

Bampton Players

Newsletter September 2024



Autumn already (sigh) back to the season of mellow fruitfulness with the nights drawing in rapidly. The good news though that there is plenty going on with the Players over the next few months to keep us going

COMMITTEE MEETING

Some notes from our last Bampton Players Committee Meeting held on the 4th September 2024 follow:

New Community Hall

Most of you will be aware that land has now been secured for a new Community Centre for Bampton. We have been in contact with the Town Council to offer our support in helping with the specification of requirements for the building and in other areas if required.

Position of Secretary

Unfortunately our secretary has had to step aside from their post and we are actively looking for a replacement. We have rescoped the job recently to redistribute some of the responsibilities across the Committee which has reduced the workload.

If you are interested in joining the Committee and taking up the role of Secretary please contact the Chair, Sue Shaw: sue.shaw.wx@gmail.com who will provide more details.

Play Reading

In response to suggestions made at the AGM we have been actively looking into providing some play reading opportunities separate from our formal productions. There will be more about this in the next Newsletter.

Theatre Trip

Following feedback from the AGM, Avril investigated options for a Theatre Trip and organised tickets for a performance of "Guys and Dolls" in London. There was a disappointing response when the details were sent out which meant we were unable to go ahead. Avril will look into other options closer to home but if we are unable to garner enough interest we will assume that there isn't enough interest to pursue this.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

"Mummers"

Following our call out for a Director for our Mummers play earlier this year we have appointed Co-directors: Judith Kelland and Avril Saxby.

As usual the Mummers Play will be performed on the day of the Bampton Charter Fair - this year it is Thursday 31st October 2024. This year the script calls for a minimum of 6 (3 men and 3 women) and will require only a small number of rehearsals so it will be a limited commitment. Please contact Judith: tarkaholly@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested.

"Alice in Wonderland"

We will be performing "Alice in Wonderland" for our panto on 20th, 21st and 22nd February 2024 (with a matinee on the 22nd).

Preparations are well underway with most of the music already completed. Casting is on Wednesday 16th October at 7pm; please let Avril: avril.saxby@gmail.com know if you plan to attend (if you haven't already).

For those who have joined the Players since the last panto, and have yet to experience a Bampton panto, they are great fun both for the cast and audience. There will be a cast of 26 so there is plenty of opportunity to be part of this extravaganza.

"The Mysterious Mr M"



This is the latest of our plays to come out of the playwriting competition held during the COVID period. The results of that competition have demonstrated the rich vein of writing talent in our local area. "The Mysterious Mr. M" is a dark comedy set in the present day which depicts the mysterious goings-on that unfold during an evening and next morning at "The Tree House Hotel", a fictional place on the edge of the moor. There are eleven roles: 5 women and 6 men.

Its performance dates are: 15th, 16th and 17th May 2024 (with a matinee on the 17th), and rehearsals start mid-March 2024.

Casting is at 2pm on 22nd September at Sylvia's house - 2 Honeysuckle Court, Ashleigh Park, Bampton.

Please let Sylvia know, if you haven't already, if you are planning to come, either by email: sfwakeham@aol.com or text 07711820584

If you can't make that date, and are keen to read for a part, please let Sylvia know so that an alternative opportunity to read can be given before the final casting decisions are made.

RECENT MEMBERS EVENT

Summer BBQ

As ever the Summer BBQ was a hit, with the rain holding off until the very end of the afternoon.

Thanks again to Avril and Hugh for opening up their home for the event and to all those who provided fabulous savouries and sweets for the feast

UPCOMING MEMBERS EVENTS

Singing Workshop

There is a singing workshop coming up on Wednesday 25th September at 7:00pm at Sherwood.

The workshop lead is not only a singing teacher but is also a programme lead for the musical theatre course at Exeter College so has experience working with actors.

If you would like to improve your confidence in your singing, or perhaps learn more about breathing techniques to enhance your performance then this could be for you.

If you are planning to attend please ensure that you have contacted Avril: avril.saxby@gmail.com so that she knows to expect you.

Autumn Quiz



Bampton Players QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 12th October
Riverside Hall, Bampton
6:30 start

Table of 6 for £42
Bring your own drinks
and nibbles



Tickets from Bampton Fresh



A reminder that it is the Annual Autumn Bampton Players Quiz on the 12th October. If you haven't already booked your table pop along to Bampton Fresh and if you would like to come along but are struggling to make up a table contact Sue: sue.shaw.wx@gmail.com who will try to match you up.

Christmas Event

We are looking to organise a Christmas event for mid December - further details in the next newsletter once we have firmed up on the dates.

And Finally....

I'm just saying, Dahhling, that if you must do 'Jazz Hands', do them more carefully.

