



# FUN THÉÂTRE BULLETIN



28th January 2022 | Edition 01 | Newsletter

## *Welcome*

Welcome to the very first edition of the *Fun Théâtre Bulletin* - the newsletter of Fun Théâtre Communautaire (FTC) - in which we hope to share with you some of the exciting news and events of this great society!

Since producing the excellent pantomime in the Spring of 2019, the members of FTC have had many plans and events thwarted by the COVID pandemic, much to the disappointment of us all, including the postponement and eventual cancellation of the murder mystery evening.

Fortunately, the enthusiasm of many of the members for theatrical performances in both French and English remains undimmed. In this edition of the *Bulletin*, we will share news of the recent AGM where the future plans of the society were discussed and agreed. Plus, we will give you the low down on the recent performance of *The Sunshine Boys* – a small step towards the large-scale performances planned for the future which involved a cast and crew of both English and French members of the society, and was attended by an audience of 100.

We hope to make this newsletter a regular feature to enable all members of FTC to remain in touch during these uncertain times. If there is something you would like to know more about, if you have an article you would like to submit for possible inclusion in the *Bulletin* or you have ideas that you would like to be passed on to the executive officers please email: [hello@funtheatre.fr](mailto:hello@funtheatre.fr)

## *Dates for your diary*

### **Fun Théâtre Open Evening**

**22<sup>nd</sup> February 19h to 22h** at Les Salles des Associations, in Passais la Conception, with the presentation of the exciting new programme of events for members from 20h to 21h including revealing the play to be performed in French later this year!

### **Spring 2022**

Fun sessions to prepare for the pantomime begin in March.

### **Summer 2022**

**29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Fun Théâtre Picnic** at Logerie, 61220 Saires La Verrerie

### **Autumn 2022**

A play to be performed in French, details to be revealed at the Open Evening

### **December 2022**

Participation in the Téléthon at Passais

### **From January 2023 Pantomime**

*Cendrillon et ses demi-sœurs* de Passais  
Rehearsals commence

We hope to add some social events to this calendar to help us all stay in touch with each other. If you have an idea or are able to host an event please contact: [hello@funtheatre.fr](mailto:hello@funtheatre.fr)

## The Sunshine Boys

We sold exactly 100 tickets over the two nights in December 2021. The audience were largely English of course, although we did have a few French people too. Many of our members came to see the play, which was greatly appreciated by all.

Income was 700€. Our biggest cost was licensing at 275€. Other costs including printing and ticketing fees brought the total expenditure to 380€, meaning that we added 320€ to our bank account. A success all round.

But one of our principal objectives was to keep FTC alive, active and visible. We certainly achieved this, with the event being publicised in the *Publicateur Libre* and in *Ouest France* before and after the event.

Graham Follett, FTC President

## The Production Team



Rosa took the helm of this production, directing the actors and bringing to fruition her view of this well-known show in the style of a radio broadcast. This worked well, easing the actors back in to performing after the long break due to the COVID restrictions.

She was joined by Peter Daniels, taking charge of the technical side of the production for his first outing with FTC. Bringing years of experience supporting amateur companies in the UK, he hopes this will be the first of many here in Normandie.

The FTC broadcasting designs for the set were created by Martin Minshall - resulting in a brand new, bespoke logo for Fun Théâtre.

## The Cast



## THE SUNSHINE BOYS

3rd & 4th December 2021  
Salle Multiculturelle  
Passais-la-Conception 61350

by Neil Simon

An English-language, 'radio broadcast' style presentation by  fun ftc  
théâtre communautaire



## Background to The Sunshine Boys

This play was originally conceived as an 'extra'. Something that would be produced by a small number of members between our main shows. The original intention was to perform it in several small venues (bar/restaurants).

However, this plan was impacted by the COVID pandemic. It was cancelled twice. We revived it again for the end of 2021, although the COVID situation once again impacted on our plans. Instead of using small venues, where we felt the number of people who could safely attend would render it financially unviable, it was transferred to the theatre in Passais. We also had to make a number of cast changes with new members stepping in when it became clear that some of the original cast were no longer able to participate. Nevertheless, we felt that we had an excellent show to present to the public.

When the two nights of the show finally arrived the dark and rainy weather did not keep our audience away. The performances were very successful, complimented by the bar which rounded off two very enjoyable evenings. We hope that, although only a small number of members of FTC have been able to be involved with it, the whole membership would appreciate the work that had been put in to keep FTC alive and well.

*Come and join your fellow members of FTC for a sociable evening of conversation and planning for the future of your association*

*Rekindle old friendships and establish some new ones*

*Looking forward to seeing you there*

### FUN THÉÂTRE PORTES OUVERTES

*Find out about:*

- ✦ Future productions - two great opportunities for members this year
- ✦ Including: the play in French - the big reveal
- ✦ new social events
- ✦ register your interest
- ✦ light refreshments available

*All are welcome so if you know anyone who might be interested in joining FTC, please bring them along*

**WHEN:** 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 19h00 to 22h00  
20h00 to 21h00 Presentation of the events programme for 2022/23 including revealing the play to be performed in French for autumn 2022

**WHERE:** Salles des associations, Passais La Conception



## So, what next?

FTC have two main performance objectives for the future:

- ✦ The first is a play in French, performed in the radio broadcast style that worked successfully for The Sunshine Boys, later in 2022 – news on exciting developments in this project to be revealed at the Open Evening
- ✦ The second is the staging of a dual language pantomime in March 2023

Running alongside these are many other possible activities for the members of FTC including:

- ✦ a range of fun activities that will develop skills required for the panto
- ✦ an enhanced calendar of social events
- ✦ participation in Passais Villages activities such as the Forum des Associations and the Telethon 2022.

We are hoping that 2022 will be a busy year for FTC.

# A.G.M.

The A.G.M. of Fun Théâtre Communautaire was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021. It was attended by fourteen members of the association, including three officers, and Madam le maire of Passais Villages.

A report on matters arising from the 2020 A.G.M. and current activities of the association was presented by the president. This included: more information regarding the cancellation of the Murder Mystery evening; setting out future presentations by the company; and deferment of membership fees for 2021.

A financial report was presented by the treasurer. Part 1 covered up to the end of March 2021; Part 2 covered to the end of Dec 2021. They detailed the losses incurred due to the cancellation of the Murder Mystery Evening and the income generated by The Sunshine Boys at the time of the meeting (prior to the performances). Key figures to note:

- ✦ Bank balance at 23.11.2021 483.33€
- ✦ Loan to society by president 2390€
- ✦ Remaining MM ticket liabilities 1180€

A clear aim was established that the proceeds from the pantomime in spring 2023 would clear these liabilities and not funds or donations generated in any other way, including subscriptions.

Membership Fees for 2021 have been deferred to 2022 due to the lack of activities within the association brought about by COVID restrictions.

Election of officers was presented by the secretary of the association. The president, treasurer and secretary all agreed to stand for re-election. The role of vice president was vacant due to Tina stepping down. Martyn Crowe volunteered to take on the role. These appointments were agreed unanimously by those members present.

The meeting then moved on to discuss the future for the association including: performance objectives; inaugural gathering 2022; programme of acting workshops. It was agreed by all present that the future of the association seems very positive despite setbacks during the pandemic.

## *Any other business:*

- ✦ The president reported that contact had been made with “Danse Moderne” in Domfront who have confirmed their interest in collaborating with FTC for the 2023 panto.
- ✦ Members were concerned about the deficit on the balance sheet, and especially the duration of the loan from the president who appears to be taking the brunt of the consequences of events surrounding the cancellation of the Murder Mystery Evening.
- ✦ All members present agreed that repayment of the loan following the pantomime in 2023 should be made a definite objective for the society.
- ✦ It was also suggested that the next gathering of the society should have a more social feel to encourage a larger number of members to attend.

## *Your Officers are:*

President: Graham Follett

Treasurer: Richard Biddlecombe

Secretary: Véronique Reinaudo-Sorin

Vice-president: Martyn Crowe

Membership secretary: Joan Peagam

Publicity Officer: Cathy Daniels

We hope that you have enjoyed reading this first edition of the *Fun Théâtre Bulletin* and that you have found the information it contains enlightening.

This newsletter was compiled by Cathy and if you would like to contact her regarding content for future editions (in English or in French) please email [hello@funtheatre.fr](mailto:hello@funtheatre.fr)

Coming in the next edition of the *Bulletin*:

- ✦ Introducing your officers
- ✦ Suggestions for our social calendar
- ✦ Dates for the panto activities