



Castle Cary & Ansford Carnival Society

Somerset's Family Carnival • established since 1977

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 28 June 2011

Outline

Local Carnival stages a gala night of song from the twenties, thirties and forties. Castle Cary & Ansford's Carnival Committee is staging a welcome return of the Vintage Varieties group to Castle Cary, to perform their well-received evening of song. The event takes place at the Constitutional Club, Castle Cary, on Friday 8 July, starting at 7.30 pm. All proceeds go to funding this year's Cary & Ansford Carnival.

Story

The Constitutional Club will be the scene for the fifth return to Castle Cary of the Vintage Varieties company, performing their established wide range of standards from the twenties, thirties and forties. The cast will cover favourites from jazz standards like Sweet Georgia Brown to the evergreens like the White Cliffs Of Dover. With frequent costume changes and some imaginative stage moves, the show includes some gentle humour and audience sing-a-longs.

The event is in aid of Cary's 2011 Carnivals: Committee Secretary Sue Stockman said, "This is always a popular event and great fun: we encourage folk to dress in period costume and many do. We also include in the price a good buffet so, all-in-all it's a good night out and the kind of direct entertainment you don't see so much these days."

Tickets for the show (£7.50 - includes supper) are on sale now and available from Committee Treasurer Ann Emery (01963 34696 / 07840 116127) and the Constitutional Club, Castle Cary. Tickets will also be available on the door on the night.

More information: Cary Carnival web site: www.castlecary-carnival.org.uk.

Background

The Castle Cary & Ansford Carnival has existed in its present form for over 30 years, but its history dates back to the 1920s. Popularly known as "Somerset's Family Carnival", it usually takes place annually on the evening of the second Saturday in October; the Children's Carnival usually takes place on the afternoon of the preceding Saturday.

The Carnival is sixth in the Wessex Grand Prix Circuit sequence of towns.

It costs in excess of £5000 to present Cary's carnivals each year. They are produced entirely by volunteers of the Castle Cary & Ansford Carnival Committee and receive no public or charitable funding. Local carnival clubs include Cary Comedians (www.carycomedians.co.uk) and the Britannia Carnival Club (www.freewebs.com/britcc05).

The Vintage Varieties Company describes itself as: a group of old hands who, many years ago, decided that what the Great British Public needed was a good old knees up around the Joanna. They have performed breath-taking melodramas, daring feats of magic and mesmerising demonstrations of terpsichore in village halls and Scout huts throughout the area, all without the aid of a safety net.

The company of 2009 included Musical Director Lynne Merrifield and Ralph 'Dhobi' White on percussion. The cast includes James Buckle and Charmaine Bray, Mary Buckle, David Evans, Bryan Hallett, Colin Martin and Vivienne Patterson-Evans.

To check latest information, contact Bryan Hallett (see next page).

Photo

Cast of the Vintage Varieties Company (attached)



Further Information:

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