

Welcome everyone, to the next of our occasional newsletters. These are separate from the Director's weekly updates, which start once rehearsal season is underway.

If anyone wishes to contribute, please contact Martin

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

31st July 2022

Annual BBQ/Social/AGM

August: *Pantomime read though*

11th September: *Rehearsals start*

Pantomime Performances:

Friday 25th November, Saturday 26th

November 2022:

Week 1 panto performances at Ockley

Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd December

week 2 panto performances at Ockley

Hello everyone,

I hope that everyone is in good health and that we all survived the spring and winter?

Sadly, it seemed that our production of 'The Sleeping Beauty' was jinxed as much that having taken the decision not to proceed with our original dates, and avoiding February and March for the same reasons, that there was not a single fortnight thereafter when either the entire original cast were available OR the hall was free for two consecutive weekends. We will put this production on one day, maybe not just yet.

Annual BBQ with brief AGM

Well, the AGM bit really will be brief as there has been no activity to report, so this will be entirely a social event. Martin and Lynn would like to invite all members to our garden for the now annual BBQ. Format as before and full details will be sent out a few weeks ahead of the date. For our junior members, we do hope that you can come along with siblings and parents.

This year's BBQ will take place on Sunday 31st July, from 4pm onwards.

This year, for the first time ever, I'm opening up the event to include potential members, inviting them along to meet us in a social setting without obligation. There will be an article in the next village magazine. If you know anyone who might be interested in joining, then please ask them to make contact with me. However, would you please not give out my home address, I would the opportunity to speak to people first, this is not a 'public' event as such.

Pantomime

It will be back - oh yes it is! and in only a few weeks time too.

I'm proposing that we bring forward the production to before Christmas (dates above) so that IF there is a repetition of last winter with another variant that spreads and causes apprehension, that we (hopefully) will be finished and there will be no impact upon us. The downside is that we need to commence rehearsals in early September when the afternoons are still light and warm. Also, in previous years we always experience absences in the autumn, cast members only take it more seriously once Christmas is over. This timetable will require more commitment and no absences from the October half term onwards. Auditions will be in August, possibly over two dates to allow for any holiday absences.

Amazon

Always worthwhile reminding everyone: there is a link on the Society's home page (www.ockleydramaticsociety.org.uk/) to Amazon's site. If you click on this link each time you shop at Amazon (assuming you do) then the society gets a tiny percentage of whatever you spend. Once you have clicked on the link you still need to log into your account as normal and the Society has **no way of viewing your shopping habits**, but we do get a contribution towards our funds. Every little helps, please try and remember to use this (and I'm an Amazon shopper and I am just as guilty about forgetting this!)

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John Dendy

It is with sadness that we record the death of John, born June 1927, died March 2022. John was born in, and lived his entire life, in Ockley. He was a acting member of the Society appearing in the second ever production in 1949 and for many years afterwards. Although 'retired' from the stage he was an active supporter of ours almost until the end. In our 70th year, he helped me cut the celebration cake at our jubilee production. Our condolences to his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Website

Speaking of our website, a huge thank you to Bernard who has continued to do a considerable amount of work on this. It is still a work in progress but the historic pages are finished as far back as 1975, the biographies section in particular has now has over 300 pages. All of you probably have your own entry now. Do take a look: <http://www.ockleydramaticsociety.org.uk/biogs/index.htm>. There is a comprehensive 'relationships' section too, worth a look.

Dancers

Each year we have an enthusiastic troupe, usually from age 5 upwards, but once they reach their teenage years enthusiasm wanes. We would very much welcome more teenager dancers, if you know anyone who might be interested, please do speak to Martin.

Hope to see many of you next month, until then,

kind regards,

Martin

Contact details

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