



BOARDREADER

May 2025

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 Chair

Welcome to May's edition of the Boardtreader.

Our Musical Just So has just completed a very successful run. It was enjoyed by very enthusiastic audiences, and we have received lots of wonderful reviews from them. Huge congratulations to all the cast and production team. I had the pleasure of helping backstage for the run. It was a joy to see so much talent and so many happy faces on and off stage.

Rehearsals for our next production 'And Then There Were None' are in full swing and the cast are really getting into character and relishing the twists and turns of this wonderful script by Agatha Christie. Tickets are on sale, and we look forward to seeing you at the shows.

The youth groups are also rehearsing hard and looking forward to their summer shows; Beauty and the Beast from the Juniors and Middles group will be at the end of June whilst the Seniors will be performing two plays: 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Two' in July. Details can be found in this edition.

The launch for our October Musical 'Calendar Girls' is on Sunday May 4th where you will have the opportunity to meet the production team and find more out about this touching and heartfelt story. More details of the launch and the auditions are in this edition. The schedule for our next season's shows is almost complete and you can find details below.

We were very excited to hear that several members of the society have received NODA District Awards which will be presented in June at the NODA Celebration Day. Congratulations to all of them and good luck for the Regional Awards.

- The Kathleen Oyler Award for Chorus Work: Sister Act
- The Charles Sumner Award for Best Male character in a play: Gordon Bird as 'Lol' in The Safari Party
- The Harvey Kesselman Comedy Award for best comedy performance in a play or musical: Karen Bird as 'Minnie' in 'Chase me up Farndale Avenue S'il Vous Plait'
- The Shelly Lemesh Award for an Unsung Hero: Debbie Wheeler

- The Louise English Award for a Person under 30 who has made an outstanding contribution to their society: Millie Wilkins

Enjoy the sunny weather and we look forward to seeing you soon

Cate

Chair, Shinfield Players Theatre

Not one to be missed - Make sure you buy your tickets now!

And Then There Were None

Agatha Christie

4th to 7th June at 7.45pm

One by one they die... Who will be next?



And Then There Were None is Agatha Christie's most popular and bestselling crime novel of all time. A tale of isolation, murder and suspicion begins with eight guests being invited to Soldier Island. They arrive on the desolate island and are greeted by a butler and a cook and that makes 10 in all.

The guests are cut off; there is no telephone and each of them has been lured there under false pretences. Something is horribly wrong from the start. As the numbers reduce the suspense and tension mounts - it becomes an intriguing mystery as to who amongst the guests is the murderer. Will anyone survive?

Special Offer for Opening Night Buy 3 tickets for the price of 2!

Already over 170 tickets sold so buy your Tickets here:

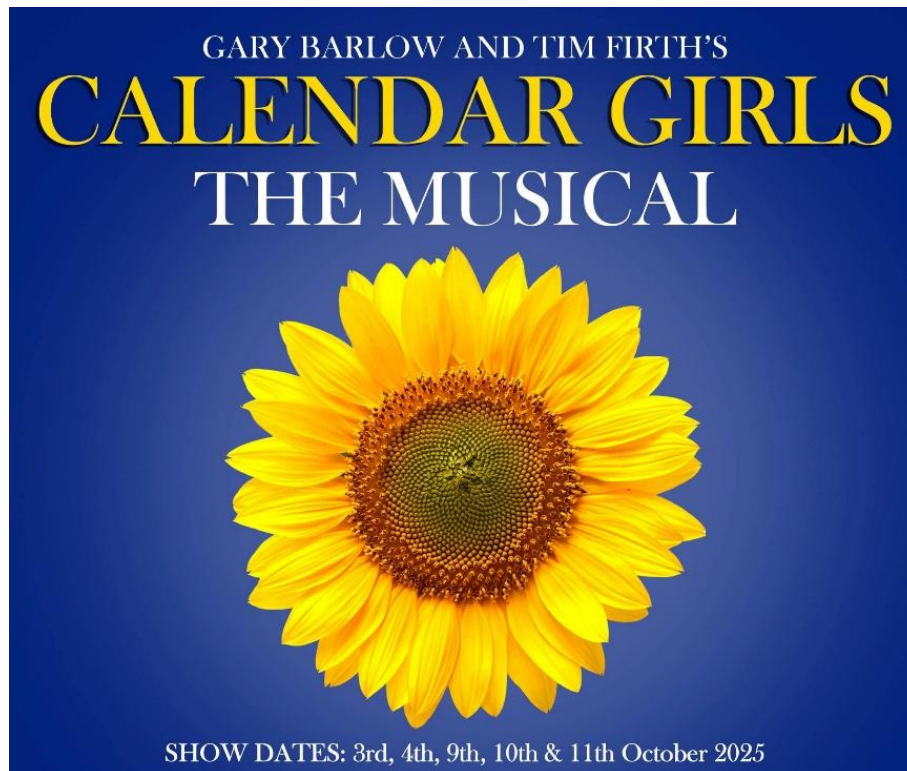
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/shinfieldplayerstheatre>;

Come Along to the Launch and Auditions for

Calendar Girls

3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th, 11th October 2025

Sunday 4th May 3.00–5.30pm - Launch Event / Read & Singalong



We are thrilled to advise that everything you need to know about Calendar Girls and how to audition is available.

A copy of the Information Pack is attached to this newsletter and you can watch a welcome video from Director, Sharon Young here

<https://youtu.be/p6G0anMpQ40>

We have created a shared drive, where there is a folder for each character with everything you need to prepare for the auditions

[Audition Materials SPT Calendar Girls - Google Drive](#)

For most of the audition songs, we will be using the versions on the original West End soundtrack, which you can find here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2G14DfTgg&list=PLODu7zaPva1Px BavOCqs5KPyfl-xl8mk4&index=1>

When you have decided on which roles you want to go for, please use this online audition form to register your interest [Calendar Girls Audition Form](#)

Auditions will be in 2 parts:

- Singing Auditions: Monday 12th May 7.30-10.00pm
- Acting Auditions: Sunday 18th May 2.30–5.30pm

If you can't make either / both dates, don't worry we can make other arrangements, but please let us know as soon as possible

Key Dates:

Sunday 4th May 3.00–5.30pm - Launch Event / Read & Singalong

Wednesday 7th May - 7.45-10.00pm: Audition Prep / Drop In

Sunday 11th May – 2.30–5.30pm : Audition Prep / Drop In

Sunday 11th May – Midnight: Audition forms due

Monday 12th May – 7.30-10.00pm Singing Auditions

Sunday 18th May – 2.30–5.30pm: Acting Auditions / Casting

Monday 19th May - 7.45-10.00pm: Cast Welcome and Read Through in character

Join our Calendar Girls WhatsApp group to keep updated

Use the QR code or open this link to join our WhatsApp Group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/L11rl0cd4nQH8tf7MypHVS>



Hopefully the Audition Pack, Welcome Video and Launch Event will provide all the information you need. However, if you have any immediate questions, please ask sharon@pearlcatchers.co.uk

Thank you to everyone that has expressed an interest in this show so far and we hope to see loads of you at the **Launch Event on Sunday 4th May.**

Treat your car to a super Youth Group

CAR WASH !! at Shinfield Players Theatre

Monday 5th May 1pm to 3pm



For just £5.00!

The Senior youth group are once again running their car wash fund raising activity on BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY.

Tea/coffee and cake refreshments are being served whilst you wait.

Please come and support the group raise their target of £100.

NODA Review for Just So

Attached to the email with this edition of BT

Tidy Mornings



We are planning 2 more tidy mornings (a few hours 9.30am to 12.30) for the outside – please come along to help

Outside of theatre clean - **10th May 2025**

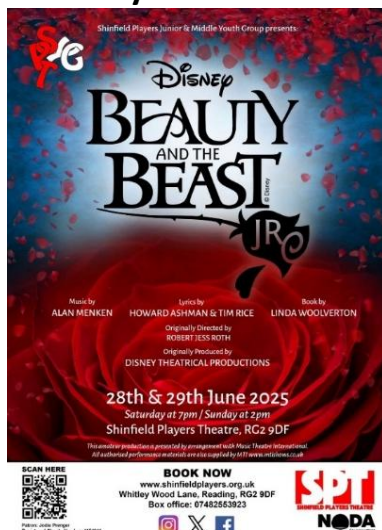
Outside woodwork paint (window/door frames etc) - **20th September**

Junior and Middle Youth Group

Announces their exciting June Show...

Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.

Saturday 28th June 2025, 7.00pm and Sunday 29th June 2025, 2.00pm



Be Our Guest and watch our fantastic youth group's performance of the award-winning animated film and stage play that comes to life in this romantic and beloved take on the classic fairytale.

Tickets are now on sale!

£10 adults

£9 concessions

£5 children

Looking for a Warm up to Summer?

July Theatroke

Saturday 5th July 7.00pm



...then come along to our next Theatroke on Saturday 5th July. Doors open at 7pm and the singing will start around 7.30pm. It's like karaoke but with musical theatre songs. And rather than singing to a screen we perform to the audience.

Theatroke is open to members, friends and family and is a social evening with plenty of opportunities for singing and catching up with friends. There is no obligation to sing but we welcome singers of all levels of experience and confidence to perform a song to a friendly, supportive audience. There are also opportunities to sing along with ensemble numbers.

No tickets required but we like to know how many people are coming - either respond to the Facebook invite or let Lara know directly. If you would like to sing then let Lara know that too so she can make sure you're on the list.

If you've not been before and would like more information, then have a look at the Facebook event (<https://fb.me/e/3gM2Jmmttd>) or contact Lara (email: ldsavory@gmail.com)

And whether you are coming along or not, Lara is always grateful for suggestions for good chorus numbers from shows that lots of people will know, or solo numbers that would work well with everyone singing along.

Front of House

Join our team - and get a free seat!

A free seat (D1) is assigned to FOH for every performance, to act as inside Usher, and is allocated to a member of the team.

We'll try and make sure that over the season everyone gets a chance to do the inside Usher role - unless you don't want to of course!

If you know anyone who's interested in doing FOH and hasn't seen the Facebook post or the Board Treader please feel free to forward on the details and ask them to contact us via our Front of House email address: foh@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Facilities up-date

The building, checks and maintenance take a lot of work. If you can spare time to help out, even if you have limited DIY skills, please get in touch. We will be happy for any help, admin, opening up the theatre for appointments for a tradesperson, doing some checks etc. If you have professional skills, also let us know! We are lucky to have our own theatre so please come and support us.

Don't forget our outside tidy day on **10th May 2025**

Maintenance and Facilities Team
maintenance@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Health and Safety

We have carried out Fire and Evacuation training and have more planned. We have some Emergency First Aid at Work courses planned as well.

We have established training for members which includes health and safety, code of conduct etc.

Please make sure you have watched it by looking on the SPT members page on the SPT website. Please let us know if you are a member and need the password.

We have also created training for Front of House and Technical/Backstage, which is currently being rolled out.

Our health and safety policies have all been updated, and we now have robust policy in all areas. We are at the latter stage of completing areas of this like COSHH (dangerous substances), where we are cataloguing all items in the theatre.

Food Hygiene and Food Safety

We have a policy document and procedures (with training) to prove our compliance with modern food hygiene principles in our bar and coffee shop. This has meant changes, such as a move to disposable cups but changes are made to be more compliant with good practice and save large building and equipment costs.

SPT Needs You!



Are you a whizz with a needle, or a drill? Do you enjoy building things or painting? Or do you have a passion for administration or fundraising? If so, come and get involved at Shinfield Players Theatre; there's lots to do.

You don't need to be an expert, but if you are willing to help, we have people here who can show you the way.

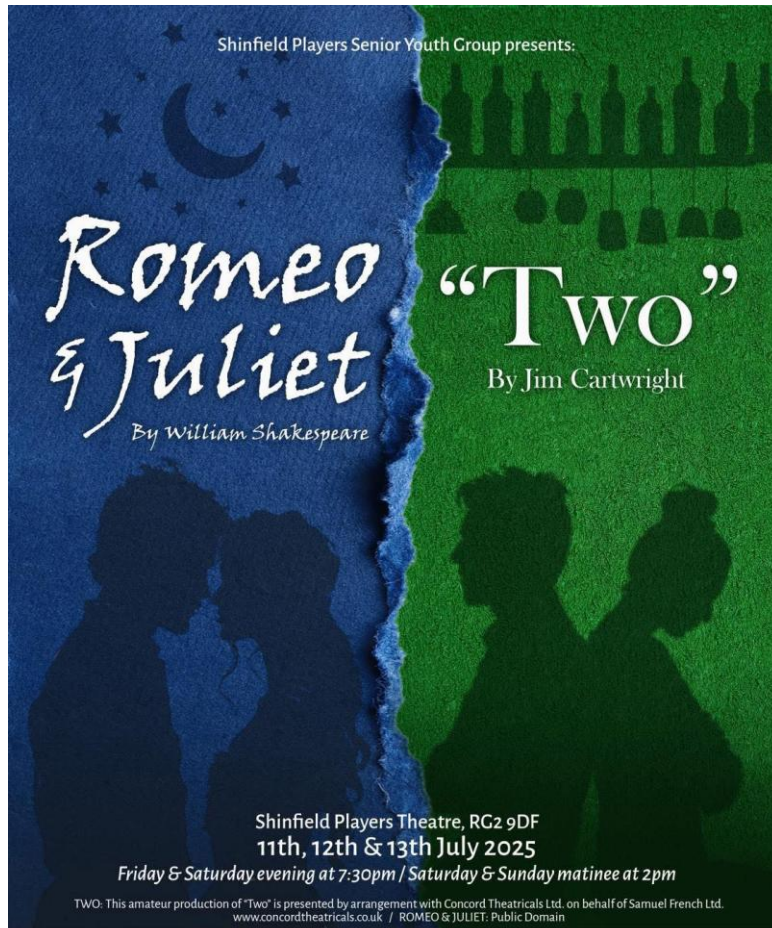
If you can help with any of the following, please get in touch.

secretary@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

- Wardrobe or props for shows
- Building and painting sets
- Help with running fund-raising events
- Help with running administration and bookings
- Help with running the building

**Announcing Two Fabulous Plays from the
Senior Youth Group
Romeo and Juliet and Two**

Friday 11th July, 7.30pm, Saturday 12th, at 2pm and 7.30pm and Sunday 13th July, 2pm



Come and See Two Shows for the Price of One.

The senior youth group are performing two shows this summer.

The wonderful play **Two by Jim Cartwright** that explores an evening in a northern pub in the 1980s. We meet a variety of characters that frequent that one night as well as the bickering landlord and landlady. This short play has humour and pathos and is a wonderful observation of human behaviour.

The evening also presents **Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet**. The well-known story of the star stuck lovers is shown in an up-dated abridged version showing the perilous journey of our two youngsters.

The shows have recently been cast and we thank everyone for the excellent auditions and the leaders had a difficult task reducing the 7 Juliets and 6 landladies into a final cast.

Opening Play for Next Season

It's a Wonderful Life

adapted by Mary Elliott Nelson

19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd November 2025



This play is based on the wonderful classic film directed by Frank Capra. Mary Elliott Nelson's re-imagining is a joyful story of love, hope and community. Set in a small town in upstate New York. Bedford Falls 1945, and banker George Bailey is feeling that life has passed him by and he's at the end of his rope. When George's guardian angel pays him a visit, he is amazed to discover what life in his beloved town would be like without him. Maybe it's a wonderful life after all?

Written as a 4 hander, the play has scope for more actors. I would like to cast it for 4 to 8 people, with additional small part and nonspeaking parts

Read throughs and auditions: 22nd, 24th and 27th July

Show dates: 19th to 22nd November 2025, cast must be available for rehearsals on Tuesdays and Thursdays from September to November and optionally Thursdays in August.

Cast:

ACTOR 1 - George Bailey - Lead role – Ages from 12 to 38 – 351 Lines

ACTOR 2 – Plays 6 Characters:

Clarissa Odbody – Angel therefore ageless – 86 Lines

Mary Bailey (Nee Hatch) – Ages from 8 to 34 – 75 Lines

Violet – Ages from 10 to 36 – 25 Lines
Ruth Bailey Dakin – 4 Lines
Mrs. Thompson – 5 Lines
Mrs. Davies – 2 Lines

ACTOR 3 – Plays 7 Characters:

Uncle Billy – 75 Lines
Sam – Ages from 12 to 38 – 56 Lines
Gloria – Angel therefore Ageless – 22 Lines
Mr. Martini – 16 Lines
Tom – 6 Lines
Charlie – 3 Lines
Ernie – 2 Lines

ACTOR 4 – Plays 9 characters:

Bert – Police Officer – 40 Lines
Potter – Rich Businessman – 32 Lines
Harry Bailey – Ages 8 to 32 – 22 Lines
Mr Gower – Chemist – 19 Lines
Joseph – Angel – 19 Lines
Ed – 3 Lines
Randall – 3 Lines
Welch – 3 Lines
Passer-By – 1 Line

Read throughs will take place at the theatre on the **22nd and 24th July**
Auditions on the **27th July**, if you are interested in being in or finding out
more please put these dates in your diary or contact Derek Lockwood
on lockwoodderek@hotmail.com

Planning for Future Shows!

Would you like to direct?

We are looking for a Directors for the future.

We welcome all ideas from new Directors and those with experience.

Please contact us with your ideas and proposals – we look forward to hearing from you.

Contact productions@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

The Great British Bake Off Musical!

17th, 18th and 23rd, 24th, 25th April



Director: Jamie Milburn Musical Director: Chris Cherng Choreographer: Millie Wilkins

This exceptional production team are preparing for the 2026 Spring Musical
More information about the show coming will be available this Autumn.

SPT Committee Members

Committee Members

Cate Naylor (Chair) chair@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Sandra Miall (Secretary) secretary@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Sue Gowen (Treasurer) treasurer@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Graeme Rhodes (Marketing and Publicity) marketing@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Jess Wilkins (Social Media and Publicity) socialmedia@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Maggie Smith (Productions) productions@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Phil Gowen/Neil Coupland (Facilities Team) maintenance@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Committee c@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Useful emails

Junior and Middle Youth Group jyg@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Senior Youth Group syg@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Membership membership@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Box Office boxoffice@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Technical technical@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Wardrobe wardrobe@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Props props@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Bookings bookings@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Maintenance maintenance@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

The 2024/2025 Season

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

Dir: Maggie Smith and Cate Naylor

Dates - 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th June 2025

Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.

Junior and Middle Youth Group

Dates – 28th and 29th June

Two and Romeo and Juliet

Senior Youth Group

Dates – 11th July 12th and 13th July

2025/2026 Season

Calendar Girls

Dir: Sharon Young and Sue Gowen

MD: Patrick Naylor

Dates - 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th, 11th October 2025

It's a Wonderful Life

Dir: Derek Lockwood

Dates - 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd November 2025

Agatha Twisty and the Murder in Panto Land

Dir: Matt Chishick

Dates – 16th 17th January x 2, 18th January x2 and 23rd, 24th x 2 and 25th January 2026

The Great British Bake Off

Dir: Jamie Milburn

MD: Chris Cherng

Choreographer: Millie Wilkins

Dates – 17th, 18th and 23rd, 24th, 25th April

Committee Meetings

If you have any questions or comments for the committee, please send them to Sandra Miall, secretary@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Board Treader News Items

Please email items for the Material for the April Board Treader.

To be sent by **27th May** to boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk;