



Join us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and become a member of The Questors?

If you enjoy a regular night out at the theatre with friends, why not become a member of The Questors? As a Playgoer Member, you'll receive a 20 per cent discount on your ticket to most Questors productions, free tickets for your children to most Questors productions, regular information about our productions, and membership of the Grapevine Bar, so you can come and enjoy a quiet evening in the Grapevine throughout the year.

Or you could join as a Company Member and receive a 50 per cent discount on your ticket and opportunities to get involved in our productions, in addition to all the benefits for Playgoer Members.

You can get all of this for just £27.00 for Playgoer membership and £55.00 (£38.00 concessions) for Company membership, with discounts for payment by Direct Debit. You can find Membership Application forms in the Box Office Foyer, or just phone the Theatre Office.

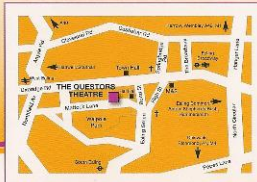
Stay in touch

Sign up for our weekly or monthly emails, full of the latest news, at www.questors.org.uk or send us your name and address and we'll post you our bi-monthly season card.

Find out all about our forthcoming productions – along with a lot of other information about The Questors – on our web site.

- ▶ What's on
- ▶ Book now online
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- ▶ Art exhibitions
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www.questors.org.uk



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Questors Ealing's Theatre

BEDROOM FARCE

by Alan Ayckbourn

The Playhouse
27 September - 4 October 2008



Questors Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to the members of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as serving audience members on show nights. The club is open seven nights a week and Sunday lunchtimes and is managed and staffed entirely by volunteers. We are the proud holders of a Cask Marque award for the quality of our real ales, we appear in the 2005 edition of The Good Beer Guide, and we have been named as West Middlesex CAMRA Club of the Year 2007. Real ales recently on tap include Fuller's London Pride, Twickenham Sundancer and Fuller's Old Winter Ale. We also provide a range of draught lagers and ciders, as well as wines and spirits - all at very reasonable prices.

Opening hours:

7.00-11.00pm (10.30pm close on Sundays)

also Sunday lunchtime 12.00-2.30pm



BEDROOM FARCE

by Alan Ayckbourn

The Playhouse

27 September - 4 October 2008

Bedroom Farce

Alan Ayckbourn writes comedy, doesn't he?
So what's all this about farce?

The title of *Bedroom Farce* is perhaps a little confusing, leading you to suppose that bedroom doors open and close with alarming regularity as actors tear across the stage, missing each other by the merest whisker in a larger than life scenario. To pigeonhole the work in this way would be to do Alan Ayckbourn's play an injustice: it is so much more than that and a good deal subtler.

So, it's not a farce in the conventional sense, but it is a superb variation of the genre. The pace and speed of the sometimes grotesque combatants in a farce give way to the wit of superb narrative and dialogue that Alan Ayckbourn has written for the characters as they go about their lives.

This is where Alan Ayckbourn's gift as a writer really pays off, in that he writes about real people in credible situations: the sort of people we meet every day, struggling with situations or personal relationships. His ability to use the real world against itself to point out the humour of our eccentricities and our inherent funniness, whether we intend it or not, is what makes Alan Ayckbourn such a consummately comic and great playwright. He shows everyday life as it is, and extracts the maximum amount of humour from the human condition. It's just possible that you may recognise yourself in one (or more) of his characters.

In simple terms the play is about four married couples. Three of them are displayed in their three separate bedrooms. The fourth, pivotal, peripatetic couple travel between the three bedrooms, entangling with the other couples, causing mayhem as they go.

The first couple we meet are Della and Ernest. They are older, though perhaps not wiser, who are set in their ways, giving scant attention to each other. They are used to each other and have happily settled for what they have got.

Finely balanced against them are three younger couples.

Jan and Nick are upwardly mobile and, although married for a couple of years, are still negotiating and establishing the parameters by which they will operate within their marriage.

Kate and Malcolm have been married a little longer and have a strong chance of, one day, turning into a Della and Ernest. They are very much a couple who try to enjoy their lives despite the final couple's attempts to thwart them.

The final and travelling couple, Trevor and Susannah, are still very new to each other. They struggle to find common ground on which to let their relationship flourish. Unfortunately their attempts at negotiating with each other causes mayhem with the other couples' lives.

All four couples are at slightly different stages in their lives, but all living under the threat of their relationships potentially exploding or imploding.

The play revolves around the various couples' inability to communicate in a coherent manner with each other, their misconceptions and their incompatibility. Sometimes they find themselves sold short in the lottery that their lives have become. The narrative pursues them through their agreements and disagreements, and their tolerance and intolerance of each other and the world in general, with hilarious consequences.

Bedroom Farce was first performed in 1975. It is the seventeenth play in the writer's canon and is as funny and fresh today as it was then. A number of our acting members have told me that they have performed in this play before and are looking forward to revisiting an old friend.

It may not be a farce in the usual sense, but it's every bit as funny!

John Turner

Saturday 11 October

at 7.45pm

In the Playhouse



- La Vie en Rose
- Milord
- Non, Je ne Regrette Rien

"Handles the classics as the gems they still are"
The Guardian

EDITH PIAF

A celebration of a legend

with Tina May & her musicians



Art Exhibitions

Our regular art exhibitions offer a wonderful opportunity for local artists to display their work. Please take time to have a look when visiting the theatre.



For details on upcoming exhibitions or on exhibiting your work, please contact Jane Mason in the Questors Office on 020 8567 0011.

BEDROOM FARCE

by Alan Ayckbourn

First performance of this production: 27 September 2008

THE COMPANY

Ernest	Derek Chandler
Della	Sally Beauchannon
Jan	Sarah Beebe
Nick	Simon Rudkin
Kate	Katharine Williams
Malcom	Steven Kavanagh
Susannah	Emily Dell
Trevor	Will O'Connell
Director	John Turner
Stage Manager	Camilla Cadier
Deputy Stage Manager	Russell Fleet
Assistant Stage Managers	Eric Lister, Claudia Kalich-Offiner, Elaine Longley, Keith Collyer
Sound	Paul Wilson
Prompt	Pam Smith
Lights	Chris Edwards

Properties	Claudia Kees
Wardrobe	Jennie Yate
Set Design	Alex Markar
Set Construction	Richard Williams
Get-in Crew	House Services, Tina Harris, John Feather, Henry Broom

Programme Editor	Penelope MacLachlan
Programme Design and Print	Considerthisuk.com

Thanks to:	Julie Cruttenden, Mike Hagan, Zyg Staniaszek, Nigel Worsley, Dan Prewitt
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The Lesson & The Chairs

4 – 11 October 2008

In the Studio... love, hate, fear,
lust, passion

Two

18 – 25 October 2008

In the Studio... compelling
contemporary British drama

Biographies

Sally Beauchannon - Della

Sally has really enjoyed learning a lot about this playwright and style of play, which she had thought was easy, and she appreciates all the hard work done for her and her fellow actors by so many people behind the scenes. She thanks John Turner for his clever pushing, cajoling and encouragement in making this work.

Sarah Beebe - Jan

This is Sarah's fifth Questors performance, after *As You Like It*, *An Enemy of the People*, *The Dog in the Manger*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. More recently, she has appeared in SEDOS's *Odd Couple* at the Edinburgh Fringe 2007 and *All's Well That Ends Well* with KDC.

Derek Chandler - Ernest

Derek joined The Questors in the early sixties, first appearing in *Henry IV Part 1*, which was staged in the Old Tin Hut. He has since appeared in many plays, old and new, more recently in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Cinderella* and *A Servant of Two Masters*.

Emily Dell - Susannah

Emily moved her passion for acting to Portsmouth from the Isle of Wight. This then took her to London to take up a degree in Performing Arts. This enabled her to push herself into different genres and take part in workshops on physical theatre in Italy. She has a huge delight in theatre and is very much looking forward to perform in her first production at The Questors.

Stephen Kavanagh - Malcolm

This is Stephen's sixth Questors production. Previous performances include roles in *Richard III*, *Three Polish Shorts*, *Separate Tables*, *The Visit* and *As You Like It*.

Will O'Connell - Trevor

Will joined Acting for All at The Questors 2003, completing The Questor's Student Course in 2006. He's played *Canterbury in Henry V*, *Granddad in Saturday Sunday Monday*, and *Catesby and Tyrell in Richard III*. He juggled through *A Servant of Two Masters*, was frightened in *The Railway Children*, morose in *Polish Shorts (Widows)* and giggled his way through *Thaisie in Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Simon Rudkin - Nick

Simon recently graduated from The Questors student group, and prior to this has worked with Sleaford Little Theatre in Lincolnshire appearing in (amongst others) *An Inspector Calls* and *Then There Were None*. His performances at The Questors include *The Visit* and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*.

John Turner - Director

John started in the Young Questors and has been a member since 1959. He has appeared in, or worked on, over 100 productions. This is the sixth play he has directed, and his second Ayckbourn, having previously directed *Absent Friends* for The Questors.

Katharine Williams - Kate

Katharine completed the student group in 2001 in *The Government Inspector* and *Trelawny of the Wells*. Subsequent appearances were Betty in *Goodnight Children Everywhere*, Elaine Harper in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and last year's Christmas show *Cinderella* as a not-so-ugly sister.



Questors E-News direct to your Inbox

Get all the latest news and offers for our shows by joining our e-mail lists.

- You can choose to receive short snippets of information every week or so, or longer round-ups every month – or both if you wish!
- We'll keep the e-mails as short and simple as possible – because we know you'd prefer it that way.
- And we'll have an unsubscribe facility (which actually works) at the bottom of every message!

It's easy to sign up – just a few clicks is all it takes.

Visit www.questors.org.uk and you'll start getting our E-News in your Inbox.



Getting the most from your membership

Many members join just to see shows, but there is so much more on offer to Company Members. So why not get involved?

Front of House is a great place to start. No previous experience is needed for selling programmes, stewarding or serving in the Café; and training is provided for anyone who fancies working in Box Office. If you want to meet people and have a good time, then the best place to be is behind the Grapevine Bar – and you can volunteer for just one night or several.

Backstage staff – including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, painters and wardrobe staff – are always welcomed, and whatever your skill we'll find a place for you. If you have some experience then The Questors is a wonderful space to be a designer. But even without experience, you can help out on shows, and you're sure to get some hands-on experience. The same goes for lighting and sound – the Playhouse and Studio are both well-equipped and excellent places to learn.

You can direct if you have some experience or training, but if not then we offer various learning opportunities. The Questors have a high standard of acting, and to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – so if you have some training or experience of acting, call the Theatre Office for details of the forthcoming auditions.

There are many other activities you can join in to help out. If you're free during daylight hours, you can help with our monthly mailing or delivering leaflets, and if you're handy with maintenance then there are always little jobs to be done. Only Company members can take part in our activities, so please contact the Theatre Office if you would like to get involved or receive further information about Company membership.