



# ST DAVID'S PLAYERS

A GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Patrons

A belated Happy New Year to everyone!

### 2010 Show

The Committee has been working hard on the preparations for the 2010 show **Trial by Jury** and **HMS Pinafore** to be performed at the Barnfield Theatre in Exeter from 12 to 16 October 2010.

**Rehearsals** for the double-bill begin on Tuesday 20 April 2010 at Kalendar Hall, South St, Exeter, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

**Auditions** for principal parts will be held on Sunday 23 May 2010 from 2pm.

It is expected that most people joining the Players for the 2010 session will take part in both shows, but exceptions to this will be considered at the discretion of the Producer, Jane May and Musical Directors, Mark and Nicky Perry.

### Annual General Meeting

I hope you will have received details of the AGM to be held on 23 February at 7.30pm, and the minutes of last year's AGM and EGM are attached to this newsletter. We are looking for three new committee members so please consider if you would like to take part in running the Players.

### Financial Matters

Our Treasurer will make a full report on the Players' finances at the AGM, but in the interests of stimulating debate and discussion, an outline of the financial position is included here. Unfortunately, last year's production *The Rose of Persia* only sold 53% of tickets, compared with 80% sold for *The Gondoliers* in 2008. This means the Players' reserves have suffered a reduction of over £3000 and effectively reducing 20% of the Society's reserves. The Committee has been discussing various ways of reducing costs and increasing income for 2010, and have concluded that, although membership subscriptions will not go up, we will be asking members to cover the cost of their own score/libretto. There are various options for members to obtain these and details are attached. We have also decided to open the dress rehearsal to a paying audience of students and young people. Having been held at 2008 levels in 2009, ticket prices for the performance nights will also be increased this year. We are also considering a travelling roadshow in the autumn and winter in order to take G&S further afield and generate some income. We very much welcome members' feedback on these suggestions, either at the AGM, or by correspondence.

### Social Events

On a lighter note, Sue Mizen has very generously offered her home for a BBQ in the early summer – many thanks Sue. We'll let you know as soon as the date has been fixed.

Hope to see lots of you at the AGM – don't forget that there's a free drink the George's Meeting House afterwards.

With very best wishes

Gillian

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