



# **BOARDREADER**

**November 2019**

**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**

Welcome to the latest edition of the Board Treader.

Our opening show for the 2019/2020 season was a huge success, with three full houses and receipts in excess of £8000 and a deserved complimentary NODA review. If you were fortunate to be a member of the audience then I hope you agree that it was an excellent production and worthy of the tributes it received. Huge congratulations to everyone involved in this successful show.

We are now in full rehearsal for the next production - Alan Ayckbourn's Time of My Life. Please come and support the theatre by watching the show or helping backstage or front house. We do need your help and welcome your support.

Our annual pantomime has been cast (oh yes it has) but we are still looking for some chorus and small roles to be filled. If you would like to be involved in this production then please contact us.

Don't forget that we have our next Theatreoke on Saturday 2nd November and auditions for the spring play, a fabulous farce entitled Who Goes Bare, later in the month.

See you during Time of My Life.

Gordon

**Gordon Bird**

## Come along for a great evening of Theatreoke...Tomorrow!

Saturday 2nd November at 8.00pm



On Saturday 2nd November at 8pm we are hosting our first weekend Theatreoke evening. As always, this is an informal chance to stand up on stage and sing a song from any musical that you like. Or to come and listen to others doing just that!

You can perform on your own, with a friend(s) or join in with the ensemble numbers.

Please either come prepared with your own lyrics and link to an online backing track or let Lara know what you'd like to sing in advance so that she can get something sorted for you.

You are also welcome to just come and browse through her collection of music on the night and she'll try to play an accompaniment for you!

The evening is open to members (including youth group) and friends and there is no charge. We will be finishing around 10.30pm depending on number of performers.

If you have suggestions for ensemble numbers that you think most people will know, please let Lara know as soon as possible ([ldsavorsy@gmail.com](mailto:ldsavorsy@gmail.com) or via the SPT Facebook group).

## Learn valuable and life-saving skills...

### FREE FIRST AID COURSE

9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November

Phil will be running 2 emergency first aid at work courses for any front of house or bar volunteers, backstage crew or any committee member (min 4 max 6) on 9th and 16th November from 9am- 4pm.

Please email [sue@shinfieldplayers.org.uk](mailto:sue@shinfieldplayers.org.uk); to book as soon as you can - if not enough the courses will not run

## Come and re-live the show...

### SATURDAY FILM NIGHT

9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.45pm



We are screening a video featuring the past SPT production of 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' to test out our new screen. Come along and enjoy one of our past productions.

**Bar open and free entry**

## Book your tickets now for **Time of My Life**

A black comedy by Alan Ayckbourn

20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd November 2019 @ 19.45



It is Laura's 59th birthday and all of the family is celebrating. Joining Laura and husband Gerry is their elder son Glyn and his wife Stephanie, along with younger son Adam with his new girlfriend Maureen. As the evening progresses, Laura starts to speak her mind. And keep an eye on the waiters.

The cast and crew are working very hard to put together an excellent show. Books are close to being put down, the set has taken shape and needs a little colouring-in and the costumes are being assembled. There has been a slight change in the cast and my thanks to Mark Read for stepping forward in our hour of need. So the new line-up is:

**Gerry** – Philippe Duquenoy

**Glyn** – Mark Read

**Adam** – Jesse Dopson

**Calvinu et al** – Matthew Chishick

**Laura** - Barbara Richards

**Stephanie** – Robin Sloan

**Maureen** – Lauren Boys

## **Assistant Treasurer**

We are looking for an Assistant Treasurer to act as 'understudy' for Jon Chishick during this season as he will be retiring from office next year. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested then please contact [Jon@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:Jon@shinfieldplayers.co.uk);

# Scrooge the Pantomime - Cast Announcement

10<sup>th</sup>,11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>,18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020



We are pleased to announce the cast for Scrooge the Pantomime. More people are invited to join this happy ensemble for the Panto so please come along and have some fun. We will be delighted to welcome you to fulfil any of the To Be Appointed (TBA) roles listed below.

For more information email Derek at [Panto\\_person@outlook.com](mailto:Panto_person@outlook.com)

**Rehearsals are Monday and Wednesday 7:45 to 10pm (9pm for U16s).**

**Bob Cratchit**

**Ebenezer Scrooge**

**Nora Carrot**

**Polly Carrot**

**Sam**

**Ella**

**Frederic**

**1<sup>st</sup> Charity Collector**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Charity Collector**

**Jacob Marley**

**Mrs Cratchit**

**Martha**

**Belinda**

**Chief Instructor of Phantoms**

**Ghost of Christmas Past**

**Ghost of Christmas Present**

**Ghost of Christmas Future**

**Mr Fezziwig**

**Young Scrooge**

**Young Girl**

**Boy**

Simon Kingsnorth

Brian Nixey

Gordon Bird

Danielle Corp

Gabryela Dopson

Karen Bird

Sarah Miall

Jesse Dopson

Nadine Masseron

Jesse Dopson

Nadine Masseron

Troy Johnson

Sophie Farmer

**TBA**

**TBA**

Jonathon Gowen

Camilla Fillingham

Jonathon Gowen

Charles Jackson

Sophie Farmer

Charles Jackson

**The following roles are all TBA:**

**Stinker, Young Jacob, Ignorance, Want, Townsperson 1, Townsperson 2**

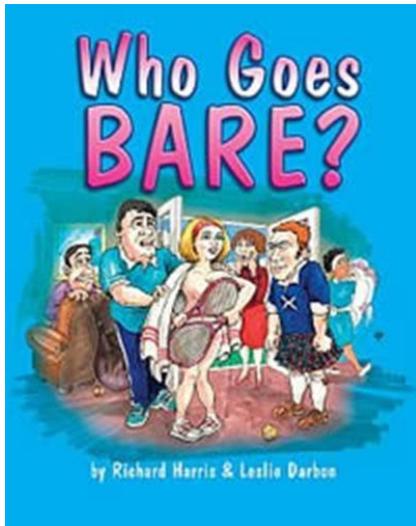
**Townsperson 3, Townsperson 4, Old Joe, Woman 1, Woman 2, Woman 3, Mrs Fezziwig,**

**Dick**

## Come Along to Read Throughs and Auditions for **Who Goes Bare ?**

by **Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon**

4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March



The read through will take place on **Sunday 24 November at 2pm** with auditions on **Tuesday 26 and Thursday 28 November.**

Rehearsals will start on **Tuesday 3rd December,**

*Who Goes Bare?* is a good old fashioned run-around farce and with a cast of 10 (6m 4f) and parts of all sizes so there's something for everyone.

Running a Health and Strength Home in a large and somewhat decaying country mansion can be a hazardous undertaking at any time, as Eddie Manchip knows.

When one is further beset by a sinister crook to whom one has signed away the deeds of the house in payment of a gambling debt; a complete desertion of the staff except for one half-witted and generally hysterically excited maid; an erring, pompous brother; his suspicious wife; a tennis-player in the nude; a quick-change artist who appears as someone different every ten minutes or so; the tennis player's kilted Scottish husband; and a hearty countrywoman grabbing second-hand clothing--then the result can be, in a word ... chaos!!

Character breakdown as follows:

**Eddie Manchip** - big role

**Brian Manchip** - big role

**Minnie** - Eddie's maid - good sized role

**Nancy** - Brian's client - medium role

**Joan** - Brian's wife - medium role

**Mr Butcher** - Mobster - medium role

**Policeman** - small role

**Mrs Court-Bending** - local councillor - small role

**Angus McSmith** - Nancy's husband - medium role

**Maxie Maudling** - big role... lots of different characters

Any queries, please contact Philippe Duquenoy - [philippe.duquenoy@btinternet.com](mailto:philippe.duquenoy@btinternet.com)

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Nick and Naomi Mason on the arrival of their twins Freya (4lb 9oz) and Elenie (3lb 13oz) who arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. Many will remember Naomi for her cake eating exploits in Act Your Age.

## Visit this new site – brilliant way to find a great night out! WhatsonReading.com

On Tuesday 29th October Gordon Bird, Graeme Rhodes and Martin Butler all attended the launch of WhatsonReading

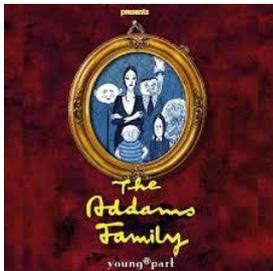
<http://www.whatsonreading.com>

This is the new website for all the arts, culture and heritage in Reading. SPT has become one of its partners, of which there are 65 from the launch which will grow as more people know about it. To be a partner it is completely free for us and just requires updates for all our shows. Thanks to Graeme for all the work he has done on the page which works alongside our own website, which people can access and then to ticketsource to buy tickets. Thank also to Graham Vockins for assisting with this process.

Have a visit of the page and see what else is going on in Reading as well as visiting the SPT page. Any queries contact [martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk)

Thanks  
Martin

## NODA review of The Addams Family: A New Musical



Please see attached NODA document

## The Freemasons - Trevelyan Lodge



We are very grateful to the Freemasons, Trevelyan Lodge and to Dave Capel for presenting a cheque to the theatre for £250. Many thanks for the Freemason's support and their kind donation. We will be putting the money to good use.

## BELIEVE IN THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS



**Sunday 8th December 2019**  
**Starts at 7.00PM**

We are pleased to invite anyone that wants to join in this event - no auditions and very few rehearsals. **The last date for submissions is 16<sup>th</sup> November.** This show is going to be full of fun, laughter, songs and audience participation.

Definitely a show with 2 halves. The first half is to be magical and the second half traditional.

Martin wishes to hear from singers willing to sing a solo, duet, group for the first half where there is a specific list of songs. The second half features more traditional Christmas songs where contributors can choose their own act.

We welcome offers to perform in this show, which will be raising funds for the Charity of the 2019/2020 season which is Talking Books. You do not need to be a member or pay a show levy.

So if you can sing, dance, create funny moments to your favourite Christmas songs etc? Then please contact Martin know no later than 16<sup>th</sup> November so that the running order can be finalised. Email [Martinc.butler63@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Martinc.butler63@yahoo.co.uk)

## Co-op Funding for the Re-decoration of the Foyer and for Future Projects



We wish to thank the Co-op Community Fund as we have been very fortunate to receive funding from them over the last couple of years.

In the period April - October 2018 we were given just over £1,800.

This was from the Shinfield and Whitley Wood shops and thank you to all of you that used your co op card and donated through good causes for your purchases. The money enabled us to re-decorate and re-brand the foyer area which is now complete.

Another application was put in for the same period for 2019 which has just come to its end and raised a total of £2,479.73. This came from the same two shops as well as the Three Tuns and Co-op Funeral care in Earley. With this money, we will be doing some work in the next closed season in the auditorium next year. So thank you again to the Co-op and to everyone for your continued support.

It is great that a company like the Co-op get involved with community groups, the application process is straight forward and the company has provided a lifeline to us for the upkeep and improvements to the theatre.

To any member that knows of any other organisations that get involved with supporting community groups like ourselves then, in the first instance, please let me know and I will get in touch with the right people and set about putting together and application for funding.  
Thank You

Martin Butler

[martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:martin@shinfieldplayers.co.uk)

## SOUND CREW

Hi Everyone!

The Sound Dept at SPT are looking for volunteers to ultimately run the sound for shows when others are not available. If you are interested please contact me or any member of the committee.

We are trying to make a “crew” which will take the pressure off of individuals which tends to happen at the moment.

**Full training will be given!**

Look forward to your replies!

Cheers

**Steve Townsend**

## Behind the Scenes - Working Backstage

One picture is worth a thousand words but these pictures show the tremendous story of our hard-working and creative team who can turn their hands to so many different things. They put in an incredible amount of work and time to create our sets and keep the theatre working.

They do need our help though and would love to see more people come along - a warm welcome for all, no matter if it is just for an hour. Come along and join them on Tuesday evenings or Sunday mornings.



**An enormous great big thank you from all of us at SPT to everyone working Backstage!**

## Charity of the Year



Gordon Bird presenting a cheque for £587.96 to Reading Street Pastors contributed from our 2018-2019 season.

Our charity for 2019 -2020 is Talking Books from the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB). The Talking Books service is free, providing access to over 25,000 fiction and non-fiction books to partially sighted and blind adults and children.

## Read Throughs and Auditions for Next Year... dates for diaries.



**24th, 25th, 30th April and 1st, 2nd May**

There are excellent lead roles in Our House (more info to follow in the next BT) but one of the advantages of Our House is that members of the ensemble have so many opportunities to utilise and develop their performance skills and there is plenty of scope for everyone to show what they can do. This means it's a great chance for less experienced members to build their confidence. It's also the ideal show for those with busy lives who don't feel they have time to take on a larger role to still get a chance to be involved.

So this month we thought we'd share with you some of the wide range of cameo roles available (a mixture of acting, singing and non-speaking roles). In theory these can all be played by a small number of people but equally it would work well with a large ensemble. Here goes:

Priest, Nun, Jo's Aunt, Jo's Grandma, Jo's 'shabby' Uncle, Teacher, Bar tender, Car wash owner, Jo's potential employers, Magistrate, Solicitor, Youth custody officer, Judge, Careers officer, Security guards, Receptionist, Secretary, Car salesman, School leavers, Market traders, Prisoners, Neighbours

<b>13th January 8pm</b>	<b>Read through</b>
<b>15th January 8pm</b>	<b>Read through</b>
<b>20th January 8pm</b>	<b>Audition prep</b>
<b>22nd January 8pm</b>	<b>Auditions</b>
<b>26th January 2pm</b>	<b>Auditions</b>

## **Wednesday Afternoons at the Theatre**

Carol and Graham and a happy crew meet for Wednesday afternoon sessions at the Theatre. Please come along and join them if you have some time available. There's tea and cake and good conversation. All are welcome and there's always lots to do! Starting around 1:30 till 4:30, we need your help - if only for an hour. No tools or skill needed just enthusiasm!

Graham (01189545771) [graham@shinfieldplayers.org.uk](mailto:graham@shinfieldplayers.org.uk)

## **Announcing Senior Youth Group play for next year...**

### **Midwich Cuckoos**

**By John Wyndham**

**10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020 @ 7.30pm**

## **DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER BT is Wednesday 27th NOVEMBER 2019.**

Please email items to:

[editor@boardtreader.org.uk](mailto:editor@boardtreader.org.uk); [editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:editor@shinfieldplayers.co.uk);  
[boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk](mailto:boardtreader@shinfieldplayers.co.uk); [shinfieldboardtreader@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shinfieldboardtreader@hotmail.co.uk)

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