

**12 January 2009 1:00pm**

We meet tonight at 7pm for those who can make it for our first rehearsal. Please ensure that you have downloaded the script and bring a printed copy to each rehearsal.

Tonight we will put you into your acting groups. Those who are Main Characters plus Jessica and Bonnie will be with Don and Robert. Those who are Stage Readers will also be with Don and Robert until the first rehearsal in February when Gillian will be taking over the Stage Readers. Carol and Gerard will have the Supporting Cast and the Extras.

**Act One will be finished by the end of January, Act Two in February and Act Three by mid March. By 15 February everyone must be "off script" for Act One and Act Two. Everyone must be "off script" for Act Three by 8 March. These are your absolute final dates. Everyone is encouraged to work on their own to be prepared ahead of these deadlines.**

SPRING BREAK begins the weekend of our 15 March rehearsal and we will cancel that rehearsal time.

THE EPILOGUE will begin rehearsals in February and will involve *Impromptu* method acting. This means that in place of memorizing a script the players will rehearse scripted scenes together and form their own dialogue and acting cues. This will be explained later and should be fun. Each scene will have a situation and a theme that the actors are free to interpret. Once the scene is rehearsed the players must keep to the format, but do not have to remember word for word their lines. Those players waiting for newly minted speaking parts will be asked to prepare for the Epilogue scenes as outlined in the script. Several additional scenes will be introduced to the The Epilogue to cover current and new Afghanistan events and a scene with Bonnie and Harvey talking with each other as school kids will take place.

**The entire play will be completed by 22 March. We will have two rehearsals on 29 March and 5 April when we will run**

**through the entire play. We will then break again for Easter. There will be no rehearsal on Easter Sunday 12 April.**

After Easter there will be more frequent rehearsals from 19 April onward as we approach our original play date which is tentatively scheduled for SATURDAY EVENING 2 MAY 2009.

HERE IS HOW THINGS ARE BEING PLANNED OUT:

There will be more frequent rehearsals during our final two weeks before the performance. As it stands now there will be just the one performance date. We are waiting for final confirmation of the troop return dates and the expected conclusion date for the initial leave time (11 days). Our fixed performance date is subject to the conclusion of the initial leave period plus enough time to hold two dress rehearsals. What this will mean is that those players who will be involved in the initial leave period will be excused if they need time off. Once we have a fixed performance date (within the next month or so) we will let everyone know. For now we want you to know the formula for choosing a fixed performance date so that you can be prepared.