



Riverside Players News

May 2009

The current Riverside Players Committee

If you need to contact anyone about events or have any suggestions, you will find email and telephone details below. There are currently vacant positions on the committee so please do think about offering your support and putting yourself up for election at the AGM. Being a committee member is not difficult but it does ensure the future of the society and helps to continue our tradition of excellent and innovative productions.

Chairman – Susan Pickles
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Don't forget to keep visiting our website at
www.riversideplayers.com

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STOP PRESS NEWS

Introducing your newest committee member
The “not so new” kid on the bloc... Mr Alan Payn .

He's back but thankfully without the make-up or noodles!

For those of you who regularly see our shows you will know Alan. He has been and continues to be a very active member of our society and has performed and directed on more than one occasion. Last seen in the Spring Play, Alan was in the unenviable position of having cold soup and noodles thrown over him during every performance and being the professional that he is, he kindly let Vicky Lane practice and practice that one particular stage move for many hours. Having Alan on the committee will undoubtedly bring even more energy, enthusiasm and talent to the “team” and we look forward to working with him.

Welcome on board.

SUMMER SHOW

A Slice Of Saturday Night (SLICE)

It's got New Faces, New Talent, New Costumes, New Directors but don't panic, it's still at the same venue.

Show Dates Wed 24 June to Sat 27 June at the Memorial Hall. Doors Open 19:30, Curtain up 20:00.

Now, cast your mind back. I was seeking inspiration on how to make this newsletter entertaining, a little bit different and very importantly, how I can persuade all of you to help us sell tickets, lots of tickets and I came across the following statement in May 2008 month's newsletter; strangely I was editor in chief at that time too:- *“it only takes every member on this newsletter distribution list to sell 2.4 tickets and RP would yet again have complete sell out performances for the summer show”*. Now ladies and gentlepeople, I do not want to sound boring but it **didn't** happen last year and I can only assume that you were all away on your holidays. So please, the summer shows cost the society money and if you want a good panto (more on that later) we need money in the bank, so order your tickets now and get selling them to your friends, family even Joe Bloggs in the street, don't leave all the work to us.

Box Office is OPEN NOW so do call 07717 671765. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis.



Stage Work Sundays for **SLICE** are 31 May, 7, 14, 21 June and set strike is 28 June. Once again I am reminded about what I wrote last year and I'm bored of listening to me so instead I suggest you search into your archives and re-read May 2008 newsletter.

SLICE Bar Staff. Volunteers are required, 2 for each night & Jill Dady is in charge so please contact her if you can help out. We keep the drinks menu simple and the prices even numbers so there is no need for you to worry about cocktail recipes or complicated algorithms.

INTERESTING BITS COMING UP

Have you ever wondered what it might be like to legally wander the streets of Old Windsor dressed in chains, pyjamas and short skirts? Well now's your chance to find out and turn that dream into a reality. Simon Arnold aka "The Gov'nor" is recruiting prisoners for his "Chain Gang Elvis extravaganza" for the **Old Windsor Carnival 6th June**. If you have the right credentials and can participate in the line up please contact **Si**, if you have the wrong credentials you can still take part and stand in the line to smooch Elvis. Go On, give it a go, you know you want to 😊

Christmas 2009 It's a scary thought but as I write this edition, opening night of Panto is only 193 days away. So far and yet so near, so much to do and so little time so let's get cracking. Alan Payne is in the Director's chair and has vowed there will be No noodles on stage. Instead we will have lots of people, children, feathers and eggs can you guess what it is yet? Answers to this question and many more can be found in the performance programme of SLICE so come to the summer musical, have a thoroughly good time and as a bonus you can find out what this year's Panto will be.

Spring 2010. Forget all those faux French markets with their smelly cheeses that occasionally come to town. Spring 2010 will see the real thing as the Old Memorial Hall goes under ground and the French Resistance make a come back. RP will perform "**Allo Allo**" and whilst Sue Pickles is confirmed as director, there is stiff competition for the part of the "Madonna with the big xxx". Rumours are rife that some members of the society have already been found in wardrobe searching for stockings, suspenders, moustaches and mammoth sized bras. Watch this space for more news.

Summer 2010. All sorts of possibilities are in the hat but more on those at a later date.

Winter 2010: Of course it will be yet another pantomime extravaganza and with only 458 days to go it's a good job that your committee already has a plan and a director in mind. More on all of that later, much later, let's get panto 2009 underway first. Here's another clue: Some go to her.

OTHER EVENTS AND SOCIAL CALENDAR

Friday 12 June: Trip to see "Allo Allo" on stage at the Theatre Royal Windsor. If you fancy brushing up your French or German and want to get some audition tips then come along for a good night out. Contact Sue Pickles.

Thursday Night Socials, you will find us in The Oxford Blue after rehearsals but why not pop in to the Memorial Hall first for a chocolate biscuit and a cup of tea, they will only cost you 10 p each, a bargain in this economic climate.

Have you paid your subs yet? If not then please see last month's newsletters for details. I'm running out of space and need to include the following very important section.



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And finally... YOUNG (under 16Yrs) MEMBERS PARENTS APPEAL



As a society we are always looking to encourage younger members to participate in all aspects of RP shows and Panto is one of those rare occasions where we can excel at this task and the “youngsters” love it. There are all sorts of advantages to having them onboard, not only does it boost our audience figures as grannies and grandpas come to see them but it also helps breathe new life into the society, gives us talent for the future, helps develop the confidence of your offspring and from a parent perspective it gets them out of the house for 2 nights a week for almost 4 months ☺.

RP has a Child Protection Policy (CPP) in place which is in line with local government regulation and we have been fortunate over the last 2-3 years to have a committee member assigned to ensure that all the “legal administration requirements & processes” of having young people perform in our shows have been met. As a parent, in the past, RP have requested very little from you, our priority has always been to do what we can to ensure the youngsters get to be on stage and of course we do everything possible to ensure their welfare. **This now has to change.** Whilst it remains the responsibility of every society member to adhere to our CPP code of practice we now need you as a parent to take a greater role in some of the administration activities as they have become too cumbersome for us as a committee to manage on our own. **We need you to:-**

- **Take responsibility for arranging the appropriate Performance License(s) for your youngster(s).**

Without a License your child will not be allowed on stage. Of course we can help you with the forms and detail but ultimately it will be your responsibility to ensure the applications are completed and submitted in a timely manner. More details on this will be made available at the Pantomime auditions.

Chaperones. The youngster(s) also need chaperoning both during rehearsals and the performances. In the past, we have been lucky enough to have friends and members who are already Licensed Chaperones who have volunteered for the job but as people leave the society, youngsters become oldsters our Licensed chaperones are dwindling and this is an area that is also at significant risk. Without Licensed Chaperones, our youngsters cannot go on stage unless one of their parents is also on stage with them. Now ask yourself this, do you really want to spend two nights a week at the memorial hall following in the footsteps of your child? (I think not) so please, if you think you might be able to help us out in this area let us know. The more volunteers we have, the more evenly the workload can be spread. So have a think about it, what’s more important? You continue to have two nights a week peace and quiet in exchange for two weeks in December of fun and frolics back stage or suffer at the hands of your child who won’t be able to tread the footlights with RP if we don’t get some more adult help?

I know last month we promised you a return to the usual 2 page format but the appeal is important. The End.

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter please advise Vicki (Secretary). If you would rather receive it by email, please contact Vicki@riversideplayers.com