



Information for New / Potential Members

RODS was formed in 1949 and staged its first production in 1950, until recently performing two main shows per year, a Pantomime in Late November / early December, and another production, ranging from a play, musical or family orientated production in May.

If you're interested in treading the boards as an Actor / Singer / Dancer we generally rehearse on a Monday at the MegaCentre, Brook Road Rayleigh SS6 7UT from 8:00-10:00pm. Nearer the production, we may rehearse additionally on a Tuesday night (same times and venue), but this is generally for Principals or small groups, not the full company. The two Sundays before we get into the theatre there are rehearsals from 2:00 – 6:00pm again the venue for these will be announced once rehearsals are underway. Show week we have a rehearsal on Sunday and then normally from 7:00 – 11:00 Monday to Wednesday with performances on Thursday, Friday and two on Saturday. Finally, we "get out" on Sunday morning. Ideally, we would like 100% attendance at all the rehearsals an individual is called for, but understand that existing commitments, health, or work / school may affect this. For Show Week, it is expected all participants will be there for all Rehearsals and / or Performances.

You would only be expected to audition if you're interested in having a principal role in a production, there is no formal audition to join the group or be in the chorus. We do need to make it clear that we do not offer training or examinations of any type, all learning is by experience and from guidance received from the production team and other members of the group.

If you're interested in working in a backstage role, such as Stage Crew, Props, Scenery Painting, Lighting or Sound, there would still be a requirement to attend rehearsals especially the Sunday ones, and the show week commitment is the same, but you could be spared the majority of the normal rehearsals.

Financially the group is self-supporting, it does not receive grants or support from other bodies to keep it going so over the year it must cover its own costs. We have an Annual Membership Fee which is applicable to everyone involved in the group. If you join in January for our May production, the membership fee shown below is halved. For each production, there is a Show Fee that again applies to those both on stage and behind stage. Finally for each rehearsal that you are called there is a Rehearsal Fee.

On the legal side, all members (and for those under 18 years of age their parent / guardian) must abide by the Society's rules. We have in place Child Protection Policies and

where applicable have a Chaperone present both at rehearsals and during Production Week. The group also has a GDPR Policy in place to protect information that you share with us. You will receive more information about these once you join the group.

Current Fee's (As of AGM 18/09/2023)

Membership Type	Annual Membership	Show Fee	Rehearsal Fee
Adult	£40.00	£20	£4.00
Seniors	£30.00	£20	£4.00
Full Time Education	£10.00	£10.00	£4.00

These Current Fees are outlined above, however if you have financial difficulties speak to our secretary, we would rather we came to an arrangement about fees than lose an existing / potential member.

Contact us with any questions or for further information via:-

e-mail – info@rods.org.uk
Facebook – Search RAYLEIGHODS
Web Page – rods.org.uk

Mike Gaskin
Secretary
R.O.D.S.