



**December 2017**

### **VICE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

This is an opportunity for us to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year - of course, quite a few of us will be in the theatre for **the Christmas Entertainment** and with KRYPT for **the Snow Queen** and in rehearsal for **No Sex Please We're British** but just to cover all bases we'll send you festive best wishes here too!

The Christmas season always brings moments of reflection and I can't help but mention the loss of our friends Rob Broadhurst and Graham Howell, good men deeply missed by us all and never far from the thoughts and heart of the Society. We've also had some moments that have raised hair (and stress levels) but I've been proud of those who have stepped up and covered the work and thank them for their time and considerable efforts.

We've had a strong opening to our 80th season, with a fantastic (if I do say so myself) Blithe Spirit, the excellent studio production of Look Back in Anger and the success of a super production of The Lion in Winter. Casting for the second half of the season is mostly complete, with the workshop for Ladykillers due to take place in the new year. I hope to see you all there

- workshops are simply a fun evening for people to get a flavour of the play and show an interest if they're available, so do come along. All welcome.

I'm trying to keep this brief so please volunteer for Front of House and backstage jobs, we always need your help and we like to see you around the place! Come and support KRYPT and book your tickets for No Sex Please We're British and have a great Christmas and New Year.

And that's me done.

Love and thanks,

Tori.xx.



### **OFFICE NEWS**

We extend a warm welcome to **Natalie Bayliss** who joined us on 4<sup>th</sup> December as Office Assistant. Her hours of work will be Monday-Friday 9.30-1.30 and I'm sure you will all get to know her over the coming weeks.

### **PUBLICITY**

Always looking for ways to reach out –

1 -when you're saying your 'Goodnights' to audiences, could Front of House staff **give out brochures** and any flyers for the next show - particularly at the end of visiting companies' shows; we always need to be on the lookout for new audiences.

2. Facebook – love it or hate it, it's here to stay and can be a very useful tool for communication. **Tori Wakeman and Anne Booth** are the administrators for the **Rose Theatre Page**. If there is a post on our page about a current play please like

and share it on your own page (yes, even if you're not in it!) It's a great way to spread advertising and remind folk to buy tickets.

The **Nonentities Group** is a closed group to share news, requests and information between members. If you are not part of this group please ask to be invited.

3. The twice yearly **brochure** is a vital publication to aid our advertising. We arrange to have 7-8,000 of these printed for the start of the Autumn/Winter season and then again for Spring/Summer. 3,000 are collected by the Direct Publicity company and distributed to the stands you see in hotels, museums, libraries. Between 2-3,000 are mailed to customers who have bought tickets from us in the last two years – our regulars. This is where the all-important **stuffing day** comes in! Members are invited to offer their services stuffing the brochures and other leaflets into envelopes then sticking the address label on, ready for collection by post company, whistl. Plenty of chat and merriment over tea and cake is had! The next date is FRIDAY JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> starting about 10 and finishing with coffee and cake about 12. Many hands make light work so do try to come along.

The remainder of the brochures stay in the theatre to be available for customers or waiting for kind members to take a few and leave them in cafes, hairdressers, shops etc to entice potential visitors. Please help if you can. If every member took a dozen brochures.....and a couple of posters.....I could do a few other things ...like get that bloomin TV monitor in the foyer to work. But that's another story.

Merry Christmas to all my team of helpers. See you in the new year! Anne xx

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## MEMBERSHIP

Several new members have joined us recently and we hope to see them on stage, back stage or behind the bar soon!

**Courtney Anslow**  
**Pauline Carrier**  
**Tony Newbould**  
**Claire Tucker-Mawr**  
**Charlie Southerton**  
**Penny Walton**

Are you in our Facebook group?

## Rob Broadhurst Memorial Fund

It was lovely to see Rob's family at our ball in September and the first recipient of the Rob Broadhurst Memorial Fund was presented to **Alix Abram** who is studying Costume Design at Bristol Old Vic. Alix was a very young volunteer in the Costume department at the Rose and we like to think we helped her on her way to great things!



A further award was made to **Simon Hawkins** who is studying at Oxford School of Drama on the one year post-grad course. He said he would have really struggled to find his way through the course without it.

## YOUTH THEATRE NEWS

We are looking forward to our production of SNOW QUEEN – the last show of 2017. It's a near sell-out so a great way to finish. Thank you to all Nonentities members who have assisted in any way. We have also enlisted a great band of parent helpers who are now associate members of the Nonentiites.

Sadly, we say goodbye to our lovely junior group assistant **Faye Stanton** at the end of this term. Faye will be leaving after the Christmas Show to focus on her studies at university and her forthcoming wedding! Faye is marrying **Andy Bingham** (senior group assistant) so she will no doubt still be seen around the theatre. We wish Faye luck with her studies and much happiness to both her and Andy in their married life together.

We welcome **Becca Williams** as the new junior group assistant in the New Year. Becca is a primary school teacher and another member of The Non-Entities Society. Some of you may remember seeing her on stage this year as 'Lady Macbeth' in 'Macbeth' and she recently appeared at The Rose as 'Eleanor' in 'The Lion in Winter'.

(As Faye relinquished one role she took on another and is now Nonentities Box Office manager on the Committee, responsible for rounding up the volunteers and ensuring training for all new recruits.)



It was great to see **Thom Powell** (ex KRYPT member) take on a role in Lion in Winter as a Nonentities member. Well done!



## NEW VENTURES!

'A Slice of Monologues' was a great afternoon's entertainment back in October. Ten members presented a variety of pieces to a receptive audience in the Studio. Directed and encouraged by **Chris Clarke** marvellous performance were given by **Patrick Bentley, Hannah Tolley, Nick Haynes, Hilary Thompson, Amanda Clarke, Keith Rowlands, Pat Gale, Lynn Ravenhill, Andrew Davie and Stuart Woodroffe. Amy Baker** kindly posted a short rehearsal video on the Nonentities fb page. **Callum Morris** whizzed round with props and **Joe Harper** set up lighting and sound.

**Sue Downing** has penned a short play to be performed at the Lighthorne Festival in June 2018. Entitled 'Badge of Honour', it is set in Victorian London. We meet Maud, recently engaged to Vic, but oppressed by a society that judges her class and her sex. She longs for a life on stage as a singer, but how far is she willing to go to fulfil her dream? Featuring **Faye Stanton, Andy Bingham and Patrick Bentley** ably assisted by **Joe Harper** for technical support and **Stephen Downing** as the driver and Gofer (he knows his place).

## YOUR COMMITTEE

A reminder that minutes from the committee meeting can be obtained by members from the **Secretary Mo Higgins**.

Details of the members representatives and officers of the committee can be found on the **Members** section on the website. Here you can also find past newsletters, cast lists and the rules of our society. The **Information** section provides details of how to get involved together with the procedure for the choosing and casting of plays.

One of our trustees is usually present at each committee meeting. Our present trustees are: **John Gaston, Pam Meredith, David Wakeman and Colin Young**.

Our next Committee meeting will be

Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup>.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Office closes at 3pm on 19<sup>th</sup> December and re-opens on Jan 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Stuffing day will be Friday January 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 am-12 noon approx**

**No Sex from 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018 (not an order of course)**

## STOP PRESS!!

**OPENING PLAY OF NEW SEASON ANNOUNCED AS 'HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES' by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle adapted for stage by Steve Canny and John Nicholson.**

**Three actors take on all roles. It looks like one of those mad plays that exhaust our actors before the season's got going!! FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW!!**

**(ed. Too many exclamation marks!)**

**Such fun!**

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL NONENTITIES.**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2018 AND THE SECOND HALF OF OUR SEASON, CONTINUING THE CELEBRATION OF 80 YEARS OF GLORIOUS THEATRE!**