

PROMPT

The Ice Factory Studio Theatre

May / June 2019

Chairman's Message

Good day to you all and apologies for the merging of the May and June editions of Prompt but it seems like the sensible thing to do.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of two stalwart members of the society around Easter, firstly Rodney Bowen and then just days later David Potter.

Rodney was a very active member of TP taking a major part in the history of the society both on and off stage until ill health led to him leaving his home in Shaldon to be closer to family in the South East. Rodney was also very active within the community in Shaldon and we understand that a memorial service is to be held in Shaldon at some stage. We will let you have details as soon as they become available.

David had also been a very active member of TP for many years and, in spite of his advancing years, had reprised the role of Old Gobbo in TP's 2018 Production of the Merchant of Venice at The Ice Factory Studio Theatre having previously played the part at The Carlton.

Both Rodney and David will be remembered fondly by members and audiences alike, and the Society sends its sincere condolences to the families. It is understood that memorial services are to be held for each of them and we will let you know details as soon as possible.

More congratulations to the Nuts team for their success at the Exmouth Drama Festival but commiseration that they didn't get beyond the quarter finals at Sherborne. However, it was a great run and has put TP back on the map, thank you.

Congratulations too to the Chicks and Dogs team for their terrific production at the IFST last month, there's a great write up on page 2!

And finally, with the AGM just weeks away there will be opportunities for some new people to join the committee and see TP forward. We will be sharing our vision for the Ice Factory Studio Theatre as well as the 2020 programme—forward planning no less!

Dave

"Chicks & Dogs" Review by Layla Crabtree

Teignmouth Players production of Chicks and Dogs was exactly what was required to brighten up a rather wet and windy beginning of April.

The play itself was witty and quirky in composition, and through humorous bouts of repartee between characters, the narrative exposed the realities of family dynamics, as well as touching upon wider global issues. The main premise of the plot, though simple in design, allowed for thoughtful dialogue to ensue, provoking the audience to consider pertinent subjects, such as global warming; charitable efforts of the church; despotic dictatorship; class disparity and the exploding population. The nuanced dialogue allowed for the audience to perceive this play as a comedy, as well as a skilful master class in using humour to expose the problematic nature of our complex modern world. Yet, all of the action was set in the middle of comfortable suburbia - a perfect microcosm to explore and encapsulate both family life and wider issues.

Careful consideration was evident in terms of the set design, as *Mike Hewett* utilised the space of the theatre excellently, skilfully creating an intimate family lounge that was both naturalistic and relatable. This was aided by *Jane Branch's* beautiful artwork which allowed the audience to place the living space into the context of village life, which was imperative to the delivery of the plot. Considerable thought and discussion had obviously taken place in the evolution of the set, as it was laden with details, such as the meticulous placement of books and magazines, which were all purposefully placed for the plot to proceed at a lively pace. It was clear that the technical team and director had worked cohesively together, as *Greg Renwick's* subtle use of lighting to indicate changes in time and day, and *Ken Swan's* deployment of sound effects added to the slick professionalism of the show.

At all times the direction of the play was purposeful and clever. *Jackie Wesley-Harkcom's* thoughtful ideas ensured that the stage was lively and exciting to watch. It was clear that each interaction and scene had been studied diligently, and realised on stage, to provoke humour, but also poignancy. This was particularly evident in the development of relationships between characters on stage; the simple acts of eye rolling between husband and wife offered a relatable insight into family life! *Wesley-Harkcom* is obviously well versed in utilising props, and a particular celebrated moment was the use of a cake to offer the somewhat hapless vicar an example of global warming. Every moment of this play has been contemplated, and relayed with experience and expertise.

This expertise was mirrored by the skill set of the actors. *Gary Freeman's* performance of the misunderstood father was brilliant. His character was inclined to lengthy rantings and anecdotal yarns, yet Freeman delivered these substantial chunks of dialogue with intelligence and humour. His 'better' half, played by *Sam Dishart*, portrayed the role of long suffering wife with ease, providing excellent withering looks to her husband, as well as providing a sense of sanity to her somewhat dysfunctional household. Their daughter, played by *Emily Carter*, showed that she had inherited her mum's ability to depict gentle disdain with one look, and her excellent physicality showcased her ability to portray the sneering contempt of a teenager, who desperately tried to escape the inane nature of family life by reading books far removed from her current existence. *Carter's* comic timing was excellent, and we all empathised with her predicament as a maturing adult stuck in the middle of a rather uneventful existence. The youngest member of the family was played by *Rafe Hayden-Lee* who confidently depicted the mischievous Oliver. Like his sister, *Hayden-Lee's* comic timing was excellent, and coupled with his facial expressions (and rapping skills), presented as a promising young performer, with a penchant for dabbling in causal sarcasm, just as the script and plot required.

Particular mention must go to the sterling performances of *Steve Roberts* and *Victoria Stevens*. *Roberts* embodied the archetype of a pious and socially awkward vicar, who bumbled and dithered wonderfully, evoking guilt from his unfortunate listening parishioners, whilst shying away from 'awkward' matters with skill and superb comic timing. This was true of *Stevens* also, whose characterisation was exemplary. *Stevens* is evidently a natural comic actress who parodied the 'church busy body' skilfully, which caused many laugh out loud moments.

It was no wonder that this performance played out to a full house on its final evening. *Daniel Saint's* publicity had captured its humorous content, and it was, as promised, a mastery in production of light-hearted and thoughtfully considered comedy.

Layla Crabtree



JACK and the Beanstalk

Audition Notice

You are invited to join us for an introduction and read through of this traditional pantomime written by **Alan P Frayn** the author of our hugely successful and popular production of Aladdin on **Sunday 26th May** at the **Ice Factory Studio Theatre** starting at **6.00pm**.

Registration and information for Children from 6pm. Script read through will start at approximately 7.30pm

There will then be TWO audition sessions on **Sunday 16th** and **Thursday 20th June** at the **Ice Factory Studio Theatre**, both starting at **6.00pm** (Childrens' auditions on Sunday 16th)

If you are unable to attend the introduction and read through event on 26th May, you can register interest in taking part in the show by emailing **pantomime2019@gmail.com**

This production will be directed by Daniel Saint and David Renwick, with Jeff Hocking as Musical Director

PERFORMANCE DATES: 28TH DECEMBER 2019 - 4TH JANUARY 2020



It's not all just about the acting!

We virtually all love receiving the applause from the audience at the end of a play that we have been in, but to enable the actors and directors to take the plaudits requires a host of unseen “supporting actors”.

In recent times we have seen a very encouraging growth in new members on the acting front with more new than existing members appearing in many productions this year, but it has been the same old support act that has been trying to hold everything together. We are now in danger of reaching the point of no return unless we see a surge of support for the back room jobs.

The key areas where we urgently need support are:

Box Office—Monday to Saturday 10 to 12 noon for the fortnight immediately prior to a production plus show week itself. If five people came forward to give just one morning each a week, the reality is that with the existing team, you would probably only need to do a total of 10 or 12 mornings throughout the year.

Front of House—Show nights only and if doing box office, programmes, raffle and/or ice creams you don't need to stay once the interval is out of the way.

House Steward—Show nights only but you do get to see the show, albeit you are there to ensure that everything runs smoothly in the auditorium rather than simply enjoy yourself!

Bar—show nights only and recognised as a somewhat thankless task particularly when having to hang about to serve drinks post performance, but even that can often be sorted so that you don't have to stay.

Full training will be provided for all roles, you won't be dropped in the deep end!

There are still vacancies for Haunting Julia so if you can help, please contact Dave, Amy, Ken or Daniel or email info@teignmouthplayers.com for more information/to volunteer.



HAUNTING JULIA



by **Alan Ayckbourn**
directed by **John Miles**

4th - 8th June 2019
at 7.30pm

Theatre box office: 01626 778991

Tickets: Tuesday : £8
Wednesday - Saturday: £10

Personal callers: The box office is open daily, two weeks prior to the production 10 am - 12 noon (excluding Sundays) and 30 minutes before each performance.

Online bookings:* Available 24 hours a day
teignmouthplayers.co.uk



**ICE FACTORY
STUDIO THEATRE**
Somerset Place · Teignmouth · TQ14 8EN

Dates for your Diary

Haunting Julia

by Alan Ayckbourn, Directed by John Miles

4th to 8th June 7:30

Tickets on sale NOW

Breaking The Code

by Hugh Whitemore, Directed by Amy Burton

Smith

13th to 15th June 7:30 Tickets on Sale Now via
website only

This is an ABS Theatre Production in Association
with Teignmouth Players

A Word From the Director

After settling down to “normal life,” again or, at least, what passes as normal life when one is having the house painted from stem to stern, I have had a moment to reflect on the last two months directing Chicks and Dogs. I am assured by many people who came to see this production that they thought it was very funny and that the actors involved were very good.

Well, yes they were - in fact, I reckon they were brilliant - very easy to direct and full of ideas to make the play more fun. I couldn't have asked for a cast more suited to the roles they took on - and who were more willing to help and rehearse for as long as they were asked.

But the people I'd particularly like to mention and particularly thank are those who didn't receive the applause yet without whom we would not have been able to present this performance.

First on the list would be Mike and June Hewett - he was our 'production coordinator' which is a marvellous person who is at the other end of a phone line day and night to allay ones fears, smooth things over, give advice and encouragement and generally facilitate all the things that a director needs done. He also, in my case, built the set and then turned himself into the most reliable and responsible stage manager on the planet.

Then there's June. We have worked together on many a project for TP and 3tc and I have booked her for everything I do in the future. Not only our prompt and great prop-finder, she adds input into direction and reads in brilliantly, and in character, for those away! She makes sure the cast is well watered and that everything is cleared up as it should be after rehearsals both at my home as well as in the Ice Factory - especially when it came to vacuuming up feathers and wiping up cream. In fact I feel that there is no end to her versatility.

Thanks are also due to Jane Branch for her artistic additions of the 'great outdoors', to Ken Swan for his excellent sound effects and to Greg Renwick for his lighting design skills and assiduous operation. Last but not least, and arguably first, is Daniel Saint for all of the up front marketing design of posters and programmes which, together with Emily Appleton's fabulous photography, brought us to the attention of our eventual audience.

Others who make these production so much pleasure to perform are the person running the bar, the programme hander-outer, raffle ticket seller and the poor soul who sits at the door in the cold checking in the audience. Phil and I are members of 3tc and have put on plays at The Ice Factory, we have developed a very great appreciation for all the help and support these wonderful volunteers belonging to TP are. They probably didn't join TP to work behind the scenes all the time, but truly they are the backbone of all productions at The Ice Factory. Wouldn't it be great if some of the folk who receive the applause helped out a bit more to relieve the others. And more people supported plays in which they are not involved - just a thought.

Thank you TP for inviting me to direct for you - I've loved every moment especially when the playwright was so pleased with the show, the organisation and especially the Ice Factory Studio Theatre that he has asked us to premier his next play. Makes me very proud

With my very best wishes,

Jackie

Jackie Wesley-Harkcom

Members' Information Booklets

2019 editions of the Members' Information Booklets are now available for collection from the Ice Factory Studio Theatre office during normal opening hours, or at rehearsals. If you haven't received yours yet, please do pick up your copy from the office.

TYKES

The Junior Section of Teignmouth Players

We are very fortunate in Teignmouth Players to have a thriving junior section of our society and for some months the committee has been trying to determine how we can better integrate “juniors” and “seniors”, but also address what is a regular complaint from parents and prospective parents, that the cost of Tykes is too high, particularly when a family comprises two or three children that wish to be involved.

After considerable debate and much angst within the committee, the decision was taken not to renew the current contract with Artistic Director, Rachel Swain, at the **end of the summer term**. Rachel was advised at the start of the current term.

We are not a theatre school in the same way that the Pauline Quirk Academy or Stagecoach Performing Arts are, nor do we aspire to be. However we do want to be able to offer all the young people in the area an introduction to theatre by way of drama, dance, music etc. that can be so vital in helping to develop them as young adults and overcome fears and anxieties that are part of growing up.

TYKES will be undergoing some changes in the near future but the Teignmouth Players committee wish to reassure the parents/carers of TYKES members that TYKES **will be continuing in September** (starting September 13th) in the same place (Methodist Hall) and at the same times in a workshop-based format. We have a number of specialist workshop leaders that will visit during the winter term to give TYKES a broader experience of what amateur and indeed professional theatre is like. A new TYKES format will come into action in the new year, so TYKES members should notice little change except a noticeably lower cost.

We appreciate the concern that has been expressed by some as a result of this difficult decision, but we strongly feel it is in the best interest of the long term future of TYKES and Teignmouth Players alike to be more integrated as well as being more accessible to a greater part of the community.



BE
Creative!

DRAMA CLASSES
AND THEATRE TRAINING
PROVIDE SOLID FOUNDATIONS
FOR PERFORMERS
DEVELOP CREATIVITY
LEARN NEW SKILLS
DEVELOP SELF CONFIDENCE
ACTING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING
HAVE FUN AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

teignmouthplayers.com

Last date for submissions for

July Prompt:

26th June 2019

HAUNTING JULIA

4th to 8th June 7:30 pm

Teignmouth Players is developing a reputation for presenting more obscure and challenging productions, and this production is no exception.

Julia, a musical prodigy, committed suicide twelve years ago in the room which is now The Julia Lukin Centre, set up by her devastated father, Joe. He wants answers to many questions; can this meeting between him, Julia's boyfriend, Andy and Psychic, Ken give him the release from mental anguish he craves? Was it suicide, or was somebody else responsible? Perhaps it was Andy, her boyfriend; perhaps it was her enigmatic 'secret admirer'... and who supplied that bottle of sleeping pills? In the final reckoning, is rare genius a blessing or a curse for the recipient?

Joe is played by Phil Wesley-Harkcom, Andy by Gary Freemantle and new Players' member, Gordon Frow, plays Ken.

Directed by John Miles who brought us the sister play Snake in the Grass last year, this promises to be another great production.



The show runs from 4th to 8th June at 7.30 at The Ice Factory Studio Theatre.

Tickets are available from the theatre Box Office between 10am and 12md tel. 01626 778991 or online from

www.teignmouthplayers.com

TEIGNMOUTH PLAYERS FANCY DRESS PARK RUN

Some of you may be aware that Teignmouth have a Park Run that takes place on the seafront at 9am on a Saturday that meets near the pier. **On Saturday 3rd August** there is a fancy dress park run and if anybody would like to dress up and take part, check out the details by visiting: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/teignmouthpromenade/>

The run is 5km and is a flat route along the seafront. You can run at any pace that suits you so let's get a group together and have some fun!

The Ice Factory Theatre Club

Theatre Royal, Plymouth Back Stage Tour

Eight members of the theatre visited the Theatre Royal, Plymouth for a tour and a cream tea. We started at the Stage Door entrance where a very nice lady told us all about the stars that pass through, one of her favourites being Christopher Biggins who was so very generous to everyone he came in contact with. We then proceeded through the rabbit-warren of corridors to the main stage and then on to the Drum. The production at the moment is Cirque Beserk, so not much in the way of scenery, just a huge ball and frightening jumps! Huge trucks arrive from just one to maybe 16 as was the case for Miss Saigon, so as you can imagine good logistics are key.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the visit and the only disappointment was that we didn't get to see TR2 section of the theatre which is at Cattedown.

Perhaps we may visit this section at a later date. *Bob Blewitt*



Enjoying post tour cream tea!



The Ice Factory Theatre Club

SUMMER SOCIAL WITH
A DUTCH LUNCH

COME ALONG WITH

A BOTTLE

A DISH TO SHARE

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Meet new and old friends,

Catch up with al the news

Chat, chill and enjoy

Sunday 30th June 2019 @ 12 noon

Jane Athey's

21 Fordens Lane, Holcombe EX7 0LD

Telephone 01626 864798

(Parking on Jane's drive or follow the directional arrow)



#tappingteignmouth



STEPPING OUT

BY RICHARD HARRIS
DIRECTED BY JESSICA HUNTER



Charity performance on Tuesday 16th in aid of the helen foundation

16th - 20th July 2019

at 7.30pm Matinée performance on Saturday 20th July at 2.30pm

Box office: 01626 249049

All tickets: £12

Online bookings: pavilionsteignmouth.org.uk*



at the

PAVILIONS Teignmouth

An amateur production by special arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

*Online bookings are subject to a booking fee.

Teignmouth Players: CIO Charity number: 1176546. Poster design: [halo creative](http://halo-creative.co.uk) www.halo-creative.co.uk

TP PRODUCTIONS 2019

Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare
Directed by Nichole Davall & Jon Miles 12-16 Feb

Two One Act Plays

Allergic Audience by Joan Greening Directed by Dave Davies
Nuts written and directed by Jef Pirie
8-9 March

TADDFest — **Nuts** directed by Jef Pirie and
Allergic Audience directed by Dave Davies
16 March, Shaftesbury Theatre, Dawlish

Chicks & Dogs—by Clive Renton
Directed by Jackie Wesley-Harkcom
2-6 April

Haunting Julia by Alan Ayckbourn **TICKETS ON SALE NOW**
Directed by John Miles 4—8 June

Breaking The Code by Hugh Whitemore. Directed by Amy Burton-Smith (ABS Theatre in conjunction with Teignmouth Players) 13-15th June

Stepping Out by Richard Harris **TICKETS ON SALE NOW**
Directed by Jess Hunter 16-20 July at Pavilions

The Good Doctor by Neil Simon
Directed by Paul Loveless 15-19 October

Jack & the Beanstalk by Alan Frayn
Directed by—Daniel Saint & Dave Renwick MD Jeff Hocking
28 December – 4 January 2019 at Pavilions Teignmouth
(Dates to be confirmed)

Torbay Thespis Extract

May to August 2019

22-25th May. 7.30pm.

'**Blackadder II**' by Elton and Curtis. (three episodes)

Bovey Tracey Players at The Dolphin Hotel, Bovey Tracey. Info www.boveytraceyplayers.org

31st May- 1st June. 7.30pm. Sat mat 2.00pm

'**Les Miserables**' by Victor Hugo. (the play, not the musical)

South Devon Players. Brixham Theatre. 01803 415987

4-8th June. &. 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm.

'**Haunting Julia**' by Alan Ayckbourn. Directed by John Miles.

Teignmouth Players at The Ice Factory Studio Theatre. 01626 778991.

6-8th June 7.30pm.

'**Blithe Spirit**' by Noel Coward. Directed by Bill Hunt.

Dartmouth Players. The Flavel Centre.

www.dartmouthplayers.org.uk

10-15th June. 7.30pm. Sat mat. 2.30pm. Double bill. '**The Browning Version**' by Terence Rattigan.

'**Red Peppers**' by Noel Coward. Director. Andrew Kenyon.

Toads Theatre Company. 01803 299330. www.toadstheatre.co.uk

13-15th June. 7.30pm

'**Breaking the Code**' by Hugh Whitmore. Directed by Amy Burton-Smith. ABS Theatre. At The Ice Factory Studio Theatre. 01626 778991.

Performances also at The Alma Tavern Theatre, Bristol on 19th June and Exeter Phoenix on 25th June. 01392 667080.

18-22nd June.

'**The Unexpected Guest**', by Agatha Christie. Directed by Will Clark

Dawlish Repertory . Shaftsbury Theatre, Dawlish. 01626 863061

21-22nd June. 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm.

'**All the World's a Stage**', Comedy through Song.

Unleashed Theatre Company. At The Little Theatre, Torquay.

01803 299330

26-29th June 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm

'The Addams Family' created by Charles Addams. Book by Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice. Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa.

Directed by Iain Douglas, Choreographed by Elaine Johnson.

Musical Director, Joe Walling.

Toads (SM) at The Princess Theatre, Torquay (see website)

4th June-25th July. Each Tue/Wed/Thursday at 7.30pm.

'Black Coffee' by Agatha Christie. Directed by Sarah Caplan.

Bijou Theatre. 01803 665800.

8-13th July . 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm.

'The Sorcerer', by Gilbert and Sullivan, directed by Maggie Campbell,

Musical Director, Jon Waterworth.. G&S Soc at The Little Theatre

Toads Theatre Company. 01803 299330. www.toadstheatre.co.uk

17-20th July. 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm

'Cider with Rosie' by Laurie Lee, adapted by James Roose-Evans). Directed by Richard Clark.

Dartington Playgoers, Studio 1. Dartington.

16-20th July. 7.30pm. Possible matinee?

'Stepping Out' by Richard Harris. Directed by Jess Hunter.

Teignmouth Players at Pavilions.

01626 249049 pavilionsteignmouth.org.uk

6-10th August.

'The Complete Works of Shakespeare'. by Long/Singer/Winfield.

Directed by Harriet Vickers.

Dawlish Repertory . Shaftsbury Theatre, Dawlish. 01626 863061

Details to follow.

5-17th August. 7.30pm. Sat 17th, matinee at 2.30pm.

'The Vicar of Dibley', by Gower and Carpenter, directed by John Miles

Toads Theatre Company. 01803 299330. www.toadstheatre.co.uk



Teignmouth Players Amateur Dramatic Society

The Ice Factory Studio Theatre
Somerset Place

Teignmouth
TQ14 8EN

Phone: 01626 778991

Email: info@teignmouthplayers.com

CIO Charity No. 1176546

Theatre Hire

The Ice Factory Studio Theatre in Somerset Place, Teignmouth is the home of the Teignmouth Players

Why not hire space at the Ice Factory Studio Theatre for your event?

The building has a 50 seater studio theatre. There is also a large downstairs room suitable for Coffee Mornings, Bingo, meetings, rehearsals etc.

To enquire about our hire rates, or to book the space for your event please email:

bookings@teignmouthplayers.com

Membership

The Membership Year runs from July to June, and the simplest way to renew your subscriptions (£10 for the current year) if you have not already done so, is by electronic transfer directly into the Teignmouth Players bank account. Details are:

Acc. Name - Teignmouth Players Amateur Dramatic Society.

Sort code 77-10-13

Acc. no. 27931060.

Please include your name in the 'reference' box so we can correctly identify payment. Alternatively you can call in to the Ice Factory office between 10 and 12 each morning (except Sunday) and pay by cash or cheque. Our database will then be updated and you will receive your membership card/booklet.

New members pay an additional one-off £5.00 administration fee,

Teignmouth Players is registered with HMRC for the Gift Aid Scheme, which means we can claim back 25p in every £1.00 of membership subscriptions. If you are a UK taxpayer you can help us maximise our entitlement to this tax-free Government 'hand-out' by printing off and completing the Gift Aid form (available by email or from the office) and handing it in to the Ice Factory office.

