



HIADS Newsletter

HIADS Ltd., Station Road, Hayling Island,
Hampshire, PO11 0EH.
www.hiads.org.uk
Telephone: 023 9246 6363



April 2022

EDITOR: Dave Ellis

Email: newsletter@hiads.org.uk

Dates For Your Diary

16 April 10am-12pm	Coffee Morning HIADS SOCIAL
22 April 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm	Military Wives FILM
25 April 7.30 pm	READING: Ladies Day HIADS PLAY
29 April 7.30 pm	CASTING: Ladies Day HIADS PLAY
14 to 21 May 7.30 pm	Around the World in 80 Days HIADS PLAY
27 May 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm	West Side Story (TBC) FILM

Calling all directors and prospective directors

Your Play Selection Committee are currently planning the 2023 and beyond program. If you have a play in mind that you would like to direct or one that you simply wish to put forward, we would be delighted to hear from you. All genres are welcome, as the committee always try to provide a varied program each year. If you haven't directed to date but wish to do so, we suggest starting with a one act play that can be performed in the Green Room to gain experience. Alternatively assist an experienced director who can show you the ropes.

Contact us with your suggestions, proposals and availability on psc@hiads.org.uk by the 31st May and please include information regarding your directing experience. We look forward to hearing from you.

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Our AGM was held at the theatre on Monday 21st March and our new executive committee is as follows:-

Chair	James Wood
Vice Chair	Dave Ellis
Treasurer	Vicky Fox
Secretary	Laurie Noble
DPS	Jase Christopher
LTG rep.	Laura Duncan

Other committee members:

Gary Doe
Rebecca Welch
Rob King
Rebecca Weaving

FIRST AID

We need people with First Aid experience to be present at performances.

If you are First Aid qualified or wish to be considered for the appropriate training, please send an email to info@hiads.org.uk or make your interest known to a committee member. Thank you!

A LETTER FROM YVONNE VENTON

Some of you will remember Yvonne. Here's a letter we received from her recently....

"I felt I wanted to write to the theatre—it's been such a large part of my life and now I'm 91 I'm afraid I'm not much use there. Luckily I'm fit and well but not good at walking.

I first joined in 1962 when it was the Barn Theatre and did just about everything! Then in 1970 someone suggested I join the Southsea Shakespeare Players—which I did for a while but I was soon back until the mid 80s when I had to be home to look after my parents.

In 2004 I was on my own and took the opportunity to go back to the Theatre and had some lovely times. Luckily, there is something else I can do—I can write. I have written five books, all published by Amazon, with one more nearly finished which should be out sometime in the early summer, and that's me! So thank you HIADS for all the pleasure you've given me...and I hope my books will sell!"

REVIEW

The Hothouse by Harold Pinter

March 16th-19th

directed by Rebecca Weaving

The word hothouse generally conjures up an image of a glass structure full of exotic plants; whereas this Hothouse, which did have a glass effect wall, was actually a "rest home", come institution, full of patients known by their number as opposed to their name. We never meet any of the patients, only the staff, although at times you do wonder if the two have merged slightly.

Written by Harold Pinter in 1958 and left aside until 1980 it is a tragicomedy, and true to this genre, left you laughing and cringing in the same breath. Whilst Pinter can be described as 'marmite', you like his writing or you don't, either way this production was a tour de force of acting at its very best. The subject matter might have been hard to swallow but it was certainly thought provoking, which is sometimes necessary.

The events on Christmas Day find the man in charge, Roote, flustered over a death and a birth, whilst his right hand man, Gibbs is belittling him and scheming his way into Roote's boots. Lush is only interested in booze; Cutts uses her feminine charms on everyone and Lamb is just that 'a lamb to the slaughter' or at least to the institution's shock treatment chair. The understaff and the man from the Ministry completed the ensemble.

We welcome back to the stage several regular faces and most warmly welcome new members Sam Goodall as Gibbs, Melissa Hoare as Cutts and Dylan Parkes as Lamb.

The lighting was instrumental in creating this unique atmosphere and the set design was very inventive.

This play might not be everyone's cup of tea but it is important to occasionally challenge both actors and our audiences. We thank Rebecca Weaving, James Wood and sterling cast for stepping into the March slot at short notice and providing us with our only second Pinter play.

LADIES' DAY

Ladies Day by Amanda Whittington (directed by Linda MacDonald)

Reading is Monday 25th April at 7.30

Casting is Friday 29th April at 7.30

Production is Saturday 30th July – Saturday 6th August

Ladies Day is a comedy drama about four ladies who work in a fish factory in Hull. To celebrate Pearl's pending retirement (so they think), they ditch their boring routine, their overalls and dress up to the nines for a day at the races when Royal Ascot relocates to York. A lucky find gets them free entry into a completely different world. Out for a drink, a flirt and a flutter, chance meetings with men from different walks of life, change everything and each one reveals more about themselves as the day's events unfold. Their friendships are tested but stay strong, even when and their luck runs out and fortune is tossed to the wind. Or is it?

Characters: These age ranges have flexibility so don't be put off by a number it's just a guide. All parts provide opportunity for great characterisation. Although the ladies take the limelight the men's roles play a vital part in their relationships and the day's adventure.

Pearl: 50's / 60's (due to retire) = A caring married woman who harbours a secret

Jan: 40's / 50's = A rather prim lady, divorced and a devoted mum who hides a passion

Shelley: 20's / 30's = Loud, brash and tartie with aspirations to be a celebrity

Linda: 30's + = Naive, caring, rather old fashioned and loves Tony Christie

The following 6 men's parts can be played by 3 or 4 actors. The age ranges will vaguely correspond with the lady they meet up with in the play.

Joe: 40's / 50's = Factory supervisor (in 2 scenes)

Jim: 30's - 50's = TV pundit, with a huge ego and an eye for the women (in 3 scenes + voice over)

Patrick: 30's / 40's = A disgruntled Irish jockey (in 1 scene)

Barry: 50's / 60's = A helpful bookie who isn't what he seems (in 1 scene)

Fred: = A ticket tout & Kevin: = A gambler - any age (just a couple of pages for 1 actor)

For any additional information (or if you are interested but unable to attend the reading and or casting), please contact Linda on 02392466907 / 07754854166 or email lin-damac45970@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing a massive turn out for the reading and casting! Come and have a laugh and some fun.