

LYMPSTONE PLAYERS

NEWSLETTER

July 2020

Like most arts, sport and social groups, Lympstone Players have had to go into hibernation from the public for the last few months. However, with the easing of lockdown, this seems a good point in time to update members on how we have been affected, and how we are likely to be affected through the rest of this year and into 2021.

Update on Bookings and use of the village hall

The Government have now provided detailed guidance on the protocols which must be put in place for events which can now be held in the hall. Unfortunately for the Players, the restrictions on numbers of people attending events, social distancing requirements and limitations on the type of activities which are allowed, including the running of a bar, catering, seating layouts etc. mean that we cannot provide a meaningful or enjoyable evening for people to attend, whether that is a performance or some other form of entertainment such as a quiz or a social event. We have, therefore, cancelled the autumn bookings for rehearsals and December performances which had been the original intention. However, in consultation with the hall management team, we are keeping this under review and will be making preparations for live performances in anticipation of changes to the guidelines over the coming months.

Nights in on Zoom

The closure of the village hall and the strict limitations on people meeting in groups obviously meant that our provisional bookings for the spring of this year had to be cancelled, and the planning for future productions had to be put on hold. However, you will be aware from previous emails that members were invited to take part in, or observe, a series of evenings of sketches and performances via Zoom. Over 20 members took part at

various times and lots of sketches, readings and creative performances were put together.



We were delighted that Angela Brewer was able to join us from Strasbourg, and that Wendy Watson and Shirley Hughes zoomed in from Lancashire with their own hilarious contributions.

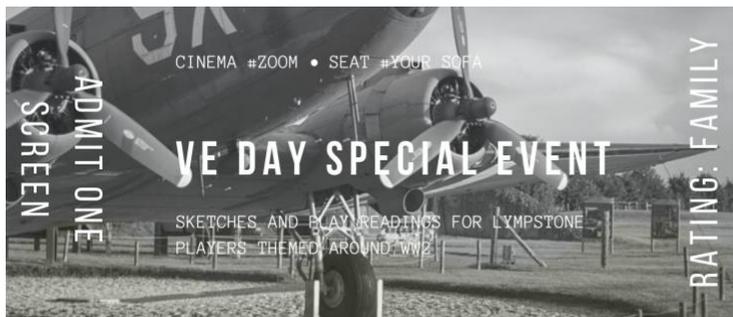
These were great fun and very entertaining, and have provided plenty of material which can be used in live events in the future.

Improv Sessions

In addition to the sketches put together by Players, we also took advantage of having a bit of extra time to invite Maggie Irving to run some improvisation sessions. Maggie provided various scenarios for Players to work with to help develop their improv skills. These were great fun, and revealed all kinds of hidden talents, as well as some manic performances. This is something we look forward to returning to in the future.

VE Day Celebrations

Lockdown resulted in the cancellation of many of the planned VE day celebrations in the village. However, we were able to put together an evening of sketches marking VE day, and these included some memorable performances and some equally memorable costume inventions. Some of these sketches will undoubtedly be brought to a wider audience, hopefully before too long. Look out for Graham and Louise Banks' moving demonstration that even at a time of sadness and loss the clouds really can have a silver lining...or in this case, a silver kipper.



TICKET PRICE
FREE
DATE ISSUED
07/05/20
TIME
8:15 - 9:15

As you can see from the above, the Players did not allow lockdown to switch off all forms of activity, with Zoom providing a new platform for talent to shine.

A special thank you is due to Sharon Wayland and Lesley Anderson for leading all of this activity, and for providing the technical wizardry to bring members together at such a challenging time.

Annual General Meeting

It quickly became obvious that an AGM in the traditional format would not be possible this year. However, we have been awaiting the easing of lockdown to see if we could hold a Covid compliant version of an AGM in order to meet the essential governance requirements of the organisation, and to provide an opportunity for members to come together in a social setting to look at options for future activities.

You will have received an email from Sharon inviting you to meet in Judy Day's garden at 6.00pm on Thursday 30th July. Details on the format of the evening, and alternative arrangements if the weather prevents this happening as planned, are in Sharon's email.

Essential AGM business (election of officers and committee members, officers' reports, and the accounts) will be dealt with very quickly as 2020 is inevitably a year in which the Players can only be kept ticking over whilst looking forward to a return to the revival of productions in 2021!

Officers 2020-21

The following officers are standing for re-election:

Chair David Eaton
Treasurer Judy Day
Secretary Sharon Wayland

Committee Members

The committee members standing for 2020-21

Vivienne Copp
Elizabeth Langley
Lesley Anderson

Officers are automatically members of the committee

Dates for your Diary

AGM and Social Evening on Thursday, 30th July, 2020 in Judy Day's garden at Mill View, Church Path, Lympstone at 6.00pm (or on Zoom if the weather is inclement).

