



BOARDREADER

March 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

Unfortunately, I start this month's newsletter with some very sad news. Philippe Duquenoy, who has been a member with Shinfield Players Theatre for many years, appearing in a lot of productions as well as directing many shows, has recently passed away. We are all in shock at his sudden passing and we send our sincere condolences to his family and friends at this sad time.

I shall miss his enthusiasm for theatre. My personal memory of him is that he would come up to me and say, "do you know (and then reveal a list of plays) as they will be good shows to perform here".

One particular play he was keen on directing was "Noises off", a marvellous farce by Michael Frayn. When I reminded him of the set challenge (it requires a 180 degree turn of the set at end of act 1 and then another at the end of act 2) he responded by saying "oh I have done it before and you can do it very simply". And he was always right about those challenges - with his wealth of knowledge and experience, he would have a workable solution. I shall miss that insight and those discussions enormously. RIP Philippe.

Our next play, Nightwatch, was being directed by Philippe when he became ill. We are so grateful to Mikhail Franklin who has taken over the difficult challenge of completing his vision.

Please come and watch and support the show, a wonderful thriller entitled "Nightwatch".

See you soon.

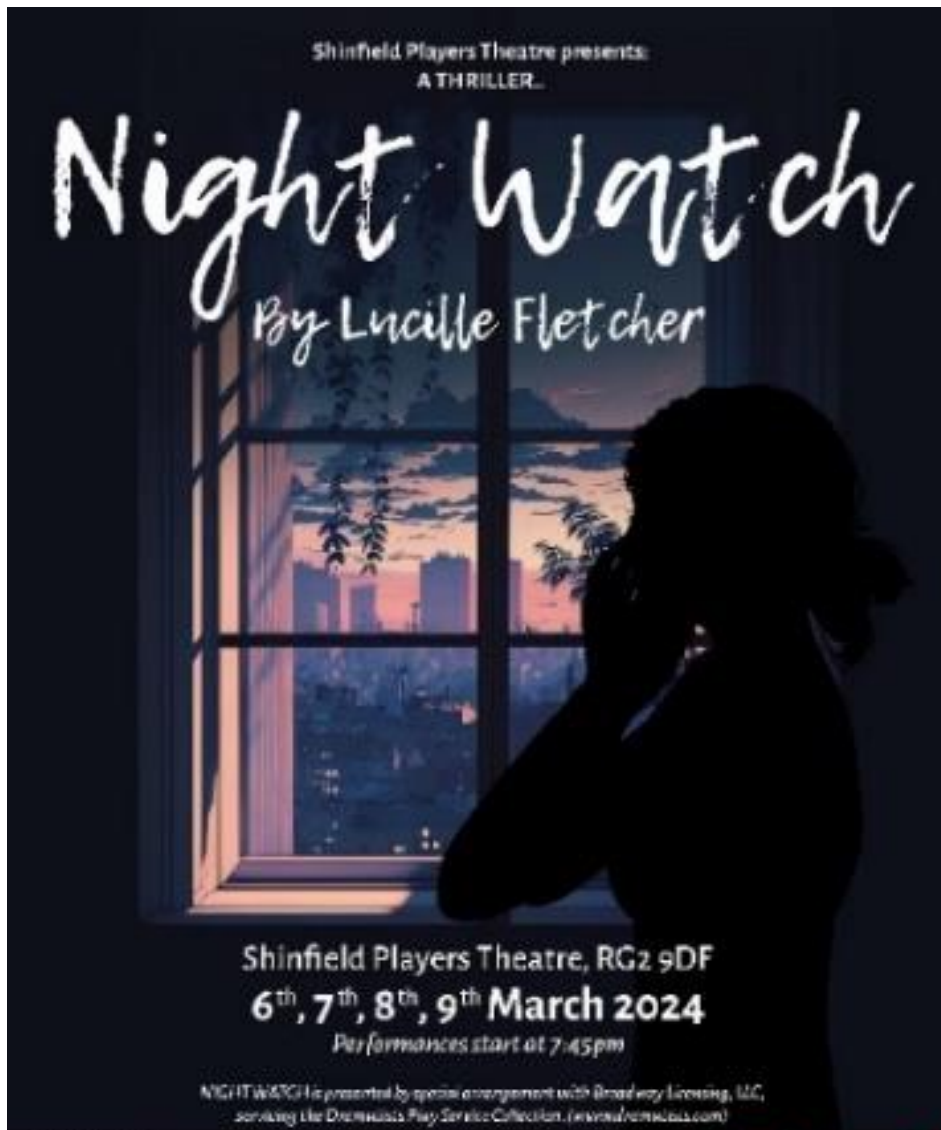
Gordon
Gordon Bird

Don't Miss this Gripping, Dark Thriller... Come and See

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.



SCAN HERE



Public Art Project
Registered Charity Number 1120511

BOOK NOW

www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk
Whitley Wood Lane, Reading, RG2 9DF
Box office: 0118 975 8880



SPT
SHINFIELD PLAYERS THEATRE

noda
COMMUNITY THEATRE

There's still time to join the cast of Three Bags Full!

Three Bags Full

Jerome Chodorov

5th – 8th June 2024

We are still looking for our leading man to play Bascom Barlow – this is a brilliant comedy role so if you enjoy making an audience laugh, come and take a look!

We also need men and women between 20 and 40 for some of the other characters.

Come along and grab one of these super roles in this bright, fast-paced farce.



SCAN HERE



Patron: Jodie Prenger
Registered Charity Number: 1154841

BOOK NOW

www.shinfieldplayers.org.uk
Whitley Wood Lane, Reading, RG2 9DF
Box office: 0118 975 8880



SPT
SHINFIELD PLAYERS THEATRE

noda
As inspired by amateur theatre

This play is so much fun with lots of lunatic humour.

The larger-than-life characters pursue perfectly plausible agendas that are all completely rational to themselves but totally incomprehensible to each other.

Chaos can only follow a storyline such as you might expect!

Please contact Matt Chishick at matt@shinfieldplayers.co.uk

Rehearsals start after Nightwatch – Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm will be another Preview/Audition evening so come along and find out more.

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 – Ambitious employee of Bascom's with a scheme to get a promotion and 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 maid to the Barlows. An opportunity has arrived to 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 - He can make or break his future.

Preston Cottingham – (M) approx. 20-30 – Son of Mr. Cottingham would make perfect husband for Angela, but another 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.

Anything Goes

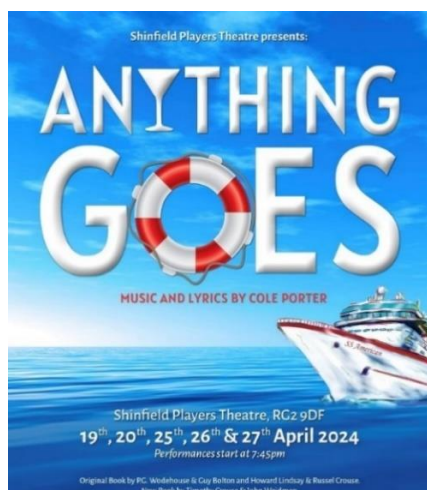
19th, 20th, 25th, 26th and 27th April 2024

Call for Our Leading Man...

Owing to an unforeseen illness, we are looking for someone to step in to play Billy Crocker in our lively and exciting musical.

Rehearsals are Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays.

Please contact Gordon@shinfieldplayers.co.uk



Don't Miss this Spectacular Show - Tickets on sale now!

A Tribute to Philippe Duquenoy



Phillipe was an inspiring and much-loved member of Shinfield Players. He directed and played in many special productions including the award-winning "Bouncers" in 2014.

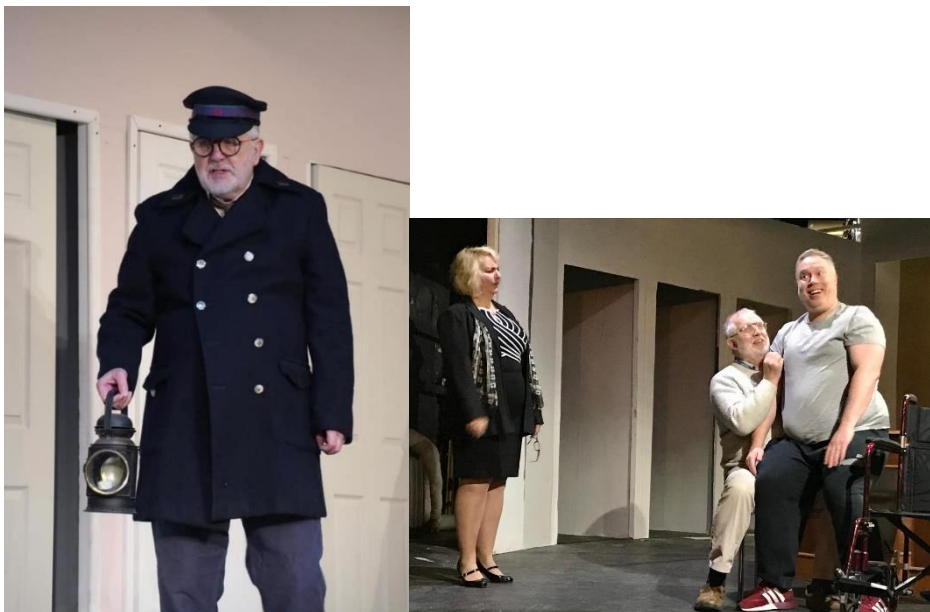
Here are some of the many productions that you will have watched and in which you may have performed:

- "Comfort and Joy" (Goff),
- "Bad Girls" (Fenner),
- "The Opposite Sex" (Director),
- "Taking Steps (Mark/Director),
- "Radio Times" (Gary),
- "Pack of Lies" (Director),
- "Inspector Drake and the Perfekt Crime" (Doctor Short),
- "Tiptoe through the Tombstones" (Vernon),
- Time of My Life (Gerry),
- "Who Goes Bare" (Seven comic roles and Director),
- Aladdin (Emperor)

Aladdin



Who Goes Bare?



Time of My Life



Inspector Drake and the Perfekt Crime



Tiptoe Through the Tombstones







Theatreoke

16th March 7pm

It's March so it's nearly time for our next Theatreoke evening!

We invite members and friends to join us for an informal social evening with optional singing on Saturday 16th March from 7pm.

Do please let us know you're coming on the invite or by contacting Lara (ldsavory@gmail.com) so we don't run out of space!

For more details please follow the link below to the Facebook invite or contact Lara.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/march-theatreoke/2119933391672558/>

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



Are you up for the challenge?

Then we want to hear from you. We are soon to complete the 2024/2025 season of plays so please contact Matt Chishick at matt@shinfieldplayers.co.uk.

Submissions to be sent for review by 31st March

BDB Pitmans Donation to the Theatre

Thank you to BDB Pitmans and Karen Todd who nominated us to her employer's Charitable Trust. We were kindly donated £500 by BDB Pitmans which will go towards maintaining the theatre.

<https://www.bdbpitmans.com/>

A Date for Your Diary - 20th May 2024

SISTER ACT - INTRODUCTION NIGHT

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SISTER ACT

INTRO NIGHT

Monday 20th May

7:30pm, Shinfield Players Theatre, RG2 9DF

OTHER PREVIEW/AUDITION DATES
Wednesday 22nd May, 7:45pm, Preview/workshop / Sunday 26th May, 2pm, Preview/workshop /
Monday 27th May, 7:30pm, Preview/workshop / Wednesday 29th May, 7:45pm, Auditions /
Saturday 1st June, 5pm, Auditions

SHOW DATES - 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th & 12th October 2024

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 @ 2:00pm
- 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:
jessicaelwilkins@hotmail.co.uk or text: 07841037341. We are more than happy to help!
 #SisterActIsComingToShinfield #BlessOurShow #TakeMeToHeaven

A New Look for the Bar

Graham Vockins and team have created splendid new look for the bar.
 Thank you for all for your hard work!
 It has a new full height fridge, linked-up credit card machines and 3 new non-alcoholic spirits - Gin, Rum and Martini!



Put the Date in your Diary 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

April Board Treader by March 28th to:

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

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