



ODS Newsletter

Overton Dramatic Society

June/July 2010

Do you have a comment or a contribution?

Email: newsletter@ods-online.co.uk

Phone: Paul on 01256 770401

or speak to any member of the committee

Welcome to the "new look" ODS Newsletter. We hope you find it informative and interesting. Let us know if you prefer to receive it on paper or by email (to save the trees!)

Welcome Your New Committee



Your new chairman:
Richard Sims

Dates for your diary:

Social Events:

July 10th—ODS vs BAOS Challenge Quiz (St. Mary's Hall)

Aug 8th—Walking Treasure Hunt in Andover

Sept —Dave's Beer Bus (exact date to be confirmed)

Panto Dates:

Auditions: Tues 29th June and Thurs 1st July

Casting: 6th/8th July

Rehearsals: start Tues 7th Sept

Show week:

23rd to 27th November.

Other groups/events:

July

22-24 July: WADS production of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, is on 22-24 July.

August

14th August—Sideways Down and the Wyverns play in St. Mary's Hall.

30th August—The return of the Great Overton Duck Race is planned for August Bank Holiday

October

27 - 30 October 2010 —KATS are performing *My Fair Lady* (venue to be confirmed)

Do you know of other AmDram societies or groups and events that we could feature in this section?

Let us know: talk to Paul or another member of the committee, or email: newsletter@ods-online.co.uk

This year's AGM was held on the 13th of May in the ORC. A key item of business was the annual election of committee members, and—with Jim Wheatley stepping down—this included appointing a brand new chairman.

As the only nominee Richard Sims accepted the post of chairman. There were eleven nominations for the remaining committee posts, and with some long serving members stepping down, there are two new faces... "freshers" joining the committee line-up are Kate Llewellyn and Paul Larkham; returning to the fold

this year are Ellen Daley and Tom Wheatley. Joining them for another year are members of last year's line-up: Gabby Esplin, Alan Garland, Kayleigh Hale, Becci Larkham, Lesley Peters, Freda Robinson, and Jill Smith.

Following a meeting on the 23rd June, Richard invited the new committee to take on specific roles, and these are listed on the next page.

On behalf of ODS, Richard and the new committee would like to make a special point of thanking all the members of the outgoing 2009 committee, including Julia Cobb and Mar-

garet Penney, and especially Jean and Jim Wheatley, who step down after many years of service as (respectively) Treasurer and Chairman.

Also... the committee would like to give special thanks to Wendy Tipple, Elsie Batten and Jill Clark—all of whom have worked on Front of House for many years and have decided to retire this year.

Tina's Star Award 2010

This year's recipient of our Tina's Star Award is Phil Bowlzer.

The Star Award is named in memory of Tina Blunden, and is to recognize and celebrate the people who help make ODS tick.

Announced at this year's AGM, the winner of the 2010 Star Award was selected by Sarah Maggs, Denise Hayward and Helen Fields. As directors of our 2009 show programme, the ladies were challenged to select from seven nominees: Alan Garland, Freda Robinson, Jenna Clark-Williams, Lesley Peters, Jill Smith, Jim Wheatley and of course Phil Bowlzer.

Richard caught up with our winner at his home, and when presented with the award, Phil said:

"I'd like to thank those who nominated me and thank the judging committee who awarded me Tina's Star: you can't believe what it means to me.

"At the end of the day, I do this because I enjoy it.

"My reward was putting on a good show— and if you think I'm good at what I do, it's because I have to be to match the professionalism right across the Society from director to front-of-house and everyone in between. And not forgetting Bren who gives me the occasional motivational nudge!"



Phil with the Tina's Star Award

"So 'thanks' to one and all - it's really appreciated.

"And no, this doesn't mean you can clutter up the wings. ☺"

"Here's to the next show."

Congratulations to Phil, and all our worthy nominees.

Society news...

In other news from across the society....

We're gearing up for our first every **Open Day** on 27th June, where we give the public the opportunity to go "behind the scenes" and find out more about ODS. Hopefully we will encourage a few to join as new members.... At the time of writing, readings for the **Pantomime** are in full swing, auditions and castings will take place over the next few weeks....

Birthdays galore with a number of members celebrating their birthdays this past month or so, including Becca Sims, Johnny Blunden, Jenna Clark-Williams, and Sarah Blunden. Congratulations! (*Did we miss you out? Let us know your birthday—or other news—and get a mention in a future newsletter!*).... **T-Shirts** commemorating the ODS 30th Anniversary are available alongside other ODS items via our website www.ods-online.co.uk We are now advertising the **hire of equipment** including lights, smoke machines and such like. Visit the website for more details....

And finally, our **special thanks** go to John and Betty Ashlin for organising the annual Bournemouth trip for the last 16 years. Last December saw the final occurrence of this long-standing tradition, and everyone at the AGM gave a rousing vote of thanks to John and Betty.

Membership Fees

It's that time again! Following the AGM in May, the annual membership fees are now due. Don't forget to see Lesley Peters with your subs!



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Agreed at the AGM, the scale of fees for 2010/11 are as follows:

Adults..... £18

OAPs and students*..... £12

Children under 16..... £8

(*Students between 17-21yrs and in full time education)

Your Committee: Who's Who?

Richard Sims	Chairman
Becci Larkham	Deputy Chairman, and Lead Social
Gabrielle Esplin	Treasurer
Kate Llewellyn	Secretary
Alan Garland	Health & Safety Officer
Jill Smith	Publicity
Freda Robinson	Costumes, and Bookings Sec.
Lesley Peters	Membership Secretary
Ellen Daley	Tickets and Asst. Bookings Sec.
Tom Wheatley	Technical Officer
Paul Larkham	Newsletter, Website, and Asst. Tech
Kayleigh Hale	Asst. Social & Asst. Publicity

Social Events

As ever, your committee is keen to put on a good range and number of social events for 2010-2011. At the May AGM, Becci circulated a brief questionnaire to see how previous year's social events were received and get a feel for preferences and areas of interest. In general, the results were most encouraging, suggesting that everyone is broadly happy with the number of events held, the type and the cost also being well received.

Interest in another coach trip to London was high, and more events in the village with a variety of music were popular comments. The ODS 30th Birthday Party (see picture) was particularly well received.

So, what's on the cards for this coming year? Well, the ever popular **Treasure Hunt** return on the 8th August, followed

in September by another mystery tour of some lovely country pubs in what we're calling "**Dave McLaren's Mystery Beer Bus Extravaganza 2010**".

But before all of that, the annual **ODS vs BAOS Challenge Quiz** returns to home turf, taking place in St. Mary's Hall on 10th July. (It is worth noting that the home team have lost on many previous occasions, so let's make sure that—as the current champions—we buck that trend!).

Looking further ahead, there are coach trips to Swindon Outlet Village and London being planned for your Christmas Shopping and in the New Year - look out for more news on these two events.

If you have any other suggestions for events, why not drop Becci Larkham an email or give her a call—becci@webwhirled.com or 07771 367302.



Thirties dancing at the ODS 30th Party

ODS vs BAOS quiz—calling all teams!

The quiz is on 10th July in St. Mary's Hall (7:30pm onwards), so get yourselves together as a team (around 6 people ideally) or simply come along on the night and get together with a few others on the spot!

Come on!
Let's retain
that trophy!

Don't forget—you can get
info and photos online at

ods-online.co.uk