

The Prompter

The newsletter of Workington
Playgoers and the Theatre Royal



Christmas is on it's way and if you really aren't in the mood for Widow Twankey or the deep and moving character development of Prince Charming, then the Theatre Royal has got plenty of alternative theatrical options for you. We have two productions in December and the fun doesn't stop there! You will find something for everyone in 2018 with a production just about every month!

Our next Playgoers production!

Now a modern classic,
Michelle Magorian's
wonderfully uplifting tale is
brought gloriously to life in
this magical stage adaptation
by David Wood.

GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM

Set during the dangerous build up to the second world war, Goodnight Mr Tom follows young William Beech who is evacuated to the idyllic English countryside and forges a remarkable and heart warming friendship with the elderly recluse Tom Oakley. All is perfect until William is suddenly summoned by his mother back to London.

This show has provided an ideal opportunity for adult actors from the club to collaborate with young members of the Second Star Youth Theatre, taking the audience on a memorable emotional journey.



Pictures: The cast of Goodnight Mister Tom in rehearsal. Photographs by: Chris Lewis. www.chrislewisphoto.co.uk



Visit our website for a full list of productions, events, groups and fun things to do!

www.theatre-royal-workington.co.uk

Workington Playgoers & Therapeutic Productions presents

Theatre Royal,
Workington
Sunday 10th
December 7pm



deFinitive tHerApY

a movie about madness



After Mister Tom has said his farewells, our next event will be a screening of *Definitive Therapy*, a dark, thriller of a movie filmed in West Cumbria and starring a number of Playgoers members. The movie has been written and directed by Ben Brincombe (I know I'm writing about myself in the third person, Ed). With contributions from many industry professionals, this one-off screening should be an antidote to all that festive cheer! The film stars Marc Baillie, Rosie Matin, Joe Winter and Morgan Sweeney. The editor makes an appearance too.

Tickets are £5 and the movie is on for one night only so don't delay!



Allerdale Borough Council has licensed this film to be shown to those 15 years old and over.

Box Office:

www.theatre-royal-workington.co.uk

BIG XMAS
Cracker 2017

SALLY BARKER
FINALIST
 The Voice

ARRON BELL AS
ELVIS

BILLY WALKER

THEATRE ROYAL
 WORKINGTON
 DEC 29TH 7PM
 DEC 30TH 2.30PM & 7PM

TICKETS £10
 WWW.THEATRE-ROYAL-WORKINGTON.CO.UK
 01900 603161
 PICCOLLAGE

At the time of the Prompter going to press, Billy Walker has offered Playgoers 2 seats for the price of 1. This is a great opportunity to see a musical variety show, a must do in the run up to Crimble-time!

Note: Views expressed in the Prompter are not necessarily those of the committee, or of anyone else for that matter. Possibly not even those of the fella that writes it. Weird, eh?

2018 Programme of plays (Updated with new productions Dec 17)



FEBRUARY:

Thursday 22nd - Saturday 24th

Under Milk Wood by Dylan Thomas
A Playgoers Production

MARCH:

Tuesday 20th - Saturday 24th

The Lady Killers by Graham Linehan
A Playgoers Production

APRIL:

Friday 20nd - Sunday 22nd

Alice In Wonderland
adapted by Millie Hardy-Sims
A Theatre Royal Second Star Youth Theatre Production

MAY:

Tuesday 22nd - Saturday 26th

Snake in the Grass
by Alan Ayckbourn &
Bosom Pals
By Carol Donockley
A Playgoers Production

JUNE:

Friday 1st - Saturday 2nd

The Railway Children
A Theatre Royal Second Star Youth Theatre Production

JULY:

Tuesday 17th - Saturday 21st

The Tempest by William Shakespeare
A Theatre Royal Shakespeare Players Production

AUGUST:

Wednesday 8th - Friday 10th

Cat in a box
by Morgan Sweeney
A Playgoers Production

AUGUST:

Saturday 18th - Sunday 19th

SUMMER PROJECT: OLIVER TWIST
adapted by Millie Hardy-Sims
A Theatre Royal Second Star Youth Theatre Production

SEPTEMBER:

Wednesday 26th - Saturday 29th

Shirley Valentine
by Willy Russell
A Playgoers Production

OCTOBER:

Tuesday 16th - Saturday 20th

Murder in the Studio
by Agatha Christie
(A collection of three spine-tingling radio plays)
A Playgoers Production

NOVEMBER:

Friday 9th—Sunday 11th

A Christmas Carol
adapted by Millie Hardy-Sims
A Theatre Royal Second Star Youth Theatre Production

DECEMBER:

Tuesday 4th - Saturday 8th

Brassed Off!
By Paul Allan adapted from the screenplay by Mark Herman
A Playgoers Production

Also, don't forget every other Sunday there is a chance to watch a movie in the theatre with the Dance Lights Film Club. See the website for details.

Need to send us a cheque?

Do you need to pay your subs? Fancy coming to the annual dinner? (see page 4) Or generally just if you want to send a donation to support the theatre, here's how:

Please make cheques payable to:
Workington Playgoers

And send to:
Theatre Royal
Washington Street
Workington
CA14 3AW
Tel: 01900 603161 (Answer-phone)

Email:
membership@theatre-royal-workington.co.uk

Prompter Email:
news@theatre-royal-workington.co.uk

Don't forget to tell us what you are paying for in any correspondence!

Remembering Peter Inglis

Peter Inglis will be remembered for many reasons in the community of West Cumbria but for Playgoers' at the Theatre Royal we will be reminded of the wonderful legacy he left behind every time we enter its portals.



The half-a-million pounds in grants which he helped to secure saved the building from extinction and it is very important for all of us to remember that it was his dogged determination and his love for the theatre that urged him on and thankfully, his enthusiasm carried many of us along with him.

Peter was a man driven by an underlying strength in all that he wanted to do and wanted to achieve. He did not tolerate fools gladly and was certainly not afraid of confrontation if the situation called for it and I think that is what many of us liked about him.

One of Peter's favourite plays was UNDER MILK WOOD so it is fitting that we have chosen the play with which to open the 2018 season in February.

We will miss you Peter.
Pat Brinicombe

Whispers from the wings: Other news for December



As you may know, the Theatre Royal is also home to Sound wave—a musical organisation whose goal is to create fresh and meaningful opportunities for people (especially young people in challenging circumstances) to use music and singing to learn, live better, connect with each other and inspire change in their own communities. Sound wave have a few events coming up in December - On the 17th they have a concert and on the 20th they continue their community choir work. For more information go to soundwave.org.uk.





By Paul Adams

When Millie Hardy-Sims announced that she would be going to university in September 2017 we were faced with the problem of how to maintain the Second Star Youth Theatre. Millie founded the group and it had been steadily building its reputation and developing its skills. Following the theatre refurbishment, a central pillar of our plans for the future a strong and vibrant youth theatre with opportunities for young people to progress.

With these goals in mind I was asked to undertake the role of Youth Theatre Facilitator. "Why me? I thought.; did no-one else want to do it; was no-one else daft enough to take on a bunch of teenagers (I was one once and I know what they're like); or was it my 18 years as a Drama teacher theatre training that convinced the powers that be that I could fulfill the role? It was never explained, but I made a tentative start early in the year.

The first issue to resolve was the continuity of SSYT. Following discussions with Millie we came up with a plan. Millie identified a group of the SSYT members aged between 14 and 18 who she felt could undertake leadership roles. We approached the group who readily volunteered to become a new Youth Council, taking on roles such as admin, wardrobe, props, technical etc. Support was offered from their adult counterparts. Three productions were identified for the twelve months from September 17 and a handover was completed.

So far so good. With Kira Pearson on board to oversee the Saturday morning sessions as the Youth Leader and a strong Youth Council who make their own decisions, SSYT continues to grow. Currently the group is working towards a Christmas Showcase (16th Dec) with a full play production at Easter.



Although I have been a bit more 'hands on' in these early stages my intention is keep in the



background. As far as integration is concerned Morgan Sweeney, Jenni Rushton and Gwynneth Savage have used SSYT members in their productions. Some of the older ones are looking at doing a play of their own. I am looking at a development plan and a programme of workshops. We have got a off to a good start and I'm optimistic about the future. In terms of equality, though, we could do with some more boys!