

## November 2021

**Shinfield Players' Theatre's mission is to provide a venue for creating and experiencing theatre in all its forms. We aim to continue to train and develop our membership so that everyone enjoys socialising, working together and participating in theatre.**

### From the Chairman

Another month passes and another show!

It was wonderful to see people using our theatre again, visiting to see a very talented group performing a collection of songs from old and new musicals alike in MusicBox. Many thanks to Jane and Martin on producing an enjoyable show. I was also pleased to see some new faces on stage and would like to extend a warm welcome to you and look forward to seeing you involved in many future shows.

Pantomime is now in full swing (oh yes it is) and Our House re-starts in November. Please come along as we are still looking for cast members to participate in this popular show.

The youth group are rehearsing their review show that showing on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th December. Tickets are available and are open to all this year, so we look forward to seeing you.

Take care, keep safe and see you all again soon.

Gordon  
**GORDON BIRD**

### Supporting Our Theatre

I want to say a sincere thank you to everyone who has already paid their 2021-2022 membership subscription. In these difficult times your kind support is needed even more and is very much appreciated. If you are not already a member of our theatre but would like to join please email me and I will gladly explain everything and arrange this for you. The subscription rate is currently £25 for a single adult membership. If you have children, or grandchildren who would like to join, we also have a thriving youth group. Please email me & I will be very happy to supply information regarding this.

Jane Minchin  
Membership Secretary  
jane@shinfieldplayers.org.uk

## SPT Committee Meeting

The next SPT committee meeting is on **Thursday 18th November**. We'd love to hear from our members, so if you have a question you would like to submit to the committee, please send to [secretary@shinfieldplayers.org.uk](mailto:secretary@shinfieldplayers.org.uk) by Monday 15th November.

Many thanks

Cate

## 🍎 Snow White and the Four Swedish Popstars 🍎



**January 14-16<sup>th</sup> and January 21-23<sup>rd</sup> (4 shows per weekend)**

Our rehearsals are moving along really well and everyone is having an amazing time. The cast are really welcoming and fun to be with and some of the junior youth are now in the chorus. **We really would like some additional people to be in the chorus - can you help ?**

**Wanted two people to be our panto horse!!**



if you are interested please contact [sue@shinfieldplayers.org](mailto:sue@shinfieldplayers.org)

## NODA report for No Naughty Bits

Please find attached to this November BT email.

### Our House “Taster Evening”

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.30pm



If you're interested in being involved in any aspect of our April/May 2022 production of "Our House", (more details below), come and join us for the evening. The bar will be open from 7.30pm for you to buy drinks, or tea and coffee will be available if preferred, in readiness for a 7.45pm start.

We'll introduce you to the show and the characters, give you an idea of how auditions and rehearsals will run and then we'll read selected scenes and even enjoy trying out some of the songs!

As well as looking for cast onstage we're always looking for people to join us in non-performing roles so if you'd like to join our teams for front of house, backstage, lighting, sound, wardrobe and props this show will certainly provide plenty of challenges for creativity and ingenuity!

**For more information about Our House see below...**

# Last Tango in Whitby

Wed 2nd – Sat 5th March 2022



**Read throughs: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021**

**Auditions: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

## Synopsis

Set in the late 60's, *"The Last Tango in Whitby"*, tells the story of a group of friends who always go on holiday together each year for a week of drinking, dancing and living it up at the seaside. This year however is a rather awkward difference; Pat is holidaying for the first time since the death of her beloved husband Arthur and the rest of the party are not sure of the best way to cope with the situation. But Pat is determined that Arthur would want her to try and have a good time and she is going to live up to it. When they arrive at the hotel the group is greeted by the entertainment manager, Phil, and his wife Edna and immediately there is a spark between Pat and Phil.

How the friendship develops, the reactions of her friends and the final outcome of the situation make this a fascinating play. The mood can change quickly from being robustly humorous to extremely poignant and some passages of the dialogue are very thought provoking. The story is acted out in a series of short scenes, starting with the coach journey and continuing through the hotel, sea front and the beach.

## Main Characters

Most playing ages are 50 plus but are suitable for anyone from 18 to 80 who are prepared to "age up"

<b>Pat</b>	Just recently widowed.
<b>Phil</b>	Entertainments Manager.
<b>Jimmy &amp; Joan</b>	Happy go lucky married couple.
<b>Henry</b>	Ex-Soldier, living in a time warp.
<b>Maureen</b>	Tries to be an organizer.
<b>Kathleen</b>	Bossy and bitchy.
<b>Jessie</b>	A nervy Spinster.
<b>Edna</b>	Married to Phil, very bitter.
<b>4 Waitresses</b>	Younger women's roles.

Many more roles both speaking and non-speaking can be doubled up; originally we had 30 in the cast. There are old time dance routines involved mainly during scene changes which are undertaken by the cast and mainly consist of chairs.

If anyone is interested in doing some choreography, not strictly come dancing level I would be very pleased to hear from you. There is one short tap dancing scene for two women.

Everyone is welcome; please don't think you're too young or too old to be in this play. Rehearsals will start on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December and will be on Tuesday and Thursday nights with three rehearsals on Sunday evenings in February 2022.

**Carol Vockins**

## **Our House**

**29-30<sup>th</sup> April & 5-7<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Olivier Award-winning musical by Tim Firth, writer of *Calendar Girls*, featuring the songs of Madness.



### **Synopsis**

Revolving around the music of British band, Madness, *Our House* follows the story of London lad Joe Casey. On the night of his sixteenth birthday Joe takes Sarah, the girl of his dreams, out for a romantic evening. In an effort to impress her he breaks into a new building development near his house to show Sarah the view over north London and Casey Street. When the police come, Joe faces a tough decision: to run, or give himself up. It is at this point that the story splits in two as we follow the fortunes, and misfortunes, of Good Joe and Bad Joe.

### **Read/Sing Through Dates**

In preparation for auditions we will be running sessions on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.45pm** (after the first weekend of our panto "Snow White and the Four Swedish Popstars") and **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 7.45pm** (after the panto has finished). We will use these sessions to get familiar with the songs from the show, do some pre-prep for the movement audition and for those interested in auditioning for Principal Roles we will do some script work.

**Audition prep** will be on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm** where we will teach the songs and movement audition piece in advance of the auditions, for those who want extra time to practise this. We will also discuss how the auditions will run and what we will be looking for at auditions. If you can't make this date and would like to go through the audition pieces at one of the previous sessions please let us know in advance, so we can arrange a time to go through them with you.

We will not teach the songs again at auditions so if you can't attend any of the pre-audition sessions please make sure you have familiarised yourself with the original Madness songs and the words of the audition sections.

### **Audition Dates**

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 7.45pm** and **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.45pm**. Please don't arrive before 7.30pm on the Wednesday as our Youth Groups will be leaving the theatre then and the car park can get very busy.

You do not need to attend both auditions but you're welcome to do so if you wish, although priority will be given to those who can only make one audition date.

We'd like audition slips completed in advance of the auditions, so we know who would like to audition for what roles and which evening(s) you can attend so we can make them run as smoothly as possible, but we'll also welcome anyone who decides on the night they want to come and audition!

### **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals are scheduled for 7.45-10pm Monday and Wednesday evenings and 2-5pm Sunday afternoons, and they will start after the auditions on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

We will ask for your availability for the full rehearsal period and performance dates prior to auditions, so this can be taken into consideration when casting. Everyone won't be called for every rehearsal, and pre-booked holidays / events will be taken into consideration when building the rehearsal schedule, but we would appreciate a clear picture of your availability in case we do need to make changes.

### **Further Information**

There are excellent lead roles in Our House but one of the advantages of the show is the wide range of cameo roles available, requiring a mixture of acting, singing and non-speaking roles, which means that members of the ensemble have many opportunities to utilise and develop their performance skills. It's a great opportunity for less experienced members to build their confidence and the ideal show for those with busy lives who don't feel they have time to take on a larger role but still want to be involved.

We will provide further information on characters, the auditions and audition pieces, rehearsal format and how the Technical and Dress rehearsals are run, leading into the show weeks, in the next BT and at our November social evening.

The production team for Our House are:

<b>Director</b>	Heidi Ashton
<b>Musical Director</b>	Lara Savory
<b>Choreographer</b>	Lindsay Alexander
<b>Producer</b>	Rachel Lockwood

## Theatreoke is Back Live in the Theatre!

**Saturday 20th November from 7pm.**

For anyone new to the concept, it's a chance to sing and/or listen to songs from musical theatre either individually or in group numbers. No experience is required - in fact it's a great opportunity to build your confidence singing in front of an audience in a supportive atmosphere.

It's also a great chance for more confident performers to perform songs they'd never get the chance to sing in a show due to their age, gender, ethnicity etc

Everyone is welcome, both members and friends. This is a social evening with no tickets and no entrance fee.

**Lara Savory**

[lara@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:lara@shinfieldplayers.co.uk)

## The Christmas Show for 2021

**Sunday 5th December @7pm**



**Sunday 5th December @7pm**

As we enter the BER months, it is not that long really until Christmas.

The Christmas Show for 2021 is Christmas Wishes & Mistletoe Kisses and it will raise funds for the charity of the year. As usual this will be a collection of Christmas songs and fun as we enter into the Christmas season.

I will be putting together the theme for the show and looking for people willing to be in it.

**Rehearsal dates** (you need to attend at least one of these)

**Sunday 21st Nov 5pm**

**Thursday 25th Nov 7.30pm**

**Thursday 2nd December 7.30pm**

Arrive **from 2pm on Sunday 25th** for a quick run through.

So whether you want to sing your favourite Christmas song or give us your funniest Christmas poem or story then please let me know by no later than **14th November**.

**Martin Butler** [martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk)

## Congratulations to Lindsay (Alexander) and Andrew Belt on their recent marriage.

Our best wishes to them for their future life together with their son, Oliver.



## Super Bowl

17 members of the youth group had a night off from the theatre and enjoyed an evening at Wokingham's super bowl instead. The lowest score was recorded by one of the male youth group leaders but overall, Callum Maskell had the highest score with Sienna Eden being the highest scoring female.

Jack aims his ball for a strike ... but it was not enough to win on this occasion.



Please email items for the December Boardtreader by November 27th to:  
[editor@boardtreader.org.uk](mailto:editor@boardtreader.org.uk); [editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk);  
[boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk); [shinfieldboardtreader@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shinfieldboardtreader@hotmail.co.uk)