

Riverside Players Newsletter September 2025

Welcome to Autumn everyone. Has anyone noticed how quickly the nights are drawing in? Maybe it's just my age! We at Riverside Players really hope you enjoyed your summer and are now ready for the start of the countdown to Christmas! Too early! I hear you cry! Well not for my local garden centre (who have all their Christmas lights for sale) and not for us, because panto rehearsals have started!!

Panto 2025 - The Pied Piper of Hamelin

As I am sure you know by now this year's panto is "The Pied Piper of Hamelin". The show has now been cast and we have 3 new faces to adorn the stage, as well as the really old ones – you know who I mean.

The music has now been selected and I thought you might appreciate a glimpse behind the curtain when it comes to choosing the music. Although it's much easier to listen and acquire music now, it is so difficult to find songs that everyone knows. For example, I am a child of the 80's. 40 years ago "Dancing in the Street" by David Bowie and Mick Jagger was at number 1. Everyone knew it. You heard it on the radio and Top of The Pops. But now young folk don't listen to the radio, there is no single show on TV that you would watch to see your favourite performers. If I knew what the number 1 single is this week, how many people would actually know it? What does this mean? It means there will be some absolute classic songs in the panto this year!

Anyway, rehearsals are proceeding well and there is a good strong cast with a really good vibe. Stuck for something to do on a Monday or Thursday? Well pop down, say hello and have a cup of tea!

Riverside Players Quiz

Preparations for this year's quiz is going well. If you haven't already, book your table! It will take place on Saturday 18th October. Tickets are £16.50 and will include entry into the Quiz (teams up to 8) + Fish and Chips! Bring your own drinks and any other snacks! We will also have a raffle with all profits going towards the production of The Pied Piper. To enter a team, contact Lorna on Lorna@riversideplayers.com (07378 408433). Don't delay! Places are filling up fast!

The Future....

Currently there are no confirmed plans in the diary for shows in 2026, so if you have some ideas of what you like to see, direct or just be involved with, please let us know! We are open to suggestions for summer plays, musicals or pantomimes... Or maybe you have an idea for something a bit different? Don't keep it to yourself! Come and talk to us or contact any of the committee at the email addresses at the bottom of the newsletter... We look forward to hearing from you!

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 and show fees

We are in the new membership year! Subs are £20 and under-16s are £10. If you are in the panto, show fees are £25. 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

Tel: 07378 408433

Secretary – Vicki Arnold Vicki@riversideplayers.com

Tel: 07799 840599

Treasurer – Helen Clarke Helen@riversideplayers.com

Tel: 07803 705437

Simon Arnold Simon@riversideplayers.com

Tel: 07818 046864

Roger Blackman Rogerb@riversideplayers.com

Tel: 01784 471810

Jill Dady <u>Jill@riversideplayers.com</u>
Alex Taggart <u>Alex@riversideplayers.com</u>

Josie Clarke - Youth Rep