



Whitefield Garrick Newsletter Summer 2022

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter. We are delighted to tell you that we are all set to bring you a season of five brilliant plays and are re-introducing our Theatre Club Membership system for the new Season commencing September 2022. Unfortunately, as costs have increased considerably in the current economic climate, we have had to take the decision to increase our ticket price to £10.00 per ticket. However, Theatre Club Members will be able to take advantage of the reduced price of £45.00 for five plays, equivalent to £9.00 per ticket. We are very excited to be returning to 'normal' and giving you the opportunity to re-join our Theatre Club Membership. All the details and forms will be sent out in due course by our Membership Secretary and we look forward to seeing you all again.

The past couple of years for The Garrick has been quite a roller coaster ride but with the help of our valiant team of actors, directors and volunteers we have soldiered on. No more so, than in 'Dangerous Corner' and 'Tons of Money', in which both plays suffered Covid casualties during rehearsals. Fortunately, Samantha Taylor came to the rescue and was able to step in at very short notice giving two very different and sterling performances.



Samantha Taylor and Pat Hill

In

Dangerous Corner



**Mindy Leonard-Lockett and
Andrew Close**

In

Dangerous Corner

Tons of Money by Alan Ayckbourn

***Directed by
Andrew Close***



Originally scheduled for May 2020, Director Andrew Close and cast, have had a fair share of set backs. Cancelled in 2020 because of Lockdown and then again in 2021, they have been in a constant state of uncertainty until May this year. With a couple of changes to the cast, rehearsals started in earnest throughout March and April. Then Covid once again interrupted the state of play. Janet Leather and other members of the cast valiantly carried on rehearsing whilst their friends and cast members succumbed to the virus. Volunteers were called upon to 'read in' lines. One of them was Samantha Taylor who had taken over the role of Olwen Peel in *Dangerous Corner* at very short notice, but once again she came to the rescue. This time taking on the role of Jean Everard. After all the hard work and waiting, *Tons of Money* took to the stage on Saturday 7th May 2022. Many congratulations to Andrew who worked tirelessly to bring the production to fruition along with his steadfast cast and Technical team.



Stage Struck

LATER
AFTER

Some of the short pieces, performed, written and directed by members of the Society during lockdown, are still available to view on You Tube. One very special piece is a Radio Production of *Later After*, written by Jane Harvey-Berrick and Justin J Bell. This very moving play was produced and directed by Alfred Howard and stars Robin Thompson and Catherine Cropper. The play highlights what happens to people who have served their country in their life later, after the military. In this instance it is Alex Hunter, ex-husband, ex-army, ex-bomb disposal officer. Arrested after yet another bar fight, Alex is kept in custody and examined by a police psychiatrist to assess his fitness to be interviewed by police. What follows is a verbal duel between Doctor Helen Ashton and Alex. He sees her as a well-meaning but ultimately naïve do-gooder working for 'them', the military family who no longer support or understand him. David Tonge, our Membership Secretary has submitted this short anecdote adding weight to the issues in the play. *"Some years back when I used to go regularly to the gym, there were sometimes small groups of ex-soldiers there and I noted how important it was to them to work together, chat to their mates and compete with each other. They really enjoyed themselves and obviously felt very much at home there. It occurred to me even then, that one of the easiest and most cost effective ways of helping ex-soldiers would be to give them a free pass to a gym once a week"*.

Bury Student Awarded a prize by Prince Charles



Our Treasurer, Martin Ashton, and his wife Christine, design and build our wonderful stage sets. They are also very proud Grandparents of Logan Pearson, a year 8 student at Bury CE High School. Following in his Grandfather's artistic footsteps, Logan has been awarded a prize by Prince Charles after his stamp design was the 'Overall Winner' in a national competition. The Competition was to design a new postage stamp to honour the many unsung heroes who have done extraordinary work during the coronavirus pandemic. Logan's design of a lab technician at work, was one of thirty designs submitted by his school and one of more than 600,000 from across the country.



Congratulations Logan!

Logan with his award winning stamp design

Proud Grandfather

Martin Ashton



Love Letters by

A R Gurney

On Sunday 3rd of July we will be supporting a production of 'Love Letters' by A R Gurney in aid of The Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

The performance is performed by Mark Leigh and Helen Price Aindow and is directed by Andrew Close.

Andrew has directed many plays at The Garrick, the latest one being our last play of the Season, the hilarious 'Tons of Money'.



A Visiting Production
in aid of
The Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (D.E.C.)
at



**Whitefield Garrick Theatre,
Bank Street,
Whitefield, M45 7JF**

Love Letters
by
A R Gurney

*A bitter-sweet comedy about life,
love and friendship*

*Performed by Mark Leigh and Helen Price Aindow
Directed by Andrew Close*

**Sunday 3rd July 2022
2.30pm & 7.30pm**

**Tickets £9.00 + booking fee
from
Ticketsource/whitefieldgarrick**



This amateur production is presented
by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.





Blue Remembered Hills

by Dennis Potter

17th—24th September 2022

Directed by Peter Larkin



The Moderate Soprano

by David Hare

19th –26th November 2022

Directed by Geoff Shindler



After The Dance

by Terence Rattigan

21st—28th January 2023

Directed by John O'Connell



Zack

by Harold Brighouse

25th March –1st April 2023

Directed by Dave Eyre

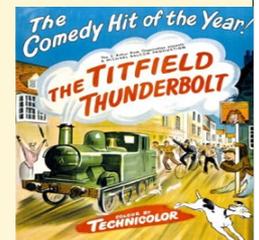


The Titfield Thunderbolt

by Philip Goulding

20th –27th May 2023

Directed by Andrea Parle



This event is **'Sold Out!'** and thanks to all of you who have booked.

If you have been unable to obtain tickets this time, the band will be making a return visit in the Autumn.

'The Silhouette Band' have been playing live 60's music together for about 4 years. Their music has a wide appeal but especially to those who grew up in the 60's and enjoy classics by The Beatles, Dusty Springfield, Cliff Richard, Frankie Valli, Cilla Black and others from that era.

Look out for **'The Silhouette Band'** on our Website, Facebook and the next Newsletter.

If you would like to comment on any items or contribute to this twice yearly Newsletter, please contact Carole Taylor: Contact details: ct@melcar.co.uk