

1934 - 2024

Clubrooms: 6 - 8 Castle Hill Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 4QP  
[www.richmond-ads.org.uk](http://www.richmond-ads.org.uk)



Spring 2024 21 - 23 March

## SHORT STORIES 2

an Evening of Three 1-Act Comedies by  
 Charles Lambert, Jilly McNeil  
 & Robert Scott

Directed by **Charles Lambert,  
 Scott Fenney & Lee Bowles**

Summer 2024 25 - 27 July  
 and 31 July - 3 August

## Nell Gwynn

by Jessica Swale

Directed by **Max Walker**

Autumn 2024 6 - 9 November

## Blue Stockings

by Jessica Swale

Directed by **Gary Winn**



### Chair's Corner

Hello March! Spring is on the way – although as I write this my weather app suggests sleet is forecast for tomorrow.

It's nearly time for our first show of our anniversary year. Well, not one show but 3! Please please make sure you are supporting our cast of "Short Stories 2" it's going to be a fantastic night of comedy, and it's going to be great to see our new directors and what they can bring to the stage. Tickets are still available for all 3 nights, why not bring family and friends along as well? We are also looking for programme sellers for Friday and Saturday nights, if you are available drop Gregan an email.

If you are in the clubrooms in the next couple of weeks you might spot some scaffolding down the back steps, as we are having some repair work done to the overhanging toilet. This will be the first of a few ongoing building projects we will be doing over the next few years, to make sure we are keeping these clubrooms in the best shape we can for our society now and in the future. Big thank you to Warnock for arranging a building survey for us and overseeing the liaison with tradesmen for these works.

Along with this newsletter you'll see we are now accepting RSVPs for our 90th Anniversary Ball in June. We hope to see both current and previous RADS members in attendance. Tickets are limited so make sure you get your responses in sooner rather than later for what is due to be a great evening!

Finally don't miss out on our March clubnight – a read through of our Summer production *Nell Gwynn*. Believe me if I didn't have a 4 month old I would definitely be auditioning for this one, it's a brilliant script and I very much look forward to seeing it being brought to life.

Keep on keeping on,

**Beki Stevenson**  
 e-mail: [chairman@richmond-ads.org.uk](mailto:chairman@richmond-ads.org.uk)



## 90th Anniversary Dinner at The King's Head

A further reminder that as part of RADS 90th Anniversary year in 2024, we have arranged a ball to be held at The King's Head in Richmond on Saturday 15th June 2024. There will be a three-course dinner, a guest speaker, DJ and dancing. The price will be £38 per head.

Accompanying this newsletter should be a form with menu choices and payment details, to be returned to our secretary Gregan Davis by Wed 15th May. Members old and new are welcome, with their guests, but there is a maximum number for the occasion, so don't delay!

## Short Stories 2 - Ticket Sales Push

Ticket sales so far have been slow for *Short Stories 2*, which comprises three one-act comedies: *Cracker's Christmas* directed by Scott Fenney; *The Break Room* directed by Charles Lambert; and *Bride before A Fall* directed by Lee Bowles. Richmond audiences are notorious for purchasing their tickets late, but it would be a huge shame if these new directors and their talented casts were not rewarded for their hard work and dedication with decent attendances to view these very funny plays.

So please spread the word amongst your friends and family and let's see if we can't overwhelm the Georgian's Box Office staff and/or their website! We are privileged to announce that Jilly McNeil, the author of *Cracker's Christmas*, will be attending the Saturday night performance, and it would be lovely for her to see plenty of bums on seats. If you see a RADS post on social media, please share it as widely as possible, distribute flyers and shout it from the rooftops and support your fellow members. Thank You!

## Audition Dates / Music Rehearsals

*Nell Gwynn* audition dates will be Mon 25th March at 1930h with Thu 28th March reserved for possible further auditions; and *Robin Hood & the Poor Knight* (MayFest) auditions will also be on Thu 28th March, possibly in a different part of the building. Further details will be posted on the website. If you are unable to attend on Mon 25th and wish to be considered / arrange a different date, please contact Max directly on 07703 137225 (after 5pm or at weekends).

Mike Walker is acting as MD for *Nell Gwynn* and we would like to start having music rehearsals as soon as possible, just to get everyone familiar with the music - watch out for further updates.

## RADS Social Events

### Clubnights

#### Monday 11th March - Nell Gwynn Readthrough

Max Walker will be directing *Nell Gwynn* as our Summer 2024 production and will be hosting a read-through of Jessica Swale's superbly funny, bawdy and raucous play. It also features eight short musical numbers so if there is time we may be able to have a bash at these as well!

#### Monday 8th April - Choral Speaking

CHORAL SPEAKING - 'a blend of voices speaking in rhythm and harmony to enhance the presentation of poetry, prose or play.'  
 This is a fun activity, led by Lynne Kerr, where you will work within a group to explore a range of vocal techniques which will enrich the presentation of your piece when you perform it at the end of the evening. We will start with a whole group piece, and then split into two groups - or more if possible!

#### Monday 13th May - Radio Comedy

Charles Lambert will preside over a read-through of some fabulous radio comedy extracts which is likely to include segments from *Old Harry's Game*, *Cabin Pressure*, *Welcome to Our Village - Please Invade Carefully* and *Bleak Expectations*.