



1934 - 2025

Newsletter Feb 2025

Clubrooms: 6 - 8 Castle Hill Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 4QP
www.richmond-ads.org.uk

Spring 2025 20 - 22 March

Antigone

by Jean Anouilh,

translated by Lewis Galantière

Directed by **Gregan Davis**

Summer 2025 24 - 26 July
and 30 July - 2 August

Monstrous Regiment

by Terry Pratchett,

adapted for the stage by Stephen Briggs

Directed by **Charles Lambert**



Chair's Corner

Hello everyone, we've survived what feels like the longest month of the year!

Tickets are now on sale for *Antigone* and *Monstrous Regiment* so get those seats booked. I've got it on good authority that *Antigone* is looking fantastic so I'm sure it's a show you don't want to miss.

Thank you to Alex for hosting her insane quiz as our January clubnight, it was random but a good laugh and great to see so many members and potential members there.

Our February clubnight is an exclusive showing of *Prima Facie* at The Station Cinema, thanks to Dan Westgarth for arranging it. We have space for members plus partners but if you wish to come along please let Gregan know by email secretary@richmond-ads.org.uk

Fancy being involved backstage? Even if you have no experience we have plenty of knowledgeable RADS members who are happy to share their words of wisdom. Both *Monstrous Regiment* and *Bleak Expectations* are going to need some enthusiastic backstage crew so why not lend a hand? Remember we couldn't put any of our wonderful performances on without those who help backstage, it's not just about the spotlight!

Once again just a reminder that this is your society – if you have an idea for a show, a clubnight, or just want to vent about what we are doing – reach out to your nearest committee member! The committee is there to make decisions on behalf of our members but we are always happy to take suggestions to our meetings big or small. You don't need to save them up for the AGM!

Hope you get lots of Valentines,

Beki Stevenson

e-mail: chairman@richmond-ads.org.uk

RADS Social Events

Clubnights

Monday 10th February - National Theatre Showing

Dan Westgarth (RADS member and manager of the Station Cinema) has kindly offered to host a RADS club night at the Station Cinema for a private screening of one of the much-praised National Theatre productions, *Prima Facie* starring Jodie Comer in a virtuoso performance.

The showing will be in Screen 3 at The Station Cinema. Screen 3 has a capacity of 28 – if more people want to attend then we will be moved to Screen 1 or 2.

This is an opportunity to see a performance that earned Jodie Comer three awards for Best Actor, including a Tony, for RADS members + your significant other free of charge. The screening will commence at 7.30 and runs, without interval, for two hours.

To help planning, we would be most grateful if you could let Gregan know if you intend to come and how many you will be by Thursday 6 February.

Prima Facie

Jodie Comer (*Killing Eve*) makes her 'masterful West End debut' (**** Guardian) in the UK premiere of Suzie Miller's award-winning play.

Tessa is a young, brilliant barrister. She has worked her way up from working class origins to be at the top of her game; defending; cross examining and winning. An unexpected event forces her to confront the lines where the patriarchal power of the law, burden of proof and morals diverge.

'On the face of it, something has to change'

Prima Facie takes us to the heart of where emotion and experience collide with the rules of the game. Justin Martin directs this solo tour de force, captured live from the intimate Harold Pinter Theatre in London's West End.

Monday 10th March - *Monstrous Regiment* Readthrough

Charles Lambert will be hosting a readthrough of our Summer 2025 production and delving into the devious mind of Terry Pratchett (probably).

Monday 14th April - 1788: *Tryphosa* Workshop

Gary Winn will be having a read-through and workshoping a play which he has put together around the life of Tryphosa Butler - wife of Samuel Butler, the Georgian Theatre's first actor-manager.



Bleak Expectations - Autumn 2025

Unfortunately, Jodie Martin has had to withdraw from directing *Bleak Expectations* this Autumn, but following fisticuffs amongst the RADS Committee as to who should take over, Scott Fenney emerged victorious and will be cultivating the requisite degree of melodrama from his cast after our Summer production of *Monstrous Regiment*.

Follow half-orphan Pip's extraordinary exploits with sisters Pippa and Poppy and best friend Harry Biscuit, as they attempt to escape the calculating clutches of the dastardly Mr Gently Benevolent, defeat the hideous Hardthraasher siblings, and deflect disaster at every turn! Will evil be vanquished by virtue? Can love triumph over hate?

Mark Evans' stage play is a hilarious, chaotic caper, featuring dastardly villains, preposterous names, pulse-quickening romances, heart-rending death scenes, and definitely, probably, hopefully a happy ending.

Based on the award-winning BBC Radio 4 series, the play opened at The Watermill Theatre, Newbury, in 2022. It transferred to the Criterion Theatre in London's West End in 2023, where it featured a medley of many well-known actors and comedians guesting as The Narrator. These included Tom Allen, Adjoa Andoh, Alexander Armstrong, Julian Clary, Jack Dee, Stephen Fry, Lee Mack, Stephen Mangan, Dermot O'Leary, Sue Perkins, Sally Phillips and Nina Wadia.



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