



GARRICK NEWSLETTER NO.3

2017/18 SEASON

Hello everybody. Welcome to the third Garrick newsletter, full of news and information.
If you anything of interest, for future Newsletters, please contact us; newsletter@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk

NEXT SEASON

2018/19 Season Announced

We are delighted to be able to
announce next season's 12 Productions
on our Main Stage...

2018

Mon 10th - Sat 15th September
VERDICT
by Agatha Christie

Mon 24th - Sat 29th September
Around the World in 80 Days
by Laura Eason

Mon 15th - Sat 20th October
A View From the Bridge
by Arthur Miller

Mon 5th - Sat 10th November
Blackadder Goes Forth
by Richard Curtis & Ben Elton

Mon 26th November - Sat 1st December
Absurd Person Singular
by Alan Ayckbourn.

Sat 15th December 2018 - Sun 6th January 2019
Cinderella
by Alan Clements

2019

Mon 21st - Sat 26th January
A Murder has Been Arranged
By Emlyn Williams

Mon 18th - Sat 23rd February
People
By Alan Bennett

Mon 11th - Sat 16th March
TBC

Mon 8th - Sat 13th April
Business Affairs
by John Chapman & Jeremy Lloyd

Mon 29th April - Sat 4th May
Things I Know to Be True
by Andrew Bovell

Mon 20th - Sat 25th May
CATS
by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Re-join as a Member for reduced prices - available from 1st July
Next Season's tickets go on sale, on-line, from Saturday August 11th
and Monday 13th August from our Box Office.



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

Some rough figures. I make no apology that the figures here are rough, this is just to give an idea...

Each Garrick season there are 12 main stage productions amounting to over 100 performances - as well as productions in the Lauriston Studio and the many occasions that the theatre is let out to visiting productions every season.

Each main stage performance takes a minimum of 12 volunteers to put on (front of house, back stage, lighting, sound, etc.).

This means that each season we require, just to put the main stage performances on, around 1,200 volunteer shifts!

Hopefully you can see what an enormous amount of help we need to keep our theatre running in the smooth and professional way it does.

At present the vast majority of volunteering at our theatre is carried out by a very small number of people. Please, if you are not already volunteering, could you help? If every member carried out 1 or 2 volunteering 'shifts' each season it would really make a difference to the smooth running of the Garrick.

**Please volunteer, it's great fun,
you may learn a new skill and make new friends.**

If you are interested in volunteering please email me John, at
newsletter@altrinchampgarrick.co.uk

(please put 'VOLUNTEER' in subject of e-mail) letting me know which area(s) you are interested in;
front of house, sound, lighting, stage management, props or wardrobe.

There is more news on helping with FOH (Front of House) and props later in this newsletter.

GARRICK TOUR

Unlocking the world of backstage

On the evening of 19th February we welcomed 17 members for the first of three backstage tours, and a rather jolly evening it was too. The theatre was in full swing with rehearsals for Jerusalem, and the set of Up and Coming being erected on stage. The members were led round the workshop looking at all the flats and model boxes from various productions. This provoked many memories. We also went into the wardrobe and up into the Aladdin's cave of the wardrobe store. I hope we didn't leave anyone up there, still trying on hats. A trip into the cramped orchestra pit was followed by some time on stage, understanding the very distinct qualities of this space.



The members were happy to sit in the auditorium watching all the activity, seeing the lighting being focussed and the sound tinkered with. We finished the evening with a mini rehearsal, with Fiona Primrose, of the balcony scene from Coward's Private lives, looking at how text can be read at face value but also how the meaning can be the exact opposite. Fiona graciously answered the members' many questions about her time at the Garrick.

Many glorious anecdotes tumbled forth.

I think everyone left fired up and wondering how they could contribute to the working of the Garrick.

At present we don't have any more tours this season, but we will let you know of any further events like this next season.

WHAT ARE GAPA and GYC?

The Garrick Academy of Performing Arts, or the GAPA as it is known was formed in 2003 and now has over 100 pupils between the ages of 5 and 18, who come to classes at the theatre on Saturdays throughout termtime. During the year they perform in several shows, either in the main theatre or the Lauriston studio.



The most recent production, which played to packed houses in the main theatre, was *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*.

Following the production the staff of GAPA took twelve students to the Lady of the Vale Retirement home, in Bowdon, and sang a thirty-minute concert version of *Joseph* to a small gathering of elderly ladies. It was a great experience for the girls involved and a real joy for the ladies at the home. It is something we hope to repeat at Christmas time.



We also see ourselves as a feeder to the main theatre and many of our students have given superb performances in a number of this season's main stage productions to great success. We look forward to seeing you at the next GAPA production, when you can watch our next generation of performing talent.

GYC

While GAPA were performing Joseph on the main stage, GYC had its first outing, also to full houses, in the Lauriston studio with their production of the Sherlock Holmes tale *The Sign of Four*.



Peter Birch (Principal of GAPA) writes

The Garrick Young Company is an idea I have been peddling for ten years and it has finally come to fruition. The aim has always been to encourage 18 to 25 year olds from the region to come down to our fantastic theatre and shape the Garrick's theatrical future. We are trying to encourage ex-GAPA students, existing young members and new members to join us to create something a little less staid that will attract young people like them into our theatre - as audience and participants. Currently there is a gap between GAPA and the main acting and technical membership and I want GYC to be instrumental in bridging that gap and adding to the talent pool we already have, broadening it, and giving us all the opportunity to produce a wider range of high quality theatre that will draw in the public. The aim is that we are a feeder to the theatre, not a separate section that stands alone - which is ideally what I would like for GAPA too. We want to stage the shows we currently can't, because of our demographic, and encourage new talent into all areas of the theatre. I want do something for the future of the theatre... it's that simple.

AWARDS

Success at NODA

The Garrick were very successful in the most recent round of NODA (the National Operatic and Dramatic Association) North West District 1 awards. They were presented at the annual Gala Dinner which was held at the Principal Hotel, Manchester on Saturday 27th January 2018.

We are proud to have such a long list of nominees and winners to show you,
(winners are indicated in RED).

Best Male Youth Performance In An Adult Production

Theo Hill – ‘Colin Craven’ – The Secret Garden

Tom Langford – ‘Shane’ – Brassed Off

Best Female Youth Performance In An Adult Production

Alice Cross – ‘Mary Lennox’ – The Secret Garden

Caitlin Reeves – ‘Annie’ – Annie

ADULT CATEGORIES:

Best Male Comedy Performance

Bill Platt – ‘Bernard’ – Season’s Greetings

Best Female Comedy Performance

Laura Aremia – ‘Miss Hannigan’ – Annie

Best Supporting Male in a Drama

Geoff Holman – ‘Cardinal Wolsey’ – Wolf Hall

Chris Wagstaff – ‘Andrea’ – Ladies In Lavender

Gary Collins – ‘Harvey’ – Season’s Greetings

Martin Oldfield – ‘Danny’ – Brassed Off

Matthew Banwell – ‘Thomas Howard’ – Wolf Hall

Best Supporting Female in a Drama

Meg Royle – ‘Katherine Willis’ – Nightmare

Fiona Primrose – ‘Olga’ – Ladies In Lavender

Lara Hancox – ‘Anne Boleyn’ – Wolf Hall

Lise Banks – ‘Jane Tate’ – It Runs In The Family

Tracy Burns – ‘Phyllis’ – Season’s Greetings

Best Supporting Female in a Musical

Lara Hancox – ‘Martha’ – The Secret Garden

Best Staging

Ladies In Lavender

The Secret Garden

Best Panto

Dick Whittington

Best Actor in a Drama

Mike Shaw – ‘Dr. Hubert Bonney’ – It Runs In The Family

Mark Butt – ‘Phil’ – Brassed Off

Best Actress in a Drama

Pat Williamson – ‘Marion Bishop’ – Nightmare

Mags Johnston – ‘Janet’ – Ladies In Lavender

Parissa Zamenpour – ‘Bella Minningham’ – Gaslight

Best Leading Male in a Musical

Joshua Lloyd – ‘Archibald Craven’ – The Secret Garden

Best Musical Director

Mark Goggins – The Secret Garden

Best Director of a Drama

Barry Purvis – Ladies In Lavender

Carole Carr – Nightmare

Ros Greenwood – Gaslight

Best Director of a Musical

Joseph Meighan – The Secret Garden

Best Drama

Gaslight

Nightmare

Best Musical

The Secret Garden

There were two new awards, both of which involved the Garrick.

“The Terry Chandler Award for Best All Round Performer”

is a unique award.

It is the only performance category that is open to male, female, youth and adult performers.

The nominees and eventual winner for the category will have demonstrated multiple skills throughout performance disciplines.

The NODA report said

'Terry Chandler held a special place in many people hearts within District 1 and is sadly missed.'

The first recipient of the award was Kiera Battersby for her role as Cassie in A chorus Line for UMMYS.

She was presented with her award by Terry's Wife & Daughter Anne Chandler and Laura Aremia.



Kiera Battersby with Anne & Laura

The other new award was “The Reps Special Award”.

This award is flexible and its purpose is to go to someone or something that might not be recognised within the other categories or it can be awarded to anyone or anything that the rep feels is deserving of the highest accolade.

The nominees included:

For his exquisite set - Barry Purvis - Ladies In Lavender
For her exceptional performance as Mary Lennox, Alice Cross – The Secret Garden
The incredible wardrobe department for their work on Wolf Hall

And the award went to -

Alice Cross – ‘Mary Lennox’ – The Secret Garden

We were delighted to have one of our young actors honoured this way.

...STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...

Our winners went forward to the NODA regional awards NW
and we had two terrific successes

**BEST FEMALE YOUTH PERFORMANCE
IN AN ADULT PRODUCTION:**

**Alice Cross as Mary Lennox
The Secret Garden**

BEST LEADING FEMALE IN A DRAMA:

**Pat Williamson as Marion Bishop
Nightmare**

We are delighted to be able to announce next season's NEW and EXCITING productions in our

LAURISTON STUDIO

We hope to make the new season an extra special one, with it being the 100th anniversary of women first getting the vote, so we have specifically chosen plays with strong roles for women.

Wed 29th August – Tue 4th September
Playhouse Creatures by April De Angelis

Wed 24th – Tues 30th October
The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds by Paul Zindel

Wed 5th – Tues 11th December
The Female of the Species by Joanna Murray-Smith

Wed 27th February – Tues 5th March 2019
The Secret Lives of Henry and Alice by David Tristram

WANT TO BE A BETTER ACTOR?

Here is news of an exciting FREE ACTING WORKSHOP
– delivered by Scott Ransome – we hope you saw him in his recent towering performance as Rooster in Jerusalem.

The aim of this workshop is to give you insight into how you can make more creative and practical choices in a rehearsal room and on stage. Scott loves the creative process and how it can stimulate ideas and make the time on stage as enjoyable and rewarding a challenge as it can possibly be. Whether you act as a hobby, or professionally, this workshop will be of interest if you're committed to refreshing your skills and knowledge. You can use the techniques to prepare and deliver at audition, in rehearsal and in performance. Scott trained and worked with a lot of interesting people over the years, and he would love to share some of those practical ideas with you for a few hours.

Areas covered will include:
Warming Up Your Voice and Body
Creating a Character from the Outside In
Developing a Character from the Inside Out
Working with Text

Scott trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where his tutors included Patsy Rodenburg, Ken Rea, Trish Arnold, Sue Lefton, Jackie Snow, Chattie Salaman and Henry Goodman. Scott's professional work includes the RSC, The National Theatre Studio and the Bristol Old Vic and he has studied in workshops with Declan Donnellan, Sir Peter Hall and Peter Brook.

This exciting 3 hour workshop will take place on 19th June from 7.00pm till 10.00pm at The Altrincham Garrick.

Places are on a strictly first come first serve basis and are limited to 10. Please email Scott to book your place...

newsletter@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk
(please put 'ACTING WORKSHOP' in subject of e-mail)

'FOH' ... HOW COULD YOU HELP ?

Come and join our amazing team of Garrick Front of House and Bar Staff volunteers to help make a real contribution to the shows. Volunteers are needed for all shows and you can book in to help when it is convenient for you.



Most volunteers work one or more performances of a show run and love it! They are a friendly bunch, from all walks of life, and it is a great way of making new friends, learning new skills and just doing something different; as well as a great way of seeing some great shows.

Ushers – to check tickets, open/close auditorium doors, look after and help the public whilst in the Auditorium and the theatre.

Kiosk shop sellers – to run the foyer shop before the show and at the interval

Ice cream seller – to sell ice creams from a tray at the interval in the auditorium

Coffee bar – to make the coffee in the bar and to sell it before the show and during the interval

Bar staff – to assist in selling drinks and clearing up glasses

Full training will be provided for each role and you can then help with any or all of the roles on a regular basis, once trained, just by joining the rota.

You will very quickly become one of the Garrick team that people love to see and chat to and you will make many new friends.

For more details and to arrange to come and try it for yourself, please email Neill Walker, the Front of House Manager, n.walker@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk

or contact the Box Office on 0161-928 1677 and leave your details so we can get in touch.



PROPS NEED HELP TOO !

Are you looking for a new hobby? Do you have free time?

Are you methodical and organised?

Do you have creative skills?

If so, the Properties and Furniture Department need you.

We are looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Head of Props as soon as possible and if you think you have what it takes, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Tasks include:

- Managing props and furniture for all Garrick shows
- Attending production meetings and liaising with directors/designers/ASMs
- Purchasing or making props as required
- Managing budget

We are also looking for enthusiastic people to join the props team

Props for our productions span the plain and ordinary to the strange and bizarre with a whole range of interesting items to source/make over the season.

If you have spare time and would like to help with prop making, set dressing, furniture renovating, maintaining props on an ad hoc voluntary basis we would love to hear from you.

Please contact: Nev Roby, Theatre Manager 0161 928 1677 / n.robby@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk

We hope you've got the message – the more you put in to the Garrick, the more you will find you get out of it. We look forward to you being part of the team.

If there is anything you would like included in future newsletters, please contact
Celia Bonner or John Keen at

newsletter@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk

DATES TO REMEMBER...

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and Monday 13th August from our Box Office.**