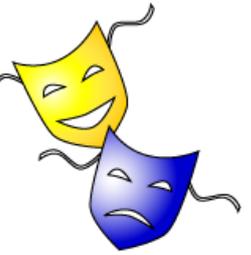


Kilmardinny Players



Newsletter – February 2016

Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion"

directed by Christina Dowers and Jane MacConnacher

The Turret Theatre, 9 Eastside, Kirkintilloch,
Glasgow, East Dunbartonshire G66 1PY

Thursday 31 March, Friday 1 April and

Saturday 2 April 2016 at 7.30 pm

Please visit our website and download and print our posters and booking forms to distribute to those interested in our "Pygmalion"

Our cast for Pygmalion:

Eliza Doolittle : Lisa Colquhoun

Alfred Doolittle: Colin Price

Professor Higgins : Paul Cockcroft

Colonel Pickering : David Hutchinson

Mrs Higgins : Noelle Ryan

Mrs Pearce : Suzi Bagley

Mrs Eynsford Hill : Emma Reid

Miss Clara Eynsford Hill : Aimi Philips

Freddy Eynsford Hill: David MacLean

Parlormaid: Katerina Vasilaki McKay

Bystander: Sarah Blackburn

Sarcastic Bystander : Deirdre Campbell

Other Bystanders:

Katerina Vasilaki McKay, Susan Moir

Servants for scene changes:

Sarah Blackburn, Deirdre Campbell,
and Liz Good.

Katerina Vasilaki McKay, Susan Moir

Help with costumes : Moira Crawford

Technical Director : Craig Dowers

Voice coach and prompt: Liz Good

Kilmardinny Players is a Registered Scottish Charity - Charity Number SC041872

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

Rehearsal dates remaining and venues:

February 2016

Mon 1, Thu 4, Mon 8 February Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

Thu 11, Mon 15 February Main Milngavie Town Hall

Thu 18, Mon 22 February Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

Thu 25 February Westerton Lesser Hall

Mon 29 February Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

March 2016

Thu 3, Mon 7 March Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

Thu 10 March Main Milngavie Town Hall

Mon 14, Thu 17 March Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

Mon 21 March Main Milngavie Town Hall

Thu 24 March Lesser Milngavie Town Hall

Week of Show at the Turret Theatre in Kirkintilloch (starting times tbc)

Monday 28 March (Easter Monday) Get in

Tue 29, Wed 30 March (dress/technical rehearsals)

Thur 31 March, Friday 1 April and Saturday 2 April – performance nights

Sunday 3 April Get out

Lisa talks Eliza:

“First of all, I must thank both Christina and Jane for giving me the chance to play such a great character as Eliza Doolittle.

To begin with, when I read through the script, I was a little bit daunted at the amount of lines I would have to learn –

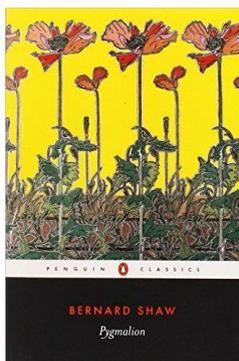
however, I have found that it’s not been the mammoth task that I initially thought! As Paul said, it’s so well written, and I have found that the lines have, quite surprisingly, embedded themselves into the depths of my brain quite well! (But I

wouldn’t get rid of our prompt, though!) I think it’s a great play, we have a great cast and I’m sure it will be a great success”.



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Did you know: “Pygmalion” was written by Bernard Shaw in early 1912 and premiered on the stage at the Hofburg Theatre in Vienna on 16 October 1913 in a German translation. It opened for the first time on the London stage on 11 April 1914. The Penguin Classics play version we are using was first published in 1916 so 100 years later and we are still reading and performing such a wonderful play. **Christina – co director**



Director in training: Following the casting of Pygmalion in December, I'm excited to be Co Directing along with Christina! We are making great progress so far and am pleased to say that all 5 acts have been blocked and are looking great.

At this point I would like to thank Christina, the Committee, the cast and all off stage help for your support and encouragement in my first time roll of Co director . I have to admit that it was a bit scary to start with as I didn't know what to expect but I am enjoying working with you all and due to everyone's experience and phenomenal acting you have made this a dream come true for a new director such as myself!

The coming months will be hard work for all of us no doubt, but we can do it...together! Go Team Pyg!

Co Pyg director Jane



Guess the play quote: Have a read, can you tell me which character from which play delivers this line:



“Tim, let me tell you about my life in the Big Apple. I have Hamlet's ghost on the phone for an hour every evening after rehearsal complaining that Polonius is sucking sourballs through his speeches. Claudius is off every afternoon doing a soap, and Gertrude is off the entire week doing a commercial for Gallo wine. Hamlet himself, would you believe, has come down with a psychological problem. Then, last night, Brooke rings me to say that she's very unhappy here and she's got herself a doctor's certificate for nervous exhaustion. I haven't got the time to find and rehearse a new Vicky. I have just one afternoon, while Hamlet sees his shrink and Ophelia starts divorce proceedings, to cure Brooke of her nervous exhaustion with no medical aids, except a little whisky - you've got the whisky - a few flowers - you've got money for the flowers - and a certain fading bedside manner. So, I haven't come to the theatre to hear about other people's problems. I've come to be taken out of myself, and, preferably, not put back again.”

(Answer next time) (Would you like to supply a “Guess the play quote” for our next newsletter?)

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Bearsden Community Festival : 3 September : “The Lesson”: taken from “My Fair Lady” and “Pygmalion”

A Twenty Minute drama proposal for performance at New Kilpatrick Church on Saturday 3 September 2016 as part of the “Good Old Days” event for the Bearsden Community Festival will be “The Lesson” which will consist of Professor Higgins giving Eliza Doolittle and volunteers from the audience elocution lessons. Audience “volunteers” can include members from our group. Paul and Lisa have already agreed to do this – others interested in participating should get in touch with Christina or Paul so that we can tweak our script. This is an ideal opportunity to promote our group and our Autumn production as the audience is expected to be around 200 at this community event.



Our next Committee meeting: will take place on **Wednesay 3 February at 7.30 pm in the Westerton Lesser Hall**. All members are welcome to attend the meeting and give their views. We also welcome new members to join our committee at any time.



2016 Plans: Autumn director and play and venue

wanted : Please come forward with plays you wish to direct or be directed. We still have no proposals for our Autumn 2016 production so far.

We really need even more members to put themselves forward for the group’s productions. Please remember any member may put forward a play for a possible future production to the committee for consideration.



We have the Turret in Kirkintilloch for March but it would be great if we could find a closer venue for our Autumn production. We could continue to rehearse our Autumn play in the Milngavie town hall as it is proving suitable for this purpose. We really require acting space for the week of the production – an acting space preferably with a stage or a studio theatre space.

We would also ask members to make suggestions for social evenings – workshops, fundraiser events such as quiz or any other ideas and we could try to arrange a couple of these in addition to our rehearsals for “Pygmalion”.

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We usually have a May quiz night. Since last year's agm was poorly attended, we thought to bring our AGM forward to May and incorporate AGM business with a quiz night or other suitable social event. Ideas please!

Liz came forward to help with voice coaching for "Pygmalion" so are there other members

out there who could run a mini workshop on a skill they could share with our members.



Would members like to have some social evenings? Ideas needed! Those who went to the Christmas meal enjoyed this social evening, would anyone like to organise another such meal out? Doesn't need to be just at Christmas?

Trips in the past to the professional productions interest some members. Paul is keeping an eye on what's on and always features forthcoming events ... would anyone like to organise a group trip to

see a professional production?

Local non professional groups

- Giffnock Theatre Players
- Breaking The Code

By Hugh Whitemore / Directed By Paola De Rosa

10TH TO 13TH FEBRUARY 2016

"Breaking the Code", by Hugh Whitemore, tells the heart-breaking true story of Alan Turing, openly gay mathematical genius and father of modern computing, who cracked the

German Enigma code, helping Britain win World War II. This fascinating drama explores the scientific and personal sides of his personality, and the troubled life of a creative thinker who helped shape the 20th Century.

Performances - each evening at 7.30pm and Saturday Matinee at 2.30pm.

Tickets £13 / £15

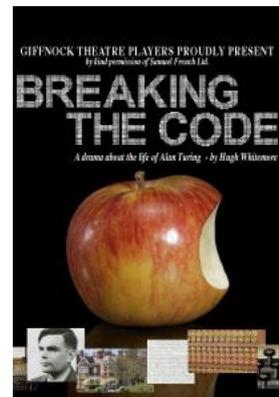


TICKETS 07518201756 **BOOK ONLINE** www.eastwoodparktheatre.co.uk

<https://www.eastwoodparktheatre.co.uk/article/6857/Breaking-The-Code>

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Paul's Glasgow Theatre Highlights - February 2016

This is a great month for theatre in Glasgow, as strong as January was weak. Sex seems to figure quite prominently for some reason. I suppose Spring is just around the corner...Anyway...I hardly know where to begin. How about with the...er...biggest...news of all?

Play of the Month

“Cock” by Mike Bartlett

‘Why are you telling me I have to know what I am? It doesn’t matter. I love him because he makes me toast in bed and he’s scared of cling film. I love her because she makes me feel as old as I really am. She’s gentle’

This isn’t the first time I’ve had occasion to praise the work of **Mike Bartlett** in these pages and I don’t suppose it will be the last. Now my favourite Bartlett play gets its Scottish premiere at our very own **Tron Theatre**. The major theme, of fluidity in sexual identity, is explored very directly but through writing that is elegant, spare and precise. Not a comma is wasted in this masterpiece of the writer’s craft. Be ready for candid and explicit discussion of some of the most intimate aspects of human behaviour. Not suitable for prudes, homophobes or conservative evangelicals.

It’s at **The Tron** from **9th** to **20th**. Details here: <http://www.tron.co.uk/event/cock/>

It also gets a run out at **The Traverse** from **25th** to **27th**: <http://tinyurl.com/travcock> but it’s a **Tron Production!!** Talk about coals to Newcastle!

Also at **The Tron** this month:

“The Destroyed Room” from **25th Feb** to **5th March**. More visual brilliance, no doubt, from **Matthew Lenton** and **Vanishing Point**.

Details here: <http://www.tron.co.uk/event/the-destroyed-room/>

And something for the little ones, **“White”**, from **24th** to **25th** (see December’s newsletter for details). Tickets here:

<http://www.tron.co.uk/event/white-92/>

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The **Citizen's** has **David Harrower's "Blackbird"** from **25th February to 5th March**. A discomfoting exploration of the aftermath of an "inappropriate relationship". It's cool, measured and unflinchingly honest. A brave play in an age obsessed with child sexual abuse. In any other month this would have been the play of the month.

Details here: <http://tinyurl.com/dontcomesoclosetome>

The same might also be said for **Samuel Beckett's "End Game"** from **4th to 20th**, also at the **Citz**. This tremendous genius reminds us that life can be both terrifying and hilarious at the same time. Details here: <http://tinyurl.com/h6rk9z4>

The **Theatre Royal** has a production of that "perfect play", "**Private Lives**" from the master craftsman, **Noel Coward**. An hilarious yet profound take on coping (and not coping) with ungovernable sexual passion. Elyot and Amanda can't keep their hands off each other, but spend the rest of their time bickering. Then they have two new spouses to worry about! So it's mixed doubles with plenty of two handed volleys and overhead smashes. I offered to direct this for Kilmardinny a couple of years ago. Don't get me started on just why it's perfect. I could write a thesis on that. It's on from **22nd to 27th** Details here: <http://tinyurl.com/perfect2v2>

Birds of Paradise bring their latest, exploring life with cerebral palsy. "**Purposeless Movements**" is at the **Tramway** from **25th to 27th**: <http://tinyurl.com/boppalsy>

NLive brings "**As You Like It**" live from **London's Olivier Theatre** on **25th**

It's showing at **Odeon, Glasgow Quay**: <http://tinyurl.com/mewlingandpuking>

The musical "**Annie**" is at the **King's** from **8th to 20th**: <http://tinyurl.com/anniekings>

Further Afield (and briefly)

Edinburgh's **Lyceum** has a production of **Arthur Miller's "The Crucible"** from **18th Feb to 19th March**: <http://tinyurl.com/hyster1cal>

The **Edinburgh Playhouse** has "**Hairspray**" from **22nd to 27th**
Details here: <http://tinyurl.com/turnblad>

And **Edinburgh's Festival Theatre** is "**Footloose**" from **16th to 20th**
Details here: <http://www.edtheatres.com/footloose>

How will I find time to eat this month? Let alone learn my lines!!!

Happy Theatre Going,

Paul ☺

Follow me on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TheatreScottish>

Kenneth John Findell

14th December 1929 – 8th December 2015

Ken Findell one of our Honorary Members sadly passed away on 8th December 2015 and our thoughts are with the family at this time.

Ken had been a member of the former Glenburn Players for many years and in 1998 along with fellow Honorary Member Brian Hayward formed the Kilmardinny Players. He was always keenly involved whether it was as stage manager, as the odd cameo acting role or more recently as treasurer and independent assessor until shortly before his death .

His enthusiasm, compassion and dedication to the Club was infectious to all who had the pleasure of working with him. His continual support and love of the Club was evident when he very generously donated a complete set of 'flats' for the stage at Kilmardinny. An act which the Club will be forever in his debt.

Even when he was not at Kilmardinny House Ken's presence was always there. I am sure he will still manage to make himself felt a long time after 'the Renovations' are complete. - He will be missed by us all.



- David Hutchinson

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