

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
- ✓ Opportunity to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Access to *iQ* – the members-only website: members.questors.org.uk
- ✓ Receive a full-colour members' magazine three times a year
- ✓ Access to exclusive news on *iQ* and email newsletter
- ✓ Receive the regular programme leaflet
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Special invitations, events and offers not available to the public
- ✓ Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

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

Introductory offer – as a welcome for first-time members, **when you pay by Direct Debit**, get your first 12 months' membership for the price of six.

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 computerised 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 lighting 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.

The Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 18. 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.

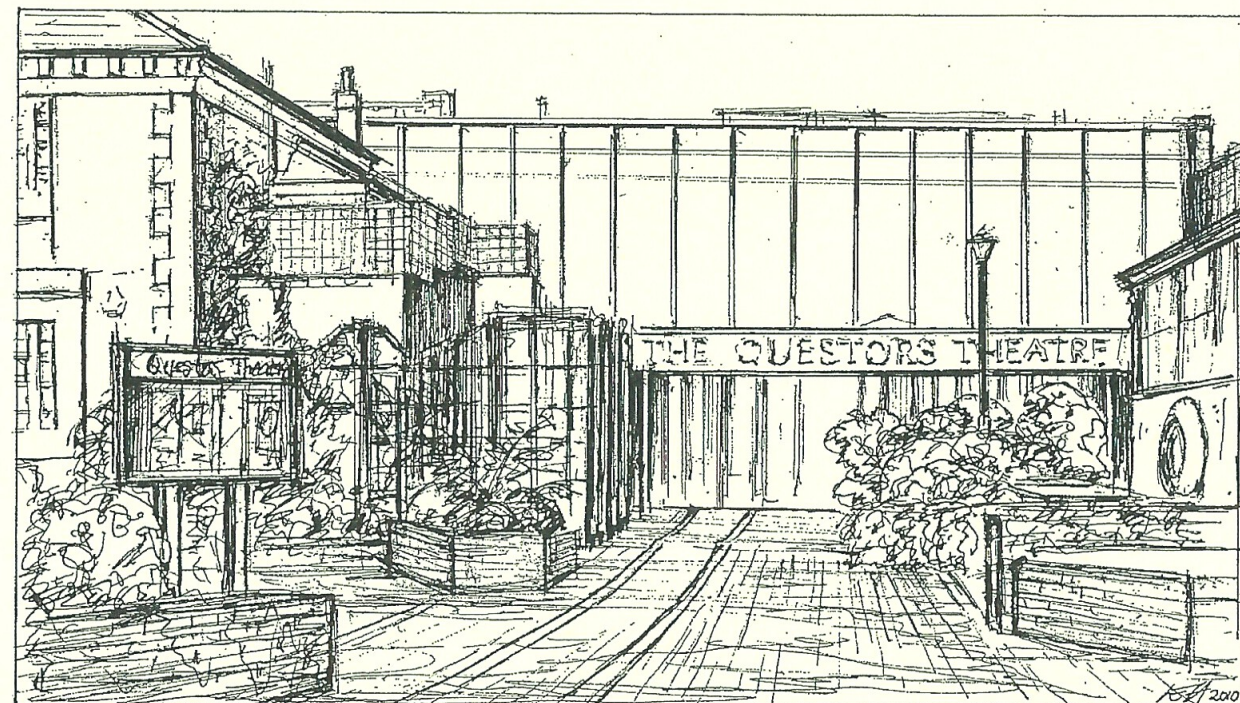
Cover Image: Elaine Hagan

The Questors Theatre
Box Office: 020 8567 5184
Email: enquiries@questors.org.uk

Programme: Nigel Bamford
12 Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5 5BQ
Theatre Office: 020 8567 0011
Registered Charity No. 207516



Questors, Ealing's Theatre



Directors' Showcases

High Tea by Mari Lloyd

George's Room by Alun Owen

Red Peppers by Noël Coward

The Studio

19 – 27 February 2016

Qafé

Pop in for lunch or an afternoon snack – serving specialist teas and coffees, hot chocolate and soft drinks, with a selection of sandwiches cut to order.

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday midday – 5:00 pm
Saturday (term time) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

For Judi Dench Playhouse productions:

Hot meal menu up to 6:30 pm (not Sundays) with drinks, ice creams and snacks during the first interval.

Sunday matinees midday to interval.

Sunday Cream Tea Matinees as advertised.

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 2016 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are **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



The Grapevine now accepts payments by card (contactless only).

 russell
collins

proudly support

The Questors Theatre

and its presentation of

Directors' Showcases



020 8567 7080

www.russellcollins.co.uk

reduced selling fees with this advertisement

At the heart of Ealing's
property scene
for over 30 years

Ealing's leading independent agent specialising
in residential sales, lettings and property management.



8 Springbridge Road, Ealing Broadway, London W5 2AA
Sales: 020 8565 1910 | Lettings: 020 8579 9153

www.sintonhomes.com



Teaching confidence
Teaching respect
Teaching success



Clifton Lodge

An independent preparatory school
for boys and girls ages 3 to 13

Please call us
for information
about open
days or to
arrange
a private
tour at your
convenience.

Clifton Lodge School
8 Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5 5BG

Tel: 020 8579 3662

Email: admissions@cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk

www.cliftonlodgeschool.co.uk

COGNITA Clifton Lodge is part of the
TEACHING EXCELLENCE Cognita Schools Group
www.cognitaschools.com



Image © robert_s / Shutterstock.com

Directors' Showcases

High Tea by Mari Lloyd

George's Room by Alun Owen

Red Peppers by Noël Coward

The Studio

19 – 27 February 2016

Directors' Showcases

High Tea

High Tea is a drama about a middle-aged man, Tony, who has been diagnosed with a degenerative and life-limiting neurological condition, the impact of this on the decisions made on his behalf and those he is still able to make for himself. It explores his relationship with his wife, Julie, and his mother, Edith – and their relationship with each other. What would you do if you were told you had two years to live? What was probably always a tense relationship between Julie and her mother-in-law is tested to the limit as the dire consequences of Tony's illness become clearer. Inspired by events in the writer's life, the humour in the play provides light relief from the seriousness of the subject matter.

Cathy Swift, Director

George's Room

I first encountered *George's Room* in 1967 when it was broadcast live on ITV. Some years later, as a student of acting, I was cast as the man in a stage production and I am happy that after all these years The Questors has given me the opportunity to direct this excellent little piece. The TV production was criticised at the time for being a mere recording of a stage play. This may have been an accurate observation but if it had never been broadcast and had just remained a one-act stage play then how many people would ever have seen it? The piece is essentially a character study and needs to be seen in a format that brings the characters to the fore, rather than slick editing, excessive camera movements and weird camera angles. So what some saw as a flaw I see as the right approach even on television. I am indebted to long-standing Questors member, Mark Redrup, for informing me that Alan Clarke, who directed the TV production, was a member of The Questors and directed a number of productions here back in the 1960s. Simplicity of staging while concentrating on the two acting performances was my approach to the piece and I hope that I and my two actors, Freddy and Andy, have managed to do justice to Owen's play.

Andrew Hill, Director

Red Peppers

Red Peppers takes us back to the world of Variety Theatre. In the 1930s, the country's favourite entertainers were performing their routines to packed houses all over the country.

The big names who topped the bill were the pop stars of the day. Variety survived into the post-war era, but was plundered by television, looking for stars. And ultimately TV proved to be its death. Today, *Red Peppers* provides a snapshot of life on and off stage for the entertainers who created this unique form of popular culture.

The play focuses on George and Lily Pepper, a husband and wife team who sing, dance and tell very bad jokes. They spend their time backstage bickering over their routines and complaining about their place on the bill. You wonder why they stay in the business, a couple of second-raters traipsing from one town to another, performing to a succession of audiences who give them the bird. Then you realise why they do it. It's their life; without Variety they have nothing.

So when everyone else turns on them, they forget their differences and pull together. You know exactly where they'll be this time next week. In another Northern mill town. Bolton or Bury, Oldham or Rochdale. Cheap lodgings and shabby dressing rooms. Steak and chips, and bottles of beer between the houses. And complaining about their place on the bill.

Noël Coward would have seen all this at first hand, having been introduced to the stage as a child performer. Considering he wrote the play eighty years ago, it holds up remarkably well today. It's a sharply-observed piece, and the script comes alive in performance.

Today, we are used to seeing fly-on-the-wall dramas on TV. Back in the thirties, this must have been an eye-opener for theatre-goers, exposing as it does the seedy backstage world of the Variety entertainers.

Peter Gould, Director

Enjoyed the Show?

Let us know what you think, and connect with The Questors Theatre for updates on all upcoming productions and lots more.



Follow us [@questorstheatre](#) and find us on [Facebook](#).

DIRECTORS' SHOWCASES

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 19 February 2016

CASTS

in order of appearance

HIGH TEA

by Mari Lloyd

Directed by **Cathy Swift**

Julie
Tony
Edith

Rachel Griffiths
Will O'Connell
Maggie Turner

GEORGE'S ROOM

by Alun Owen

Directed by **Andrew Hill**

Woman **Freddy Sledge**
Man **Andy Wolfe**

A suburban house in the late 1960s.
There is a brief blackout to denote a
short passage of time.

INTERVAL

RED PEPPERS

by Noël Coward

Directed by **Peter Gould**

George Pepper	Iain Reid
Lily Pepper	Samantha Moran
Bert Bentley	Will O'Connell
Mr Edwards	Rich Keeble
Mabel Grace	Jennifer Nettles
Alf	Quinn Goodliffe or Jamie Gould

Piano	Graham Reid
Percussion	Laurence Reid
Choreographer	Annie Hackett

PRODUCTION

Set Design Advisor	Peter Collins
Lighting Designer Assisted by	Andrew Whadcoat Carole Swan
Sound Designer	Martin Choules

Stage Management	Alec Atchison, Steve Cowan, Jane Dwyer, Julie Hadwin, Ellie Hopkins, Hannah Hughes, Philip Sindall, Hiral Varsani, Fengfan Zhou
------------------	--

Prompter	Jessica Moat (<i>George's Room</i>)
----------	--

Wardrobe	Anne Gilmour, Sue Peckitt
----------	--------------------------------------

Lighting Operators	Laurie Swan, Monica Wyer
--------------------	-------------------------------------

Lighting Riggers	Terry Mummery, Chris Newall
------------------	--

Hair and Make-Up	Delamar Academy
------------------	------------------------

Photographer	Peter Collins
--------------	----------------------

Marketing	Liz Mead
-----------	-----------------

Thanks to	Colin Horne, Mary Leadbitter, Geoff Moore
-----------	--

Please turn off all mobile phones and similar electronic devices.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

Biographies

Martin Choules – *Sound Designer*

Martin has been hanging around The Questors for far too long. His most recent sound designs have been for *Teechers*, *Absurd Person Singular*, *The Duchess of Malfi*, *NSFW* and *Rhinoceros*. He also writes and techs for The Errors of Comedy.

Quinn Goodliffe – *Alf (Red Peppers)*

Quinn is a member of Questors Youth Theatre. He has appeared in *The Duchess of Malfi*, *Macbeth*, *One for the Road*, *All My Sons*, *Dick Whittington and His Cat* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. However, these are just filling in time for him until the all-important role of Doctor Who comes up...

Jamie Gould – *Alf (Red Peppers)*

Jamie spent eleven years with Questors Youth Theatre and is now a member of Young Studio. His QYT productions include *Brave New World* and *DNA*. He also appeared in *Beauty and the Beast*, and shared the title role in *The Winslow Boy*, making him one of the two Ronnies.

Peter Gould – *Director (Red Peppers)*

Peter has taken production photos and made video trailers for more than thirty Questors productions. As a play writer, he was a finalist in the Paul Darby competition in 2014. Since completing the Questors course for new directors, he has directed a staged reading of *Walter*, a rehearsed reading of *Red Sunset*, and was Assistant Director on *The Master Builder*.

Rachel Griffiths – *Julie (High Tea)*

Rachel has been a member of The Questors since 2003 and an acting member since 2008 after graduating from Student Group 61. She has appeared in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Mary Stuart*, *Coarse Shakespeare – The Final Folio* and *Have I None*. She also appeared in *The Norman Conquests – Living Together* as part of the Playhouse 50th anniversary celebrations.

Annie Hackett – *Choreographer (Red Peppers)*

This is Annie's first venture into choreography at The Questors. She was previously a member of the ballroom dancing chorus in *West 5 Story*.

Andrew Hill – *Director (George's Room)*

Since joining The Questors in 2008, Andrew has appeared in seven productions from ancient Greek drama to *Brassed Off* to Harold Pinter, as well as *Hobson's Choice*, *The Crucible* and others on the way. He is now revisiting *George's Room* after appearing in a production of it many years ago.

Rich Keeble – *Mr Edwards (Red Peppers)*

Rich has played a variety of backstage and on-stage roles at The Questors, perhaps most notably Sabot in *Rope* (Christmas 2014) and lately the Fitzwarren brothers (plus one!) in *Dick Whittington and His Cat* (2015/16). He invites you please to sit tight, enjoy the show, and don't throw owt!

Samantha Moran – *Lily Pepper (Red Peppers)*

Sam has done a fair amount of theatre from Shakespeare to panto and most things in between. *Red Peppers* is her second production with The Questors, after *Rhinoceros* in 2015, before which she was an Acting for All student.

Jennifer Nettles – *Mabel Grace (Red Peppers)*

Jennifer is excited to make her official Questors debut in *Red Peppers*. She completed the Acting for All and Encore courses, as well as several Platform modules. Last year she appeared in two rehearsed readings and the 24-Hour Plays. She can also be seen performing throughout the year with Pop-Up Theatre Company.

Will O'Connell – *Tony (High Tea), Bert Bentley (Red Peppers)*

Since completing Student Group 59 in 2006, Will has appeared in many Questors productions including two Minack shows: *The Rover* and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*. Less active since 2012, his more recent Questors shows include *Potter's Amazing Fleas* and *One for the Road* (Rehearsed Reading).

Iain Reid – *George Pepper (Red Peppers)*

After graduating from Student Group 29 in 1976, Iain played in diverse productions from *The Boyfriend* to *Twelfth Night*, *The Fall of the House of Usher* and the first PlayBack production, *Soapsud Island*, in the period up to 1992. Since returning in 2013 he has played in *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp*, *West 5 Story*, *Macbeth* and *Rhinoceros* as well as various other Questors events and is a regular Reminiscence Roadshow performer.

Freddy Sledge – *Woman (George's Room)*

Freddy Sledge was a Henry until quite recently. She has been a member of The Questors since 1993 and is looking forward to her 25th Anniversary! Favourite roles include Jo in *A Taste of Honey*, Maggie in *The Mill on the Floss*, Vicky in *Dogs Barking*, Louise in *New Boy* and assorted thugs in *A Clockwork Orange*. If you fancy a dance, just ask her about her Lindy-hop!

Carole Swan – *Assistant Lighting Designer*

Carole joined The Questors just over a year ago and her head is still spinning from the giddy ascent up the lighting ladder from 'extra pair of hands' at get ins to Lighting Designer for *The Lying Kind* at Christmas 2015. This is her second year working alongside Andrew Whadcoat on the Directors' Showcases.

Cathy Swift – Director (High Tea)

Cathy has been involved in all aspects of community theatre since her early 20s. She joined The Questors in 2010, and has worked backstage on a number of productions. In 2015 she was Associate Director on *Fear and Misery of the Third Reich* and directed a rehearsed reading of Nick Warburton's *Office Song*. She also directed two new, short plays as part of City Lit's Page to Stage Course, for which she won the award for Best Director.

Maggie Turner – Edith (High Tea)

A graduate of the 1969 Student Group 22, Maggie's long experience includes performing in English in a Russian play on a Russian stage, and in Russian in an English play on an English stage: the first as Sonya in *Uncle Vanya* which toured to Moscow, the second as Nadya Lenin in Stoppard's *Travesties* in the Judi Dench Playhouse. Most recently, she played the magistrate, Hesther Salomon, in *Equus*.

Andrew Whadcoat – Lighting Designer

Andrew has worked for the BBC since 1980, initially in studios, but for most of his career in transmission, playout and network engineering. He and his wife have been Questors members since 1995. Andrew did the Acting for All course in 1999, but has only got involved in lighting since 2013.

Andy Wolfe – Man (George's Room)

Andy joined The Questors as a member of Student Group 62 and has performed as actor, musician and Music Director on shows including: *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Musician & MD), *Henry VI* (Earl of Warwick), *Far From the Madding Crowd* (Henery Fray), *The Rover* (Belville and Guitarist/Composer), *Macbeth* (by Crucial Image – Banquo and Guitarist/Composer, Projection Designer).

Next Questors Productions

GRIMM TALES

adapted by Carol Ann Duffy
dramatised by Tim Supple

27 February – 5 March 2016

The Judi Dench Playhouse

Questors Youth Theatre presents these scary, thrilling and funny tales adapted from the Brothers Grimm, including *Hansel and Gretel* and *Cinderella*, along with less well known stories.

DEAD WHITE MALES

by David Williamson

11 – 19 March 2016

The Studio

Student Group 69 presents this fiery, comic drama. An impressionable young student is taught by her fiercely intellectual lecturer that the literary works of 'dead white males' are ideologically outdated. And then she discovers Shakespeare.

Grow your potential at Capel Manor College

Capel is London's largest land-based college and a unique learning environment, unique because it combines academic excellence with practical skills in a first-class professional environment.

We have a wide-range of full-time, part-time and one-day courses for young people and adults in further and higher education.

Find out more at our next
**Gunnersbury Park Centre
Advice Evening**

Thursday, 17 March - 5.00pm
to 7.30pm.

At Capel you will be supported
and inspired, we will help you
achieve your goals.

“ From the outset Capel
has inspired me with its
great setting, inspirational
people and general
atmosphere that anything
is possible. ”



Capel Manor College

For further information on our courses and centres call:
08456 122 122 or visit www.capel.ac.uk



Leading the field in animal management, arboriculture, balloon artistry, conservation, countryside management, floristry, garden design, horticulture, landscaping, leatherwork, outdoor adventure, saddlery, tree surgery and wildlife courses at centres across London.



Young Veterinary Partnership



Welcome to Young Veterinary Partnership
providing exceptional local care for your
pets, around the clock, 365 days a year.

Consultation times:

Mon-Fri: 8.30-10.30am, 2.30-4pm, 5-7pm

Sat: 9-11am, 2.30-4pm

Sun: 10-11am

43 The Mall
Ealing
W5 3TJ

020 8567 2724

www.youngvets.co.uk



AUTO WORKSHOP

RENAULT • AUDI • VW • PEUGEOT

T: 020 8567 1907 www.autoworkshop.com

- Servicing
- Diagnostics
- Air Conditioning
- MOT Station

A first class service that's second to none



Auto Workshop Ltd., 103 Elers
Road Ealing, London W13 9QE





CARE VISITS AT HOME

A Realistic Alternative to Residential Care



- Help with Getting Up and Going To Bed
- Help with Personal Hygiene
- Administration of Medication
- Preparation of Meals
- Help with Mobility and Shopping
- Full Live-In Service available
- Your Care Plan is tailored to your specific needs
- Each customer has a named contact in our office
- Our kind and caring staff are professionally trained and CRB checked
- We are working with local pharmacies for safer medication at home

For more information please call or email:

Bluebird Care (Ealing)

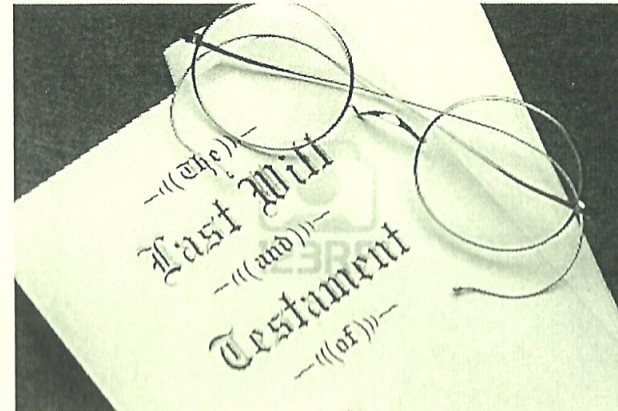
155/157 Pitshanger Lane, Ealing W5 1RH

ealing@bluebirdcare.co.uk T: 020 8810 4666 www.bluebirdcare.co.uk

We are registered with the Care Quality Commission and are full members of the United Kingdom Home Care Association



Become a BEQUESTOR



This season, The Questors, Ealing's theatre, is presenting 17 plays. This is a tremendous undertaking for our members, many of whom have demanding full time jobs. Everyone appearing on stage, and working unseen in our creative and technical teams, gives their hard work and dedication out of love of theatre. Even with modern media,

a live play can give us an experience which rewards us like no other – as theatre has been doing for thousands of years.

We receive no help from public funding for The Questors, although Ealing and London are hugely enriched by our work. Ealing would be a lesser place without The Questors at its heart. And local children and young people would be deprived of opportunities without the Questors Academy, which provides classes for over five hundred children and teenagers every week.

Please consider making a donation to help us continue to make our huge contribution to Ealing's cultural life. You may prefer to do this while you are alive. Or you may prefer to leave a legacy in your will (or in a codicil if you have already made a will). Our splendid new donor board in the upper foyer will record every gift or legacy of £1000 or more (anonymously if you prefer). But no gift is too small to help – they all mount up – and any gift, either while you are alive or in your will, attracts tax relief. We will acknowledge these gifts on the iQ website unless you prefer us not to. You can find a Gift Aid form and an example of simple forms of legacy on our website at questors.org.uk/giving.

giftaid it

The Trustees of The Questors, which is a charity, will ensure that your gift is put to the best possible use. But if you wish to allocate it to a particular purpose, please feel free to speak in confidence to Andrea Bath, our Executive Director, on 020 8567 0011.

