

The Newsletter of

BOURNEMOUTH
LITTLE
THEATRE

ISSUE 133

2017-2018 Season

August 2017

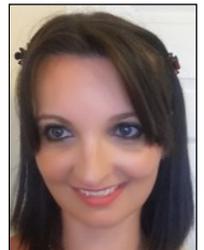
Member: Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain
www.BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk

**Monday 4th to Saturday 9th
September 2017**

at 7.45pm



Mary Almeida
Christine



Kelly-Ann
Singleton: *Diana*



Alan Dester
Bob



THE MAINTENANCE MAN



A comedy by
RICHARD HARRIS
(*Stepping Out*)

Directed by Don Gent

A perceptive and witty look at the collapse of a marriage and the development of an affair. Bob is a do-it-yourself enthusiast with a longing to be needed. Even after his divorce he is constantly visiting his former home, much to the irritation of Diana who doesn't like the competition from his children - or his Black and Decker!

For information on booking please see page 2

EDITORIAL

VACANCY

Could you be the editor of this newsletter?

(Nicola would like to retire!!)*

Please let Rachael know if you are interested
(contact details on the back page).

VACANCY

Also Noel Davenport has been trying to retire from his duties as Hon Treasurer, which he has done for so long that hardly anyone can remember who did it before him!

The Club is terribly fortunate to have had his faithful service for so long, but it is not fair to impose on his good nature any further.

AmDram clubs are not just about playing to an audience. They are just like other organisations in that there are non-limelight jobs to be done to keep them going. Please step forward and contribute to the running of the Club.

* Actually Nicola HAS retired, and will not be producing any more newsletters.

Dates for your Diary

22 September 2017 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Don Gent) Come and join us for an enjoyable evening and either listen or read a part in the play chosen by your host.

3 November 2017 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Gill Linford)

24 November 2017 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Gill Linford)

26 January 2018 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Gill Linford)

2 March 2018 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Gill Linford)

23 March 2018 at 7.30pm
Social Play Reading in the Green Room
(Host Gill Linford)

A list of the stage events appears on the following page.

ADVANCE TICKET BOOKINGS

Our mailing address for all ticket bookings is:

BLTC Box Office, 54 Wentworth Avenue, Bournemouth BH5 2EG

Tickets £10.00 (with concessions) Members £5.00

Either: BOOK ONLINE at www.BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk (booking fees apply)

Or: WRITE enclosing cheque & SAE to BLTC Box Office (address above)

Or: PHONE to book by calling Sue on her home number 01202 417484

★ ONLY between 8.00pm & 9.00pm ★

ONLY DURING THE WEEK **Tuesday 29th August to Friday 1st September 2017**

Tickets will be issued on receipt of a completed booking form, cheque and SAE. Where an SAE is not enclosed, tickets will be retained to be collected at the theatre on the night of the performance.

During the run of the show, telephone enquiries should be made direct to the theatre on 01202 513361 between 6.00pm & 6.45pm only.

Also during the run of the show the Box Office is open from 7.00pm at the theatre for callers in person.

At all other times bookings must be made by post or telephone as set out above.

A final plea – If you have booked tickets and know that you, or one of your party, will not be able to attend the performance, please let Box Office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15 & 16 September 2017 at 7.30pm

Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead

by Tom Stoppard (Arena Theatre)

This is the 50th anniversary of this great play. Two minor characters from Hamlet stumble around unaware of their scripted lives and unable to deviate from them. Are answers as important as the questions? Tickets £10.00 (concessions available) plus booking fee from Ticket Source

24 September 2017 at 7.30pm BLTC AGM

29 September 2017 at 7.30pm

Read Through of Woman in Mind

1 October 2017 at 7.30pm

Auditions of Woman in Mind

(see audition notice)

23–28 October 2017 at 7.45pm

Laugh! I Nearly Went to Miami

by Miles Tredinnick Director Don Cherrett

Tom, an Elvis Presley fanatic, and his fiancée, Alice, are due to fly to Miami for a big Elvis Convention - but, due to fog at the airport delaying their flight, they have to temporarily head back home. However, on arriving back at Tom's flat, they find that somehow they have picked up the wrong suitcases at the airport and are now in possession of half a million dollars belonging to a 'Mr Pintocelli!' Much confusion and hilarity arises which involve Tom's irresponsible brother and girlfriend, an eccentric aunt and a thug called Frankie who turns up looking for the cash!

31 October–2 November 2017 at 7.45pm

Look Back in Anger by John Osborne

Impact Theatre Director Pat Richardson

Look Back in Anger is a realist play. It focuses on the life and marital struggles of an intelligent and educated but disaffected young man of working-class origin, Jimmy Porter, and his equally competent yet impassive upper-middle-class wife Alison.

Tickets £12 plus booking fee from Ticket Source

10 November 2017 at 7.30pm

Only Fools and Boycie

Meet Only Fools & Horses actor John Challis

Enjoy an intimate evening with John Challis, one of the nation's greatest comedy actors, best known as Boycie in BBC1's *Only Fools and Horses*. In this one-off show the national treasure will reveal secrets from the set with stories and anecdotes from his dazzling career. Having worked with some of the biggest names in show business, he'll be spilling the beans about *Only Fools and Horses* co-stars like Sir David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst and friends and fellow performers like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Oliver Reed and George Best. > > >

He'll also recall tales from his time in *Dr Who*, *Coronation Street* and other TV classics.

Mr Challis will also meet fans after the show to sign autographs and pose for pictures, while signing copies of his autobiography, *Being Boycie*, and novel, *Reggie: A Stag At Bay*.

Tickets £16.00 plus booking fee from Ticket Source

1 December 2017 7.45pm

Take Thackray – Cock and Bull Stories

Yorkshireman Ed Mortimer captures the lugubrious manner and impeccable timing of the late Jake Thackray in his renditions of the quirky, hilarious and often outrageous songs! He is accompanied by Andy Stone (bass/guitar) in this evening's homage to one of England's finest satirical songwriters who made many TV appearances on the BBC in such programmes as *Braden's Week* and *That's Life*. Tickets £8.50 plus booking fee from Ticket Source

11–16 December 2017 at 7.45pm

Woman in Mind

by Alan Ayckbourn Director Andrew Whyatt

Penned by our 20th Century Shakespeare Sir Alan Ayckbourn in the early eighties this is one of his blacker comedies. Susan's husband and son leave a lot to be desired in their relationships with her and she finds it difficult to cope. She retreats into an ideal dream family but soon the real and imaginary become intertwined and fantasy and reality morph into a nightmare scenario.

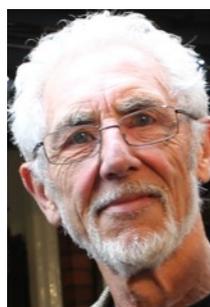
20–23 December 2017

A Christmas Carol (Arena Theatre)

19–24 February 2018

Poole & Parkstone Players

(PLAY TBA Director Bob Rankin)



RICHARD HARRIS was born in London. His stage plays include *The Maintenance Man*, *The Dog It Was*, *Conscience Be Damned*, *Albert and Victoria*, *Local Affairs*, *Outside Edge* (Evening Standard Award for 1979) and *Stepping Out* (Standard Drama Award for 1984). He co-created the BBC series *Shoestring* and his plays for television include *Who's a Good*

Boy Then? I Am, You Must be Virginia, *Saving It For Albie*, *When the Boys Come Out to Play*, *Sunday in Perspective*, *Occupier's Risk*, *Time and Mr Madingley*, *I Can See Your Lips Move*, *A Slight Formality*, *Jack's Trade* and *Dog Ends*. Among his adaptations for television are *Murder Most English*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Plain Murder* and *Sherlock Holmes*. His radio play *Was It Something I Said?* was a winner of the Giles Cooper Radio Award. His more recent TV credits include *A Touch of Frost* (1992) and *The Last Detective* (2003), adapted from the Dangerous Davies novel by Leslie Thomas.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER:

Our chairman Rachael reflects on her first year in the role



Dear Members and Theatre patrons

We have come to the end of the 2016–17 season and are now well into the rehearsals for the first play of the 2017–18 season: *The Maintenance Man*.

As I reflect on my first year in the chairmanship seat, I will be honest and say it has not been the easiest of introductions and at times, there have been steep learning opportunities. I will be giving my full report at the AGM (details are included within the announcement in this newsletter), so please do come along and support your theatre and committee.

The main concern that I have and as I have noted throughout the year in these newsletters; we still have quite a few 'vacant positions' that need to be filled quite urgently! (Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Wardrobe Mistress, Publicity & Distribution).

So as per previous requests; if you would like to or can serve on the committee and become an essential part of taking this Theatre forward headlong into its Centenary (2018–19) by suggesting new ideas or initiatives, help backstage, props, costumes or can give even a few hours in a voluntary capacity by helping out during production weeks with Front of House, bar etc it helps enormously. I do fully appreciate that everyone's time is precious and we all have busy lives; but put simply – it is not possible for this theatre to be run by just a few people; which unfortunately is the situation we currently find ourselves in. Please do contact me at chairman@bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk if you wish to discuss anything further about these roles or if you would like to volunteer in any capacity.

I am aware that we have not been able to advertise a full programme of plays for the forthcoming 2017–18 season yet. I understand that some of you like to book your tickets well in advance and for this we are grateful and apologise for any inconvenience.

As a play selection committee, we have strived to bring you a wider selection of high quality, challenging plays as well as comedies or plays by known playwrights and although we had selected plays for the second half of the season, we have had no end of additional issues with gaining the appropriate licences. I have been revisiting what the Directors wish to do, so hope and plan that we will be able to update our website shortly with all productions for this coming season. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter.

The diary is getting full already with what's coming to the BLT stage in the next few months – our first 3 productions as well as visiting companies: Arena's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, ImpAct's *Look Back in Anger*, and for one exciting night only, *Only Fool and Boycie* with John Challis from the iconic series *Only Fools and Horses*.

So, to finish on a very positive note, we have welcomed so many new groups and performers to our BLT stage this year, that have in turn introduced new audiences to our theatre – who we hope will return as regular theatre patrons. Everyone I've spoken to has commented that this theatre is such a lovely hidden hideaway – but they didn't know we were here! We need to ensure that this does not remain the case. Encourage everyone you know to come and experience live theatre – because there is nothing like it!

AUDITION NOTICE

WOMAN IN MIND

by Alan Ayckbourn Director Andrew Whyatt

Read Through: Friday 29th September 7.30pm BLT

Auditions: Sunday 1st October 7.30pm BLT

One of Ayckbourn's blacker comedies. We see the slow mental collapse of Susan who is starved of love and understanding by an appalling husband and priggish son. She conjures up an imaginary ideal family but eventually loses control of the dream and breaks down into a nightmare of the real and imagined. A real challenge for all!

5 Men 3 Women

If you are interested but unable to make the dates please ring Andrew on 01202 624221

Please note: Auditions are open to all, but if you are cast, you must become a member of Bournemouth Little Theatre.

FOR SALE

Four Bookshelves

As a job lot or individually

Built to a high standard for and by

The Maintenance Man

(4th to 9th September 2017)

Collect from the theatre by arrangement
from Sunday 10th September 2017

Contact Don Gent on 01202 389725

No reasonable offer refused

Your Council Members

[all codes 01202 unless otherwise stated]

Rachael de Courcy Beamish Chairman / Chairman of Play
Selection Committee / Facebook Organiser 07557 957648
chairman@BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk

Kerry Newton Hon Secretary / Designated Premises Supervisor/
Membership Secretary.....07790 722214
secretary@BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk

Noel Davenport Hon Treasurer.....766690

Mike Shorthouse Stage Director.....07770 784002

Hilary Shorthouse } Properties Co-ordinators07791 843972

Mo Hamill07585 504500

Lotte Fletcher-Jonk Play Selection Committee.....07905 728333

Virginia Harrington Play Selection Committee.....07871 154404

Not on the Council:

Chris Huggill Bar Stocks Manager.....764369 / 07443626484

Don Gent Duty Rota Organiser.....389725

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