

Sodbury Players Newsletter

Issue 47



Edited by Robert and Diane Owen



May 02

Spring Play

Rehearsals are now complete and we are ready for an audience! We had a very good dress rehearsal last night and hopefully we are heading for an excellent run this week. Thanks to all those who turned up on Sunday to put the set together - plenty of willing hands meant that we left on Sunday night with virtually everything done ready for the technical run on Monday.

Ticket sales have gone reasonably well but we still need a big push to boost the audiences later in the week. Its going to be a good show so lets make sure we have the bums on seats to appreciate it!

If anyone wants to go to the Friday meal but has not booked on the list contact Stephen or Debbie urgently before its too late.

There will also be the traditional after show party on Saturday night which Norma and Mark will be kindly hosting.

Finally best of luck to Norma and her cast and crew for a successful week.

.Chipping Sodbury Festival

A reminder that we will be taking part in the Chipping Sodbury Festival again this year. On Friday 7th June the SPYS will be performing "Ghostwriter" by Nick Warburton followed by the Adults who will be performing our one-act festival entry, "Olive and Hilary". This will be held in the Town Hall starting at 7:30pm.

Drama Workshop

We have already had quite a good response to the Chris Harris Workshop on "Characterisation" which is being held on Sunday 16th June. If you haven't signed-up yet but want to come please put your name on the list at Ridgewood as soon as possible. The costs of the workshop, which will run from 10am to 4:30pm, will be met by the Group so this is an excellent opportunity to develop your skills. A buffet lunch will be provided.

Some of the Workshop will be aimed at our forthcoming production "She Stoops to Conquer" and ladies are asked to bring a long "practice" skirt. However, everyone is welcome even if you are not intending to read for "She Stoops to Conquer".

She Stoops to Conquer

Our first production of the 2002/3 season will be She Stoops to Conquer, a comedy, by Oliver Goldsmith set in the 18th Century. This will be directed by Maggie Allsopp, assisted by Sian Butler. The cast is:

Mr Hardcastle	courteous, amiable, 60s
Tony Lumpkin	his stepson, boorish; 21
Landlord Marlow	inhibited, handsome
Hastings	ardent, young
Diggory and Roger	clumsy servants
Sir Charles Marlow	likeable, 60s
Mrs Hardcastle	affected, mercenary, 57
Kate Hardcastle	sprightly, lovely, young
Constance Neville	Kate's cousin, pretty, 20

Mr Hardcastle and Sir Charles Marlow have arranged a match between Miss Kate Hardcastle and young Marlow. Accordingly, Marlow and his friend Hastings, travel down to visit the Hardcastles. Losing their way, they arrive at a tavern where Hardcastle's clownish stepson, Tony Lumpkin, directs them to a neighbouring inn, which in reality is Hardcastle's house. The fun of the play arises from the resulting misunderstanding. Marlow treating Hardcastle as the landlord of the supposed inn, and making violent love to Kate, whom he takes for one of the servants. This contrasts with the bashful attitude when presented to her in her real character. The arrival of Sir Charles Marlow clears up the misconception and all ends well, including a subsidiary love affair between Hastings and Kate's cousin.

Readings/auditions will be held on 28 and 30 May and 11 and 13 June. Maggie and Sian will also be at the Workshop on 16 June taking notes! The cast will be announced at the start of the evening on 18 June when rehearsals will start.

Please note that there will be no club night on the Bank Holiday on 4th June. The 6th June will be used for a rehearsal for the one-act play.

2002/03 Season

Our other two full-length productions for the 2002-03 season will be the Pantomime "Mother Goose" to be directed by Diane Owen, and "The Perfect Murder" by Hugh Janes (adapted from a story by Jeffrey Archer) to be directed by Roy Whitlow (a whodunit and court drama).

2002 AGM

A reminder of our 2002 Annual General Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 25 June at Ridgewood at 7:30pm prompt. If you have not received details please contact Sian asap.

Treasure Hunt

Our annual Treasure Hunt will be on Sunday 30 June. It will start at Rob and Diane's in Hawkesbury Upton at about 1pm and finish there with a barbecue and fun! The cost will be £3/head including food - bring your own drinks and your

swimming things if the weather is good! Please let Debbie know if you want to come - if you want to join in but haven't got a car then let Debbie know and she will try and team you up with someone.

Sodbury Players Handbook

Stephen Bashford has kindly edited a "Sodbury Players Handbook" which aims to set-out the main Roles of the members of the Committee and of those undertaking specific roles for a specific production. Copies are on the table at Ridgewood - help yourself. For anyone interested in being on the Committee it will give you an idea of what is involved in each of the roles. If you have any comments on the Handbook or ideas for additions please see Stephen - the aim will be to update it each year.

2002 Bonfire party

Our 2002 bonfire party will be on Sat 2nd Nov. Make a note in your diaries - details to follow.

Dates for your diary

2002

22-25 May	"Rumours" performances
26 May	Strike set at Town Hall
7 June	Youth/adult one-act plays in Chipping Sodbury Festival
16 June	Chris Harris Workshop
25 June	Annual General Meeting
30 June	Treasure Hunt
18-22 Sep	"She Stoops to Conquer"
2 Nov	Bonfire Party
28 Nov	Yate Xmas event
13 Dec	Xmas Dinner Dance

Footnote:

Please ensure that you only use the Sodbury Players Coffee etc at Ridgewood - this is stored in the cupboard under the "Breakfast bar" - thanks.