



1934 - 2025

Newsletter Jan 2025

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

Spring 2025 20 - 22 March

## Antigone

by Jean Anouilh,

translated by Lewis Galantière

Directed by **Gregan Davis**

### RADS Social Events

#### Clubnights

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Quiz Night

Clear those mince-pie addled brains with a fun quiz from the fiendish mind of Alex Caffery. There may or may not be prizes, depending on whether we've paid the scaffolder yet...

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

### RADS Costumes Coffee Morning - Success

Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> saw RADS hosting a coffee morning at the Town Hall to raise funds for our costume department.

Huge thanks and congratulations go to Georgie Sale for organising this and to all the RADS members and friends who helped out, either by baking cakes for sale, donating raffle prizes or helping to man the operation (some of whom were in costume!).

At the current time, we are pleased to report that the coffee morning raised the princely profit of £476, and we expect to see a new steamer for the costume department in the not too distant future!

### MayFest 2025 - News

RADS will be continuing our participation in MayFest following last year's performance of *Robin Hood & The Poor Knight*. Leading up to the reveal of this year's programme (at The Station on 27<sup>th</sup> February), there will be a quiz (open to all) in the Town Hall on 31<sup>st</sup> January at 7pm to raise funds. The £10 ticket includes a Pie & Peas Supper, and there will also be a cash bar and a raffle. Tickets available via the [MayFest](http://www.richmond-ads.org.uk) website.

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**

### NODA Summer School 2025

Attached to this newsletter's e-mail should be some information about NODA's Summer School 2025, taking place at Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffordshire from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August (please note these dates coincide with our summer production of *Monstrous Regiment*). Booking opened on 1<sup>st</sup> December - see attached info for details on costs / bursaries / eligibility and courses available.

The Summer School has historically been more relevant to musical societies, but that seems to have changed, judging by the content now being offered - there are courses on voice and text, writing, stage management, costume and make-up for example.

RADS have also offered financial assistance in the past and the committee would be prepared to consider a contribution towards the cost - please contact the secretary if you wish to be considered, but don't hang about, courses tend to fill up quite quickly!

### Accident Report !

We are sorry to report that Peter Oliver, the NODA North Regional representative, was quite badly injured in a car accident just before Christmas and was admitted to James Cook Hospital. Gregan, on behalf of RADS, has enquired after his health and received the following from Gordon Richardson:

"Peter is out of hospital and got home on Christmas Eve. I called up to his house on Monday with Fred Piggford to see him in person - he is still in a lot of pain but trying to wean himself off the morphine solution. He is bright in himself but obviously bed bound at the moment and bored (there is only so much 'iPlayer' box sets he can survive...)

It's going to be a long road ahead with physio and psychological getting behind the wheel of a car again when the bones are healed."

Hope all is well with yourself and HNY

Regards, Gordon Richardson

In addition (if that weren't bad enough) our own Charles Lambert also had a bad car accident around 14<sup>th</sup> December, resulting in his car being written off and him having to receive hospital treatment. We would like to send our best wishes to both Charles and Peter for a speedy recovery and hope neither has suffered lasting damage.



### Chair's Corner

Happy New Year to all you wonderful RADS members. I hope you've all had a lovely festive season, and enjoyed some over indulgence. We are now solidly into the first week of January and it's definitely time to be thinking about the year ahead.

We have some fantastic shows coming up in 2025 (feels weird writing that) with our first one *Antigone* well under way. Rehearsals and Backstage are sorted so if you aren't involved directly make sure to buy those tickets when they go on sale and support your fellow members as an audience member.

Following on from *Antigone* we have *Monstrous Regiment* which will be the society's second foray into the world of Terry Pratchett, after *Wyrd Sisters* in 2016. With a cast of cross-dressing women (and cross-dressing men playing women playing men) this is sure to be a ridiculously fantastical show.

Our final show of the year will be *Bleak Expectations* - based on the Radio 4 comedy (definitely worth a listen) this high-paced comedy takes everything you think you know about the works of Dickens and parodies it to perfection.

As well as our usual three shows we will also have our latest addition to the RADS calendar, a performance at this year's MayFest directed by Gill Page. More information to be released shortly so watch this space!

We would love to put an entry into Sedgefield once again in September so if you fancy directing a one-act play why not submit one to committee for them to review? All RADS directors must direct a one-act before a full length play so if you fancy trying your hand at directing now is your chance! Advice and mentorship is at hand if needed.

Remember of course we will have our regular monthly clubnights throughout the year starting with a quiz on January 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have an idea for a clubnight or want to run one we have availability for nights later on in the year so please reach out to your nearest committee member.

Looking forward to catching up with you soon!

**Beki Stevenson**

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