

BOURNEMOUTH

LITTLE

THEATRE

NEWSLETTER

2023-2024 Season

January 2024

Issue 167

Member: Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain
www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

11 Jameson Road, Bournemouth BH9 2QD

Bournemouth Little Theatre

The Memory of Water

by Shelagh Stephenson

13-17 February 2024 7:45pm

Directed by Anne Charbel

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Tickets: BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk

11 Jameson Road, Winton, BH9 2QD

This amateur production of "The Memory of Water" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Tickets for all of our productions can be bought online at bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

COMMITTEE CORNER

Dear Members and Patrons,

We enjoyed seeing you all at our very successful Christmas production of *The Ghost Train*—despite adding a matinee, the show was completely sold out. A good time was had—including delighted children laughing at their Mum jumping with shock at the unexpected effects included in the play!

Onward to January—and what a month!

Despite the extreme weather, the preparations for *The Memory of Water* have continued apace. See more details about the play, the director and cast on pages 3 and 4 (have you got your tickets yet?....only a couple of weeks to go!!!)

The Murder Room, our April production is fully cast and rehearsals will start soon.

Hope to see you at BLT in February!

BLTC Committee

ADVANCE TICKET BOOKINGS

Our mailing address for all ticket bookings is:

BLT Box Office, 54 Wentworth Avenue, Bournemouth, BH5 2EG

Tickets £14.00 (with concessions) Members £8.00

- ◆ **BOOK ONLINE** at www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk (*booking fees apply*)
- ◆ **WRITE** enclosing cheque (payable to BLTC) and SAE to BLTC Box Office (*address above*)

Tickets will be issued on receipt of a completed booking form, cheque and SAE. Where an SAE is not enclosed, tickets will be retained to be collected at the theatre on the night of the performance.

It is really easy to book online and, of course, so convenient. Whenever you decide you want to book tickets for a show—whatever the day and whatever the time—you can go ahead.

But—and there's always a but, isn't there? - it is also, sadly, easy to make mistakes.

By making your booking too quickly, it is easy to book on the wrong day—or even to book for the wrong show! So.....a word to the wise...

CHECK, CHECK AND CHECK AGAIN at every stage of your booking that it exactly fits your requirements, as our booking agent does not make changes and refunds are only given if booking protection is taken out with TicketSource, and the reason for cancellation is covered by their insurance.

Of course, if you are not entirely happy with the on-line process you can always use the postal option detailed above in the second bullet point.

A FINAL PLEA: If you have booked tickets and know that you, or one of your party, will not be able to attend, please let the Box Office know as soon as possible.

NEXT PRODUCTION THE MEMORY OF WATER BY SHELAGH STEPHENSON

About the Director, Anne Charbel

Anne has been performing in amateur theatrical productions since primary school.

During the pandemic, she started formally training with Identity School of Acting (IDSA). She appeared in June 2023 in *An Intervention* at BLT, prior to that as Regan in the Extraordinary Theatre Co.'s touring production of *King Lear*, then Ariel in *The Tempest Re-Rigged* (SISATA, 2023) and Cassion in *Othello* (60 Hour Shakespeare, 2023).



The *Memory of Water* is Anne's directorial debut and she looks forward with excitement to the audience's reaction to her strong cast's hilarious yet poignant rendition of this wonderful play.

About the playwright, Shelagh Stephenson

Shelagh Stephenson was born in Tynemouth, Northumberland in 1955 and read drama at Manchester University.

She worked as an actress with The Royal Shakespeare Company and on television. She appeared in *Coronation Street* in 1981 as the minor character Sandra Webb. She also had parts in *Rumpole's Return*, *Sapphire & Steel*, *The Gentle Touch*, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, *Boon*, *Paradise Postponed* and *Big Deal*

She is the author of several original radio plays written for BBC Radio, including *Darling Peidi*, *The Anatomical Venus* and *Five Kinds of Silence* (1997), which won the Writer's Guild Award (Best Original Radio Play). Recent plays include *Life is a Dream* and *Nemesis*, broadcast in 2004 and 2005 respectively.

Her first stage play, *The Memory of Water* (1997), won the Sony Award for Best Original Drama in 1997 and the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Comedy in 2000.

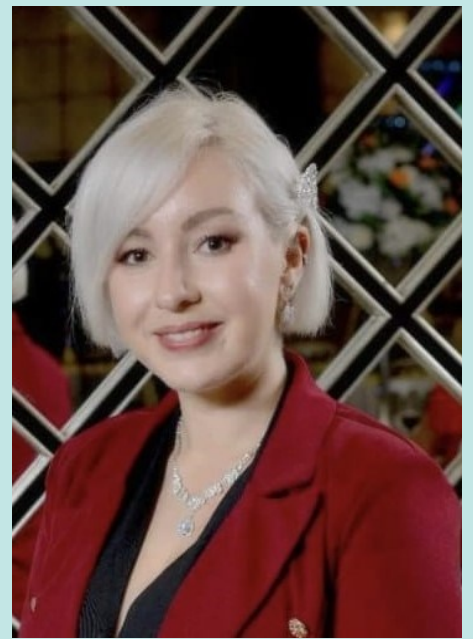
THE MEMORY OF WATER - CAST



MARY
Kim Fletcher



TERESA
Belinda Harward



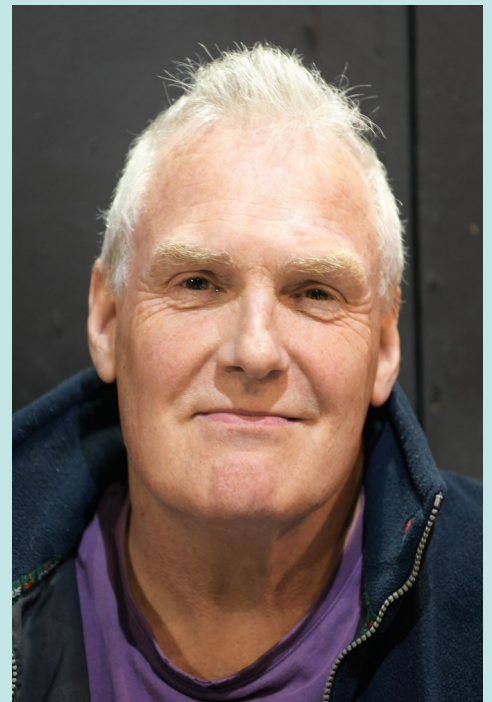
CATHERINE
Mica Sharples



MIKE
Jay Knox



VI
Carole Allen



FRANK
Peter Court

COMING SOON:

BOURNEMOUTH
LITTLE
THEATRE

The Murder Room

A mystery farce

by Jack Sharkey

Directed by Don Cherrett



9TH-13TH APRIL 2024

BOURNEMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE

11 JAMESON ROAD, WINTON, BOURNEMOUTH BH9 2QD

Tickets: www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

This amateur production of 'Murder Room' is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd . www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

CAST :

EDGAR/ABEL—Barry Gray

MAVIS—Denise King

LOTTIE—Nicola King

JAMES— John Sivewright

SUSAN— Alice Hannibal

BARRY—Jay Knox

Murder has never been this funny. A spoof of all crime thrillers ... it is good clean mirth all the way. The quick, smart, extremely well timed dialogue of Jack Sharkey comes through loud and clear with never a dull moment!

FUTURE PRODUCTION:

BOURNEMOUTH

LITTLE

THEATRE

PLAZA SUITE

**ONE ROOM, THREE STORIES.
A ROMANTIC COMEDY
BY NEIL SIMON**

DIRECTED BY CAROLINE BURR



4TH -8TH JUNE 2024 AT 7:45PM

BOURNEMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE

11 JAMESON RD, BOURNEMOUTH BH9 2QD

This amateur production of "PLAZA SUITE" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

BLT's final production of the 2023/2024 season is Plaza Suite by Neil Simon.

Caroline Burr, the Director will be auditioning for cast members in due course—watch out for mailshots, Facebook posts and our website for details, if you would like to be involved, either on stage or behind the scenes.



On a cold winter's night after a long day at work, the thought of venturing out to Winton to see a play I'd never heard of was hard but I'm so glad I did! What a show!

The Ghost Train, written by Arnold Ridley and directed by Lindsay Jones, is set in a dysfunctional railway in the depths of Cornwall. It centres around a group of travellers who become stranded and must stay overnight in the haunted station when they are told the story of the 'Ghost train' that is said to pass through with terrible effects of those who see it. They regret their decision to stay after ghostly and not so ghostly apparitions materialise, until one of the passengers finally reveals the true reason behind the night's events.

The scenery used in this play is exceptional, it is perfect for the setting and the lighting effects, though simple, really send a shiver down your spine.

The costumes are brilliant and each tailored to suit every individual part; as a fellow actor I always feel so much more in character when I'm in a good costume!

John Billington as Mr Winthrop was perfectly posh and plays his character with real passion alongside his onstage (and offstage!) wife, Elsie, played by Tracey Billington-Beardsley. Miss Bourne, played by Gillian Linford, was a delight to watch and her comedy timing was brilliant. Every single person in this play gave their all but a special mention must go to Barry Gray as Teddie Deakin, his characterisation, facial expressions and body language absolutely shone in this performance, this part suited him perfectly.

The Ghost Train runs at Bournemouth Little Theatre until Saturday 16 December. Tickets are almost sold out, but if you manage to grab one of the few left, you won't be disappointed.

Congratulations to Lindsay and all at Bournemouth Little Theatre on a fantastic show!



Get Involved Get Involved Get Involved



Each season, Bournemouth Little Theatre brings six main productions and three Studio productions to the stage. Each production requires a Director and cast. In addition to this are the unsung heroes, who toil away (lark about) behind the scenes to make these productions possible. We are all volunteers at Bournemouth Little Theatre and if you have any occasional spare time and would like to get involved with a production or two in any of the following capacities, you would be very welcome:

YOUR THEATRE

- ◆ Set Construction
- ◆ Set Painting
- ◆ Lighting Design
- ◆ Lighting Operation
- ◆ Sound Design
- ◆ Sound Operation
- ◆ Stage Manager



NEEDS YOU!

- ◆ Prompt
- ◆ Stage Hands
- ◆ Costumes
- ◆ Props
- ◆ Set dressing
- ◆ Front of House
- ◆ Bar Manager
- ◆ Coffee Shop

**Bournemouth
Little
Theatre**

Bournemouth Little Theatre Club
11 Jameson Road
Bournemouth BH9 2QD
www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

Email:
bournemouthlittletheatre@gmail.com

Facebook:
<http://facebook.com/BLittleTheatre>

Co Reg No: 02699332
Charity Ref: 1019571

CONTACT DETAILS:

Your Committee Members:

Gwen Jones (*Treasurer /Memberships/Newsletter/
Venue Hire*) 07825 064731
Lindsay Jones (*Play Selection Committees/Photographer*)01202 083504
Mo Hamill (*Properties and Costumes Co-ordinator*)..... 07585 504500
Adam Stoddart (*Studio Play Selection Committee,
Rota organiser*).....0774 9409634
Tim Fearon (*Play Selection Committees/Website co-ordinator*)
.....07973 198811
Caroline Burr (*Main Play Selection Committee*).....07905 650952
Adele Smyth (*Properties and Costumes*).....07883 095884

Not on the Committee:

Alastair Griffith (*Lighting Design*).....07400 014135
Andrew Whyatt (*Main Play Selection Committee*)
Rachael de Courcy Beamish (*Studio Play Selection Committee*)
Chris Huggill (*Bar Stocks Manager*) 07443 626484
Sue Hyder (*Box Office*)
Hilary Guess-England (*Costumes*).....07718 188203