



St George's Day

"Curtain Call"

Our bi-monthly publication with news from the RHTC

Welcome to the 3rd edition of our bi-monthly newsletter all about the RHTC. This month we are celebrating St Georges Day and the release of our 2015/2016 season. If there is any additional topic you would like more information about please contact us.

OUR NEW 2015/2016 SEASON



Abigail's Party by Mike Leigh 29th September to 3rd October 2015

Nearly four decades on, this hilarious and relentlessly uncomfortable comedy of bad manners has become a period classic. A play requested both by our audience and actors, we cordially invite you to a little 70's soiree for some Demis Roussos accompanied by cheese and pineapple, with a lot of entertainment on the side.

Pitmen Painters by Lee Hall 24th to 28th November 2015

This National Theatre production from the author of Billy Elliot tells the true story of five miners who joined an evening class and astounded the world!



Ladies' Day by Amanda Whittington 26th to 30th January 2016

Follow the fish-filleting foursome of Pearl, Jan, Shelly and Linda as they ditch work, replace their wellies and overalls and head off to Royal Ascot when it came to York for a drink, a flirt and a flutter. First performed by the Hull Truck Theatre Company, join the ladies for this exuberantly feisty comedy.

Gaslight by Patrick Hamilton 19th to 23rd April 2016

This classic Victorian melodrama will both thrill and intrigue you. What is the real reason behind the psychological torment of Bella Manningham by her husband, and why does the gaslight dip so ominously every evening?



Brief Encounter by Emma Rice, Noel Coward 21st to 25th June 2016

This exciting new adaptation by Emma Rice first performed by the Kneehigh Theatre Company presents the well known story interspersed with original Noel Coward songs. A delightful and witty portrayal of English reserve and romance.



Do you have any old photographs or programmes
 Or other memorabilia you would be happy to give or loan
 to the Theatre? If you don't, do you know anyone who has?
 Do you have a bit of spare time you could give to help organise
 the archive or do some research. Are you interested in collecting members'
 stories?

If so, please contact Judith Mills email: mail@judithmills.eu or drop her a note c/o
 The Robin Hood Theatre). Don't worry if you don't know how to digitize
 photographs or record interviews as training will be given.

Sponsor a Switch!

Our plans to refurbish the theatre are ongoing. Just today we have had an estimate for £400 to mend various leaks in the roof over the stage and in the old green room plus clearing and repairing various gutters and channels. Perhaps what is more important is sorting out the wiring backstage. The estimate for this work is as follows. If anyone is feeling generous enough to help out with the costs, we should be very grateful.

• Small Ceiling Lights	£185
• Large LED Battens	£500
• Wall Light Fittings (for Dressing Rooms)	£200
• Show Running Lights (we have in stock)	
• Emergency Lights (none-maintained)	£180
• Fire Exit Signs	£200
• Light Switches (various combinations)	£35
• Power Sockets	£90
• Back Boxes for Switches & Sockets	£80
• Trunking	£140
• Trunking Angles, Joins etc	£50
• Conduit	£56
• Various Collections of Spacers, Joiners, Corners, Tee Junctions, Couplings etc	£100
• Lighting Cable	£63
• Socket Cable	£99
Total cost.	£1978

We have some wonderful things in our archive. This is the Rev Cyril Walker, who commissioned local carpenter Robert Lee to build our theatre in the grounds of his rectory adjoining his stables.



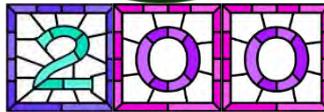
BELOW: a photo from 'Alladin', a pantomime performed in 1918.

ACTING WORKSHOPS

We have managed to get a grant to run acting workshops from Newark and Sherwood District Council. These will be held at the theatre on the following Saturday afternoons, May 30th, June 13th, July 18th and 1st August from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. They are for people aged 16 years or over. We will welcome anyone who is interested in treading the boards but has not done so before or who enjoyed it at school perhaps but doesn't feel confident to audition for a role. The workshops will be confidence building and teach basic skills. They will also be fun! Anyone who is interested should get in touch with Carolyn Drury on 01636 658555 or email at nearlyinstant@gmail.com.



Tickets for all productions are available on our box office number 07733 179986



RHTC 200 Monthly Prize Draw

SUPPORT THE THEATRE AND WIN CASH PRIZES!

If your membership number is drawn, you win a cash prize.

Subscription of £12.00 per annum, open to all supporters of the RHTC.

Proceeds of the draw will support the RHTC running costs

Pick up a form at your next visit or from the back of our programme.

If you want more information contact Sue Smith at ssconsulting15@yahoo.co.uk.



There are many people at the theatre who give hours of their time helping in various ways to keep the theatre running. We intend to feature these much valued members in future newsletters.

SPOT LIGHT on David and June Horton.....

We first discovered The Robin Hood Theatre shortly before it was closed in 2007 but it didn't stop us from supporting the 'On Tour' productions.

It is a 'Little Gem' which is run by a dedicated team of people. The choice of plays at the theatre is excellent as is the standard of acting. Two of our favourite plays have been 'Allo 'Allo and Little Voice. A few years ago we decided to get involved and became members. Shortly afterwards we were soon filling skips, gardening, painting and even drain clearing! We even won 'the sweep' and between us swept most of the car park! The work is very rewarding (honest)!

We haven't been volunteering much lately, however, as June has been recovering from a broken elbow following a fall in Palma, Majorca on the second day of our 'retirement' cruise in September last year! Anyway, after 6 days in hospital she was put back together with screws and is now on the mend so we will back volunteering soon!

We both love the newly, revamped theatre; long may it continue to thrive.

Mrs José King, 92, a founder member of the Robin Hood Theatre, Averham, won the Lifetime Commitment to Newark Award, sponsored by Bakkavor Desserts SEF and presented by Councillor Mr Tony Roberts, himself a member of the theatre and a volunteer.

José launched a fundraising campaign to refurbish and open the theatre in 1961 and has been involved in the day-to-day running of it for decades. She set up the bar, which helped sustain the theatre in its first few years, and provided a much-needed income through fundraising to keep the theatre going. The newly refurbished bar in the theatre is named after her.

José said: "It's been a huge part of my life and it's lovely to be rewarded for it."

Her daughter, Val Wilson, said her mother had done a lot of campaigning and fundraising to get the theatre re-opened last year. "When she took over as theatre director, she was responsible for the whole programme and the day-to-day running of it. She loved it and that's why my mum was determined to keep the theatre going and to raise the money to keep it going."



For further information visit our web site – robinhoodtheatre.co.uk



Directors Needed

If anyone would like to direct one of the new season's plays, please get in touch with Jean Lebeter either in writing or by email, jeanelebeter@hotmail.com. You will need to give your ideas about the production. For example, will you play it in the date it is set or adapt it to a different era? What are your ideas for costume and set and do you foresee any technical difficulties. How long do you envisage rehearsals will last etc?

Open Day

The event on April 9th seems to have been a success. The backstage tours were popular and many attendees were surprised how much room there is in the backstage building. We managed to enrol some new volunteers and sell a few tickets for 'Sense and Sensibility'. Thankfully, no-one complained about our choice of plays for the new season, and were pleased we had made such a varied selection of plays. Councillors Rita and Bob Crowe attended the event, Rita in her role as Chair of the District Council. Neither of them is a stranger to working in a theatre as both of them have been members of Newark Operatic Society for many years. The society will be in residence for a week at the Robin Hood in the Autumn when they will stage a production of the musical, 'Little Shop of Horrors'.

SENSE & SENSIBILITY - This production is a treat for the many fans of Jane Austen, although they may regret that so many of the colourful characters in the novel do not appear on the stage. However the seven members of the cast manage to convey the romances that are at the heart of the story.



The play is expertly directed by Karen Peck and the technical team deliver the high standard we have come to expect. Elinor Dashwood played by Laura Talbot conveys her courtships with suitable flirtaciousness whilst still retaining her good sense. Natalie Abbott, plays her younger sister Marianne with a great deal of charm and feistiness. Jean Baliol-Key as their interfering Aunt Jennings is an absolute delight pointing the humour in her character with great skill. Newcomer Jodie Friend, makes a successful debut as Lucy Steele. We hope we will see her at the Robin Hood again. The men are equally successful. The two young suitors who are also newcomers, Richard Kinnaird as Edward Ferrars and Alexander Doddy as Willoughby set the sisters' hearts a flutter and we can understand why. Colonel Brandon, played by Kenneth Tagg is an excellent contrast to the young bucks. Well done to all.



Membership Fees

The Board of Directors has decided to keep the membership fees at the present rate for the coming year. They currently stand at £20 single, £35 for a couple and £10 for students or under 18s. Members may buy their tickets for £8 rather than the standard price of £10.