

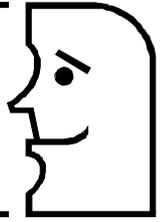


The Guild Players

www.guildplayers.org.uk

part of Finchley Methodist Church

info@guildplayers.org.uk



Newsletter - September 2013

A brief update as we commence the Guild Players 2013/14 season.

Autumn Production - Pantomime

Our next show will be the traditional family pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" directed by Mike Sparks. Performances will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th December. There will also be a 3 pm matinee on Saturday 7th. (Note the slightly earlier time for the evening performances.)

Rehearsals for the Panto got off to a slow start last week, but begin in earnest on Wednesday 11th September when we hope that a full cast will be present to pick up rehearsal schedules and really get the play under way. Rehearsals will take then place on various combinations of Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays through to the performance week. Pantomime is one of the most complex productions to stage as we also need to include music & dance rehearsals in the mix!

We still need actors to take on various roles throughout the production, particularly we need to cast the Cow (could be one or two people!). In addition the Front of House & Stage Managers will need people to help them in their teams. Please think about it and let Mike know if you can help (mike@mjsparkes.co.uk), or you could just come along on a rehearsal night.

Farewells

Wednesday 11th September will be the last time Carol Refrew will be with us before her move north of the border. It would be really great if as many members as possible came along to give her a good send off. Carol has been a leading member of the Group for several years. Aside from being an outstanding actor in a variety of roles, Carol has organised all our social events. She will be greatly missed.

Also imminently moving away from the area is Betty Robertson. She has been our Membership Secretary for around 20 years and we thank her for her assiduous pursuit of membership fees!

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Guild Players will take place on Wednesday 25th September at 8 pm. We are normally successful at keeping the meeting duration to under 30 minutes. Please help us achieve this again by attending **PROMPTLY for an 8 pm START**. The meeting will be followed by coffee and then a shortened rehearsal for the autumn production.

Everyone interested in the Guild Players is invited to attend the AGM but only existing paid up members can vote. An agenda and a nomination form should have been received with this newsletter. Nominations must be made in advance of the AGM (not at the meeting).

ALL the officer and committee roles are up for election at this point every year, but we particularly wish to highlight three vacant positions that will need to be filled:

- Membership Secretary
- Publicity Officer
- Social Secretary

If you would like to play (or retain) a role in the running of the group, you need to get yourself nominated. Don't assume that someone will put your name forward automatically!

Membership 2013/14

It is now time to pay your £20 Guild Players subscription for the 2013/14 season.

It was agreed to raise the subscription fee at the 2012 AGM, our first increase since 2008.

A membership renewal form should have been included with this mailing. It is **ESSENTIAL** that you submit a membership form with your payment so that we have an accurate record of your contact details. Membership forms are also available on the website.

While we are between Membership Secretaries, your membership form & payment should be given to Mike Sparks. The AGM is the best time to pay your annual membership.

We welcome newcomers to come along and spend a couple of evenings with us to see if we are the sort of group they would like to join before having to pay for membership. Beyond that, it is expected that **EVERYONE** taking part in Guild Players activities should have paid their £20 annual membership fee. The only additional charge we make is a production fee (usually around £12 - £15) for the actors taking part in each show. This covers the cost of the script and provision of refreshments at rehearsals.

Looking Forward...

These are the performance dates we have pencilled in for 2014. Suggestions for potential plays are always welcomed by the committee.

Easter Touring Production	Monday 14 th to Good Friday 18 th April 2014
Spring Production	Thursday 15 th to Saturday 17 th May 2014
Autumn Production	Thursday 27 th to Saturday 29 th November 2014

And Looking Back...

- Garden Party

Huge thanks to Michael Lamb for hosting a very enjoyable barbeque party at his home on the very hot afternoon & evening of 13th July 2013.

- Voice Training Course

A dozen Guild Players members took part in a very successful course to improve voice work on four Wednesday evenings during July & August 2013. Thanks go to Jane Atkinson from The London Studio Centre who ran the course. Jane might well be about the place during rehearsals for the forthcoming Panto, so those who took part should look to impress her with their new found skills. We hope to run a similar course next year.

Copies of this Newsletter, plus the AGM Agenda, Nomination Form and Membership Form can be found on our website - www.guildplayers.org.uk/diary/noticeboard.php