

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 2023

**July:** Autumn play read through: date to be confirmed.

**23rd July:** annual BBQ/A.G.M.

**August:** Autumn rehearsals start, exact dates to be confirmed

**10th September:** ODS Open Day

**8th October:** Panto read through and dance auditions

**26th - 28th October:** Autumn Production

**6th November:** first panto rehearsal

**2024: 2-3rd Feb, 9-10th Feb:**  
Panto production dates

Hello everyone,

As I write this, at last summer has arrived, goodness knows where the year has gone so far!

### Summer production

Next week sees our production of Jake Revolver, Freelance Secret Agent. The cast have been polishing their lines and actions and under Alan's excellent direction are now ready and waiting to perform. Three performances next week starting on Thursday. Tickets £15 each to include a two course supper. More details on the attached flyer. It would be lovely to see many of you there.

### 2023 - 75th Anniversary, Autumn Production

This year is our 75th Anniversary, we are planning a further production in the autumn (dates above) which will consist of two one act plays. The exciting news is that we have two debut directors, it is daunting the first time you do it (actually, so are the second and third times) but I know that all of us will give them all the support and guidance that they need.

We need to find two suitable one act plays, if anyone has any suggestions then please do make them known. Once this summer production is done, we need to get our thinking caps on and get some play readings sorted.

### Open day

We are throwing our doors open with a series of FREE one hour workshops, aimed at the public, that anyone is welcome to drop-in on. Whether they stay for just the one workshop or pop in and out during the course of the day, everyone will be made very welcome. Hopefully, we will gain some interested members as a result.

The exact programme is still being worked upon but it is likely to look something like this:

10.00: workshop 1  
11.00: workshop 2  
12.00: workshop 3  
13.00 - 13.30: Lunch  
13.30: workshop 4  
14.30: workshop 5  
15.30: Workshop 6

### Probable workshops are:

- Lights/sound/action: *see behind the scenes our lighting and sound effect capabilities, "play with the equipment and create your own effect"*
- Be Voice confident: *Do you ever need to make presentations at work, stand up in front of strangers? This session concentrates on relaxation techniques, voice projection and becoming a confident speaker.*
- Dance for Adults: *Ever wanted to properly learn a dance sequence? Gangnam-Style is now ten years old, come along and learn the dance moves!*
- Dance for children: *come along and learn properly how to do the "Wednesday Dance" and bring out your inner Goth.*
- Sing for Fun: *Nothing beats a good group sing song and Hairspray's finale "You cannot stop the beat" is the perfect song to learn even for those of you with 'flat notes'*

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- Mindfulness and relaxation: *learn techniques to unwind from your day.*

Details and exact timings to be confirmed, check our website nearer the time for details but meanwhile, please keep and share the date.

### [Amazon](#)

Always worthwhile reminding everyone: there is a link on the Society's home page ([www.ockleydramaticsociety.org.uk/](http://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!)

### [Membership dues](#)

Thank you to all of those who have set up a Standing Order, it is much easier than having to seek out Martyn to pay him cash or send cheques. A few have not settled for the current year, could you please do so soonest? Everyone: new dues are due from 1st July. Subs remain unchanged from previous years, namely £15 for adults and £5 for under eighteens. Details on how to pay are on the form.

### [Annual BBQ with brief AGM](#)

The AGM bit is always brief, usually around twenty minutes or so as the main focus is really 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, you'll be very welcome even if we have not seen you for a couple of years..

This year's BBQ will take place on Sunday 23rd July, from 4pm onwards.

### [Pantomime:](#)

This will be back this year (oh yes it will!), the read through will take place at Ockley Village Hall on Sunday 10th October, 2p.m. for the dancers and 3p.m. for actors. This will overlap with the autumn production but panto rehearsals will not start until November. More details nearer the time but as we have had an enforced break of a couple of years it is probable that some of our junior actors and dancers will have found other societies to join (or have found other interests) so please start gently spreading the word that we are on the look out.

Until the next time,  
kind regards,

Martin

### [Contact details](#)

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