



Riverside Players News

January 2009

The current Riverside Committee

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

Chairman – Pam Dyson-Furnish

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Don't forget to keep visiting our website at

www.riversideplayers.com

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SHOW REVIEWS AND NEWS

Oh what a night – late December back in 2008!! [that's a song] – the last night of the panto will indeed go down into the myths and legends of Riverside Players – but the “Show did go on” under very dim conditions. The drama gods were looking down on us though and decreed that power would “returneth” 5 minutes before Cinders was whisked off to the ball in her fairy light coach – even Simon's magnificent commentary might have struggled to set **that** scene for the frozen but enthusiastic audience who cheered on the cast throughout the 4 hour power failure. Well done to everyone – especially Mark's “outside box” thinking and Roger L's “sticking tape” that managed to get a light working. The excitement of the last night aside – the 2008 pantomime was a huge success financially and in audience numbers so well done to all those involved – special thanks must go to the non actors whose willing hands manage box office, FOH, Bar, costumes, lights, sound and stage crew – the show really wouldn't go on – so a large THANKYOU to you all.

Spring Play 2009 - after much deliberation about the staging of “Way Upstream” it was decided that getting a boat on stage was a “poop deck” too far for Riverside Players at this stage so we have had a change and now we will put on the hugely funny “How the Other Half Loves” also by Alan Ayckbourn – direction is by Susan Bell and Alan Payn. Show dates are still the same as before, so put Thursday 26th, Friday 27th and Saturday 28th March in your diary. Box office will open soon for advance bookings.

MEMBERS NEWS

Various members will all be appearing in MMCS's production of Hello Dolly at the Desborough Suite from Tuesday 31st March until Saturday 4th April. A true musical comedy with some great numbers in it – check out <http://www.mmcs.gb.com/> for show and box office details.

On 27th and 28th February, MMCS presents the **Musical of Musicals** – a host of show tunes performed by many familiar faces to raise money for charity and to commemorate the life of Eric Wimpenny a founding member of MMCS – see the website for more details.



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OTHER EVENTS AND SOCIAL CALENDAR

Riverside Players entered a team into the annual Hospice Quiz night and gained a very credible “middle of the field” placing in this extremely competitive event – congratulations to the quizzers.

The OWLS were regaled by various Riverside members at their Christmas Dinner on Monday 6th December – Vicki worked hard to present a varied programme – so thanks to her and all who participated in the event – the OWLS really appreciated the entertainment.

SOCIETY INFORMATION

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Monday March 9th** in the Guide Hut [adjacent to the Memorial Hall] from 7.30pm followed by an open invitation to meet at the Oxford Blue from 9pm – after the AGM there will be a normal play rehearsal which you are welcome to watch.

We will shortly be waving goodbye to Pam who is re-locating to her Cornwall house on a permanent basis, which leaves the society without a Chairperson. There will also be other committee posts to fill. It is good fun being part of the committee so please do come forward.

We would ask that all members current and past; and Riverside Players friends attend the AGM as we need to decide how the society must progress/change to ensure its survival. There are so many things that people can do these days for entertainment, plus many other drama societies in the area; we are being squeezed from all directions. In respect of future shows not much is planned although there are ideas in the pipeline. The committee are a bit stuck as to know what to do and what the membership wants, so please let us know. The bald facts are that Riverside Players is as wealthy as it has ever been financially, we have a huge stock of scenery, props, costumes and technology but we do not have people coming forward wanting to direct shows. Directing is a challenge but the collective experience and talent of our society means that no one will be left to do it alone – there are loads of experienced people to help out. The committee has discussed this issue but if you have any ideas please come forward or contact any committee member.

All subjects up for discussion at the AGM – we really look forward to seeing you all.

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

Please also note that our usual after rehearsal meeting venue has changed to the **Oxford Blue** (next door to the Union).

Finally it just leaves us to say **Happy New Year** and a huge thank you for all your support in 2008, a truly great year for Riverside Players.

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 or any committee member