

# Newsletter September 2025



We've had a fabulous Summer weather wise, wonderful for those on holiday and also providing us with a bumper crop of summer fruit. Unfortunately one exception to the hot and sunny weather was the day of the Annual Players Summer BBQ!

As the season changes we are introducing changes ourselves. The more observant of you may already have noticed that we have updated our logo. If you haven't spotted it yet cast your eyes up to the top of this page.

And although the nights are starting to draw in we have a great deal to look forward to with so many activities coming up in the Bampton Players world:

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

### **Brand New Players Website**

Curtain up on our new digital home; we have a brand-new website, <https://bamptonplayers.org.uk>. Many thanks to all involved in its creation, especially Roger, Humphrey and, most importantly, our website developer Paddy.

Designed to be a vibrant and accessible hub for all things Bampton Players, the new site is the perfect place for residents and theatre lovers to connect with the heart of local drama. Whether you're a long-time supporter, a new resident, or simply curious about what goes on behind the scenes, the new website is your ticket to the show.

One of the most exciting features of the new website is its comprehensive archive of past performances. Dive into a gallery of memories and relive some of your favourite productions, from hilarious comedies to moving dramas. Our stunning photographs show how the Bampton Players have brought stories to life on stage for years. It's a fantastic resource for anyone wanting to revisit the magic of shows past.

Looking ahead, the new website is the definitive source for all information on our upcoming productions and events. Never miss a single event again, whether it's a full-scale play, a fun-filled pantomime, or one of our social events.

So, grab your imaginary programme and head over to our new digital stage. We can't wait to see you there!



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## COME PLAY WITH US

We are an amateur dramatic society based in the historic Mid Devon town of Bampton. We have an interest in all things theatrical – be it acting, play reading, workshops, theatre trips or just plain socialising.

## UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

### *“Napoleon’s Shoe”*

The Bampton Players will be putting on a Supper Theatre on October 16th, 17th and 18th. The play is “Napoleon’s Shoe”, a one act comedy by Ben Henderson, with the catering provided by “The Toucan”.

Rehearsals have started and the backstage team have just about completed the costumes, props and specialist items needed to bring the play to life. Tickets will be available at Bampton Fresh from the 15th September at a price of £25.

The menu is as follows:



## **Napoleon's Shoe Supper Theatre Menu**

### **Main Course**

Baked Chicken Breast wrapped with Bacon  
With a white wine & mushroom sauce

Or

Roasted mediterranean vegetable tart topped with melting  
Somerset Brie

Both Served With

Seasonal potatoes and vegetables

### **Sweet**

Classic Crème Brûlée

Or

Fresh fruit salad with clotted cream

### **Coffee/Tea**

Any dietary requirements must be selected at the time of ticket  
purchase along with your preferred option

You will need to decide your menu options at time of ticket purchase, and provide details of any dietary restrictions.

### **Mummers Street Theatre**

A message from this year's Director - Judith Kelland:

Do you actually want to have fun during Bampton Fair? This is a call out for anyone wishing to dress up in spectacular costumes, engage and ad lib with the crowd, learn minimal lines, and feel part of the community. Bampton Players will be putting on a Mummers Play at the Fair again this year on Thursday 30th October; we are planning on 3 short daytime rehearsals in the 10 days running up to the event (actors having learnt their lines beforehand), and then putting on the dress rehearsal at Castle Grove and, hopefully, Barnhaven. On the day itself we are staging two shows, one at 10:15 and the other at 12:15. The Play will only last 10 minutes or so, and I found last year that there

was a real sense of camaraderie and fun amongst those taking part (supplemented by mince pies and mulled wine!).

If you are interested in taking part, please email me at

[jmkdevon@gmail.com](mailto:jmkdevon@gmail.com)

Judith

### **“Peter Pan”**

The Panto will be performed on the evenings of 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st of February 2026 (with an additional matinee performance on Saturday 21st).

Hugh and Avril have completed the music and lyrics and all the cast have recorded their songs.

Costume work is well underway as is set design, including the special effects. Although most of the focus has switched to “Napoleon’s Shoe”

## **RECENT MEMBERS EVENTS**

### **Players Annual BBQ**

Despite the “challenging” weather a great time was had at the Summer BBQ; when you consider the fabulous Summer of 2025 we somehow managed to chose the one day that it rained! We welcomed a few new faces and we hope that they will come along to other events and become part of our group. As ever thanks to Hugh and Avril who hosted the event and also made sure that we had somewhere dry to eat.





## **UPCOMING MEMBERS EVENTS**

### **Players Autumn Quiz**

The Bampton Players Autumn Quiz will be held at the Riverside on Friday 19th September. Tickets are no longer available but a reminder to all attending that the start time is 6:30pm and that there will be no bar so bring your own drink and snacks.

### **Players Christmas Event**



The Christmas Do will be at Riverside on Friday 19th December; it will be catered for by The Toucan with entertainment provided by “Rick The Entertainer”. Guests are welcome and, as last year, there will be a reduction on the ticket price for Players members. More details on the price and how to book your place will come out closer to the time.

## PLUGS



### Artists at The White Room Exhibition



**Saturday 6th - Sunday 21st September**

Fourteen artists present their work in a multimedia exhibition.  
An opportunity to meet and buy direct from the artists and makers themselves.  
Painting, printmaking, mixed media, paper mache, pottery, basketmaking, wood and textiles



Anne Jackson



Belinda Reynell



Sarah Holder



Hannah Oram



Jane Welsh



Rosie Brewer



Simon Ripley



Nicky Barton



Joanne Roper



Mandi Street



Matt Calder



Owen Williams



Esme Cooper



Steve Symes

Open every day 10am - 5pm. Level access, refreshments, and warm welcome to all!

#### The White Room Creative Space

50, Commonmarsh Lane, Lords Meadow Industrial Estate  
Cridton, Devon EX17 1DN

07422712894 [info@whiteroomdevon.co.uk](mailto:info@whiteroomdevon.co.uk)

[www.whiteroomdevon.co.uk](http://www.whiteroomdevon.co.uk) f

What3Words: wheat.piles.simply

Venue: M4



For information about **Devon Open Studios**, pick up a guide or visit: [www.devonartistnetwork.co.uk](http://www.devonartistnetwork.co.uk)

## And Finally....

OK, guys, let's introduce ourselves with a theatre game. The ball goes round and when it comes to you you say your name and a fact about yourself. Here goes!

I'm Doreen and I'm visually impaired.

