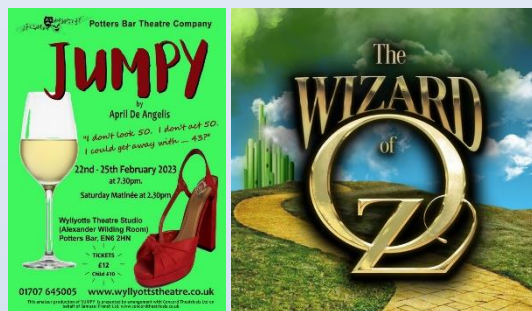


Potters Bar
Theatre Company

Spotlight

November 2022 • Issue 139



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2023

Our Chairman | Chairman's Chat



Dear PBTC,

Time to reflect on the shows of the year and also to look forward...

Calendar Girls was indeed a landmark show for us. With the virus hitting rehearsals and preventing normal run-throughs in the penultimate week before the show, Zoom was yet again the only way to continue. Despite this, everything came together and a fantastic show hit the stage. Congratulations to David, Jo, Keith, Adam and Trevor for a superb production. Last I heard from David the funding raising for Blood Cancer UK had reached around £11.5K and he was being asked to advise other Companies as to how to maximise their fund raising! An incredible achievement. Thank you all so much.

In June we saw *Ladies in Lavender* come to stage at the North Mymms Memorial Hall, Welham Green, a new venue for us. Congratulations to Robbie, Adam and Trevor for a lovely show. The stage and floor area was converted into four beautiful acting areas, the acting and direction superb. Despite the summer heat the box office was good, with many locals building the audience numbers, and the show made a small profit. A heartwarming production! Thank you.

As you read, the dust is settling on the last remnants of *Kipps*, our block-buster all singing all dancing musical at Wylyotts. Amanda, Graham, Andrea and Macey gave us inspired choreography and great fun at rehearsals, skillfully handling the large cast of 38, a difficult task considering everyone was keen to have holiday breaks following the pandemic lock-downs ;-). Also a special mention to Adam and Trevor for a great set and to Trevor yet again for the build, SM work, transportation etc., the list goes on and on. Thank you. I cannot leave this page without thanking the new members that brightened up our rehearsals and performance and also to Danny for what was truly a 'tour-de-force' performance! (Hopefully Spotlight is a welcome rest!)

As a general point, the slow re-start to 'theatre going' has hit box office takings but hopefully over time this will recover. We do all we can to try to keep ticket prices down but this is becoming more and more challenging in this economic climate. Do rally-round and try to spin up groups to gain discounts for future shows. Many thanks!

Our next play, *Jumpy* is now fully cast (see within) and up-and-running, we wish Nick and Trevor all the very best with rehearsals and staging for the show. It is really nice to see us preparing for a show in the studio with this modern, funny, gritty, play... and to the new members – enjoy!

Haydn, Keith and Ella soon begin that long journey down the Yellow Brick Road to the *Wizard of Oz* ('corny but necessary!) we wish them all the best of luck with the adult auditions before Christmas and 'the Munchkins' after. For those cast, well done, for those not so lucky please do come forward and offer your skills in other capacities, whether it be a prompt/reader in for rehearsals, or sourcing props or co-ordination, costumes, licensing for children, set-building, painting, chaperoning, even just helping with transport, the list is endless – there is always a great camaraderie in the show team and you are sure to have fun!

A quick note; John and Caroline Absolon are now happily in their new home in Caister, Norfolk and he adds a few words in this issue. They say there is always a cup of tea waiting for anyone travelling or holidaying in Norfolk.

It remains for me to remind you of the Christmas 'drinkies' session on the 9th December at The Builders pub in Potters Bar and also with a view to those Christmas presents that you will be buying, please do consider raising funds via *Easyfundraising* (see email details) as it is a really easy way to be help boost the coffers without costing you anything. We currently have approx. 20 supporters, I'm sure that we could easily triple that!

With that, if we don't meet, I wish you a Merry Xmas!

Gary,
Chair PBTC



News | West End

‘An evening with some *Fools*, oh..... and *Horses*’

A quick plug to say that a good few PBTC members have recently been to see ‘*Only Fools and Horses*’ up in London at the Theatre Royal Haymarket where previous PBTcer’s now perform professionally!

Craig Berry has taken the role of Boycie and Danny Lane multiple characters, but notably the Dating Agent and Sid. They are both superb. Gary had to drag Jenny way from last minute costumes, shoes, and props work on a cold, wet Monday night to see this show but she was so glad to have a gone. It is a fantastically uplifting musical, cleverly making reference to many of the ‘everlasting’ comedy moments from the original series. The last I checked the show was booking until April, so do take some time to get down there and support Craig and Danny. Hopefully the run will extend.



News | Coming soon

Potters Bar Theatre Company presents “*The Wizard of Oz*”, coming to The Wylllyotts Theatre from 11th – 15th April 2023.

There is still time to join the audition process!

A message from our Director, Haydn Boxall

When I was a child, *The Wizard of Oz* was one of the first Musicals I ever saw. I have been in the show twice playing the scarecrow on both occasions and have also choreographed it once, so I know it well. My vision is plain and simple and traditional with a twist. There are some shows that when you go to watch it you expect to see however, I would like to enhance the characters. I am open to having any gender play the Scarecrow, Tinman, and the Lion, I also could be persuaded to have the wicked witch of the west as a man I really want the witch to be evil (because that is what a witch is) Glinda I am open to being old or young. I think one of the great things about the show are the ensemble numbers - I want us to think Disney, over the top in this incredible make-believe land! Monkeys I would like, if possible, on roller skates or heelys. Lastly looking forward to welcoming the children's

ensemble to add excitement and joyfulness, I will also be bringing some humor from the mayor of the munchkin city by having them played by an adult (think Lord Farquaad in *Shrek*) Obviously I cannot tell you everything otherwise this overview would go on forever. I am extremely excited to be working with Ella and Keith who have both been on the production team when I was in the cast so know their talents and skills and in my eyes are two of the best in the business on the am-dram scene. Make sure you come along to the first get together to learn more about *The Wizard of Oz*. I can guarantee you will not want to miss being in this one and will want to join me and follow the yellow brick road.

Upcoming dates for your diaries:

Adult Auditions - Friday 2nd December & Tuesday 6th December

Children’s Audition Workshop – 15th January

Email wizard@pottersbartheatrecompany.com for further information and audition pieces





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News | Coming soon (cont.)

Potters Bar Theatre Company presents “Jumpy” by April De Angelis at the Wylllyotts Studio from Weds 22nd Feb to Saturday 25th Feb 2023.

Best described as a frank and funny family drama, dealing with parental anxieties and life after fifty, the play offers a funny but moving take on modern life. It centres around the character of Hilary, who once protested at Greenham Common but is now coming to terms with being middle-aged. These days, her protests tend to focus on persuading her teenage daughter to talk to her with a civil tongue in her head and on putting the fizz back into her rather stale marriage to her husband, Mark. Described as “Funny, deliciously rude and piercingly moving” by the Daily Telegraph, “Jumpy” was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre in 2011, where it was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best New Play.

This is a Studio theatre production and will be performed in the Alexander Wilding Room at the Wylllyotts, which will be converted into an intimate studio theatre for this production. Tickets will be available from the Wylllyotts Theatre Box Office.

We held on auditions on 30th September and are delighted to announce that the following parts have now been cast:

Hilary – Catherine Little
Mark – Bryan Hewitt
Tilly – Chloe Payne
Bea – Christine Le Couillard
Roland – Nick Reed
Frances – Joanne Hammer
Lyndsey – Lana Karabut
Josh – Chris Palmer
Cam – Tate Pollington

Backstage support for “Jumpy”

In addition, we would also welcome some help backstage and with the technical aspects of the production. We very much appreciate the support that has already been offered but are also hoping that other members will come forward to help with the following areas: Lighting, Sound, Props, Wardrobe, Prompt, Assistant Stage Management

Lighting and Sound we are hoping to do “in House” and this would be an exciting opportunity for any member of the Company wishing to develop their skills in these areas.

Please contact Nick Vause (n_vause@hotmail.com) if you are interested in these or any of the other backstage roles.



News | Moving on

A lovely message from our members, John and Caroline Absolon

Hi everyone,

The Absolon's have moved to Norfolk!

Caroline and myself have retired to sunny Caister on Sea. We intended to personally give our goodbyes, but, exchange and completion was very rushed. We have appreciated the strong friendships, encouragement, support and fun given over the last 20 years by PBTC. I also enjoyed designing and building sets for shows.

I was first press ganged to be a pirate/police officer in Pirates of Penzance (a brilliant show) and I was hooked. Potters Bar also supported our daughters' in this interest which they both loved. Victoria has recently achieved a degree in drama.

PS. We have followed a relation to Great Yarmouth. We knew nothing about this gentleman, William Absolon Junior (pictured right)

All the best and good wishes,

John Absolon



Dates | Festive Gathering

To celebrate the upcoming festive period alongside a very successful year at Potters Bar Theatre Company, please come along to The Builders on Friday 9th December from 8:00pm to enjoy a festive get-together drink. If you are able to pop in, it will be great to see you!

Dates | Coming up in 2023

Liaison Meeting

Our next liaison meeting is now scheduled for 9th January at The Woodman Inn, in Brookmans Park. This is a great opportunity to meet, discuss plans, issues and ideas for the future.

Please note the date is subject to change.

'Allo 'Allo!

The hilarious 80's "Allo 'Allo!" is coming to The Wyllotts Theatre!

With direction by Gary Colledge, the stage show version of this classic will be performed from 18th to 23rd September 2023.

Information will be available in due course.

Company

We have secured the license to perform the classic Stephen Sondheim musical, 'Company'. With direction by Lorraine Bottomley, the show will be performed at The Wyllotts Theatre from 6th to 11th November 2023.

A show not to be missed! More information to follow at a later date.

PBTC | Committee

Gary Colledge - Chair
David Bottomley - Vice Chair/ Warehouse
Alison Nicholas - Secretary
Sarah Brealey - Musical Sub-committee Chair
Nick Vause - Drama Sub-committee Chair
Sue Ridge - Treasurer
Paul Large - Website
Michelle Williams - Publicity and Social Media

Gina Stone - Programme Advertising
Danny Hurley - Spotlight
Luke Ricketts - General Committee
Linda Crook - General Committee
Lorraine Bottomley - Auditions/ Production Coordinator



Potters Bar Theatre Company Subscriptions Form

Full Adult Membership (including Senior Citizens)		@ £30 each	£
Family Membership (2 adults/students under 18)		@ £60 only	£
Full Student Membership (aged 14-18 or in full time education)		@ £15 each	£
Patron Membership (minimum donation per household – no voting rights)		@ £10	£
Patron Membership (with voting rights)		@ £30 each	£
New Member Joining Fee – Adult / Adult Audition fee *		@ £10 each	£
New Member Joining Fee – Student / Student Audition fee *		@ £5 each	£

*A prospective member can pay £10 to audition and if successful will pay the full membership amount to join. If unsuccessful, or not wishing to join the £10 is forfeited. * A new member's joining fee will be added to the initial membership subscription and this fee will be levied again if membership has lapsed or when membership remains unpaid after 31st March in any given year.*

ACTING FEES

Acting Fees are charged to each cast member (depending on the size of part they take) and are due at the first rehearsal of every production.

The acting fees for each production will be announced at the launch evenings of the play or musical. There will be a discount for students.

I enclose CASH / CHEQUE the total value of £ _____ cheques payable to 'PBTC'
Please post to the Treasurer: Sue Ridge, 55, Strafford Gate, Potters Bar, Herts, EN6 1PW

OR

I wish to pay by BGC

(see box for payment details)

Barclays Bank: Account Name: Potters Bar Theatre Company
SORT CODE: 20-92-54 Account number: 60611662
Please put in reference field: SUBS-'yourname'

NAME(s) : _____

ADDRESS : _____

POST CODE : _____ EMAIL : _____

PHONE NUMBER : _____ MOBILE : _____

Please tick box if you do not wish to have you telephone number listed for circulation within the membership.

www.pottersbartheatrecompany.co.uk ****

mail@pottersbartheatrecompany.co.uk