

theLittleVoice

Issue 55, December 2017



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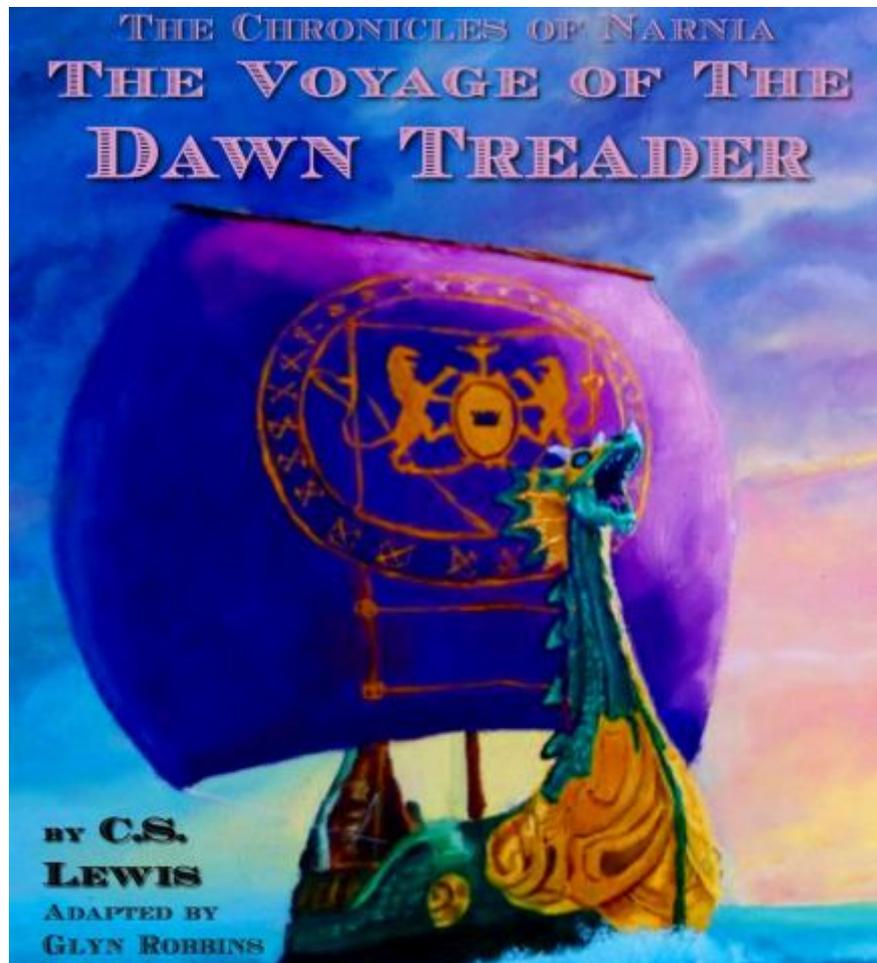
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The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

Friday 8th, Saturday 9th, Monday 11th - Saturday 16th

December 2017 at 7.45pm

Saturday 9th, Sunday 10th and Saturday 16th December

2017 at 2.30pm

Brighton Little Theatre | 9 Clarence Gardens | Brighton | BN1 2EG

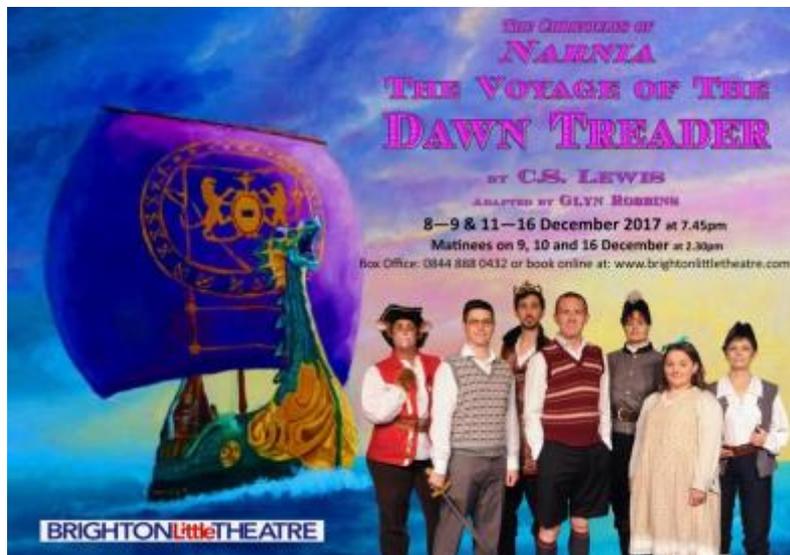
☎ Box Office 0844 888 0432 (Box Office)

☎ 01273 777 748 (Theatre)

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, by C S Lewis, adapted by Glyn Robbins

Friday 8th, Saturday 9th, Monday 11th - Saturday 16th December 2017 at 7.45pm

Saturday 9th, Sunday 10th and Saturday 16th December 2017 at 2.30pm



Four years ago, in 2013 BLT began its recent tradition of presenting a spectacular seasonal offering for Christmas with the classic C.S. Lewis tale *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. This year I'm delighted to be directing our return to Narnia with the sequel *The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*!

Edmund and Lucy return to Narnia, now accompanied by their annoying cousin Eustace. There they join Prince Caspian, the brave fighting mouse Reepicheep and the crew of The Dawn Treader on a quest to find seven missing Narnian Nobles. Their journey takes them to lands where they are captured by evil slave traders, meet strange invisible creatures, a treasure cave guarded by a fearsome dragon and a mist that can drive people mad, amongst other adventures.

As is now usual for our Christmas shows, the play has been a challenge to stage with the various island settings to be created and the small matter of a large sea-going ship to be represented! Add to that magical creatures and effects including a huge dragon and you can see that all the stops have had to be pulled out!

Following some excellent auditions, I was able to select a fantastic cast to bring the piece to life and I was very lucky that Michael Williams and Laura Scobie were free to recreate the parts of Edmund and Lucy from *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. Joining them is Leigh Ward as Eustace, Joseph Bentley as Prince Caspian, Mimi Goddard as Reepicheep, Suzanne Buist as Captain Drinian and Josie Durand as Rynelf.

The cast also includes Gerry Wicks, Nikki Dunsford, Keziah Israel, Nick Barber, Dug Godfrey, Debbie Creissen, Rebecca Polling, Ros Caldwell, Esme Bird and new members Joanna McEwen and Alexis Quinn.

I was delighted that Michael James has been able to spare the time to compose some original music for the play and to MD a couple of songs! Although not strictly a part of the play we will be ending with a Christmas carol sung by cast and audience.

Stage management is shared between Steve Evans and Janet White, so the ship is in very safe hands! The set has been built and painted by the very talented Tom and Allison Williams. Tom also built the excellent dragon's head that sits at the front of the ship. Mimi and Kez have combined efforts to provide



some amazing make-up. Wonderful costumes have been put together by Margaret Skeet, Eleanor Medhurst and Ann Atkins. Myles Locke has created the fantastic dragon costume and will also be operating lights and sound, which are being designed by the always brilliant Beverley Grover!

I must also give huge thanks to Tess Gill and Glenys Harries-Rees who steered the ship for a while whilst I took a short holiday!

So do come along for a bit of escapist fun to put you in the Christmas spirit! It is suitable for both adults and children over about 6/7, although there are a few mildly scary scenes. And as usual the bar will be decorated for Christmas and the smell of mulled wine will suffuse the building!

Steven Adams
Director

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader opens on Friday 8th December and runs through until Saturday 16th December (11 performances). Tickets available in the usual ways, online at www.brightonlittletheatre.com or via telephone on 0844 888 0432.

Postcards from the Edge Chair

We have kicked off our 2017/18 with two super one act plays – KJ Heritage's *Man in A Room* directed by Suzanne Buist and Joe Orton's *Ruffian on the Stair* from new director Joseph Bentley. Congratulations go to both directors, casts and crews for a gripping evening of theatre.

Rehearsals for our Christmas production *The Voyage of The Dawn Treader* are well underway. I'm sure this is going to be a very popular production so book early to avoid disappointment!

The latest on the Renovation Project – the EGM was held, as planned, on Sunday 29th October and the motion to go ahead with the project was approved by the membership. It's very exciting to be able to move the project forward with the membership's formal backing. I would like to thank everyone who gave up their Sunday evening to attend the EGM and for those who sent in proxy votes. We are now in discussion with our architects and the fundraising team will be going into action.

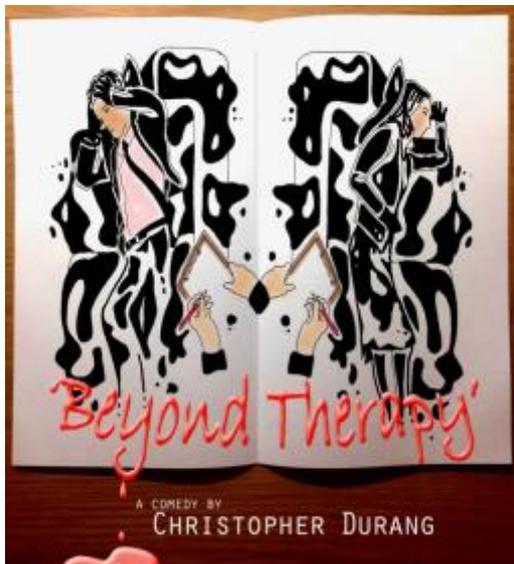
Brighton Open Air theatre has offered us two slots again in 2018. They have selected Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* which will be directed by Tess Gill and performed at BOAT week commencing 16 July and George Orwell's *Animal Farm* to be directed by Mimi Goddard and performed at BOAT during week commencing 6 August.

So that leaves us with our first Festival slot in May. *Love's Labour's Lost* is to be performed at BOAT by another company during the summer so, with Claire Lewis, we have explored other options and decided on the very newly available *King Charles III* by Mike Bartlett which premiered at The Almeida Theatre in 2014. *King Charles III* will be performed from 5th to 12th May 2018 at BLT. A great choice, and something of a coup, which I believe will be very popular with audiences.

With best wishes

Felicity Clements

Cast Update - Beyond Therapy by Christopher Durang
30th January – 3rd February 2018 (5 performances)



Director: Faye Woodbridge

Prudence – Jade Doig

Bruce – Ciaran O’Connor

Stuart – Des Potton

Charlotte – Patti Griffiths

Bob – Neil Drew

Waiter – Marc Pinto

Would you like a receipt?....

Following many discussions at committee (and far more requests from members!), we now have a brand spanking new card machine in the theatre bar.

We can take all cards (including Amex, Mastercard and Visa), so why not use it the next time you’re at the theatre?

As with all good things, there is a catch. To cover the transaction costs, we’ll be reviewing bar prices with a view to implementing small increases from January 2018.



Audition Notice

Murder and the Brighton Twine by Peter James

- Organiser:** Felicity Clements
- Venue and Date:** Royal Pavilion Dinner, Friday 9 March 2018
- Auditions:** 7.30pm, 16 January 2018
- Rehearsals:** Anticipate 2 or 3 rehearsals. Dates to be agreed with cast following auditions.

We are excited to have been invited by Mo Marsh, Mayor of the City of Brighton and Hove and long-time member of Brighton Little Theatre, to take part in a murder mystery at a Royal Pavilion Dinner on 9 March in support of the Five Mayoral Charities (Martlets, Rise, Sussex Heart charity, Clocktower Homeless Charity and Albion in the Community). The script has been penned by international, best-selling thriller writer, Peter James. The script is a series of monologues which will be delivered to the dinner guests by a Narrator and four characters – the chief suspects.....

(NB: Words won't necessarily need to be learnt off by heart but well enough to be able to deliver mostly out to the audience)

Background: Local business woman, Mrs. Mo Lanes, has been murdered. But whodunnit?

Character	Description	Playing age
Narrator	A crime reporter from The Argus who briefly introduces the characters at the opening of the piece.	Male/female Any age
Norman Volks-Miller	Well-to-do but has hit hard times after a crash on the financial markets. Mo Lanes was his nanny.	55+
Katie Cowell	Mo Lanes' protégé. Mo 'rescued' her and Katie has gone on to become an important part of Mo's business operations.	25 to 35
Peter Perry	Leader of Brighton and Hove City Council.	40+
DI Dora Belle	Has an air of authority about her but under pressure to find the culprit.	20 to 40

BLT Christmas Party!



It's that time of year again when the mini poppadums and spicy peanuts make a welcome appearance, the air is rich with the smell of mulled wine and everyone has a rather jolly time.

This year the annual BLT Christmas Party will be on Sunday 17th December at 7pm.

Please do come along and welcome in the festive season with us!

On a related note, if you would rather donate to the theatre redevelopment fund rather than giving out Christmas cards there will be a collection tin for this very purpose (obviously feel free to give out cards **and** donate if you wish!).

2017/18 Season Update

BOAT

As you may be aware, we were waiting to hear from Brighton Open Air Theatre (BOAT) about their 2018 season before we could finalise a few productions in our season.

We're really pleased to announce that we have been offered two slots at BOAT in 2018 as follows:

19th – 22nd July 2018 (5 performances) – *Sense & Sensibility* by Jane Austen, adapted by Jessica Swales

9th – 12th August 2018 (5 performances) – *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, adapted by Ian Wooldridge.

Both of these productions will also have runs at the theatre.

Fringe Festival



We're really pleased to announce that our first Brighton Fringe Festival production will be *King Charles III* by Mike Bartlett. This is newly released and should work really well in the Festival.

King Charles III will run from 5th May 2018 until 12th May 2018 (10 performances).

Workshop

Applying Technique to Characterisation

Sunday 26th February 2018, 1pm – 4pm

Cost: £5.00

Workshop Leader: Judi
Campbell

Please bring a short,
prepared speech
(approx. 10 lines) of
your own choice from a
play or novel. Please
bring a spare copy for
Judi.

The logo for 'CHARACTER COUNTS!' features the word 'CHARACTER' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below it, the word 'COUNTS!' is written in a larger, bold, red, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right of the exclamation point.

Please wear comfortable clothes and footwear AND don't forget your reading glasses should you need them!

Please, send your payment online to: -

Nat West, sort code 60-13-09, account 42326818. Please use 'WKSP' and then your name as the reference.

If you don't do online banking you can send a cheque made payable to Brighton Little Theatre to: -

Patti Griffiths (Workshop)
31 George Street
Brighton BN2 1RH

Go on, why not volunteer for Bar & Front of House?



Ever wondered what it's like to ring the bell for last orders and yell "gerr outta my pub" Peggy Mitchell style? Well now's your chance!

We are always looking for volunteers to cover the bar during our productions and it's a great way to meet old and new members and learn how our theatre works. The bar is really easy and full training is given.

Our membership also supports us with Stewards, Front of House and Box Office at each of our shows. So, if you're interested in volunteering for any of these roles, please don't hesitate to contact Frankie Knight via email sunshinefrankie26@gmail.com or via text on 07915 054782.

Little Diary

Date	Event	Location
8 th – 16 th December	<i>The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i> by C S Lewis, adapted by Glyn Robbins	BLT
17 th December, 7pm	BLT Christmas Party	BLT
7 th January	<i>Present Laughter</i> auditions	BLT
16 th January, 7.30pm	<i>Murder and the Brighton Twine</i> auditions	BLT
30 th January – 3 rd February, 7.45pm	<i>Beyond Therapy</i> by Christopher Durang	BLT
26 th February, 1pm	<i>Applying Technique to Characterisation</i> Workshop	BLT

The next issue of **The Little Voice** will be published in January. If you have anything you would like to include, please send this via email to Leigh Ward on leigh.ward@brightonlittletheatre.com.

by Friday 12th January 2018.

BRIGHTON **Little** THEATRE