



Catholic Association of Performing Arts

CaAPA NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2018

Secretary – Molly Steele. E-mail: secretary@caapa.org.uk

Dear Member

I find it VERY hard to believe that we are now at the start of another year. I am still wondering where 2017 went!! I hope you had a very happy Christmas.

LOOKING BACK AT 2017

The Students Evening was, as usual, a great success despite the fact that this took place on the day of the terrorist attack on Westminster Bridge and this did deter some of the students from attending, including the winner of the Sir Alec Guinness Award which was a pity, but understandable. We also considered whether, in the circumstances, we should go ahead but we decided no terrorist attack would stop CaAPA. In May, **Michael Harrington's** play – **Locks and Shocks** - had its first showing at the CAA. This was a great success, was directed by **Kenneth Michaels** and well acted by **Robin Marchal, Nadia Ostacchini and Donncha Kearney**. In October **Robin Marchal** put on his production of **Women in the Church** at the CAA at which CaAPA members performed short plays written by other members of CaAPA. This event raised much needed funds to help the work of the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre. On the 23 November **Locks and Shocks** was performed at Holy Apostles, Pimlico, and, on this occasion, was performed by **Robin Marchal, Jane Garioni and Alasdair Melrose** and was again directed by **Kenneth Michaels**. These three events were CaAPA at its best so very many thanks to those members who took part and to those who came along to support them. Thank you to **Robin Marchal** and the cast at both events. They were all terrific. The first showing in May raised quite a lot of money for **CRISES**. The proceeds of the second showing – a quite considerable sum of money thanks to the incredible generosity of the audience – went to the homeless. In this day and age it is appalling that so many people are homeless at all, but thankfully there are organisations such as **The Passage** and **CRISES** and many others who are there to help. So a **VERY** special thank you to **Michael Harrington**, for all his hard work in writing **Locks and Stocks**, for ensuring that there was not only one showing but two and for raising money to help to make life a little bit easier for the homeless.

Congratulations to **Siobhan Murphy** who put on her own event at the CAA on 16 November when she performed **A Miscellany** which included songs from the musical theatre

ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner on 8 December at Allen Hall was a great success and all the feedback I have received has been very good. There was a great atmosphere, the hall looked lovely and the food was good. **Father John Warnaby** was our guest of honour and his reminiscences about his time as an actor were simply hilarious. We were also delighted that the actress, **Clare Higgins**, who is a long standing friend of **Fr John**, was able to come along. It was a very cold night but that didn't deter some of our hardy members from venturing out into the garden to visit the mulberry tree and remember **St Thomas More** with prayers led by **Fr Alan**.

ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE

This was held at Corpus Christi on 15 December. **Charity**, the soloist, sang beautifully, members of CaAPA did the readings and everyone joined in the carols. Following the service wine and mince pies were served at the back of the church. Our thanks to Fr Alan for leading the Carol Service and for his warm welcome.

We have come to the end of 2017 and look forward to 2018 and what it might bring. All our events don't just happen – a lot of hard work goes into the organisation of events and **THAT** involves CaAPA members. So at the end of 2017 a BIG thank you to **Fr Alan**, our Chaplain, **Fr Chris Vipers**, **Fr Dennis Touw** and **Fr Geoffery Wheaton**, our Assistant Chaplains, **Michael Slater**, our MC, the Administrators of the Sir Alec Guinness Award (**Patrick, Jane, and Michael**). to **Gabrielle** who organises the Students Evening (believe me, that is **NO** mean feat!) to those who serve on our Committee, **Richard, Fr Alan, Penny, Peter, Michael, Charlotte, Alastair, Jonathan, Ken, Yvonne** (our Treasurer), **Terry**, to **Jimena**, for updating our website, **Nadia**, our Facebook expert, our Trustees, **Mgr Vlad, Richard, Michael, Robin, Jane, Dympna**. Thank you to **ALL** of them for giving their time so freely on behalf of CaAPA.

**MAY YOU ALL HAVE A BLESSED
AND VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**