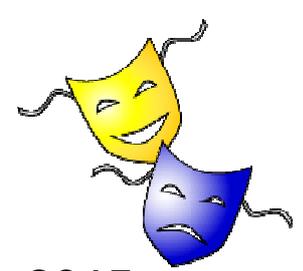


Kilmardinny Players



Members Newsletter - July 2015



As we prepare to start rehearsals, here is one of our newest cast members talking about the audition process:

"After seeing a small advertisement in the Bearsden and Milngavie Community magazine looking for female actresses, I immediately made use of the

opportunity. I had been seeking to join an amateur theatre group for quite some time, so Kilmardinny Players seemed ideal. On the first audition night, I was slightly taken aback at how professional the process was; not only was a table reading of the script an excellent way of auditioning for various characters, but it also enabled me to interact with everybody effectively. What I found particularly useful was hearing various members act as several characters over the three auditions, which allowed the play to be explored faster compared to reading it at home, giving a better understanding of the play as a whole too. Although it was an "audition" the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed - helping to cast aside any nerves which might have been felt - and I look forward to working with everyone involved." Abbi

"Top Girls" by Caryl Churchill (November 26th – 28th 2015)

Marlene
Isabella Bird
Lady Nijo
Pope Joan
Dull Gret
Patient Griselda
Jeanine
Angie
Kit
Joyce
Win
Nell
Louise
Shona
Mrs Kidd
Waitress

Emma Reid
Liz Good
Suzi Bagley
Noelle Ryan
Christina Dowers
Lisa Colquhoun
Tiia Stevenson
Chloe Innes
Abbi Stevenson
Fiona Birch
Jane MacConnacher
Nicola Mortimer
Deidre Campbell
Molly Crighton
Susan Moir
Kirsty Black

Kilmardinny Players is a Registered Scottish Charity - Charity Number SC041872

visit our website for more information : www.kilmardinnyplayers.org

1982 and all that

“Top Girls” premiered at London’s Royal Court Theatre in August 1982. What else happened in 1982?

The first computer virus, the Elk Cloner is found.
The ZX Spectrum is launched.
Sony makes the first consumer CD player.



The first emoticons are posted.



Channel 4 is launched.



The Falklands War (April 2nd to 14th June)
Roy Jenkins wins the Hillhead by-election in Glasgow for the SDP
The Provisional IRA detonates 2 bombs in central London, killing 8 soldiers.
Women's peace protest at RAF Greenham Common.
Unemployment in the UK reaches over three million for the first time since the 1930s.



Film: ET: The Extra Terrestrial



Music: Michael Jackson - Thriller



Prince William and Kate Middleton are born.



Arthur Lowe dies.



What is your name?

Don't tell him Pike!



"Everyone here? Good. Meeting topic: Setting world record for shortest meeting. All in favor say aye. Ayes have it. Meeting over."

The first committee meeting will take place on Monday 10 August at Kilmardinny House at 7.30 pm. All members are welcome in particular if you are interested in joining the committee. We need your views for what you want in the new season so send them to the secretary or come along and present your views yourself. We are very keen to see new members join the committee to ensure the future of the group. Here is a word from Craig about committee work: I am the current chairperson (often incorrectly

referred to as President) of Kilmardinny Players.)

This year is the fourth year I have undertaken this position, and my fervent hope is that someone reading this will consider taking the post next year. So what does the chair do?

One of the roles is to chair (approx) monthly meetings of the committee and along with the secretary and treasurer and other members of the committee arrange events, venues and performances for the members to participate in. I also try and keep across what the members are wanting from the club, and feed anything information thus gleaned back into the committee meetings. At present I am involved with trying to arrange rehearsal and performance space for the period we are out of Kilmardinny House in 2016. (More info elsewhere in this newsletter) The chair is also the point of contact for East Dunbartonshire Council regarding aspects of Kilmardinny House and needs to arrange work parties when work needs to be done (e.g. clearing out of our store room at Kilmardinny House).



Wanted : Storage Space !!!!! As you know, we have always stored our props and flats at Kilmardinny House. However, as the House closes for refurbishment and other work at the end of the year - we have been told to make alternative arrangements. The biggest requirement is storage for flats up to 3m x 1.75m. To date we have had no offers of storage space from our readers and so will have to pay for suitable storage facilities unless

anyone out there has other suggestions?

A gentle reminder that annual membership fees were due in June - please contact David, our treasurer to arrange payment.

Next year may turn out to be more costly with our need to pay for storage of our props and flats and paying for alternative rehearsal space and performance space - so every little payment will help!



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2016: Christina is still looking at an adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* entitled "I have 5 daughters" by Margaret Macnamara which she would like the members to consider as a possible play for 2016. We are still hunting for our leading men - where are you Mr Darcy and Mr Bingley? Here is a full cast list for you to consider:



Jane Bennet	Mrs Bennet	Mr
Bennet		
Elizabeth Bennet	Charlotte Lucas	Charles Bingley
Mary Bennet	Caroline Bingley	Fitzwilliam Darcy
Kitty Bennet	Lady Catherine de Bourgh	William Collins
Lydia Bennet	Thomas or Sally - a servant	

We have already made rehearsal bookings for the first half of 2016 in the Milngavie Town Hall Lesser Hall. We are still trying to find alternative performance space and hope to have news soon about this. Meanwhile, we would love to hear other suggested plays potential directors wish to put forward so that we can get our 2016 calendar ready. Remember it should be plays easily staged as a studio performance. Please contact the committee with your suggestions.

Paul's Glasgow Theatre Highlights – August 2015

**Edinburgh
Special**

London is the theatre capital of the world with nearly 250 professional theatre spaces ranging from cutting edge producing theatres like the **Young Vic**, **Donmar** and **Royal Court** to the glitz, glamour and gob stopping prices of the West End. But for one month every year the theatre capital of the world becomes Edinburgh. The **Fringe** alone will have nearly 900 theatre shows not counting physical theatre, musicals and spoken word. Then there's the **International Festival**. Here's my step by step guide to finding the best theatre in Edinburgh this August. To sort the great from the guff¹ you should:

1. Go the **Traverse**. The Traverse is the UK's premier new writing theatre and will feature about 20 shows. See as much as you possibly can. Find the full programme here:

<http://tinyurl.com/Traverse15> and here: <http://www.traverse.co.uk/>

¹ Theatre is always a gamble. You'll see some guff however careful you are.

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You can only go to one show? Make it Vanishing Point's "**Tomorrow**" if you missed it at the **Tramway**. Or, if you've already seen it, try "**A Girl is a Half-formed Thing**", based on Eimear McBride's Joycean novel.

2. Check out the **International Festival** Theatre Programme here:

<http://tinyurl.com/pu7954h>

For the first time in years, there is rather a lot of theatre here² including some important collaborations with Opera (Enda Walsh's "**The Last Hotel**" and 1927's "**The Magic Flute**"). They're also giving a re-run to some of the best Scottish Theatre of the last few years, such as "**Paul Bright's Confessions of a Justified Sinner**". There's also a new play by Alasdair Gray – "**Lanark**" which you can catch at the **Citizen's** in September. This year's flagship production is "**Antigone**" directed by Ivo van Hove who moves on to the real thing after his Greek tragic take on Arthur Miller's "A View From The Bridge". ***You can only go to one show?*** Make it "**Dragon**" – a welcome re-run for the **Vox Motus** show. Teenage angst meets magical puppetry and awesome feats of stage management. Wow!

3. Look at **Summerhall's** Programme: <http://tinyurl.com/Summerhall15>
This is an all year round venue whose importance has grown in recent years. ***You can only go to one show?*** Try to see something in the **Roundabout Theatre**. Run by **Paines Plough**, this is a portable, in-the-round theatre that packs up into a single lorry. You're too late to get tickets for Daniel Kitson's "**Polyphony**", of course but you could try Duncan Macmillan's "**Lungs**" – writing so sharp the audience needs to wear gloves!!!
4. **Scan the Fringe Programme** looking for **reputable theatre companies** rather than performers or writers. A production by **Hull Truck** or **Grid Iron** or **Headlong** or **National Theatre of Wales** or **Bush Theatre** etc, etc is likely to be a good bet because they all have their own systems of quality control. If you don't recognise a theatre company, check to see if they've got a website and see what's on it. If there's no website it's probably not a real company at all but just what a couple of lads decided to call themselves this year.
5. **Read the reviews**. They'll all have 4 or 5 star reviews of course, often written by their mothers but read what **professional critics** are actually **saying** about the work. The star rating is worthless.
6. **Word of Mouth**. Talk to people who've seen a show. If they recommend, act quickly to get tickets.

You'll find the full **Fringe** Programme here: <https://tickets.edfringe.com/>

² And not all of it is weird!!

Staying in Glasgow? Why? It's only 45-50 minutes on the train and the trains run late in August.

But if you must...

Try the Globe Theatre's "**Romeo and Juliet**" at the **Royal** from 4th to 8th:

<http://tinyurl.com/Romeo-J>

or "**East is East**" at the **Royal** from 10th to 15th: <http://tinyurl.com/nlzjmga> or "**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**" at the **Kings**:

<http://tinyurl.com/p6emg3b>