



# Riverside Players News

## April / May 2009

### ***The new 2009 Riverside Committee***

If you need to contact anyone about events or have any suggestions, you will find email and telephone details below.

**Chairman** – Susan Pickles  
[Susan@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Susan@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 07900 136073

**Secretary** – Vicki Arnold  
[Vicki@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Vicki@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 01344 443550 / 07799 840599

**Treasurer** – Simon Arnold  
[Simon@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Simon@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 01344 443550 / 07818 046864

**Membership** – Jill Dady  
[Jill@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Jill@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 07771 601728

**Committee member** – Roger Blackman  
[Rogerb@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Rogerb@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 01784 471810

Don't forget to keep visiting our website at  
[www.riversideplayers.com](http://www.riversideplayers.com)

**Committee Members**  
Roger Lewiston  
[Rogerl@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Rogerl@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 07973 725682

Vicky Lane  
[Vicky@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Vicky@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: 07939 652263

John Aherne  
[John@riversideplayers.com](mailto:John@riversideplayers.com)  
Tel: XXXXX XXXXX

### **SHOW REVIEWS AND NEWS**

Thanks to all those involved in **HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES** which played to great acclaim at the end of March – the audiences really loved the show and many commented on how this complicated script had been produced allowing everyone to completely understand the plot !! Special thanks to Sue Bell who stepped into the fray as Director, and to everyone backstage and front of house who are vital to the overall professionalism of each and every show that we put on.

**Summer Show 2009** – We are delighted that Amber and Rob did agree to direct and MD a **SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT (SLICE)**. Show dates are Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June and the Box Office will open on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May on the usual number 07717 671765; as always tickets allocated on a first come first served basis so be quick if you want the front rows.

It was great to see old and new faces at the auditions and we are delighted to welcome 3 new members to the cast of 8. Using outside Directors does increase our costs but we are determined to sell more tickets for this show than ever before to ensure we can cover these costs. To this end we really do need all Riverside Players members and friends to support our summer production. Please don't be put off if you know nothing about the show – it has great music and lyrics, and in a nutshell, the story which is set in a Go Go Club, is about life in the 60's for the teenagers of that time – the cast members aren't teenagers (except Kat) which is part of the fun, although we believe one of the cast actually did live through his teenage angst in the 60's or was it 70's!! – we can assure you of a lively and funny evening with the language, dresses (very short), suits and hairstyles all steeped in authentic 60's style. So if you want to relive your youth (or that of your parents) or see firsthand what all the fuss was about the Beatles, Twiggy and glitter balls then book your seats as early as possible. Check out the website for more information.

**Panto 2009** – Panto show dates are fixed so make sure you have them in your diaries: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> through Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December – all normal evening and matinee performances. We really do hope to have details of the title and Director(s) in the next newsletter but we can tell you the read through/auditions will be Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July.



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**Spring Play 2010** – ‘ALLO ‘ALLO – Show dates 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010. The play is probably well known to many of you and includes all the characters and punch lines from the TV series. We will hunt for the picture of the “Fallen Madonna with the big boobies”, “say this only once” and “piss by the café”, Rene will fall in love with all the pretty girls and Madam Edith will sing badly – but even though we know all this – a hilarious and fun show is guaranteed for the cast and audience alike. One thing to note – the play does need a large cast so think about the parts you would like to audition for, and no, we are not looking for people that are exactly like the TV cast – so boys and girls of all shapes, size and age required – plus a good sense of humour.

**Summer Show 2010** – ideas are afoot with suggestions such as Return to the Forbidden Planet on the table. More soon.

**Panto 2010** – Simon has expressed an interest to direct again and is in discussion with the committee on script choices.

If anyone wants to put themselves forward as a Director, MD or Choreographer then please do let us know – and while we have had interest for 2010 and even 2011 shows, nothing is written in stone at this time – we are striving to formalise a 2 year rolling programme to ensure that we keep our existing membership interested and attract new members for future events. If we don't have an offering then people do not have to go far to find other groups that do.

We are always interested to hear about the shows that you want to see or participate in, especially shows that are modern or perhaps less well known. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

### MEMBERS NEWS

Ray Siberini will be appearing in The Scarlett Pimpernel at Norden Farm from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May (MOS). More info at [www.nordenfarm.org](http://www.nordenfarm.org) or [www.mos-uk.org](http://www.mos-uk.org)

A quick reminder that **MEMBERSHIP FEES** are due for payment - Adults £30.00, Juniors £10.00 (under 16 or in full time education) and Associate members £6.00 – also **SHOW FEES** for those in the cast of “Slice” need to be paid in the next week or so. See Jill at rehearsals over the coming weeks.

Please note that some show fees are still overdue from HTOHL – pay up or waddle like a duck !!

### OTHER EVENTS AND SOCIAL CALENDAR

Please don't forget that our after rehearsal meeting venue has changed to the **OXFORD BLUE** (next door to the Union). We look forward to seeing you.

‘ALLO ‘ALLO will be on stage at the Theatre Royal Windsor from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June – who would like to go on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June? Email or call Susan if you are interested tickets would be around £20 depending on numbers / discounts. More info at [www.theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk](http://www.theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk)



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It's **CARNIVAL TIME** in Old Windsor on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June and the theme is **MUSICALS**. Last year we did not manage a walking party but this year we would love to participate as the event really helps with promotion of the summer show, the Panto and our society generally.

As usual we will leave the obvious choices to the youth groups in the village and try for something a little different - so our idea is "**JAILHOUSE ROCK**" - it's in the right era for "Slice", we think we might have an Elvis!!, some of the boys could be chained together as the prisoners, a few policemen/prison guards, the girls can be dressed in 60's style - anyway you get the idea. Please let Simon know if you can participate and how you would like to dress - wardrobe will be able to cover most things, failing that Primark!! Anyway let's get as many people together as possible - children welcome - plus it's a laugh as well. We will also hand out leaflets for "Slice" as the carnival procession goes around the village - it's about 2 miles - I think !!

### **SOCIETY INFORMATION**

The **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** was held in early March so thanks to all those who attended. Firstly a huge thank you to Pam our Chairman for the last year who needed to step down in readiness for her move southwest. Pam has also been a committee member for 5 years and has worked tirelessly on many Riverside shows especially in the scenic design areas - our fabulous stock of professionally painted drop cloths is testament to Pam's work over the years. We also must thank Carol for 2 years sterling service on committee, representing RP on the Memorial Hall Committee and all her work on costume design and creative sewing - our wardrobe stock is all the richer. The flip side of the coin is that we welcome new members Vicky Lane and John Aherne to the committee - welcome aboard.

However, we will shortly have a vacancy on committee as Pam will not be able to continue on the committee - although I am sure she will not be a stranger - do come forward if you would like to fill this vacancy.

Other topics discussed were:

- Membership fees - should membership be reduced so as not to discourage people joining the society but then make the show fee a more substantial amount.
- Attracting new members - we must attract more members to be able to stage large cast shows. New blood ensures new and fresh ideas.
- Charitable donations - we still await the outcome of the Butterfield legacy and when we receive the funds 25% will be donated to charity. We also agreed to donate £100 to Thames Hospice care.

We hope that you found this special edition of the newsletter of interest - we will be back to our normal 2 page format next month.

Thank you for reading this newsletter however if you no longer wish to receive it please do let us know. You can contact [Vicki@riversideplayers.com](mailto:Vicki@riversideplayers.com) or any committee member



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### EXTRA BITS !!!



Even in 1982 Riverside Players were trying to be a little different. The Carnival theme that year also was Musicals and our entry was "Greece" / Grease !!

We can only assume it was not too cold that day as Jock was sportingly displaying a very short Greek dress !!

Anyone know who the lady is ? I cannot put a name to the face but I do sadly remember wearing ankle socks with court shoes – another 80's fashion disaster

Photographs: Copyright Alan Cross published July 2002 on [www.proaxis-infotech.com/oldwindsor/](http://www.proaxis-infotech.com/oldwindsor/)

For those that did not manage to see **HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES** you can check out some of the photos on the website but here are a selection for scrutiny – any interesting caption suggestions then send them in to [susan@riversideplayers.com](mailto:susan@riversideplayers.com) we might just offer a small prize or two !!



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