



Riverside Players Newsletter

June 2025

You know it's nearly summer in the UK when we have a single weekend that could have either drowned you in torrential rain or Pimm's, both were possible ☀️

We're getting to the point in the year where we begin the countdown to Panto, oh yes we are! And we hope you're as excited as us for what's to come....

Old Windsor Carnival 2025

On Friday we enjoyed the Donkey Derby and Simon did his best John McCrick, sadly no win for the Riverside Donkey this year but there's always 2026.

Then Saturday we braved the weather with a stall to advertise Riverside Players and the upcoming panto, we had a photo booth and name the rat competition which was good fun. The winner of name the rat was **Owen** with the name **Pie Pie the Rat** and they have been contacted about their prize tickets. Lorna tried to keep the crowds spirits up compèring the day, Josie was quite literally singing in the rain AND Simon and Alex came 2nd in the Walking Parties category with "Tinder".

We were also there on Sunday (the sun and Pimms half of the weekend) to run the annual Old Windsor's Got Talent where we had 8 wonderful entries this year, we saw lots of singing with some original songs thrown in, a Pianist and a Mr Bean.



Panto 2025 – The Pied Piper of Hamelin

As announced in our previous newsletter, the 2025 Pantomime will be "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" directed by Simon Arnold. We're gearing up for another fantastic panto season and we need all the familiar faces: a fabulous Dame, a quirky comedy duo, a sneaky Baddie, and maybe a rat or two for good measure.

Over the summer you'll have plenty of chances to get acquainted with the story and to meet our lovely members through a read-through and two audition nights. Don't be shy, we only bite if the character requires!

There will also be plenty of opportunity to get involved behind the scenes (or even at the bar), reach out to any of us on the contact details below for more information or with any questions. We'd love to welcome new adult or youth members but we do have a minimum age requirement of 10 years old.

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

Panto Read-through - **Thursday 3rd July**

Panto Auditions - **Monday 1st September and Thursday 4th September**

Cind-A-Laddin Script Reading

On **Thursday 10th 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. Anyone is welcome to join us to participate and get to know our members with no pressure, you can even come along just to listen and have a cup of tea.

Riverside Players Quiz

After the success of our 2024 Quiz, we've decided to do it again to support the panto efforts. This year it will take place on Saturday 18th October, tickets will include entry into the Quiz (teams up to 8) + Fish and Chips, and bring your own drinks. We'll also have a raffle with all profits going towards the production of The Pied Piper. Look out for more information on how to enter over the summer!

Other local Shows

If you're looking for something to do this week why not check out Me and My Girl at the Kenton theatre, Henley. 11th-14th June, curtain up 7.45pm. You might spot some familiar faces!

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!)

Sort code :23-05-80 Account number :46799380

The 2025/26 Riverside Committee	
Chairman – Lorna Jupp-Rowlands Lorna@riversideplayers.com Tel: 07378 408433	Roger Blackman Rogerb@riversideplayers.com Tel: 01784 471810
Secretary – Vicki Arnold Vicki@riversideplayers.com Tel: 07799 840599	Jill Dady Jill@riversideplayers.com
Treasurer – Helen Clarke Helen@riversideplayers.com Tel: 07803 705437	Simon Arnold Simon@riversideplayers.com Tel: 07818 046864
	Alex Taggart Alex@riversideplayers.com Josie Clarke – Youth Rep

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