

Lympstone Players' NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

www.lympstoneplayers.co.uk
lympstoneplayers@gmail.com

Our Mission:

*To entertain local audiences with a variety of quality theatrical productions
by sharing our skills, passions and knowledge and working together
in a friendly, supportive and fun environment*

Our Core Values:

Respect – Integrity – Community - Excellence

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting took place on 21 May. The following officers and committee members were elected:

Grace Packman (Chair), Judy Eaton (Treasurer), Heather Redding (Secretary), Judy Stutchbury, Bernice Fynn, Simon Ellis, Emma Bushell, Sharon Wayland, Sue Pritchard, Doreen Murray.

Should you wish to contact the committee, please email us at:

lympstoneplayers@gmail.com. We review the inbox regularly.

Set design and scene painting workshops

Four individual sessions available: Saturday, 26 July, 2-5pm (*morning session full*)

Sunday, 27 July 10am-1pm and 2-5pm

Cost: £10 per adult member per session

Limited to 4 participants per session – no experience necessary.

This is an opportunity to learn more about the principles of set design from theatre professional and Lympstone resident Debs Mitchell. Debs is an artist, set designer and scene painter who has worked at theatres across the UK and will lead each of these half-day sessions, sharing her expertise. You will learn about the principles of scene painting, as well as practical experience, trying your own hand.



To secure a place on one of these exciting workshops, please register your interest by emailing lympstoneplayers@gmail.com, stating which session you would like to attend.

Puss in Boots - production secretary

Auditions have now taken place for our pantomime production of *Puss in Boots* (in the village hall on the evenings of Thursday 4 to Saturday 6 December, including a matinee on the Saturday).



Although the production is now largely cast, we do very much need a production secretary. Can anyone help? You would help our director, Bruce Ellis, to organise the rehearsal schedule (you wouldn't have to go to all the rehearsals) and to stay in touch with the cast and production team. Please email us if you might be interested to arrange a chat with Bruce: lympstoneplayers@gmail.com.

Likewise, if you'd like to get involved with the production, back-stage, front-of-house, or helping with the music, please do contact us! We do particularly need a prompt. Could it be you?

Summer gathering –“In an English Country Garden”

Our themed summer gathering this year will take place on Sunday 20 July, 2-5pm in Grace and Tim's garden at Fuchsia Cottage, Church Road, Lympstone (entrance through passage door on the left-hand side of the house). Lympstone Village Hall Meeting Room if wet.



If you would like to contribute, please bring a poem or a piece of prose that fits our theme (which could be your own work if you write) or a song to sing. Of course you are welcome if you'd just like to listen. Please bring something to drink, a plate of food to share and, if you have one, a folding chair.

Please let us know if you are coming by emailing lympstoneplayers@gmail.com

Membership subs

Thank you to all members who have paid their subs so promptly already for 2025/26. If you haven't paid them yet, it would be great if you could! They are still only £10 a year. We rely on our members' subscriptions to cover our standing costs like insurance and NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) membership. If you're not sure if you have paid or not, email me on judyday200@outlook.com to check.

Bank account – The Lympstone Players, TSB, 30-93-15, 22185060



Judy Eaton
Treasurer

Play-Reading Group

Our Play-Reading Group is taking a break over the summer, but will resume in September. The once-monthly readings are held on a Sunday afternoon in the homes of different members starting at 2.30 and finishing around 5.00 to 5.30. These play readings are not only very enjoyable social occasions but provide an excellent opportunity to engage with play scripts without the pressure of performance on stage. If you would like to get notifications about the play readings and want to take part as a reader or as part of the audience please contact Clive Wilson at clivewilson264@gmail.com

Thanks from the Sam Banks Memorial Fund

The Banks family would like to thank all the Lympstone Players for the generous donation of £350 to The Sam Banks Memorial Fund. This has been particularly helpful in the light of our changed family circumstances after Graham's stroke, which has made fundraising quite a challenge. We were extremely touched by the gesture.

As you may know, the fund was started in memory of our son Sam who died on his travels in India in 2010. Since 2011 it has been annually providing bursaries for students studying photojournalism at Pathshala South Asian Media Institute in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The Fund has so far helped more than 40 students, who would otherwise have great difficulty in continuing their studies. Many have gone on to win prestigious photography awards and work for international agencies and publications.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the annual Lympstone Players Summer Gathering on 20 July, when we will be ceremonially accepting the cheque!

With many thanks,
Louise and Graham and family