



1934 - 2024

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

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

Spring 2025 20 - 22 March

Antigone

by Jean Anouilh,

translated by Lewis Galantière

Directed by Gregan Davis

Antigone - Readthrough and Auditions

Gregan will be hosting a readthrough of *Antigone* on the November clubnight, Monday 11th November 2024. The auditions will be the following night, Tuesday 12th at 1930h, with Thursday 14th reserved for follow-up auditions if required. Production dates are 20-22 March 2025.

Caroline Cunningham - Obituary

We are sorry to report the death of a loyal past member of RADs ---- Caroline Cunningham. Caroline was involved in many of our plays, as actor, stage manager or wardrobe mistress.

She spent many an hour in our wardrobe room, organising costumes for cast members and making sure costumes were in the right place. An invaluable and dedicated member! We remember her cheery personality with affection.

Warnock Kerr,
 President

RADS Social Events

Clubnights

Monday 10th June - RADs AGM

Agenda and Nomination papers were sent out in May. Voting for Best Actor and Actress for the Lindon Medals has taken place, and they will be presented at the AGM, along with the Raymond Corbally Youth Award. As a member, your voice is important, so please attend and we will endeavour to answer any questions.

Monday 8th July - RADs Ramble

A short walk culminating in the opportunity to partake at a local watering hole. Details to follow!

August - No Clubnight



Chair's Corner

...And just like that we seem to be heading towards halfway through the year!

A big well done to the cast of *Robin Hood* (above), it was a wonderful Mayfest performance, thoroughly enjoyed by audiences, even if there was a bit of rain! I really hope our involvement in Mayfest becomes a tradition, it's wonderful for our society to support events like this one in the town.

I've heard wonderful things from the cast of *Nell Gwynn* as rehearsals are really beginning to pick up pace. If you haven't already booked your tickets don't leave it too late as I'm sure this is going to get booked up quickly. Another plea for the production - we are still in desperate need of someone to help with props and scene changes backstage during the run. Any interest please contact Max Walker ASAP on mgcwalker96@gmail.com

There is no clubnight this month but it is our AGM. It would be great to see as many members as possible there, papers will be heading into your inbox, so please get them filled in and returned as soon as possible. I've said it before but I will say it again, this is your society and attending the AGM is a great way to stay up to date with what has been happening and also to raise any issues or points to the current committee. I promise I won't let it drag on too long and we can get to the pub afterwards!!

As well as the AGM, I'm looking forward to catching up with members past and present at the RADs 90th Anniversary Ball on 15th June, I think it will be a wonderful evening, I'm ready to hit the dance-floor and hope you are as well! Big thank you to everyone who has helped to organise it.

We are also delighted to announce that RADs have won the B. Richardson Trophy from NODA for the Best Basic programme 2023-24 for *Whisky Galore*. Congratulations are in order!

See you at the AGM if not before!

Beki Stevenson

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



Nell Gwynn Production News

Rehearsals are progressing apace and we are very grateful to Julie Winn for stepping in at a late stage to play Old Ma Gwynn when one of our new members, Lou Sadler, unfortunately had to drop out. We wish her well and hope to see her in a future production. Singing and dancing are testing our cast's versatility and some are having to learn some French and Portuguese!

We would still be grateful for offers of help to work backstage during the run and for some basic scenery construction (see Beki's Chair's Corner opposite for contact details).

Ticket sales are starting to pick up for what we expect to be a very popular show, so we would recommend getting your orders in early at the GTR Box Office!

Future Productions - More Detail

Summer 2025 will be Stephen Briggs' adaptation of *Monstrous Regiment* by Terry Pratchett, to be directed by Charles Lambert; This is the renowned author's 31st story set on the fantastical Discworld:

The tiny, impoverished country of Borogravia is down to their last regiment, and their last scrap of hope. Unfortunately there's something rather odd about the regiment in question. The *Monstrous Regiment* is made up of a reformed vampire, Igor the highly progressive surgeon, a troll, and a young woman who discovers that a pair of socks shoved down her trousers is a good way to open doors in a man's army. Suddenly the new recruits are in the middle of the war, without any training or uniforms that fit. Our heroine Polly, on a mission to find out what's happened to her soldier brother Paul, finds that to survive she will have to fight dirty, pretend to know how to shave and even occasionally dress up as a woman...

Jodie Martin will be taking the helm in Autumn 2025 for *Bleak Expectations*. 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.