

SPT BOARDREADER SHINFIELD PLAYERS THEATRE

February 2024

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

I hope you are all keeping well and avoiding all the seasonal bugs that are flying around. We were fortunate that the pantomime was unaffected and all of the cast and crew produced a wonderful show. We received a lot of favourable reviews and comments. Working front of house, I heard pleasant compliments about our set, costumes, props and on-stage performances. Well done to everyone involved, backstage, on stage and front of house.

In this edition there are notices about our final play of the season - Three Bags Full. It requires quite a large cast and ideal mixture of young and more mature roles. Please come along and support Matt in this very funny show.

May I also point out the advert for the working weekends in the summer months. Our theatre is run purely by volunteers. We need everyone to do their bit and not rely on the same people all of the time. Please, I urge you all to come along to one of the four days that have been advertised. It really is true - many hands DO make light work. See you soon.

Gordon

Gordon Bird

Get your tickets now for a wonderful thriller...

Nightwatch by Lucille Fletcher

6th to 9th March 2024

Be sure to get your tickets for this is a cracking thriller that will have you guessing - right up to the final line. The play is ingeniously devised and builds steadily in menace and suspense until the final unexpected final twist ending.



Readthrough and Audition dates

Three Bags Full

Jerome Chodorov

5th – 8th June 2024

THREE BAGS FULL



Readthroughs: Sat 17th Feb @ 12:00 and Thurs 22nd Feb @ 19:45

Auditions: Sat 24th Feb @ 14:00 and Thurs 29th Feb @ 19:45

A bright, fast-paced farce about a greedy merchant, Bascom Barlow, who finds himself snookered into being a matchmaker for two daughters, one the child of his wife and the other...who knows? Rebellious young ladies, a comely new maid, pregnant ladies, and mistaken identities lead to explosive hilarity. A larcenous employee who has embezzled half a million dollars even offers to return it for a managerial position and the daughter's hand. Half of the loot is in diamonds and half in cash, stashed in separate but identical bags, but the maid has picked this moment to quite...and has packed her belongings in a third identical bag. This is not going to be the evening Bascom is expecting!

Roles:

Bascom Barlow – (M) approx. 40-60 – Manager and owner of a large sporting goods store whose evening is thrown into chaos. Calls for comic timing and explosive reactions, challenging but fun part to play.

Richard Foyle – (M) approx. 20-30 – Young and ambitious employee of Bascom's with a devious scheme to get not only a promotion, but a future father-in-law's blessing.

Angela Barlow – (F) approx. 18-30 – Bascom’s daughter, headstrong and progressive, set on defying the patriarchy and forging her own path.

Genevieve Barlow – (F) approx. 40-60 – Bascom’s wife, doting mother to Angela and convinced her husband is having a long overdue breakdown.

Kathleen – (F) approx. 20-30 – Irish (accent preferred) maid to the Barlows, but an opportunity has arrived that means she is eager to hand in her notice and accept a proposal that will elevate her status.

Boris – (M) approx. 20-30 – East European (accent preferred) former Chauffeur to the Barlows, and closer to Angela than Bascom would like.

Jeanette – (F) approx. 18-30 – Naïve, timid and in love with Richard, Jeanette’s deception has set the whole series of events in motion.

Mr. Cottingham – (M) approx. 40-60 – perhaps the only person who can put the fear of God in Bascom, Mr. Cottingham has the power to make or break his future.

Preston Cottingham – (M) approx. 20-30 – Son of Mr. Cottingham living the playboy lifestyle, his status would make him the perfect husband for Angela, but another young lady has taken his eye.

Charlotte – (F) approx. 40-60 – Replacement maid who arrives at the start of Act 2, but she does seem rather familiar.

Jenkins – (M) any age – The Barlow’s butler, small non-speaking role.

For any questions, please contact Matt Chishick at matt@shinfieldplayers.co.uk



Theatreoke

16th March 7pm

Need something to look forward to so that you can beat the winter blues? Then make sure you've got Saturday 16th March in your diary as it's our next Theatreoke evening!

Been before? Then just start thinking about your song choice (if that's your thing!) and LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING (due to the large numbers we've had for the past few events this is even more important than usual).

No idea what Theatreoke is? Then read on!

Theatreoke is an SPT social evening for members and friends. It's a chance to have a catch up, a drink and to listen to some songs from the shows (or movies), and an opportunity to perform if you wish. Whereas Karaoke is mainly about singing to a screen, at Theatreoke we try to have more of a sense of performance and to sing out to the audience - either from memory or from lyrics if you need them.

It's a chance for seasoned singers to try something a little out of their comfort zone or that they'd never normally get the chance to perform. But even more, it's been a wonderful opportunity for less experienced singers to build their confidence in front of a supportive crowd. The key is it's a musical theatre number that you can perform in front of an audience - on your own, with a friend or maybe even in a small group (we've had all sorts before!) We sing to backing tracks (generally from YouTube or Spotify - other music services are available!) via the bluetooth speaker - either connected to your own phone or you can send Lara the link in advance and she'll sort it for you.

It's a very informal evening and the focus is definitely on being together and having fun - we throw in some group numbers for good measure and you can sing along at your seats or come up and join the crowd at the front. You can arrive any time from 7pm.

For more information, to let us know you're planning on joining us for the evening or to share your song choice then please contact Lara (ldsavory@gmail.com) or look out for the Facebook event coming soon in the SPT private group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/193343420739561>)

Put Your Creative Talent to the Test! ... Direct a Play this November at SPT



SPT is introducing a new-look modern start for our next season of plays. We are proposing either a play or two one-act/short plays to be performed in a black box!

Black box theatre productions are performed on a simple and plain stage with simple design and equipment. The absence of colour not only gives the audience a sense of "anyplace" (which allows flexibility from play to play or from scene to scene), but it also allows for atmospheric sound and inventive lighting design to shine through. It is considered by many

to be a place where "pure" theatre can be explored with the most human and least technical elements in focus.

Are you up for the challenge?

Then please contact Matt Chishick at matt@shinfieldplayers.co.uk.

Submissions to be sent for review by 31st March for November 2024 production.

**Make Sure you Don't Miss this Spectacular Show -
Tickets on sale now!**

Anything Goes

19th, 20th, 25th, 26th and 27th April 2024



A Date for Your Diary - 20th May 2024

SISTER ACT - INTRODUCTION NIGHT



4th, 5th, 10th, 11th and 12th October

"Bless our show!"

Sister Act is coming to the Shinfield stage for the first time EVER! Do you want to be involved? Pop these dates into your diary, **we would LOVE to see you!**

On the introduction night (Monday 20th May, 7:30pm) we will be able to tell you all about the show, vision, characters, and audition material! Following on from the intro night, see below the other preview dates where you can go through the audition material with the team.

- Intro Night - Monday 20th May @ 7:30pm
- Preview/workshop - Wednesday 22nd May @ 7:45pm
- Preview/workshop - Sunday 26th May @ 5pm
- Preview/workshop - Monday 27th May @ 7:30pm
- Auditions - Wednesday 29th May @ 7:45pm
- Auditions - Saturday 1st June @ 5pm

Can't wait? Well why not get familiar with the show! Have a listen to the Sister Act (Original London Cast Recording) on most streaming platforms, or on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2yHPvSH7Co&list=PL54909C5E5DFCF560> Most songs are the same as our version but there are a few differences, the major ones are below:

- 'How I got the calling' is replaced with 'Good to be nun'
- 'Haven't got a prayer' is added in our version and is an extra solo for Mother Superior
- 'Do the Sacred Mass' is not in our version.

Production Team:

Director: Jessica Wilkins / Musical Director: Heather King / Choreographer: Millie Wilkins / Assistant Director: Beth Green

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to reach out to Jess on email: jessicawilkins@hotmail.co.uk or text: 07841037341. We are more than happy to help! #SisterActIsComingToShinfield #BlessOurShow #TakeMeToHeaven

Timberrrrr!

Extra Space Made for Plans for New Dressing Room and Toilets



Put Aside a Few Hours and Come and Join us for the SPT Working Weekends 2024

July 20th/21st and 3rd/4th August

Our lovely theatre needs plenty of love and care. So, we have two social weekends to meet up with fellow members for plenty of fun and some work. Any time that you can spend with us to help, be it one hour or all four days, would be great.

Some jobs require no previous experience - just your enthusiasm, a sense of fun and a willingness to join in. Other jobs need a bit of experience, a willingness to have a go or some strength.

Come along to support the theatre and meet up with everyone.

Looking forward to seeing you!

For more information email Maggie at Maggie@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

2024 Productions

Night Watch	6th-9th March 2024
Anything Goes	19th-20th and 25th-27th April 2024
Three Bags Full	5th-8th June 2024
Sister Act	4 th ,5 th ,10 th ,11 th , and 12 th October 2024
Zoom! by C Hawes Junior/Middle Youth Group	29 th and 30 th June 2024
Footloose Senior Youth Group	13th & 14th July 2024

Committee Meetings

If you have any questions or comments for the committee, please send them to Rachel Lockwood

secretary@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Board Treader News Items

Please email items for the March Board Treader by February 27th to:

editor@boardtreader.org.uk; editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk;

boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk; shinfieldboardtreader@hotmail.co.uk;