

Chairs Report - 2025

It's been another successful year for SHADDO, with some plans already for the upcoming year!

Our big success, as always, being this years panto - The Wizard of Oz

It wouldn't be a pantomime without a few hiccups along the way, this years challenge (like most years) being finding a director. Thanks to an initial suggestion from Neil G from his brother, we started off without a director which was new to all of us. Instead we had 'key people' responsible for different areas. Ultimately Neil stepped up fully into the role, and what a result! Each year we learn things for next year (like how important a producer role is!), but more importantly we take what we have learnt already, and go bigger and better than the year before! This year was no different.

Each panto is not just the result of one person's work however. There were so many things that all came together perfectly; Online ticketing, thanks to the hard work of Cath M, the junior group with their enthusiasm and line learning (even learning the whole script in some cases!), organised/run by Becky and Ellie, the wizard himself, crafted by Charmaine.

I could fill my whole report, just on different peoples contributions to the panto; Sound, lighting, props, costumes, publicity, music, set building, the list truly is endless! It really is a community event, and I feel like one that shows SHADDO at its best. Everyone coming together, different skillsets, all working towards one goal. The hard work of everyone really shows in the final product.

I would hope all of you know already, but for those of you that don't, our play readings are still going strong! Rosemary has kept these going, and they are such fun for anyone that hasn't been yet! They are typically on the last Tuesday of the month, at the Baskerville, and are a fantastic social evening. Some of the plays picked are a real laugh, I would definitely recommend going to anyone that hasn't been before!

Coming up "next year" for us, we have the Murder Mystery on the 24th May. Having been along to a rehearsal for this, I can say just how good the script is. Tickets can be bought on the hall website, and I cannot recommend this highly enough. Tickets will sell fast for this one time only show so have a look and get them while you can!

As always when we come to the end of a year, we turn to the committee. One of the things we always try to do is to have new members. I know people are put off by the thought of being on a committee, that it will be a massive scary commitment. What we actually do is actually a lot different. Typically we have 5-6 meetings each year, and any action points we have volunteered to take on we do so at our own pace when we have time to. There is no pressure to take on more than you want to, and no bad ideas! The main thing that has always driven SHADDO has been people that step up and say "I can do that". If you think you can commit a couple of hours a month, please do join us! Or if you are still unsure, come along to one of our meetings before deciding. Members are always welcome, and it will show what the meetings are really like!

Thanks again to all for another SHADDO year, and here's to the next one

Henry
SHADDO Chair