

SHEILA'S ISLAND

A Comedy in Thick Fog

By Tim Firth

AUDITION NOTICE

Imagine you are sitting at work one day and an email comes into your inbox: "You have been selected to take part in a team building exercise in the Lake District in November" How might you react? "*Oh bloody hell*" or "*what a lovely opportunity to get to know my colleagues*". Perhaps "*I need to make sure I've got all the proper gear*" or "*Oh yes, I'm good at this sort of thing*".

The above would be the prelude to what takes place in "Sheila's Island". 4 ladies are put in a team and they somehow end up on an island in the middle of Lake Windermere having to swim the last part of the journey because their boat sank. Over the next 24 hours we learn about these ladies and how they react to this less than ideal situation! What transpires is both funny and moving. Tim Firth's script contains some very dark humour and well observed insights into how people interact; it is a fantastic opportunity for actors to develop these four very different characters.

If you yearn for a glamorous role with gorgeous costumes, then this is definitely not for you! At the start of the play all four characters emerge from the waters of the lake, soaking wet in their hiking gear. And yes, there will be water on stage and you will not just get a few drops sprinkled on you as you enter. (Fear not, dry clothing is found fairly quickly, so you won't be too uncomfortable for long 😊).

This is a contemporary script with some challenging and enjoyable opportunities for actors, lighting, sound and set design and construction. We already have a fantastic team who have started work on the designs and I am very excited about the prospect of getting to work with the actors.

Sheila: (oh yes, I'm good at this sort of thing). Perhaps not a natural choice for team leader but her enthusiasm for crosswords is sure to mean that her team will win the challenge.

Denise: ("Oh bloody hell"). Sarcasm is Denise's stock in trade and she just says it as it is. She has very few social filters.

Julie: ("I need to make sure I've got all the proper gear"). A perfectionist who does everything by the book, Julie's rucksack saves the day several times but it is doubtful that she actually knows how to use much of the equipment she has brought with her. And where is Marcus??!

Fay: Fay is a Christian and is lovely to everyone but she has some issues that need to be resolved. These issues build during the course of the play and provide one of the surprises near the end. Annoying at first, but gradually the others recognise they need to help her.

Auditions will take place on Tuesday March 14th and Thursday March 16th at 7.30 pm and on Saturday March 18th at 10.00 am. Copies of the script will be available in the "next production" pigeon hole in the foyer at the Corn Exchange. If you would like to audition but can't make the above dates please drop me a line. Alternatively, you could speak to my **Producer**, Julie Utley.

Gloria Wright (email: gloriawrightox10@gmail.com)
Director