

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are the top ten questions that our Secretary, Alys, is asked when people telephone her about ESOS. You can contact Alys on 01737 215775.

What sort of shows do you do?

Mainly musicals – but sometimes light operetta. We are currently investigating extending our repertoire.

When is your season?

From the beginning of October through to our show towards the end of March. However, we also perform at other events (concerts, Polesden Lacey etc.) and these will have their own rehearsal schedule at different times. You decide what level of commitment you want to take on.

Where do you perform?

Our March presentation is at the Harlequin Theatre in Redhill. But – see above – we also do other things at different venues.

What is the procedure for auditions?

They are usually held at the end of October or beginning of November. Principal and chorus auditions are held separately. You are asked to prepare something from the show which, depending on the role, may include dialogue, singing and/or dancing.

Who auditions?

Basically, everybody! Anyone who wants to be in the show, however small or big the part, whether or not you are a new member or "old hand". There's no escape!

When do you rehearse?

Usually principal rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings and chorus rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7.30-10.00pm. Depending on the show, there may be a few additional rehearsals for dancers but these are agreed at the time. For the six weeks or so preceding the show, the full cast rehearses on both rehearsal nights.

Where do you rehearse?

In Reigate at various halls. We publish a rehearsal schedule at the beginning of the season.

Can I be an ESOS member even though I don't want to go on stage?

Yes! We always welcome non-acting members. There's always plenty to do backstage or front of house or helping to serve coffee at rehearsals or helping to organise some social events. Some become members simply for the benefit of ordering tickets through our members' priority booking system.

How much is the subscription?

Non-acting members currently pay £5 per year. An additional acting subscription of £30 (£12.50 for students) is payable before auditions if you wish to be in the show and this is refunded if you are unsuccessful.

Does ESOS do anything else?

Yes – we are a very sociable Society! We have a variety of events throughout the year. In the past these have included dinners; indoor race nights; theatre visits; barn dances; talent evenings; quiz nights and car treasure hunts.