



Newsletter: June 2020

We hope that this newsletter finds you safe and well.

Since our last newsletter the committee has been working to support you as best we can. The minutes of our zoom meeting on 27 May can be found on the website. But we have summarised the key things that are happening below.

The SHADDO Website: Gareth continues to update the website with free online performances that are available to watch. This currently includes productions by the National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, The Bristol Old Vic, and performances from the Royal Albert Hall.

Play readings: Last month we told you that some of the committee and members were taking part in on-line play readings. These were relatively short plays lasting 45-60 minutes. The play readings were 'by invitation' because the hosts needed to cast people before the readings. However, there was no need for the cast to prepare beforehand. We can report that the feedback has been great. And, we are pleased to report that we have access to a variety of scripts and plan to continue the readings on the same basis. So, if you are interested in hosting a play-reading or would like to take part, please contact any of the committee members.

Online Puss in Boots: Having seen the success of the play readings we decided to host an online pantomime "Puss in Boots". This took place on the last bank holiday. Those who took part all agreed that it was a fun evening and that all participants had entered into the spirit of the event. A fair few even dressed up for their part! A big thank you to Simon, who acted as host.

Plans for the 2021 SHADDO Pantomime: Since our last newsletter the committee have evaluated potential scripts. We narrowed the selection down to three scripts: Sleeping Beauty, Arthur and the knights of the Pantomime Table

and The Snow Queen. All scripts had pros and cons. You can read more about our discussions in the minutes of the last meeting. We are going to test and assess the Snow Queen script through an on-line reading on 24 June at 7pm. This is being organised by Simon. That said Covid-19 continues to be a problem. Therefore, we do not intend to make any firm plans for the pantomime at the moment.

Zoom: SHADDO now has a zoom subscription which means we can hold meetings longer than the 40 minutes that is available without payment. This has been exceedingly helpful when hosting on-line plays and with our committee meetings. At the last committee meeting we agreed that this may be of benefit to our members if they are hosting an on-line get together with friends and family. If you would like to use this facility please contact a committee member.

We hope that you have found this newsletter helpful. As always, we welcome feedback. So, if you have any ideas of things we could do or just want to make some comments, please let us know as soon as possible.

The Committee