

TAMWORTH ARTS CLUB

EIGHTH MUSICAL THEATRE VOCAL COMPETITION - 1st – 4th July 2010

FIRST PRIZE £1000.00

GRAND FINAL - Sunday 4th July 2010 at THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS THEATRE, TAMWORTH

In 1996 the **Tamworth Arts Club** celebrated its **Golden Jubilee**.

During that year many ventures were planned to make it a memorable year in our history.

It was decided to hold a **“Musical Theatre Vocal Competition”** for **young people between the ages of 15 and 25, offering prizes of £200, £100 and £50.**

We were eventually, by means of an anonymous donation, able to give 4th and 5th prizes as well.

We opened the competition to the whole of the Midland area and had a wonderful evening when

15 young people showed exceptional talent to a “gob smacked” audience.

The success of the competition meant that we committed ourselves to making this a **biennial event**.

The 1998 competition was so well responded to that we had to appoint a second accompanist

(we do not allow piped music or amplification, although people can use their own accompanist)

We had to introduce an elimination round after which ten qualifiers sang their second song.

Following the success of the 1998 competition we entered into negotiation with the new head of Arts and Media at the Borough Council, with a view to making the **Millennium Competition even bigger and better - widening the catchment, substantially increased prize money and well known adjudicators** on the panel for **“A Grand Final”**.

As a result the **Tamworth Borough Council** gave us their full support. Additional sponsorship from **Tamworth Cooperative Society, Tamworth Herald, Rotary Club of Tamworth** and the **Lady meadow Restaurant** enabled us to **(as well as the £1000 first prize!)** award 2nd prize of £250 and 3rd prize of £100.

In July 2002, again with the support of **Tamworth Borough Council**, sponsorship from **Tamworth Cooperative Society** and **Tamworth Herald** plus a donation from the **Local Arts Grant Scheme** to cover the cost of our accompanists we were able to increase the second and third prizes to £400 and £150.

For the 2004, 2006 and 2008 Competitions we managed additional sponsorship from the **Staffordshire County Council Local Member Initiative Scheme** and **Stagecoach Tamworth**.

It is now time for interested young people to get their applications in for the 2008 Competition.

The Tamworth Arts Club has **again** committed itself to giving a first prize of **£1000.00 in 2010**.

The **Borough Council** are giving us their support and **sponsorship** has already been received or promised from **Tamworth Cooperative Society, Rotary Club of Tamworth, Tamworth Herald, Stagecoach Tamworth** and we have been granted a donation from the Tamworth Borough Council's **Local Arts Initiative Scheme**.

We have also requested sponsorship from *the* **Staffordshire County Council Local Community Fund**, who have been very generous in the past, and if running costs can be covered then we will surely be able to offer substantial additional prize money once again.

We can, once again, look to a maximum entry of up to 65.

Former Arts Club Member, **Michael Encot**, who is now a top university lecturer of music in London will once again be heading the Adjudicating Panel.

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