

FROM THE CHAIR

If anyone were to ask me what was the greatest strength of The Toads Theatre Company, I would have to say it was the voluntary support and help in running the theatre and the company by its members. There are a whole range of activities which are essential to the success of the company and without any one of them, we would be the poorer as an organisation. On behalf of the theatre I wish to express a big thank you to everyone who helps out in any way. I am asking everyone at the beginning of this new season to think hard about the help they give.

Your volunteer help is important, however trivial and minor, it might appear. How would an audience cope without front-of-house staff, Managers and Stewards, to direct them to their seats and sell programmes? Can you imagine the chaos if there were no front-of-house people? Would our audiences feel welcome? Might they not want to come again particularly if they could not buy a cup of coffee or a glass of wine to quench their thirst or round off a pleasant evening.

Our performances and actors might look "a bit missing" without scenery, costumes and props which our volunteers have provided. Many actors could perhaps do more. The Toads Theatre

Company gives them the opportunity to strut their stuff in front of appreciative audiences in return for a modest subscription. Is it too much to ask for them in return to support other performances in the same way as they are supported with theirs ... and there are no lines to learn.

I know it seems if I am having a go but we were formed as a society of members, not as an organisation into which individuals can dip into or out of on a whim. Members of Toads are members of a theatre company with all its demands and requirements which if we do not meet, we cease to exist. So if an appeal goes out for help, please ask yourself, what can I do. Lecture over. We have a fabulous season ahead so enjoy yourselves. I certainly intend to.

Roger Heath

(roger-heath@sky.com)

Macbeth

By William Shakespeare

7—12 November 2016

Directed by Maggie Campbell

Role	to be played by
Macbeth.....	Jolyon Tuck
Banquo.....	Rob Newman
Macduff.....	Laurence Frewin
Ross.....	Gordon Mellor
Lennox.....	Dan Houghton
Malcolm.....	Mylo Sermon
Donalbain.....	Dawn Weston
Porter.....	Ben Tisdall
Murderers.....	Andy Bell & Andy Killen
Duncan.....	Roger Heath
Lady Macbeth.....	Lydia Dockray
Lady Macduff.....	Sarah Davies
Young Macduff.....	Sophia Baker
Witches.....	Laura-Jo Williams, Megan Alldridge, Sheila Gilbert
Hecate.....	Gill Poore
Old Woman.....	Jean Tolchard
Doctor.....	Susie Stubbs
Messenger.....	Sherry Dudley

Birnam Wood will be played by 'the tree'

AD.....	Peter Hubble
SM/set design.....	Peter West
MD.....	Gordon Mellor
Props etc.....	Students and cast
Wardrobe.....	Usual Suspects
Filming.....	Media students

Any volunteers to prompt?

Any queries/questions contact Maggie on 01626 865774
or on peterwmaggiec@talktalk.net

August Productions from other Societies

Teignmouth Players presents at
The Carlton Pavilions, Teignmouth

Blackadder

By Ben Elton and Richard Curtis

Directed by John Miles

31st August—3rd September

Tickets: 01626 249049

Dawlish Repertory Co presents at
The Shaftesbury Theatre, Dawlish

Death in High Heels

By Richard Harris

Directed by Geoffrey Wildey

2nd—6th August

Tickets: 01626 863061

Wednesday Club

It all seems so long ago, but John Hall's quiz went well at the end of June, as did a presentation by Martin Waddington the following week. Martin entertained us at the Clavinova with a seemingly off-the-cuff singing extravaganza. We'd like more of that, please!

Then Janet Downer gave us the latest in her series "Even more Dark

Deeds in Devon" ... it would seem we live in a notorious region!#

The season was rounded off with a review of the year's triumphs and disasters, with a contribution of almost £450 going to Toads' Coffee Lounge Account ... another successful year with a wide range of activities (and inactivities) to our credit.

Wednesday Club returns on 14th September for the start of our sixteenth season, however at this stage I'm not sure of the programme. More will be revealed in September's 'Croak'. Now where did I put my deck-chair and sunglasses ...?

John Miles

Announcements

A Murder is Announced

Our September production needs one more cast member ...

The role of "Mellors" (the inspector's assistant) - this is just 11 lines, so might be an ideal role for someone wishing to dip their toes in am dram waters.

Also required are an SM and props master (one of these could be doubled up with Mellors)

If you're interested, please contact any committee member (details below) or Alec Stokes (director) on 01803 872473



Do you want to direct a play???

Submissions are now being accepted for plays to be considered for season 2017/18.

You don't have to be a director to submit a play—anyone can put a play forward for consideration.

Please bear in mind the following criteria:

1. Is it castable? (22 men under 60? Ditch it now—it ain't happening)
2. Is the set doable? (you want a *what* on stage?)
3. Is it commercial? (come on, we need the dosh)

Directors—if you wish to direct, please submit 2 or 3 plays that you have a burning desire to see performed. Please be sensible—we will point and laugh in your general direction if you suggest *Chekov's The Seagull* told through the medium of puppetry and dance.

So, put your thinking 'eads on and let the committee know of any suggestions you might have.

Do you want to get more involved with TOADS? Not sure who to contact?

Listed here are some essential contact details:

Box Office 01803 299330
boxoffice@toadslittletheatre.co.uk

if you'd like to get involved in front-of-house duties

Jon Manley* and/or Jackie Tarney 07815 323982
boxoffice@toadslittletheatre.co.uk

if you'd like to help in the coffee shop

OR if you'd like to help behind the bar

Jill Pettigrew* 01803 525071
jillpettigrew@hotmail.com

if you'd like to join the wardrobe team

Anne Jordan 01626 330866
annepoppy@blueyonder.co.uk

if you'd like to join the props team

Jon Manley* 07815 323982
jon@jonthepcdoctor.co.uk

if you want to submit an article for Croak

John Miles 01803 858394
johnmilesandmiles@gmail.com

for Wednesday Club

Andrew Stidston 07976 364412
orby100@yahoo.com

If you'd like to help with set-building

Al Dunn 07880 734880
al.dunn@icloud.com

If you'd like to get involved with techy stuff

If you want to act, or get involved backstage in any production, or as props or prompt, contact the director in each case, whose number will always be listed in The Croak with the audition information. If

you're still not sure who to call, any member of the committee will always help to point you to the right person. As well as those names marked with an asterisk above, the committee members are:

Peter Burcher 07715 019762
petergburcher@gmail.com

Alan Tanner 01803 613701
altan@tqltd.fsnet.co.uk

Lisa Fletcher 07854 578160
nothingcompares04@gmail.com

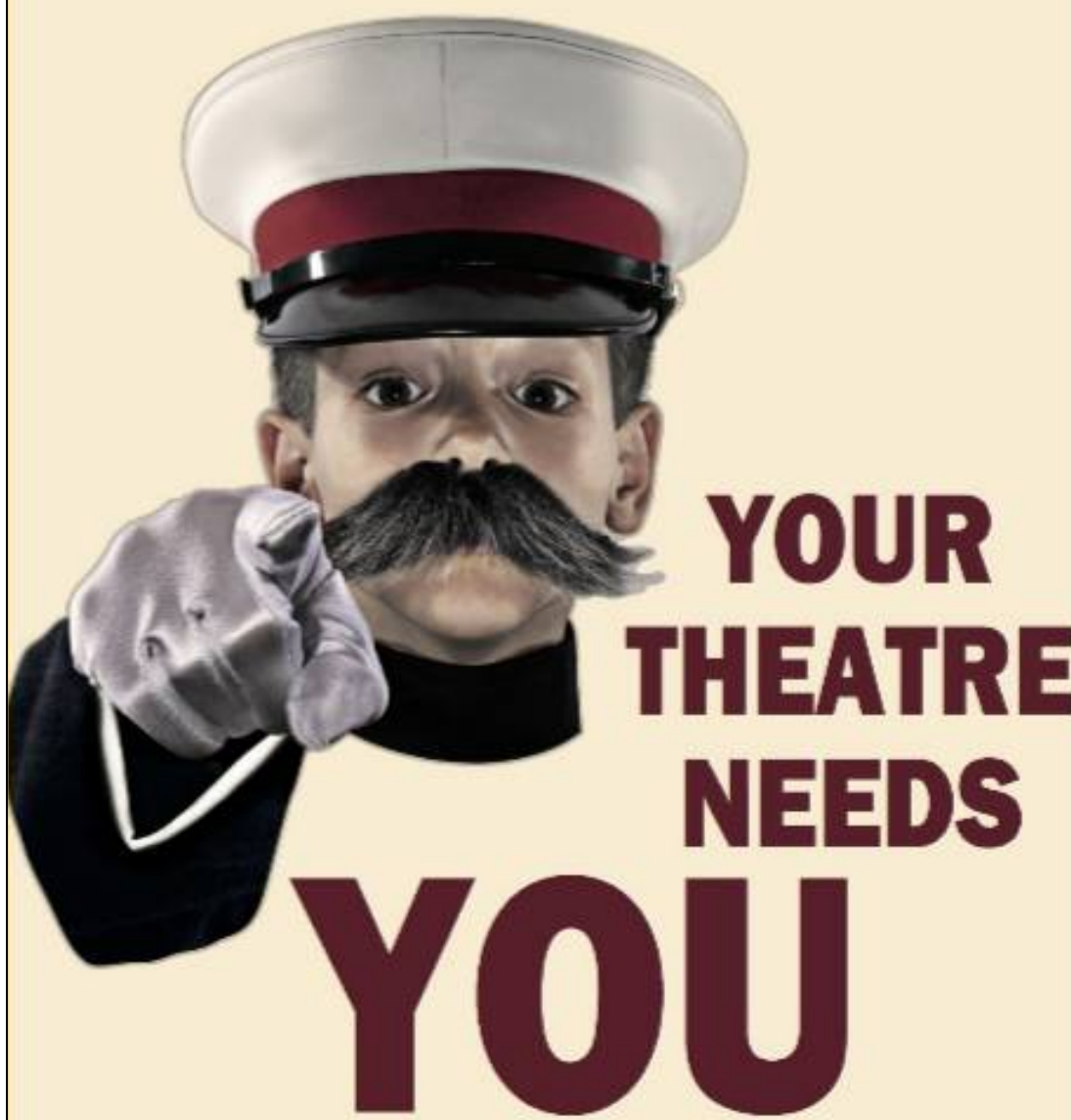
Roger Heath 01803 296297
roger-heath@sky.com

Alec Stokes 01803 872473
dialstokes@btinternet.com

Anna Reynolds 01803 553803
annareynolds23@hotmail.com

Maggie Campbell 01626 865774
peterwmaggiac@talktalk.net

Volunteers needed!!



It may seem like we constantly nag you, the members, to give up your free time and help run TOADS @ The Little Theatre BUT we **need** you!! Each and every one of you—without your help on front-of-house, bar, coffee shop, set-builds, mail stuffings, box office, props, wardrobe, backstage, on-stage (phew! Hope I haven't missed anyone) ... TOADS would cease to exist.

If you are able to help, please don't wait until the last minute to volunteer—the earlier you can commit to a duty, the easier things are for those of us panicking to fill volunteer slots.

To those of you who constantly give up your free time and help keep TOADS running—we thank you. You are the people who keep the TOADS team and local am-dram alive and kicking.

Dates for Your Diary August 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	BHL VALUATIONS 10-1PM	5	6	7
One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 7.30pm	One Man Two Guvnors 2.30pm & 7.30pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				