

# Sodbury Players Newsletter

Issue 37



Edited by Robert and Diane Owen



Jan 01

## Jack and the Beanstalk

Final preparations are ongoing for our first production of 2001, "Jack and the Beanstalk". The final rehearsal at Ridgewood is on Tuesday followed by Technical and Dress rehearsals on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at the Town Hall. If you are not involved in the show come along and give some moral support! If anyone can help with front-of house for the show please contact Debbie.

After a slow start, ticket sales have started picking up - hopefully boosted by some excellent coverage in the local press. Nevertheless there are still plenty of tickets available, particularly for the mid-week performances so please do your best to sell as many as possible.

After the first Saturday night performance Debbie is organising a meal at the new Chinese Restaurant in Chipping Sodbury - please let Debbie or Stephen know if you want to go.

Finally, best of luck to Stan and his cast and crew for a successful show.

## 2001 Spring Play

Our spring play this year will be "A Day of Reckoning" - a play with humour and pathos by Pamela Valentine which will be directed by Sue Bridgeman. The cast are:

Ethel Swift	Country woman (middle aged)
Angela Brownlee	Infant school teacher (20's)
Mavis Partridge	83
Sally Martin	Army wife (40's)
Gloria Pitt	Honorary Secretary (middle aged)
Pauline Morris	Vicar's wife (50's)
Marjorie Organ	Breezy, outspoken (30's)
Geoffrey Morris	Vicar (50's)

Note that ages are not very important.

Initial readings will be held on Tuesday 30 Jan and Thursday 1 Feb (note that our main rehearsal room will be used for one-act rehearsals on these nights). Auditions will be held on 6,8,13 and 15 Feb with casting to be agreed on 15 Feb.

## One Act Festivals - 2001

Our one-act festival entry "Privileges", by Roy Whitlow has now been cast:

Dora Stannard	Sian Butler
Elizabeth Hurlingham	Norma Graves
Violet Beet	Marion Whitlow
Dennis Potterton	George Kousouros
Enoch Pollard	Mark Graves
Kyra Grayford	Diane Owen
Barbara Hallam	Pennie Sutton

The back stage crew are:

Director	Roy Whitlow
Stage Manager	Phil Oliver
Prompt/Direction	
Assistant	Mavis Davison
Lighting	Rob Owen
Sound	Stephen Bashford
Properties	Karin Davies

The first performance (Avon Festival) will be at the Rondo Theatre, Bath on Thursday 22 February. Hopefully we will get a good turnout from members to boost the audience.

We will also be entering the Cheltenham (5-10 Mar) and Malmesbury (12-17 Mar) festivals but our performance night for these is not yet known.

Also note that we will be hosting the regional one act finals night on Saturday 7th April at the Town Hall. Further details nearer the time.

## Future Productions

The committee are working hard to try to select our next year's productions prior to the AGM. If anyone has ideas for any plays or would be interested in directing next season, please contact Robert or one of the Committee.

## Play Readings

The next Play reading will be on Tuesday 27th February. If anyone has any plays that they think are worth reading please contact Diane.

## Christmas Dinner Dance

On Friday 1st December we had our annual Christmas dinner dance at the Chipping Sodbury Golf Club. Overall the feedback has been very positive - food better than previous year, good band and pleasant venue. Many thanks to Debbie for pulling it all together. We have managed to get a date a bit nearer Christmas next year - Saturday December 15th - get it in your diaries now!

## Ten Pin Bowling

Following the success of our previous ten pin bowling events, Debbie is arranging another on Tuesday 20 March. Further details next newsletter but note that there will be no club night or rehearsal on that night.

## Costumes

There have been some concerns raised recently regarding members (and possibly non-members!) borrowing costumes and other items owned by the Group without keeping records of who has got what. Whilst it is fine in principle for members to make use of costumes and other items it is also important that we ensure we know what has been borrowed and that items are returned promptly after use. In certain situations it may also be appropriate for a small donation to be made to the Group.

The Committee is looking at ways of improving the current situation but in the meantime

if you wish to borrow any costumes please contact Sian.

## SPYS

In response to the commitment that the group of younger members have shown during the pantomime, the committee are keen to provide further opportunities for the youth to develop their talents and hopefully provide a source of future younger members to the adult group. Fortunately we have had some offers from members to help take things forward and hopefully by the time the pantomime has finished we will be in a position to continue with activities for the youth.

## Dates for your diary

16-19 Jan	Panto tech/dress rehearsals
20-27 Jan	Pantomime
30 Jan	Spring Play read through
1 Feb	Spring Play read through
6 Feb	Spring Play auditions
8 Feb	Spring Play auditions
13 Feb	Spring Play auditions
15 Feb	Spring Play casting
22 Feb	Avon One-act
27 Feb	Play reading
5-10 Mar	Cheltenham One act festival
12-17 Mar	Malmesbury One act festival
20 March	Ten Pin Bowling
7 April	One act regional final
23-26 May	Spring Play