

# Riverside Players Newsletter April 2025

Happy April! It's been a little while since our last newsletter, but we hope you're all doing well and ready for some exciting updates!

Spring is here, and it's the perfect time for us to shake off the winter cobwebs, we've got some fun things lined up, including Old Windsor Carnival, Readthroughs, auditions and Panto! Whether you love being on stage or just enjoy the magic of theatre, there's something for everyone.

## **Old Windsor Carnival 2025**

As ever, we're excited to be a part of the Old Windsor Carnival in June, a fun weekend is always had by all and it's a great opportunity for us to show the village what Riverside Players is all about.

We'll be at the Old Windsor Recreation Ground across the weekend, cheering on a Donkey on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June from 7pm, in our Riverside Players Stall in the afternoon of Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and then running "Old Windsor's Got Talent" on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>. Come along and join us for a drink or some fun in our photobooth... or do you fancy yourself as the villages next top talent?

# Panto 2025 – The Pied Piper of Hamelin

We're excited to announce that the 2025 Pantomime will be "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" directed by Simon Arnold. We'll be looking for all the usual panto suspects; a Dame, a comedy duo, a Baddie and maybe even a rat or two. You'll have plenty of opportunity to get to know the story and characters with a read-through and two audition nights this summer, this is also a great opportunity to meet people ahead of auditioning.

Maybe you've been following us for a while but never wanted to step into the spotlight? Well now's your time! Come down to a read-through to meet us, see what we do and figure out where you'd like to fit in. It doesn't even have to be on stage, we always need plenty of help behind the scenes (or bar).

# Important dates for your diary - all 8pm at the Old Windsor Memorial Hall:

Panto Read-through - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Panto Auditions - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September

# **Cind-A-Laddin Script Reading**

On **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 8pm at the Memorial Hall** we're going to hold an exciting read through for a Panto script written by one of our own members, Glenn O'Mara-Baldwin. As you can see from our newsletter this will not be produced this year but is a great opportunity for us to share feedback and ideas and help bring Glenn's work to life.

We're always open to new ideas and encouraging our members to step outside their comfort zone so if anyone else ever wants to do anything like this please let us know!

## **Windsor Theatre Offer for Riverside Players Members**

"(This is not a) Happy room" is going to be on at the Theatre Royal Windsor running from 13-17<sup>th</sup> May. The play centres around a dysfunctional family reuniting for their dad's third or fourth wedding, which turns by accident into his funeral! It has been described by the Spectator as 'the greatest theatrical surprise of the year'!

They have kindly set up a discount code for our members for £7.50 off all ticket bands so prices, using this code the cheapest tickets will now only be £16 for us.

This code is **HAPPYGROUP** and can be applied on here <a href="https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/happy-room-25/#20250513">https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/happy-room-25/#20250513</a>

#### The Future ....

Currently we have nothing confirmed in the diary for 2026 or beyond so please let us know if you have any ideas!

All slots are up for grabs from 2026 onwards, either for summer plays, musicals or pantomimes .... Or maybe you have an idea for something a bit different?

If you're interested in directing but don't know where to start reach out to one of us or please take a look at the resources below:

https://www.lazybeescripts.co.uk/ (we love this one)

http://www.josef-weinberger.com/

https://www.stageplays.com/plays-by-publisher/Samuel+French+Inc

https://limelightscripts.co.uk/

Without the support of our wider membership with directing and production of shows it falls to a very small group to maintain, and sadly it won't be sustainable forever.

# Membership

We're in the new membership year! Subs are £20 and under-16s are £10. We will be pleased to accept your payment by bank transfer. Bank details are below (please include your name in the reference!)

### The 2025/26 Riverside Committee

Chairman – Lorna Jupp-Rowlands Lorna@riversideplayers.com

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Josie Clarke - Youth Rep

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