

Sodbury Players Newsletter

Issue 38



Edited by Robert and Diane Owen

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Jack and the Beanstalk

It seems an age ago now but its actually only just over a month since we finished our annual pantomime run. We had another very successful show with lots of positive feedback from the audiences. The publicity was excellent resulting in very good attendance at all performances and a useful profit for the group. Many thanks to Stan and his cast and crew for all their hard work. Also best wishes to Julian for a speedy full recovery of his arm.

2001 Spring Play

Our spring play "A Day of Reckoning" by Pamela Valentine which is being directed by Sue Bridgeman is now cast:

Ethel Swift	Norma Graves
Angela Brownlee	Jacqui Ward
Mavis Partridge	Pauline Pincott
Sally Martin	Sian Butler
Gloria Pitt	Marion Whitlow
Pauline Morris	Wendy Whittle
Marjorie Organ	Ros Kent
Geoffrey Morris	Mark Seaman

The backstage crew will be:

Stage Manager	Phil Oliver
Lights	Tim Hunter
Sound	Stephen Bashford
	Rob Creer
Props	Julian Hinton
	Andrew Allsopp
Costumes	Brenda Allen
Prompt	Maggie Allsopp
Box Office	Roy Whitlow

We are still looking for someone to do Front of House - any offers to Sue or Robert please.

Set Building will be starting soon - watch notice board for details.

One Act Festivals - 2001

Our one-act festival entry "Privileges", by Roy Whitlow was performed at the Avon festival last week. No silver this time despite a very favourable adjudication. Congratulations to Sian Butler who was nominated for best actress and Mark Graves who was nominated for best actor.

We are also performing at the Cheltenham festival on Friday 9 March and at the Malmesbury festival on Friday 16 March. Please come and give your support - see Roy for more details. We are also likely to be performing the play again on Saturday June 9th as part of Chipping Sodbury Festival.

Also note that we will be hosting the regional one act finals night on Saturday 7th April at the Town Hall - an excellent opportunity to see all the winning plays from around the region.

Safety

Following Julian's unfortunate accident during the pantomime and another "near miss" during the dress rehearsal the committee has reviewed possible ways of helping to reduce the risk of similar incidents in the future. As a result we agreed to:

- Have a standing agenda item on safety at each committee to ensure any safety concerns are discussed
- Re-start the fire evacuation briefings at the first town hall rehearsal including a general safety awareness reminder.

- Enforce a new ruling that no loose tools or other items to be put on scaffold towers/ladders to reduce the risk of head injuries.

Town Hall

By the time of the Spring Play the Town Hall stage will have been re-decorated and new curtains hung. We have been asked in future not to use any form of sticking tape on the stage walls to stop the paint being damaged. A number of additional hooks are being provided which can be used to secure cables etc.

Also note that whilst removing paint from the stage floor after the panto we inadvertently removed some of the varnish. In future we will need to be more vigilant in preventing paint getting on the stage.

Costumes

Brenda Allen and Sian Butler are busy trying to improve the organisation of our costume store. Please can anyone who has not returned any borrowed costumes please do so asap. In future it has been agreed that a nominal charge should be made for borrowing costumes; £2 for members and £5 for non-members. Small items to be at a smaller charge. If you wish to borrow costumes please contact Brenda or Sian.

Play Readings

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

SPYS

SPYS are up and running again thanks to the efforts of Karin, Maggie and Andrew. They have 24 keen members who meet regularly on a Monday night at Ridgewood from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. They are currently preparing to perform during Yate and Chipping Sodbury Festivals in the summer and also intend to put on a show at Ridgewood in late July for parents, friends and

members of Sodbury Players. We have some budding young talent in our younger members and its great to see them getting together again to develop their skills and hopefully provide younger input to the adult section in the future. If anyone is interested in helping in any way with the Youth please contact Karin or Maggie. Watch this space for more details of their future plans and productions.

Social Events

Thanks to Debbie for organising the Chinese meal on the first Saturday night of the pantomime. The next social event is Ten Pin Bowling at Longwell Green on Tuesday 20 March. Cost is £15 but this includes two games of bowling, a basket meal and tokens for the arcade machines. Please see Debbie to book your place and note that there will be no rehearsal on that night.

On Friday 4th May we have made a block booking of 12 tickets at £6 each to see Sodbury Vale's production of Oliver at the Town Hall. Please see Debbie or Stephen if you want to go - first come first served. We will try and get more tickets if needed.

Dates for your diary

9 Mar	Cheltenham One act festival
16 Mar	Malmesbury One act festival
20 March	Ten Pin Bowling
27 March	Play Reading
7 April	One act regional final
4 May	Oliver
23-26 May	Spring Play
9 June	Sodbury Festival production
19-23 Sep	Autumn Play