

# Sodbury Players' Newsletter

25 Oct. 2005



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## Bonfire Party

The fireworks have arrived and final preparations are being made for the bonfire party on Saturday 5th November. The fire will be lit at 6.30pm with the first round of fireworks starting at 7pm. Tickets are £5 for adults and £2 for small children. Please see Annette for tickets. Hot food is being provided along with mulled wine and lemonade.

## Pantomime Painting

We have now had the first technical meeting and Gerry now has some ideas of what is required.

He will be at the huts in Horse Street every Saturday between 19th November and 17th December for all those that are able to help in any way (no great skill required!). Please bring old clothes to wear though. The painting/set building team will also be at the huts on Tuesday evenings. Gerry can be contacted on 01454 317057.

## Pantomime

Please note that the date for Chipping Sodbury Victorian Evening is Friday 9th December (not 2nd as previously stated). We are hoping to have a good display outside the Town Hall so please come down and give us a hand promoting the pantomime.

The dates for the pantomime include opening on the Friday night but unlike last year we will stick to the 2pm & 6pm performances on the first Saturday.

## Play Reading Evenings

Ted Hughes has written another pantomime and will be holding a play reading evening on Tuesday 1st November in the West Room. Please come along and support this if you have some spare time.

## SPYS

Maggie is up and about and doing really well. Congratulations to Grant & Amy for their main parts in the panto — these are the first large roles for both of them.

## One Act Entry

"Wilfred and Len", Sodbury Players' entry for the 2006 round of local festivals is, like 2005, a First World War drama. Written by Steve Mercer it depicts a chance meeting in the dying stages of the war between Len, an army sergeant and Wilfred Owen, the famous war poet and army officer.

Set on a country railway station 'between trains' there is a brief exchange based on their love of poetry. However, it soon transpires that their verses stem from quite different experiences as are the journeys on which both are engaged. The play calls for very sensitive acting on the part of the two men, both of whom at the time were young for their ranks and circumstances - both in their mid twenties. There are two sizeable supporting parts for Alice, Len's wife (also in her early or mid twenties) and the Station Master who is in his fifties or early sixties. Both supporting parts allow more than sufficient stage time to develop the characters and impact. If acted as

intended the play should leave a 'lump in the throat'. The script was shortlisted in 2004 for both the 2004 Gloucestershire and Scottish Community writing competitions. This will however be its first staging. Steve would like to cast the play early in November. For further details and reading scripts please contact Steve. Mobile 07815 476111.

## **Backstage Help**

We are always on the look out for new members but currently we could really use people who are willing to help out with back stage work such as set building, crew, props and other hands-on technical roles.

## **One Act Hosting**

For our 60th anniversary we are hosting the Avon One Act festival in the Town Hall. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help organise this event. Please note that the Swindon One Act dates clash with this week! The Cheltenham dates are not known at this time.

## **Christmas Dinner Dance.**

Annette now has the full menu for the dinner dance on Saturday 3rd December. The cost will be £15.50 per head and Annette will be collecting names/money soon.

### ***Starters***

- Homemade Soup of the Day
- Seasonal Melon with Lemon sorbet, drizzled with a fruit sauce
- Homemade fishcake on a bed of dressed leaves, with a sweet chilli dressing
- Chef's own pate served with warm toast
- Creamed mushrooms finished with fresh herbs and a garlic crouton

### ***Main courses***

- Braised rib eye steak on a bed of herb mash
- Traditional turkey with all the trimmings
- Chilean Bass on a bed of dressed leaves

knapped with balsamic dressing

- Lamb ragu served with a crispy pastry lid
- Avocado brie stir fry vegetable strudel
- Wild mushroom Wellington

### ***Desserts***

- Baileys cheesecake with candied orange and vanilla ice cream
- Selection of European cheeses and biscuits
- Christmas pudding and custard
- Fresh fruit salad in a cointreau sauce

### ***Coffee & Mince pies***

## **Forthcoming Productions**

We have now organised a voice workshop focusing on American accents on 31st Jan 2006.

## **Dates for Diary**

- 5 Nov ~ Bonfire Party
- 16 Nov ~ Next Committee meeting
- 3 Dec ~ Dinner Dance @ Golf Club
- 9 Dec ~ Chipping Sodbury Victorian Evening
- 13-21 Jan ~ Babes in the Wood
- 31 Jan ~ American voice workshop (TBC)
- 20-25 Feb ~ One Act hosting
- 23-25 Feb ~ Swindon One Act
- 10-13 May ~ The Curious Savage