

# Octopus



February 2011

Chairman	Pat Morrissey	418004
Secretary	Karen Gill	413783
Treasurer	Bob Brooks	416637
Child Protection Officer	Paula Cantwell	418406
Social Secretary	Sue Roberts	617232

Dear Octopus members,

Karen normally produces communications to members but, as we approach the AGM, I thought I would put pen to paper (finger to keyboard!) and just highlight a few things that are currently going on.

## The AGM

This takes place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March in the parlour in the parish buildings. I WILL be standing down as Chair after 4 years and, as a result, the Society needs to appoint a new Chair. At present, despite some prompting and approaches, nobody has volunteered but there is still plenty of time. It is not a time consuming role and it is not about being a drama group expert. It is simply, with the help of the committee and the members, about leading the Group and making sure that we are on track with productions. Please consider whether you want to do this important role – someone will have to.

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

I am really looking forward to this and seeing as many members, past and present, as possible being there. It should be a great night with a few surprises lined up. The price is an incredibly low £15 for a 3-course dinner. If you have not booked already, please let Susie Roberts know, if you are

coming. Tickets are going fast, so please “act” (forgive the pun) quickly.

## Summer Play

We are currently looking for people who want to appear in the Summer Play; without a cast, there is no play. We are looking to put on another hilarious farce. The play gives the opportunity for all members to try their hand in what I consider to be our “Blue Riband” production. Don’t worry if you have no experience, there are normally parts for people regardless of experience. It is a chance to develop your acting skills and have a lot of fun.

## October Show

It will be difficult to follow last years’ production, but we need to come up with some ideas for this year. If you have an idea for a show or performance, please let the committee know. There are no rules and we have put on a wide range of shows over the years.

## Pantomime 2012 (Yes 2012)

We already have 2 great offerings for our next panto (oh yes, we have!) and the committee have the unenviable task of selecting one. A tough call to make, but it's great to have a choice.

## Social Events

To follow up from the dinner, we would like to have a summer barbecue to further celebrate our 40 years. Some ideas include a barn dance and

using a marquee. This sort of event should allow all members, young and old to participate.

### **Young Member Representation**

It was suggested that we have a “younger” member co-opted to the committee to give our younger members a voice. Well the good news is that we have a great volunteer for this – more at the AGM.

Dates For the Diary

AGM – 2<sup>nd</sup> March  
Summer Play 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June  
June Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
October Show – 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October  
Panto – 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012

Finally, it has been a great honour and a lot of fun chairing the group over the last 4 years. We’ve had a few ups and downs, but I really feel that we have moved forward with new members, strong productions. On the infrastructure side of things, we have got the new proscenium arch, much updated lighting, new seating, our own smoke machine. All this and the bank balance is still healthy. Good luck to the next Chair.

Pat Morrissey (Chairman)

### **Octopus Committee Members**

Pat Morrissey – Chairman  
Alison Bagnall – Deputy Chairman  
Karen Gill – Secretary  
Bob Brooks – Treasurer  
Paula Cantwell – Child Protection  
Social Secretary – Sue Roberts  
Nick Baskerville – Seconded committee member