



Launton Village Players (Registered Charity No: 1190149)

Report to the Parish Council's Annual Meeting.

April 20th.2023

Launton Village Players have had a very successful year and our thanks must go to the whole LVP team who give up so much of their time and work so hard to achieve these results.

On April 10th we had a Welcome Event for new members to come along and find out about LVP and see if they would like to join us for our next production. On May 1st we started rehearsals for our summer show "A Musical Jubilee" which was to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. It was a mixture of sketches and songs as well as readings and poems. The highlights included, having, for the first time, a celebrity dog who did an act; and we must also mention the synchronised swimming act which really made our audiences laugh! The show was performed on the afternoons of July 16th and 17th in the garden at Mayflower, Hare Leys Farm, Launton. Both afternoons of the shows were very hot, an unusual problem to have, but we did source gazebos for the audience and much needed ice for the cast! We had full audiences and made £1400.00 which was donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

On September 25th we had another Welcome Evening for potential new members and are happy to say we have gained about 4 new members from our Welcome evenings. Rehearsals for our 36th pantomime began on 30th October and our cast numbers are back up to pre Covid levels with many members returning to panto this time.

On October 15th we sang at the Island Pond event and enjoyed singing some old favourites such as Oom Pah Pah and the Hippopotamus song.

In February this year we performed "Hickory Dickory Dock" our 36th pantomime. This was written by Rod and Nikki Fine, directed by Julia West with Steve Webber providing us with original music. Our audiences were back to normal levels this year and we sold 1134 tickets. The bad King broke the clock and scattered the cog to faraway lands. After travelling to the four corners of the world, meeting penguins, Father Christmas and Rudolph as well as visiting the Old West and a mystical eastern island, our heroes returned home and the mice were able to mend the clock. There was much fun along the way, with magic, a bit of water and lots of audience participation. We raised £7,500.00 which was donated to Nai's House in memory of Virgil Rhone. Nai's House is a Bicester based charity which provides mental health support to young people.

The trustees have been busy reviewing policies and updating them as well as approving any shows we do and ensuring we are achieving our charitable objects.

Our thanks must go to the whole LVP team who are so supportive and we are lucky to have such a great team. Thank you too to our advertisers, sponsors and of course our audiences who have come along and been extra spectacular in supporting us.

Celia Evans 10/04/2023 (LVP Trustee)