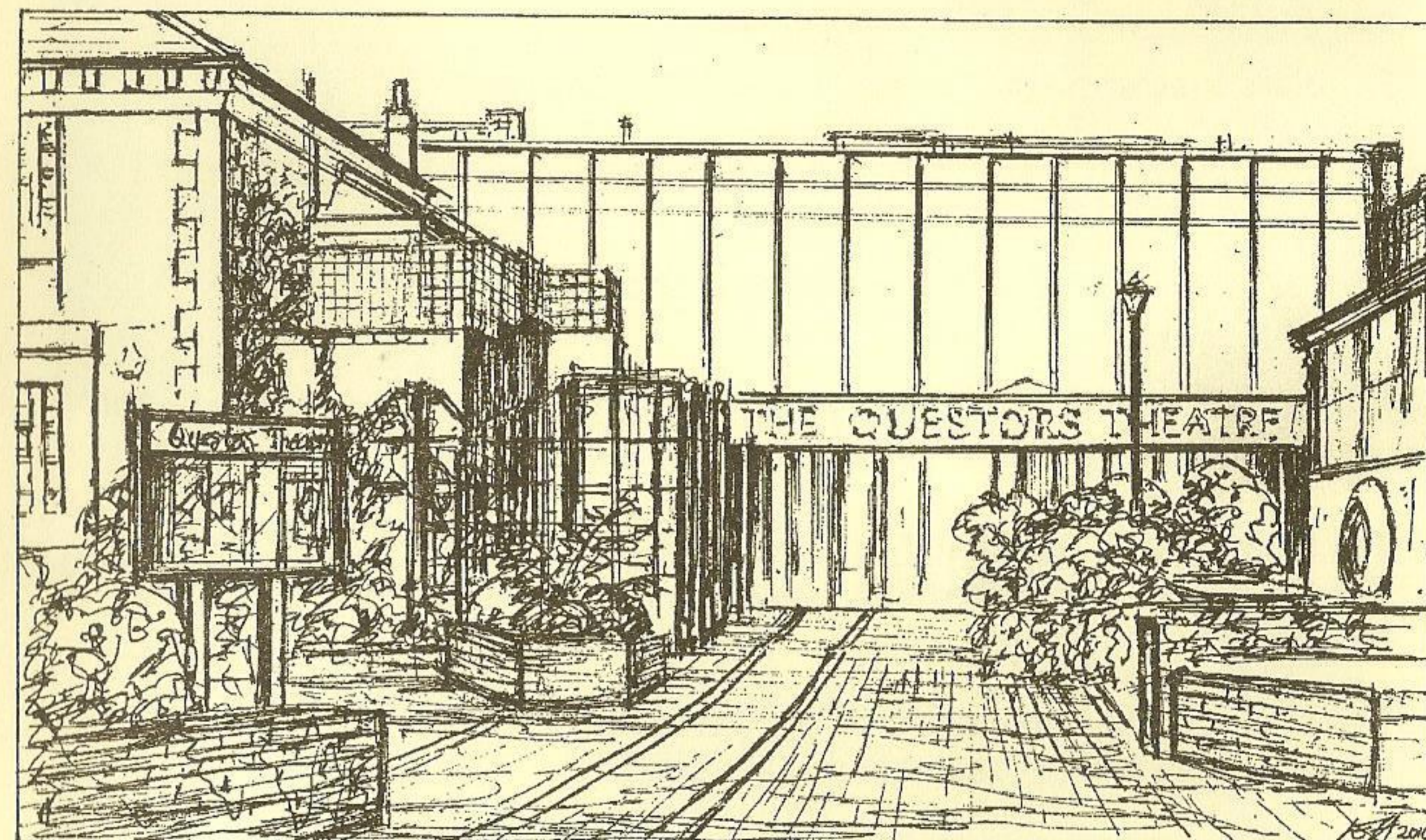


Questors, Ealing's Theatre



THE LIBERTINE

by Stephen Jeffreys

The Playhouse

17 – 24 July 2010

Qafé

Have you tried the Questors café experience yet?

Opening times Monday – Saturday:

Term time 9:00 am – 7:30 pm

Outside term time 11:30 am – 7:30 pm

On Playhouse show nights, through until the end of the first interval

Serving specialist teas and coffees, hot chocolate and soft drinks, with a selection of sandwiches cut to order.

Pre-theatre hot meal menu available on show nights up to 7:00 pm.

The Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to Members and Friends of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as 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 2010 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are 2010 CAMRA West Middlesex Club of the Year. A choice of at least three real ales is usually available, including Fuller's London Pride. 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 pm – 11:00 pm (10:30 pm close on Sundays)

Sunday lunchtime midday – 2:30 pm

See questors.org.uk/grapevine/ for more details

**Unfortunately, neither the Qafé nor the Grapevine
are able to accept credit or debit cards.**



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John Wilmot 2nd Earl of Rochester

John Wilmot was born in Ditchley, Oxfordshire on 1 April 1647. His father, Henry Wilmot a hard-drinking Royalist, had been created Earl of Rochester in 1652 for military services to Charles II during his exile; he died abroad in 1658, two years before the restoration of the monarchy in England.

At the age of twelve, Rochester graduated at Wadham College, Oxford and there, it is said, he "grew debauched". At fourteen he was awarded the degree of M.A. by Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, who was Chancellor to the University and Rochester's uncle. After carrying out a Grand Tour of France and Italy, Rochester returned to London where he graced the Restoration Court. Later, his courage in a sea-battle against the Dutch made him a hero.

In 1667 he married Elizabeth Malet, a witty heiress whom he had attempted to abduct two years earlier. Samuel Pepys describes the event in his diary for 28 May 1665:

Thence to my Lady Sandwich's, where, to my shame, I had not been a great while before. Here, upon my telling her a story of my Lord Rochester's running away on Friday night last with Mrs. Mallett, the great beauty and fortune of the North, who had supped at White Hall with Mrs. Stewart, and was going home to her lodgings with her grandfather, my Lord Haly, by coach; and was at Charing Cross seized on by both horse and foot men, and forcibly taken from him, and put into a coach with six horses, and two women provided to receive her, and carried away. Upon immediate pursuit, my Lord of Rochester (for whom the King had spoke to the lady often, but with no successe [sic]) was taken at Uxbridge; but the lady is not yet heard of, and the King mighty angry, and the Lord sent to the Tower.

Rochester's life was divided between domesticity in the country and a riotous existence at court, where he was renowned for drunkenness, vivacious conversation and "extravagant frolics" as part of the *Merry Gang*.

Rochester was fascinated by the theatre and was the model for the witty, poetry-reciting rake Dorimant in George Etherege's *The Man of Mode* (1676). According to an often repeated anecdote, his coaching of his mistress Elizabeth Barry began her career as the greatest actress of the Restoration stage.

In 1674, Rochester wrote a satire on Charles II (variously known simply as "Satyr" and by its first line, "In the Isle of Britain"), which criticised the King for being obsessed with sex at the expense of his kingdom. Charles reacted by briefly exiling Rochester from the court. During his brief exile, Rochester appears to have spent time at his estate in Adderbury and perhaps also posing as a merchant in London's old city. He then returned to his seat in the House of Lords after an absence of about seven weeks.

Rochester fell into disfavour again in 1676. During a late-night scuffle with the night watch — a scuffle probably provoked by Rochester himself — one of Rochester's companions was killed by a pike-thrust. Rochester was reported to have fled the scene.

Following this incident, Rochester briefly went underground, impersonating a quack physician, "Doctor Bendo". Under this persona, he claimed skill in treating "barrenness", i.e. infertility and other gynaecological disorders. Gilbert Burnet wryly noted that Rochester's practice was "not without success", implying his intercession of himself as surreptitious sperm donor. On occasion, Rochester also assumed the role of the grave and matronly Mrs. Bendo, presumably so that he could inspect young women privately without arousing their suspicions.

By the age of 33 Rochester was dying, presumably from syphilis, gonorrhoea, other venereal diseases, as well as the effects of alcoholism. His mother had him attended in his final weeks by her religious associates, particularly Gilbert Burnet, who later became the Bishop of Salisbury. A deathbed renunciation of atheism was published and promulgated as the conversion of a prodigal. This became legendary, reappearing in numerous pious tracts over the next two centuries. Because the first published account of this story appears in Burnet's own writings, some have disputed its accuracy, suggesting that he shaped the account to enhance his own reputation. However, other sources, including documents signed by Rochester, confirm that in his final months his thoughts turned towards religion and the afterlife. In the early morning of 26 July, 1680, Rochester died "without a shudder or a sound". Rochester was later buried at Spelsbury Church in Spelsbury, Oxfordshire.

Forthcoming Events

THE ROVER

by Aphra Behn

6 – 10 September 2010

The Minack Theatre, Cornwall

The recent Questors production tours to the open-air Minack Theatre.
Tickets from: www.minack.com

JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL

by Keith Waterhouse

2 – 9 October 2010

The Playhouse

The new season starts with the adventures of the real-life journalist in Soho's Coach and Horses public house.

INTERACTIVE DAY

MIDDAY TO 5:00PM SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

Theatre tours, demonstrations, workshops, exhibitions, barbecue, bar – free fun for all the family.

by Stephen Jeffreys

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 17 July 2010

CAST

in order of appearance

John Wilmot, Second Earl of Rochester

Charles II, a monarch

George Etherege, a playwright

Charles Sackville, Earl of Dorset and Middlesex

Billy Downs, a young spark

Jane, a prostitute

Mrs Will Ufton, a coffee house proprietor

Tom Alcock, a serving man

Molly Luscombe, a stage manager

Harry Harris, an actor

Elizabeth Barry, an actress

Huysmans, a painter

Elizabeth Malet, a country wife

Constable of the Watch

Tom Lincoln

Joel Dyer

Ellis McNorthey-Gibbs

Lewis Brown

Tara Dowd

Ellie Jeffreys

Katy Bond

Jed Chambers

Katy Bond

Lewis Brown

Clara Latham

Ellis McNorthey-Gibbs

Sherralyn Lee

Joel Dyer

Playgoers, whores, clients, guards and watch are played by members of the cast.

Music for the song in Act 2 of this production was composed by **Mickey Gallagher** and was recorded by **Don Kincaid**.

The performance lasts approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes including a 15 minute interval.

**Please turn off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.**

PRODUCTION

Director and Designer

Assistant Director

Costume Designer

Lighting Designer

Sound Designer

Stage Manager

Assisting Stage Manager

Deputy Stage Managers

Assistant Stage Managers

Properties

Prompter

Lighting Operators

Lighting Riggers

Wardrobe Assistants

Construction Manager

Constructors

Scenic Artists

Makeup

Photographer

Thanks to

Mark Fitzgerald

Geoffrey Morgan

Sarah Andrews

Tim Edwards

Colin Horne

Clare Watson

Kate Townsend

Hunter Gibson, Liz Prior

Henry Broom, Tracey Fletcher, Stephanie Moore

Liz Cooper

Pam Smith

Sarah Clopet, Anthony Doran

Francois Langton, Richard Mead,

Chris Tomlins, Morgan Weaver

Elaine Bates, Mary Davies, Helen Karasiewicz,

Pam Smith, Jennie Yates

Clive Whitcroft

Henry Broom, John Howe, Alex Whitcroft

Bron Blake, Jenny Richardson

Celine Boulhaya, Emily Johnson, Valentina Rock

Richard Mead

**Julie Cruttenden, Tina Harris, Sylvia Wall,
House Services, The Questors Office Staff**

The Questors Student Group Tutors:

Director of Studies &

First Year Tutor

Second Year Tutor

Voice Teacher

Movement Teacher

David Emmet

Mark Fitzgerald

Tim Birkett

Nicholas Jonne Wilson

Biographies

Katy Bond – *Mrs Will Ufton & Molly Luscombe*

Katy has been involved in performance from a young age. Before leaving New Zealand, she completed a BA in Theatre Studies, Education in English, which involved a different production every week for four years. Since joining The Questors Student Group, Katy has worked as an ASM on *Madam Bovary* and played Sarah in the *Accrington Pals*.

Lewis Brown – *Charles Sackville & Harry Harris*

Lewis graduated from Student Group 62 in 2009, as part of which he performed in *Far From The Madding Crowd* and *Henry VI*. He has also appeared in *Cogner Au Plafond*, both at The Questors and at the AITA/IATA 1st World Festival of Youth Theatre in Vienna, and as Naz in *Mercury Fur*.

Jed Chambers – *Tom Alcock*

Having started to act at Questors on an acting course at age 14, Jed then went to Hammersmith West London College to do a two-year BTEC in Performing Arts. He also did a two-week course with The National Youth Theatre after which he joined The Questors Student Group. He is hoping to go to drama school and has re-calls for both LAMDA and The Guildhall Drama School. He played Tom in *The Accrington Pals*.

Sherralyn Lee – *Elizabeth Malet*

Sherralyn started acting at the age of five, since when she has studied drama at college and university. She performed with Frantic Assembly in *The Service Charge* at The Lyric, Hammersmith. She also performed at The Union Theatre in *Vinegar Tom* and played May in *The Accrington Pals*. She is very excited at having been cast in a leading role in next season's *Ladies Day*.

Tara Dowd – *Billy Downs*

Tara graduated from Student Group 59 in 2006, since when she has gone onto perform in *The Merchant of Venice*, *Trojan Women*, *Richard III*, *Hay Fever*, *Pygmalion* and *Shakespeare A La Carte*, which went to Gloucester, Massachusetts this year. Tara will start training at Drama Studio London in October.

Joel Dyer – *Charles II & Constable of the Watch*

Joel has acted at The Questors for eight years appearing in *Guards! Guards!*, *Peter Pan* and *Ernie's Incredible Illucinations*, amongst others. He had a piece of his own staged entitled *Blood and Presidency* as part of the *Unseens* project. Outside of The Questors, Joel has played the title roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth* and *Oliver*. He played Ralph in *The Accrington Pals* and will begin studying at RADA in September.

Ellie Jeffreys – *Jane*

Ellie has been acting for three years and has enjoyed various roles in film, commercials and on stage. She has found joining The Questors a valuable experience in the progression of her acting. *The Libertine* has proved to be a great play for her final-year production at The Questors, after playing Bertha in *The Accrington Pals*.

Clara Latham – *Elizabeth Barry*

Clara studied Drama and the Arts at school and took part in *Macbeth*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Translations*. Since leaving school, she has performed in a Shakespeare production with Dame Judi Dench and Patrick Stewart. Having joined The Questors Student Group, she has worked on a number of plays including *Kvetch*, *The Man of Mode* and *Betrayal* as well as ASMing on *Henry VI* and *Far from the Madding Crowd*. She played Eva in *The Accrington Pals*.

Tom Lincoln – *John Wilmot*

A keen performer throughout his school days, studying drama to A-Level standard, Tom is happy to be back, The Questors having offered the ideal reintroduction to the theatre. In September, Tom commences study for a BA (Hons) in Acting at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He played CSM Rivers in *The Accrington Pals*.

Ellis McNorthey-Gibbs – *George Etherege & Huysmans*

Ellis joined The Questors in 2007. As an acting ASM, his credits include *Macbeth* and *Henry VI*. He is a teaching assistant for The Questors Youth Theatre and a member of the Lyric Theatre Young Company with whom he recently acted in *Loldon* and *365*. He took the roles of Arthur and Reggie in *The Accrington Pals*.

Sarah Andrews – *Costume Designer*

Joined Questors in 1977 as a member of Student Group 32 and, since graduating, has appeared in many plays at the Questors, most recently in *The Comedy of Errors*. Sarah is one of the triumvirate who run the Costume Department and has designed and dressed a countless number of shows, most recently *A Christmas Carol*, *The Accrington Pals* and *Three Sisters*.

Tim Edwards – *Lighting Designer*

Tim has been involved with lighting at The Questors since the age of 16. His recent lighting design credits include *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Mercury Fur*, *Vincent in Brixton*, *Peter Pan*, *Dogs Barking* and *Broken Glass*. Tim also lights shows outside of The Questors and runs a lighting design company.

Mark Fitzgerald – *Director & Designer*

Mark is Joint Artistic Director of The Questors Theatre. Directing credits include: *The Accrington Pals*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Far From the Madding Crowd*, *Henry VI*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Richard III*, *Separate Tables*, *The Visit*, *Henry V*, *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*, *This Happy Breed* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Mark also works as an acting coach for television and radio. Films include the award-winning *Seven Sins of England* for Channel Four.

TALKBACK – Wednesday 21 July

Come meet the Director and Cast for an informal discussion in The Upper Foyer as soon as possible after the performance on
Wednesday 21 July.

Colin Horne – Sound Designer

Work at The Questors since 1976 includes: Company Treasurer '77 – '79; Production Manager – *Nicholas Nickleby*; Stage Manager – *Lark Rise*, *Dead Funny*, *Translations*. Sound Designs include *Kennedy's Children*, *Equus*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *King Lear*, *This Happy Breed*, *Vincent in Brixton*, *Henry V*, *Richard III*, *Far from the Madding Crowd*, *Broken Glass* and *The Homecoming* and many other productions. Set Construction for *Broken Glass*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Great Expectations*, *Translations*, *Dead Funny*, *The Boy Friend*, *Cabaret*, *Happy End*, *Cinderella*, *Sisters* and far too many others. Also original Sound Design for all the Coarse Acting Shows at The Questors, Edinburgh Fringe, Scottish Television and The Shaftesbury Theatre.

Geoffrey Morgan – Assistant Director

Joined The Questors in 2002 and has been a very active member ever since, on stage, backstage and front of house. His previous appearances on stage include *Early Morning*, *Conversations After a Burial*, *Far Away*, *Madame Bovary – Breakfast With Emma*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Comedy of Errors*. He also sings Gilbert & Sullivan with Julian Light Opera.

Jennie Yates – Costume Designer

Since joining The Questors in 2000, Jennie has worked on numerous productions, costuming from stock, making and designing. Her Questors credits are too many to list but include *The Fan*, *Habeas Corpus*, *The Enchanted Knight*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Pierglass*.

LOTS OF PROMISES

In the Upper Foyer
Sunday 25 July
at 7:15 pm

AUCTION



Late lots accepted. Forms in members' office or from turners.uk@gmail.com



A QEvent for QReNew

Join Us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and benefit from membership:

- ✓ Half price personal tickets for Questors productions*
- ✓ Discounted Guest tickets when you bring friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets†
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Allowed to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Colour magazine three times a year
- ✓ Regular Members' Newsletter
- ✓ Regular programme card
- ✓ Vote at general meetings
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club

*Reduced prices exclude certain events. †Under 18 only, maximum four per event. Must be collected at the performance and accompanied by an adult member.

Introductory offer – as a welcome for first time members, either try us out for six months at half price, or get your first 15 months' membership for the price of 12.

Getting the most from your membership

We have a wide range of opportunities for you to become actively involved front-of-house or backstage. Volunteer help is always needed for selling programmes or stewarding, and training is provided if you'd like to work in Box Office with our computerized system. To meet members in a social setting, volunteer to help behind the Grapevine bar. Backstage staff including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, sound and light designers and operators, painters, wardrobe and costume and set designers are always welcomed; whatever your skills, we'll find a place for you. We also have courses for those wishing to direct.

The Questors has a high standard of acting and, to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – call the Theatre Office for details of forthcoming auditions.

Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 16. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

Cover Image: Elaine Hagan

Programme: Nigel Bamford & John MacCarrick

The Questors Theatre
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