

From the Regional Councillor



By the time you get this I will also be the National Vice President so a very busy year ahead with invitations in both roles. I am reminded of Strephon in Iolanthe who was said to be a fairy from the waist up but a mortal below – hopefully I am neither a fairy brain nor a gibbering idiot!

The brand launch went off well at the end of September and a tremendous number of positive comments have been received. More still to do to expand our NODA family with more societies and individual members.

I am delighted to report that the Regional Rep for District 2, Brenda Gower, has been recognised for her 25 years on the Regional Committee by conferring NODA Life Membership. Congratulations to Brenda.

Many of you are well into rehearsals for all manner of productions. Invitations are coming in thick and fast so book early if you want any of the SE team to attend a performance.

Please share this newsletter with all your members so that they are aware of NODA and its benefits and opportunities.

Thank you for your support.

Kay Rowan, SE Regional Councillor

Updates from Council and Committee Meetings



The brand launch went off well at the end of September and a tremendous number of positive comments have been received. The NODA crest is to be retained purely for Long Service Awards and volunteer regalia and should not appear on any printed matter.

The details of the revised rules for the Programme & Poster competition are to be found on the NODA website ([Programme & Poster Details](#)) together with all the versions of the new branding and inserts for your programmes.

The Regional Reps are in the process of recommending societies for their district Accolades of Excellence. Those recommendations will be put forward for consideration for Regional Awards. This year we are introducing accolades specifically for youth groups where there are 4 or more groups in a district. There is no reason why a Regional Rep cannot recommend a group for a musical, drama or pantomime

accolades. We have Regional Awards for a variety of genres including Best Drama, Best Shakespeare, Best New Show -original work only, Best Variety Show – to include compilations and concerts, Best Pantomime, plus several categories of musical productions.

The last committee meeting received a report from the Youth Coordinators which was the result of a survey that was undertaken. It highlighted a variety of things including Local Authority Licensing and cyberbullying. The information has been passed to the NODA Councillor heading up the development of a new youth strategy. In the meantime, please continue to let us know of any problems you are encountering, particularly with Local Authorities and we will try and lobby the relevant government department.

The topic of the presentation of individual awards at the Regional AGM. It was decided that we would prefer individual societies to present their own awards as they are best placed to compare performers.



NODA SE CELEBRATION OF 2024

Sunday 8th June 2025 at The Electric Theatre, Guildford

BOOK THE DATE INTO YOUR DIARY – FREE TO ALL MEMBERS

SPECIAL GUEST - We are very pleased that the National President Graham Liverton will be joining us for the day to celebrate all the achievements and awards for 2024.

The event is open to members of all societies and individual members.

EXHIBITORS – Throughout the day, several traders will be promoting themselves and hopefully both inspiring you and picking up some business for themselves. Anyone else interested in exhibiting should contact mark.allen@noda.org.uk

PERFORMANCES – We are looking for societies prepared to perform 10-15 minute slots. We have been very privileged in the past to witness some excellent performance with little rehearsal time.

WORKSHOP – “Sing a Song In A Morning” - possibly a song from a new show, is the theme that has been suggested. Is there an MD out there who would relish the challenge? More information from the kay.rowan@noda.org.uk.

THE AGM – A short AGM with an address given by the President will start at 2pm. Followed by the results and awards for the Programme & Poster Competition.

AWARDS – presentation of Accolades of Excellence for each district, plus the announcement and presentation of both Regional Awards and Poster & Programme Competition Winners. All finalists will be informed in advance so that they can send representatives to collect their awards and have photographs taken. See the NODA website for last year's winners. [Photos From 2024](#)

SPONSORSHIP – should you wish to sponsor any part of the event please contact kay.rowan@noda.org.uk or consider becoming a Regional Corporate Partner

ACCOLADES & AWARDS FOR 2024

Regional Awards – finalists in each category will be announced in advance with the winner and highly commended announced on the day.

All finalists will receive a certificate.



PROGRAMME & POSTER COMPETITION FOR 2024



Judging will take place at the end of January so please ensure your entries have reached us before 17th January 2025.

There will be a winner and two highly commended in each category, all of whom will receive a certificate. The winners will be announced on Celebration Day. [Programme & Poster Details](#)

BADGES, MEDALS & CERTIFICATES

* **100 awards** were applied for and supplied to recipients during 2024.

- Keep the orders coming.

<https://www.noda.org.uk/awards>



THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL - JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025

When: Saturday 26 July to Saturday 3 August 2025

Where: Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffordshire

Registration: £750. Includes all courses, evening activities, plus bed and full board (alcohol not included!).

Bursaries: will be available here in the south-east for three students to apply.

Further information will be available on the website when the courses are announced on Friday 15th November.

Booking Opens on Friday 1st December



NODA TODAY



Our Regional Editor Chris Horton is ready and waiting to receive your news/stories/anecdotes....chris.horton@noda.org.uk

Articles and photos should be separate with the photos in JPEG form or similar. Preferably the word count should be in the region of 250-300 words.

Don't forget those funny stories, things that go wrong etc

SUPPORT FROM NODA



Do please let us know if there is any way that NODA could assist you in your endeavours. All society members can access the [NODA website](#) to read show reports, Celebration Day photos and many other interesting things.

Has your society received your rebranding pack? If not, please let us know.

Gentle Reminders as opposed to FAQs!

PRESENTATION DAY – Can your society offer some entertainment?

SOCIETY CONTACTS – Are your contacts correct on the NODA database – can we share information with you easily?

REGIONAL REP – Do you know who your representative on the [SE committee](#) is?

PROGRAMME & POSTERS – At your society, does your Programme & Poster person know what should be included? [Programme & Poster Details](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA – Did you know that you can share your news and shows to our FACEBOOK page? <https://www.facebook.com/NODASouthEast>

If you need answers or clarification for any of these questions, please contact me, your Regional Councillor by email kay.rowan@noda.org.uk

Thank you for reading and sharing,

Kay Rowan - South East Councillor

STOP PRESS:

Two new Assistant Reps Tony Bright (District 9) and John Bird (District 5) – we welcome them and look forward to their contribution to the team.

NODA, 15 The Metro Centre, Peterborough, PE2 7UH

Registered CIO 1171216, Registered Company 241572. Patrons – Lord Lloyd Webber and Connie Fisher

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