

THINGS I KNOW TO BE TRUE

BY ANDREW BOVELL

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KIM FLETCHER - PIP



HARRY SUSSER - BOB



ALICE DREWETT—ROSIE



ALEX SMITH—BEN



CHRISSIE DERRING TON—FRAN



OLI REED—MARK

MONDAY 30TH MARCH TO SATURDAY 4TH APRIL 2020

COMMITTEE CORNER

Dear Patrons,

We are having a busy time here at BLT, in January, we had three productions in rehearsal. 'Timon of Athens' was first in production, the audience loved it—if you decided to give it a miss, you really did make a mistake. It was great.

We have our first Studio production "Heisenberg" on 11th –14th March then 'Things I know to be True' 30th March–4th April. Both of these very different plays will keep you marvellously entertained. Book your tickets as soon as you can to ensure a good seat, and a great night out.

We are delighted to let you know that Issy Coombs has agreed to be co-opted onto the BLTC Committee. Her particular interest is in raising BLTC's profile in the Community. Welcome to the Committee Issy, we look forward to working with you.

BLT Committee

ADVANCE TICKET BOOKINGS

Our mailing address for all ticket bookings is:

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

Tickets £12.00 (with concessions) Members £6.00

- ◆ **BOOK ONLINE** at www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk (*booking fees apply*)
- ◆ **WRITE** enclosing cheque (payable to BLTC) and SAE to BLTC Box Office (*address above*)
- ◆ **PHONE** to book by calling Sue on her home number **01202 417484** **

**** ONLY between 8.00pm and 9.00pm during the week
Monday 23rd—Friday 27th March 2020 ****

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.

During the run of the BLT show, enquiries should be made directly to the theatre on **01202 513361** either by leaving a message on the ansaphone or, between 6.00pm and 6.45pm, when the Box Office is open for telephone calls or callers in person.

It is also possible to book tickets for some of the visiting companies. Please check the website for full details.

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, and save all the hassle of making changes.

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 BLTC Production—Things I Know To Be True

By Andrew Bovill—directed by Hayley Tucker

Local dabbling actor and (a) better Director, Hayley has led a varied amateur theatre career; ranging from 1940's musical to playing a nurse and onward to the heights of walking prop (a role that is actually a fond memory for her). She has acted in Blue Remembered Hills, 39 Steps, A Month of Sundays, Sunshine Boys, The Ladykillers, Cider with Rosie, Merchant of Venice and Brief Encounter for local groups Bournemouth Little Theatre, Arena Theatre and Bournemouth Shakespeare Players. Hayley was also lucky enough to be part of an online 'mockumentary' about the perils of reality chat shows; The Gabriel Jones Show (found on YouTube). She has been lucky enough to direct some brilliant local talent for The River, Two, Bent, Immaculate and Nocturnal. Things I Know to be True has been fantastic to work on and this very talented crew have worked incredibly hard on it – Hayley hopes you enjoy watching it as much as she's enjoyed directing it.



Upon the first reading of Things I Know to be True, Hayley knew it was a piece of modern theatre that had to be staged. She believes that the characters are so believable in their familial connections, that it would resonate with all audience groups and take them on an emotional rollercoaster. It reminds us that there is no magical 'right time' to have conversations that matter. That there is no 'perfect moment' when the secrets we hold, to protect those we love, break free. That the family unit is one of safety and love and Things I Know to be True doesn't pull any punches when it reminds us all that we're still unbearably fragile even in our own home. So what happens when someone important takes their support away or is no longer there for you...no longer true? *Watch and find out!*

Coming soon—BLTC Productions

Our very first BLT Studio production —
‘HEISENBERG: THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE.’

Written by multi-award-winning playwright
Simon Stephens – author of ‘The Curious
Incident of The Dog in The Night-Time’ – the
Broadway and London West End hit play comes
to Bournemouth for the first time.

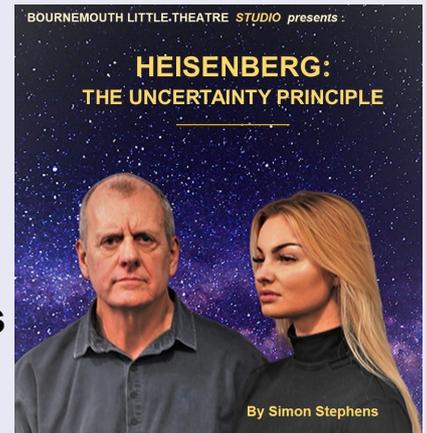
Directed and acted by Alice Drewett and
Tim Fearon

Wednesday 11th – Saturday 14th March 2020 7:45PM

In this uncertain world, who can predict what brings people
together? When two strangers meet by chance amidst the bustle of
a crowded London train station, their lives are changed forever.

‘Heisenberg will inspire you and give you hope.

It’s a tender, quirky, terrific play’ Broadway World



Monday 11th—Saturday 6th June 2020,
7:45pm

**PLAYHOUSE CREATURES - the final
production of BLT’s Centenary Year.**

**Set in the 17th Century, this vivacious
comedy takes us backstage in a
Restoration playhouse to celebrate a
bold moment in the history of theatre,
when women were first allowed on
stage.**

**Telling the story with bawdy comedy,
theatrical flair and emotional poignancy,
April De Angelis’ *Playhouse Creatures*
will make you laugh and cry in equal
measure.**

Directed by Lindsay Jones

Tickets for both of the above are available through Bournemouth Little Theatre Box Office : <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/dorset/bournemouth-little-theatre> and on our website

VISITING COMPANY PRODUCTIONS MARCH/APRIL 2020



The Improvised Play Company

Present a brand new show

'Unpredictive Text'

A deliciously different flavour of improvisation.

An evening of two halves. The audience help our improvisers create a multitude of different relationships and characters, out of which they vote for their favourite to put into a play!

Each play is completely improvised, so each play is completely unique.

*Funny, sad, tender, touching or emotional,
'Unpredictive Text' can go anywhere.*

at Bournemouth Little Theatre

21st March 2020 7:45pm

**Interactive with audience participation—
who knows where this will go....**

**ImpAct Theatre at
Bournemouth Little Theatre
7th and 8th April, at 8pm
'Nightfall'**

The doorbell rings. Emily and Edward Kingsley open the door. On the porch stands a young woman. They have dreamt of this night for seven years. At the same time, however, they have shared the dread that their dream may turn into a nightmare. But nothing has prepared them for the decision they must face which will change the nature of their relationship forever.

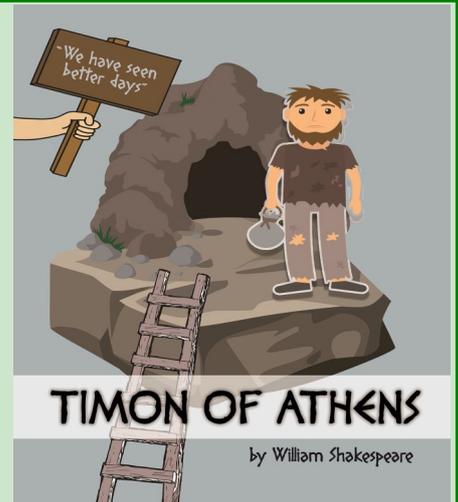
Director Patricia Richardson says, "*Nightfall* is a powerful and intriguing play that explores the complex and often unspoken facets of family relationships that we can all relate to. Our production will draw out all its resonance and promises to be an enthralling and captivating evening of live theatre."



Timon of Athens—review

SceneOnePlus—reviewer K.D. Johnson 12th Feb 2020

Compared to many of Shakespeare's plays *Timon of Athens* is relatively little known and not often performed. It is a brave move by director Don Cherrett and the Bournemouth Little Theatre company to take on this challenging work. It is traditionally associated with the tragedies, but some regard it as a 'problem play'. Some commentators compare it with *King Lear*; its conclusions about wealth, life, friendship and mankind in general are certainly not uplifting. In anticipation of this review, I read the play a few months ago – so I had an idea of its themes, plot and complexity. Watching it performed live, with all the pitch, pace, pause, inflection and associated action, makes much more sense than reading the dry, 17th century text.



The director has set this production in modern times – the soldiers have guns, the 'gold' discovered by Timon consists, at least in part, of paper money and the gifts that Timon gives away in Act I include both cheques and the keys to a car. Setting it in modern times allows women to take much more of a role than they would have done in either Shakespearian times or in ancient Athens. Members of Timon's staff and 'friends', as well as the Poet, the Painter, the Jeweller, the representatives of the creditors and even two of the senators are women – playing women. There is some modification to the text involved and some re-attribution of lines – but not too much to detract from its essentially Shakespearian character. A keen eye might note that the tee-shirt worn by Varro's Representative (Molly Jackson) has the branding of 'Varro's Vinos' and that the catalogue held by the merchant (one of at least three parts played by Carole Allen) bears the title *Merchant Merchandise, Athens Finest Goods, February Catalogue* – good attention to detail there. The inclusion of the modern Greek dance music into the scene changes is welcome and not obtrusive and the transformation of the play's bandits into two bumbling Frenchmen (Marc Pinto and Peter Beebee) introduces some levity into Act II.

The inventiveness with which the small stage at Jameson Road can be pressed into service as the exterior of Timon's house in Athens, his dining room, Lucius' Taverna, a courtroom, a forest with a pit which conceals both treasure and carrots, a first-storey cave and, ultimately, a grave has to be seen to be believed. Effective use was made of the split levels and lighting and the cast brought some items on and off to set the stage. I found the elaborate and mystifying 'dance' of assembling the dining room furniture to be rather long-winded – but it is a minor point. The cast of 17 took on the roles of at least 30, with some members taking on three or four parts.

Brian Woolton, as Timon, is undoubtedly the star of this show and he handles both the changes of mood and the complex dialogue with consummate ease. Martha Jenkins plays a sympathetic role as Timon's loyal steward, Flavius, while Denise King doubles as both another loyal servant, Flaminus, and dances provocatively as the prostitute Timandra. It is unusual to make a lengthy speech on stage with one's back to the audience, but the appeal by Bob Rankin, as Alcibiades, to the senators on the tier above is very effective. There are too many supporting roles to mention in detail but all perform without prompt and mostly without hesitation.

Tonight's audience were unsure whether or when to applaud, but this is a very well produced and acted production for which Don Cherrett and the cast deserve much credit – and a bigger audience.

Audience comments:

"The Little Theatre stage looks huge, and the set is fascinating - we didn't know what would happen next..the story and the acting, excellent."

"How well acted, and some very amusing moments!"

"I haven't seen a Shakespeare play since school - this was much better than any I remember. A great night out!"

"Fabulous - so well done, from the set, the way the music was used, and the great acting - well done to all involved"

In My Life. An Evening With...Alan Johnson:

Friday 21st February 2020 at 7:45pm

Sixty of you enjoyed the Alan Johnson evening, listening to his reminiscences and musical memories (yes...we heard you singing along!!!) From your comments, a good night was had by all.

Friday, 28 February 2020–Unrehearsed Play Reading

Thirteen of us had a hilarious time reading “Bums on Seats” by Michael Snelgrove. Welcome to the four new readers, we hope to see you again at next time.

Next unrehearsed play reading is in our diary on 27th March 2020 (7:30) put it in yours.

Saturday, 29th February 2020 SHELLEY LEGACIES HERITAGE DAY

A number of you joined the great event at the Shelley Theatre, organised by Dr David Coates of Warwick University. Those present investigated the legacies of the Shelley family in Bournemouth & Boscombe.

The day ended with a rehearsed reading of one of Percy Florence Shelley’s short plays “Lord Bateman at Home” which was read by eight BLTC members. It was the first time the play had been “performed” since it was originally staged at Boscombe Manor over 150 years ago. The reading was very well received by the audience and the day very successful. Thankyou to all involved.

REMINDER–PARKING NEAR Bournemouth Little Theatre

Sadly, a couple of years ago when our Theatre lease came up for renewal, we were informed that the parking spaces at the back of the theatre that had been available to us in the past, were now leased to the Garage on the ground floor. Recent building works have also eliminated the possibility of parking adjacent to the rear of the Theatre. Please don’t try to park in either areas, as you will be blocked in by large lorries overnight (as happened recently to one of the cast of Timon).

Also (yup, more bad news), if you park in the Garage spaces at the front of the Theatre, please don’t park in the yellow hatched area in front of their entrance as the Garage uses it 24/7, being an accident recovery garage. Doing so risks our production being interrupted while we try and find the car owner and get them to move their vehicle...AND the space in front of our front door needs to be kept clear too—it is a Theatre fire exit and Ambulance reception area in case of emergency.

Get Involved Get Involved Get Involved



Each season, Bournemouth Little Theatre brings six 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 six 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:

- ◆ Set Construction
- ◆ Set Painting
- ◆ Lighting Design
- ◆ Lighting Operation
- ◆ Sound Design
- ◆ Sound Operation
- ◆ Prompt

YOUR THEATRE



NEEDS YOU!

- ◆ Stage Manager
- ◆ Fire Marshalls & Wardens
- ◆ Props
- ◆ Front of House
- ◆ Bar Manager
- ◆ Coffee Shop
- ◆ Set Dressing

To get involved, either come along to a set strike (the Sunday following each of our productions); to a read through and/or audition; to an unrehearsed play reading; speak to a Committee Member when you visit the theatre or contact us through the website <https://www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk/>, by email bournemouthlittletheatre@gmail.com or Facebook so we can discuss how you can get involved. No previous experience is necessary.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Your Committee Members: (Email:
Bournemouthlittletheatre@gmail.com)

Gwen Jones (*Treasurer /Memberships/Newsletter/ Venue Hire*)01202 083504
07825 064731
 Lindsay Jones (*DSP/Play Selection Committee/Photographer*)
01202 083504
 Mo Hamill (*Properties Co-Ordinator, Costumes*).....07585 504500
 Adam Stoddart (*'Studio' Play Selection Committee / advertising*).....
0774 9409634
 Tim Fearon (*Marketing*).....07973 198811
 Issy Coombs

Not on the Council:

Alastair Griffith (*Lighting Design*).....07400 014135
 Andrew Whyatt (*Play Selection Committee*).....01202 624221
 Don Gent (*Centenary Co-ordinator/Programmes/ Play selection Committee*)01202 389725
 Kerry Newton (*website*)
 Chris Huggill (*Bar Stocks Manager & Bar rota organizer*) 07443 626484
 June Garland (*Coffee Shop Rota Organiser*)..... 01202 700516/07867

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