the Sandgate Festival will include Vivaldi's famous Gloria.

Back to the FHODS Tower Theatre on Thursday to see Liane Carroll the international jazz singing star appear in the bar/foyer for one of her spectacular whiz-bang concerts. Followed by the highlight of the Festival on Friday with top notch the 'Back to Basie' band, led by Paul Lacey with vocalist Louise Cookman. Paul Lacey's 'Back to Basie' band is the only professional big-band in Britain to specialise in the music of Count Basie: straight ahead swing, played with dynamics, good humour, and a large dose of the blues!



Finally, on Saturday there is an opportunity for all local singers between the age of 8 and 18 to attend a sing in a day event. Based around top West End Musical Theater tunes the training day will lead to a performance in the Tower Theatre at 6pm Saturday evening. This is a free event and interested should contact the FHODS Tower theatre box office to register. Then after the concert there will be the Grand Festival Gala Dinner.

For further information about timings, ticket prices etc.

Click on either www.sandgatemusicfestival.org or www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk or contact the box office on 01303 223925



EVITA

Oh what a circus! Oh what a show!

FHODS are delighted to report that rehearsals have now begun in earnest for FHODS summer production of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's musical masterpiece, EVITA.

One of the most celebrated and popular musicals of all time, it tells the story of Argentina's controversial First Lady, Eva Peron. The most powerful woman in Latin America, she was adored as a champion for the poor and women's rights, but her greed, ruthless ambition and death at the age of 33 has made her one of history's most alluring figures.

FHODS are extremely privileged to be one of the first amateur dramatic societies in the UK to be granted the rights to perform EVITA, which is a great testament to the society as a whole. FHODS has a great team working with director Mike Manton including Daniel Moulton as Musical Director and Claire Beddow as Choreographer, fresh from their previous FHODS successes with The Phantom of the Opera, CATS and Les Miserables.

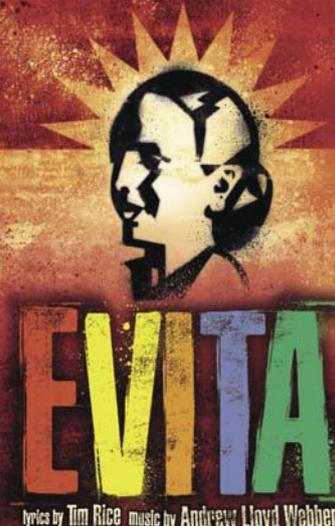
There was a great turn out for auditions and FHODS are delighted to announce that the two leads will be Alice Hawkins as Eva and Ben Forrest as Che. These are two of the most challenging roles in musical theatre, but they, and the rest of the very talented Ensemble of 50 performers, are more than up for the task and will undoubtedly help make this one of FHODS' greatest shows.

EVITA will be running from June 24th to July 2nd on selected dates. Tickets are now on sale and FHODS expects them to sell quickly, so book your seat soon!

Dates| 24th June at 7.30pm, 25th June at 2.30pm & 7.30pm and 26th June at 2.30pm, 30th June at 7.30pm, 1st July at 7.30pm and 2nd July at 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Tickets| £15.00, Concessions (over 65's and youngsters in school or college) £13.00 & Children U14 £10.00

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



The Folkestone - Hythe,
Operatic & Dramatic Society
Presents

An Amateur production by arrangement
with the Really Useful Company

Originally directed by
Harold Prince

Directed by Michael Manton
Musical Director Daniel Moulton

Registered Charity: 1001311

lyrics by Tim Rice music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

June 24th - July 2nd
2.30pm & 7.30pm

Tickets £15
concessions £13, children U14 £10

BOX OFFICE 01303 223925 or
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

The Tower Theatre
North Road
Folkestone CT20 3HL

T T T
THE TOWER THEATRE

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

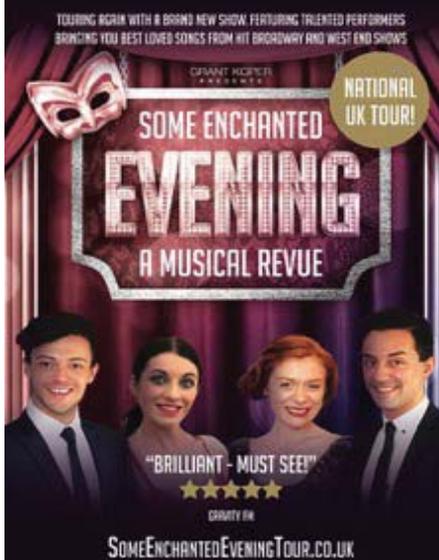
After the phenomenal success from their last tour, Some Enchanted Evening is on the road again with a brand new show and returning to the Tower Theatre

Featuring some of the industry's most talented professionals, performing beloved songs from hit Broadway and West End Shows.

This show leaves audiences with a smile on their face and a song in their heart. A stunning experience...certainly not to be missed.

Date| 22nd July 2016 at 7.30pm

Tickets| £12.00



TOURING AGAIN WITH A BRAND NEW SHOW, FEATURING TALENTED PERFORMERS
BRINGING YOU BEST LOVED SONGS FROM HIT BROADWAY AND WEST END SHOWS

GRANT MICHELS
PRODUCES

**SOME ENCHANTED
EVENING**
A MUSICAL REVUE

NATIONAL
UK TOUR!

"BRILLIANT - MUST SEE!"
★★★★★
CRASHY IN

SomeEnchantedEveningTour.co.uk

Summer Workshop Guys & Dolls

Following the success of last year's FHODS/Beddow Summer Workshop hit Andrew Lloyd-Webber musical Cats. The workshop is back with the perfect musical for young people to stage and any youngsters are looking for two weeks' solid activity this summer, please contact Claire Beddow on 07802260858 or at beddowacademy@googlemail.com

Dates: 1st -13th August, with performances on the 12 and 13th August at 2.00pm and 7.00pm

What a feat!!

Cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats, not on a piano but with one strapped to his back. Raising money for Children In Need Mike Hatchard is undertaking this monumental task. He is stopping off to perform a small concert here to help with the fund raising.

He will be in the Bar at the Tower Theatre with his piano so come and meet this intrepid musician.

Doors open at 6.30pm and the concert commences at 7.30pm

2016		Diary Dates
13th May	8.00pm	<i>Blues Bros</i> - They are back with guests for a fun filled concert in the Tower Bar
25th - 28th May	2.30pm & 7.30pm	<i>The Miracle Worker</i> FHODS Play
4th - 11th June	Various	<i>Sandgate Music Festival</i> - Held in various venues including the Tower Theatre
27th June	7.30pm	<i>FHODS AGM</i>
23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th June, 1st & 2nd July	2.30pm & 7.30pm	<i>Evita</i> FHODS Summer Musical
12th July	7.00pm	<i>Mike Hatchard</i> Man on a bike with a piano
22nd July	7.30pm	<i>Some Enchanted Evening II</i> Welcome return of the Grant Koper singing group bringing all songs from the shows
1st - 13th Aug	9.30am - 4.00pm	<i>Guys & Dolls</i> Summer Workshop
21st - 24th Sept	2.30pm & 7.30pm	<i>Pat and Margaret</i> FHODS Play
28th Sept	7.30pm	<i>Railway Swing Band</i> Playing for the RAFA Wings Appeal
2nd - 5th Nov	2.30pm & 7.30pm	<i>One Man and Two Governors</i> FHODS Play

Folkestone Jazz Club Brings Top Class Jazz To The Tower Theatre Every Week See The Website For Details

**CYCLING from
LAND'S END to
JOHN O'GROATS...**

...with a PIANO



In the summer of 2016, to celebrate his sixtieth birthday veteran Edinburgh Fringe performer **Mike Hatchard** is planning to cycle from **Land's End to John o'Groats** - with a **piano!**

Not a real piano (obviously) but nevertheless a fairly hefty electric one - quite an undertaking. Performing concerts along the way, the virtuoso musician and raconteur will open at the **Minack Theatre**, Cornwall, on the 29th June 2016. He will then cycle along the South Coast before heading North to perform his Edinburgh Festival Show '**Beetroot Juice** - How I went from being street performer to concert musician - and back again.'

