

Sodbury Players Newsletter

Issue 48



Edited by Robert and Diane Owen

July 02



Spring Play

Our final production of our 2001/2 season, "Rumours", directed by Norma Graves was a great success. Overall the adjudications were excellent and we had good audiences for each performance. Well done to Norma, her cast and crew for an excellent show.

Chipping Sodbury Festival

For the second year running we took part in the Chipping Sodbury festival with two one-act plays, the first, "Ghostwriter" presented by SPYS and the second, "Olive and Hilary" by the adults. Again the evening was well supported and the SPYS put on a terrific performance which impressed all the adult members - plenty of future talent waiting in the wings!

A message from Pauline Pincott, the director of Olive and Hilary:

Now that Olive and Hilary have finally been 'put to bed' I would like to thank everyone who assisted me with the production throughout its protracted run.

The excellent cast giving strong performances ensured its success and we were rewarded with a number of awards. However, this production relied heavily on the technical team as well as the cast and I was more than fortunate to have such a dedicated team giving wonderful backup. It was certainly a challenging production but these were met by cast and technical team alike. It is my belief that to succeed in Festival it is essential to select a play which presents real challenges and Olive and Hilary certainly did this.

It was great to round off the performances with the final one in the non-competitive Chipping Sodbury Festival which provided a more relaxed

atmosphere for everyone involved.

The production was a happy one and the excellent weekend in Taunton where we played the second round was an added bonus for all. My sincere thanks to everyone.

Pauline.

She Stoops to Conquer

Our first production of the 2002/3 season will be She Stoops to Conquer by Oliver Goldsmith and directed by Maggie Allsopp. This will be performed from 18-21 Sept. The cast and crew are:

Mr Hardcastle	Stan Ward
Tony Lumpkin	Julian
Hinton	
Marlow	Tim Peacock
Hastings	Duncan Collins
Diggory	Steve Mercer
Sir Charles Marlow	Mark Graves
Mrs Hardcastle	Norma Graves
Kate Hardcastle	Jaqui Ward
Constance Neville	Mel Seaman
Landlord	George Kousorous
Maid	Shirley Dodson
Stage Manager	Phil Lovell
Assistant Director/prompt	Sian Butler
Lights	Tim Hunter
Sound	To be confirmed
Props	To be confirmed
Box Office	Roy Whitlow
Front of House	Pauline Pincott

There is an urgent need for someone to take on the props for this production. If you can help in any way please contact Maggie.

Workshops

Thanks to all those who attended and contributed so willingly to the recent Chris Harris Drama Workshop - an excellent day was had by all and we have received a very positive note from Chris thanking all those who participated.

Our next workshop is planned for Tuesday 24 September when Tim Hunter will give a session on stage lighting.

2002 Annual General Meeting

We had a good turnout for our AGM on 25 June. The Chairman reported on another very successful season and the treasurer reported on a small profit even after some significant investments in new equipment. The following Committee was elected for the coming year:

Chairman	Robert Owen
Vice Chairman	Mark Graves
Secretary	Sue Bridgeman
Publicity (admin)	vacancy
Publicity (PRO)	Karin Davies
Patrons Secretary	Pennie Sutton
Social Secretary	Debbie Bashford
Committee member	Stephen Bashford
Committee member	Mike Hardwick
Committee member	Diane Owen

The Committee have asked Norma Graves to take on the role as Treasurer.

The Rose Bowl award for the greatest individual contribution to the Group over the last year was awarded to Roy Whitlow - very well deserved.

Membership Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are now due (£15 adults, £5 juniors). You will be given a short reprieve - our treasurer is on holiday for a couple of weeks but please see Norma on her return with your subs!

One Act Play Festival

The committee will soon be choosing a one-act play entry for the 2003 festivals. If you are

interested in directing or have suggestions for a suitable play please contact one of the committee.

Ruby Price - a message from Pauline

Members were saddened to learn of the recent sudden death of Ruby Price. Ruby had been a member of Sodbury Players since the late 1940's just a few years after the formation of the group. During the early years her involvement had mainly been as a member of the chorus in the pantomime later progressing to acting roles. Her portrayal of the housekeeper in the drama Gaslight and Aunt Em in the Wizard of Oz are among my favourite memories of her 'on stage'. When our Youth Section 'SPYS' was originally formed, Ruby gave me invaluable assistance for a number of years and she was justly proud that a number of the original members continued in the Group.

In recent years Ruby's appearances have mainly been FOH, but she remained a loyal supporter and was delighted to become a Life Member. Whatever her contribution to a production she could always be totally relied on. Her quiet unassuming personality endeared her to everyone who knew her and she will, I know, be sadly missed; we have all I know lost a dear friend.

Pauline Pincott

Social Events

Our annual Treasure Hunt was again a very successful event despite the wintry weather! The winners this year were the Ward family.

Congratulations to Phil Oliver and his crew for winning the Raft race for the second year running.

Our next social event will be a bowling night/meal out on Friday 4th October.

Dates for your diary

2002

18-21 Sep	"She Stoops to Conquer"
24 Sep	Lighting Workshop
4 Oct	Bowling night
2 Nov	Bonfire Party