

A Quiz About BROWNSEA OPEN AIR THEATRE

1 When was the first Shakespeare play performed on Brownsea Island ?

- A) 1964 B) 1970 C) 1974

2 What was the first Shakespeare play performed on Brownsea Island?

- A) A Midsummer Night's Dream
B) The Tempest
C) Macbeth

3 Where is Brownsea Island ?

- A) Mounts Bay B) Western Isles C) Poole Harbour

4 Are the actors who perform in Brownsea Open Air Theatre plays paid?

- A) Sometimes according to experience or reputation
B) Never
C) If the play is successful and makes a profit

5 Can anyone audition to be a cast member ?

- A) Yes
B) No unless invited by the Director
C) Yes if they send in a recording of any Shakespeare play in which they have performed

6 How does the audience get to Brownsea Island on performance nights ?

- A) They all use their own boats B) By ferry

ANSWERS

1 A) 1964

The Bournemouth Little Theatre Club wanted to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's birth in 1564. They asked the National Trust, who had recently become the proud owners of Brownsea Island, if they could stage an open air production on the Island.

2 B) The Tempest

As the play is set on an Island, no scenery was required. The Bournemouth Little Theatre Club advertised three performances, but these sold out so quickly that a fourth was added. Such was the success that it became an annual event and Brownsea Open Air Theatre was born.

3 C) Poole Harbour

The full address is Brownsea Island, Poole Harbour BH13 7EE

4 B) Never

All cast and crew give freely of their time. All must be over 16 years old.

5 A) Yes

Anyone over 16 years old can audition. New members are most welcome. In the event of anyone being disappointed not to secure a part there are so many skills required to put on the performance.

Skilled and non skilled people are required for Lighting, Sound, Costumes, Props. Set Build, Front of House, Catering, Back stage Crew. The list is endless.

6 B) By Ferry

The price of the ticket includes water transport to and from Brownsea Island, entry to the property which is owned by the National Trust and a numbered seat in the seated auditorium. Private landing on Brownsea island is not allowed when the Island is closed to visitors and there is no publicly accessed jetty at any time