



BAMPTON PLAYERS

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2011

Hallo Folks!

Looking forward..... here are a few dates for your diary....

PLAY READINGS

The next play reading - J. B. Priestley's "When We Are Married" - is to be held **this coming Friday 21st October** at 7.15 p.m. in the upstairs room at The Swan. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on that occasion. Dates and venues for future play readings have yet to be decided: as soon as we know them, we'll let you know.

MUMMERS' PLAY

We are now gearing up for four **Mummers' performances at next week's Charter Fair on Thursday 27th October**. We will start with a procession from the War Memorial at 10 a.m. with the first performance at 10.15 a.m. at the Bridge. Subsequent performances will be at 11.30 a.m. by The Toucan, 12.30 p.m. at Newton Square and 2 p.m. at The Swan. For those of you not participating in the performances, we would very much welcome your support, so do come along to mingle with the crowd and hiss and boo in all the right places. We need you!

PANTOMIME 2012

We have now decided on our pantomime: we will be performing **Cinderella** on 16th, 17th and 18th February. Auditions are to be held at the Community Hall at 7.30 p.m. on **Wednesday 2nd November** so do come along if you think you'd like

to part of it. If you'd like to be involved, but can't make that audition date, do please contact our Director, Wendy Boothroyd, (01398 331219) to let her know of your interest. As well as actors - both budding and experienced - we always need backstage help, so if you feel you don't want to be on stage but would like to help behind the scenes, you'd be welcomed with open arms. The set will be designed, built and maintained by Alan Woolley, our Stage Manager, and he always needs help with this, both in the run up to the pantomime and during the rehearsals and performances. If you can offer any help at all, we'd be so grateful. Alan's contact number is 01398 332195. And if your skills lie more towards the wardrobe/costumes side - ideas about costumes, an ability to sew, etc. - again help is always needed and Esme Hopkinson is the contact person (01398 331611).

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our Christmas dinner has been booked for Friday 16th December at 7.30 p.m. at The Quarryman's and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend - members and partners, as usual. Deposits of £5 per head will guarantee your place: could you please let our Treasurer, Barbara Knagg, have this. (Stumps, 1 National Terrace, 01398 332280). As soon as we have them, we'll circulate menus to all those who're coming, so that you can make your choices in advance.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

As in previous years, we'll be having a Bampton Players Christmas tree at the Christmas Tree Festival in the Church. The theme of this year's festival is "Children's Stories". We are looking for help with organising and decorating the tree and would be so grateful for any volunteers who can offer their help with this. Please contact Esme Hopkinson (01398 331611).

.....

And looking backwards, here are some of our successful ventures over the past few months.....

SUMMER BARBEQUE

The summer barbeque held in August at Barney and Esme's home in Frog Street was a great success with superb food and wine, lots of merry chat and one or two performances (which are, perhaps, best forgotten....!) The weather was kind to

us and there was an excellent turnout. Many, many thanks to Barney and Esme for their kind hospitality and for providing such a splendid venue. You may have set an unbeatable precedent!

...and talking of the MUMMERS' PLAY

We are delighted that the Mummings' Play has been so much in demand. Our performances at Knightshayes were so successful that they have invited us to return and perform the play again on three occasions next summer. In addition, our performance at the Millenium Green in August was well received and we have also been asked if we could do a one-off Mummer's performance for Castle Grove residents. More details of that in the next Newsletter.

And finally.....

"THE LADY IN THE VAN"

We were delighted with the feedback we had from our performances of Alan Bennett's "The Lady in the Van". For those of you who weren't involved and weren't able to see it, the photos are on the Bampton website (www.bampton.org.uk) and an enthusiastic review appeared in the Tiverton Gazette a couple of weeks ago, saying that many people had thought it was our "best ever". If you haven't got the paper, here is the link to the review:

<http://www.thisisdevon.co.uk/Players-Bennett-best/story-13471780-detail/story.html>

