



TOCKWITH PLAYERS PRODUCTION TIMELINE

How do we decide what production we will be putting on next?

All available members get together at a regular Thursday meeting and discuss ideas. These are usually investigated for viability, content and casting requirements before a particular production is decided upon before being put forward to the members for final approval.

How do we decide who is going to organise and oversee the production?

Members "wish lists" are consulted to see if anybody has expressed a wish to take on the role of Director or any other particular back stage role. Otherwise volunteers are requested.

Auditions

Once appointed the Director will set dates for cast auditions and, before these, auditions pieces are usually sent out for those wishing to take part, to have a chance to practise. Speaking auditions generally take place in a circle and often singing auditions will take place in private. Everybody wanting to audition is given the opportunity and the auditions normally take place before an unbiased panel. Following these the Director will advise people of the part they have been allocated. The Director will also then appoint a Production Manager and a backstage team to work alongside the cast.

Rehearsals

The Director will advise rehearsal schedules and these usually take place on a Thursday evening and often a Sunday afternoon if the cast are available.

Props, Wardrobe and Set preparation

Whilst the cast are rehearsing, the backstage team begin work on their areas preparing the sets and scenery, sourcing required props, make up and finding or sewing the necessary wardrobe for the characters.

Stage Build

Putting the stage, curtains, scenery and lighting up and setting of the technical equipment to control the sound and lights usually takes place the weekend before the actual performances. As many of the Players as possible get together to do this together with transforming back rooms into dressing rooms and the main hall into a

theatre. It's generally an all day job with everyone taking a lunchbreak together for hamburgers and hotdogs.

Dress and Technical Rehearsals

These rehearsals usually take place on the Sunday when stage build is complete and on any free evenings before actual performances to give the cast the opportunity to rehearse on stage with actual props and costumes.

The Production Itself

For plays and revues these performances are usually Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings

For Pantomime usually Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and matinee and evening on Saturday.

What happens after the Production has finished.

After the last performance there is usually an After Show Party for everyone to wind down and relax and mull over what went right and wrong.

The following day it is Stage Down, with all hands on deck to turn the theatre back into The Village Hall for everyday use.

At the next Players meeting there is a de-brief for everyone to give their feedback on how the production went, which helps towards the success of future productions.