



HOME OF THE
Dunstable Rep

QUALITY THEATRE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

NEWSLETTER

February 2017

Dunstable Rep Shines in 2016 Review

In Brief

Rep Shines in 2016 Review

Best Play, Best Actor, Best Actress
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Your Theatre Needs You!

Letter from the Rep chairman, Joe Butcher.
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Next Production Dates

'Bazaar & Rummage' - March 10 - 18.
Booking details are included with this newsletter.

Upcoming Auditions

'The Business of Murder'
See back page for details!

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Box Office Information

01582 204021

tickets@littletheatre.org.uk



Best Play - Journey's End

Nova Horley's 'Review of the Year 2016' for The Luton News, highlights an outstanding year of productions at The Little Theatre. www.n-ovation.co.uk

*"Journey's End, a heart-wrenching, well-acted and well-directed piece
an excellent production all round."*

"Best Actor in a Play is a difficult one, as there are so many men who have given us excellent performances this year, but for me this is shared between *Anthony Bird* as Captain Stanhope in *Journey's End*, an excellent characterisation showing how the responsibility affected him, and *Alan Clarke* as Lieutenant Osborne, who always gets under the skin of any character - a very real and often emotional portrayal from both men."

"**Technical Award** goes to Dunstable Rep for *Journey's End* - the set, designed by *Alan Goss* was excellent."

"**Best Actress** - *Joanne Croft* as Bella Manningham in *Gaslight* - she started off looking and sounding so normal, then gradually degenerated to a character of menace. Very well done.

Jenna Ryder-Oliver's portrayal of Dolly in *One Man Two Guv'nors* also impressed, she gave the blowsy, brash character real meaning and intent."

"**Young Performer** of the year goes to *Isabelle Lepore* for her portrayal of Eva in *Kindertransport*, who covered the emotions required of the part, and was always inside her character."



Your committee

President — Alistair Brown

Chairman — Joe Butcher

Secretary — Tracey Chatterley

Treasurer — Philip Davis

Members Secretary — Jo Fowles

Publicity Manager — Wes Kapon

Box Office — Anne Blow

Bar Manager — Ray Blow

Premises Manager — Brian Lamb

Technical Director — Graham Elliott

Theatre Manager — Rosemary O'Toole

Your Theatre Needs You

Many thanks for supporting your local Little Theatre by attending this production.

Our theatre is a club that relies upon volunteer club members to keep it running by taking up various roles. The roles all form part of a committee which runs the club for its members and, as such, they are elected at our AGM each June

We are actively looking for volunteers who are interested in getting involved in this capacity and willing to stand at the June 2017 AGM.

As this is the case, and there are a number of key people stepping down this year, we would love to offer the opportunity for people to find out more about what is involved and spend some time shadowing and talking with the current committee from now, with a view to possibly taking on the role from June 2017

Below you will find an overview of what we are going to need and a brief description of the main responsibilities; more detailed overviews are available on request.

2017 Committee posts to fill: a brief synopsis of the key requirements for each:

Bar Manager	Box Office Manager	Membership Secretary	Theatre Manager	Premises Manager
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure bar is regularly stocked (<i>12+ events a year</i>) • Ensure facilities are available as required (<i>includes fridges/ glass-washers etc</i>) • Monitor bar takings and stock levels (<i>stocktake is required after each production</i>) • Manage recycling and waste disposal <p><i>The job requires someone fit and able to carry reasonably heavy packs of drink. He/ she must be a driver with a suitable vehicle – expenses covered.</i></p> <p><i>Also, We do not have an account with the cash and carry so credit or debit cards need to be used and claimed back. The bar treasurer is always prompt with reimbursement</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of tickets requested by post and e-mail • Updating the dedicated software (<i>for keeping records/printing tickets etc</i>) • Monitoring and dealing with ticket requests via phone/e-mail etc. • Manning Box Office during runs <p><i>A great job for anyone who likes people, as more than half of all who book come to the box office to collect their tickets, so you get to meet lots of members and guests:</i></p> <p><i>Also, annually the system has to be updated with plays/dates/ price changes and season ticket info - so ability with computers is essential</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating of members details on the database / renewals and new members • Sending of periodic communications, e.g. newsletter • Collection of membership fees; informing box office of season ticket applications • Dealing with annual renewals <p><i>This role is highly administrative but is very rewarding for someone who enjoys being organised. It is carried out at home and the need to be at the theatre over and above core committee requirements is minimal.</i></p> <p><i>There is a laptop which has on it all the necessary software; database and templates, so computer literacy is important</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for keeping contact lists and contacting Front of House and bar helpers • Creating evening schedules of helpers - communicating on this and the roles • Organising cleaners; and keeping toiletries etc up to date (<i>purchasing toilet rolls, towels and hand-wash as required e.g.</i>) • Allocation of keys for keyholders. <p><i>A job that requires someone who can be well organised and is able to communicate well/ plan ahead of time</i></p> <p><i>Finding and maintaining a network of willing volunteers is also a key part of this function</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of all areas of the theatre premises and reporting on this • Organising building and repair work (<i>including quotes costings etc</i>) • Working on and advising on the strategy of future improvement projects • Responsible for all areas of H & S <p><i>A big role that ideally requires some expertise of facilities/premises management</i></p> <p><i>Also it would be ideal if the person carrying out this role had relevant contact lists and knowledge of electrics and building regulations</i></p>

If you are interested then please get in touch directly with me and we can start the ball rolling. The best way to do this is by e-mail: - joe.butcher@gmail.com, or feel free to call me on 07958 336138

I look forward to hearing from you

Kind Regards

Joe Butcher: - Dunstable Rep Chairman

The Haunting

Our third play of the season was 'The Haunting' by Hugh Janes. Directed by Alistair Brown.



"A technically brilliant production, with a super cast that really manipulated the audience"

"a very atmospheric and tense production that indeed left us wondering how much was fact and how much a dream....the whole production had an eerie feel to it"



"This was the first time I have seen 'ghosts in the room' effect which you only see in the movies. Beautifully done."



"Very well done to all involved in The Haunting! Slightly terrified to go to sleep tonight!"

Our Next Production



Bazaar and Rummage

by Sue Townsend

Director by Julie Foster

CAST

Gwenda - Sue Jones

Fliss - Christine Rayment

Katrina - Susan Lee Burton

Bell-Bell - Ann Kempster

Margaret - Katy Elliott

WPC - Judith Porte

In Sue Townsend's heartfelt comedy, three severely agoraphobic women have left their houses for the first time in years, and made it to a jumble sale. The sale has been organised by their social workers, the young trainee Fliss and the ex-agoraphobic volunteer Gwenda, though as the afternoon progresses, the distinction between them and the anxious people they are supposed to be looking after becomes less and less clear.

As Margaret, Bell-Bell and Katrina prepare to meet the public, armed with the suits of a deceased husband, old sequined show dresses, bric-a-brac and a standard lamp, nerves and neuroses are running high, and a sensitive portrait of the suffering behind their phobia emerges.

Our 2016/17 Season

One Man, Two Guv'nors

by Richard Bean

Director: Annalise Carter-Brown

23 September — 1 October 2016

Kindertransport

by Diane Samuela

Director: Chris Young

18— 26 November 2016

The Haunting

by Hugh Janes

Director: Alistair Brown

20 — 28 January 2017

Bazaar and Rummage

by Sue Townsend

Director: Julie Foster

10 — 18 March 2017

The Business of Murder

by Richard Harris

Director: Adam Croft

5 — 13 May 2017

The Philadelphia Story

by Philip Barry

Director: Malcolm Farrar

7 — 15 July 2017

Upcoming Auditions



The Business Of Murder

By Richard Harris

Directed by Adam Croft

Audition date: Thursday 2 March, 7.45pm

Performances: 5 - 13 May 2017

A critical and popular success in the West End, this psychological thriller about revenge centres on the interlocking triangular relationship between Dee, a successful television playwright; Hallett, a detective superintendent; and Stone, a humourless, prissy man. Dee arrives at Stone's flat, having accepted an invitation to discuss a script by Stone's wife. She is rather surprised when Hallett, with whom she is having an affair, also arrives, apparently to investigate a matter concerning Stone's son and his involvement with a drug ring. But where are wife and son? After many twists and turns, Stone's intentions become clear as he slowly reveals the precise nature of the trio's relationship: all three are very much concerned with the business of murder...

Audition notes are available on the Rep's website - www.littletheatre.org.uk

Diary Dates

25 February

Box Office Saturday - If you're booking tickets as a member, please do so **before** this date, as they will then go on general sale. In the event of one or more nights being oversubscribed, tickets are allocated by ballot.

Bazaar and Rummage - Our fourth production of the 2016/17 season, directed by Julie Foster. Performances start from 7.45pm. Ticket booking information is enclosed with this newsletter.

10-18 March

5-13 May

The Business of Murder - Our fifth production of the 2016/17 season, written by Richard Harris and directed by Adam Croft.