

BOURNEMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE

NEWSLETTER 2025-2026 Season October 2025 Issue 1717

Member: Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain
www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

11 Jameson Road, Bournemouth BH9 2QD

Bournemouth

Little
Theatre

presents:

The UNFRIEND by Steven Moffat

Directed by Caroline Burr



21st-25th October 2025, 7:45pm

Bournemouth Little Theatre,

11 Jameson Road, Bournemouth BH9 2QD

Tickets: bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

This amateur production is by arrangement with Nick Hern Books Ltd

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COMMITTEE CORNER

Dear Members and Patrons,

What a great production of *DEATHTRAP* we had in September. Full house audiences laughed, jumped in shock, and 'didn't see that coming' a number of times during Barry's production. The bar was set high for the next productions at BLT, and we are sure everyone involved in them will ensure great, high quality plays are presented each time!

Next up is Steven Moffat's *THE UNFRIEND*, in October, directed by Caroline Burr. Tickets are selling fast (we seem to say this regularly, but it is always true!) Over 87% sold to date—you had better get a move on.....!

See page 3 and 4 for director's comments and cast details.

BLITHE SPIRIT, our Christmas production is now cast. (See page 5 for details), and the audition notice for our February 2026 production of *I'LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT* (page 7) to be directed by Don Cherrett.

Take a look and see how you can get involved.

An important date to note is **Sunday, 12th October 2025 at 7pm**. It is our annual AGM, where we report on what we did in the year to 30 June 2025 and what plans we have for the year to 30 June 2026. After the 'formalities' we have a social and, this year, a celebration of 50 years at Jameson Road! All are welcome to join us, and get to know us, and what we do. At the AGM, any matters that need voting on, can only be voted by paid up members of BLTC, but anyone can come along and hear how we are doing.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM and *THE UNFRIEND*!

Best wishes, BLTC Committee

ADVANCE TICKET BOOKINGS

Our mailing address for all ticket bookings is:

BLT Box Office, 54 Wentworth Avenue, Bournemouth, BH5 2EG

Tickets £14.00 Members £12.00

- ◆ **BOOK ONLINE** at www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk (booking fees apply) OR SCAN THE QR CODE->
- ◆ **WRITE** enclosing cheque (payable to BLTC) and SAE to BLTC Box Office (address above)



Tickets will be issued on receipt of a completed booking form, cheque and SAE. Where an SAE is not enclosed, tickets will be retained to be collected at the theatre on the night of the performance.

It is really easy to book online and, of course, so convenient. Whenever you decide you want to book tickets for a show—whatever the day and whatever the time—you can go ahead.

But—and there's always a but, isn't there? - it is also, sadly, easy to make mistakes.

By making your booking too quickly, it is easy to book on the wrong day—or even to book for the wrong show! So.....a word to the wise...

CHECK, CHECK AND CHECK AGAIN at every stage of your booking that it exactly fits your requirements, as our booking agent does not make changes and refunds are only given if booking protection is taken out with TicketSource, and the reason for cancellation is covered by their insurance.

Please be aware that member discount on tickets is only available to fully paid up members, for their own ticket or that of another fully paid up member.

Of course, if you are not entirely happy with the on-line process you can always use the postal option detailed above in the second bullet point.

A FINAL PLEA: If you have booked tickets and know that you, or one of your party, will not be able to attend, please let the Box Office know as soon as possible. Thank you

NEXT PRODUCTION: THE UNFRIEND

by Steven Moffat

Directed by Caroline Burr

This is the fifth play Caroline has directed for BLT, having previously been at the helm of such sell-outs as 'Plaza Suite', and 'Gaslight'. The lines are learnt, the set is almost complete and the company are having great fun rehearsing this hilarious comedy.



About the Play

This uproarious play was written in 2022 by Steven Moffatt (Dr Who and Sherlock) and has been performed at Chichester and in the West End.

While on holiday Peter and Debbie meet Elsa, a Trump-loving American. When she invites herself to stay, they decide to look her up online. Too late they learn that deadly danger has just boarded a plane from Denver!

But how do you protect your family without being impolite? It's difficult to say what you really think, when you're worried about committing a faux pas.

Michael Billington of The Guardian called The Unfriend "*The funniest play by a British writer since Ayckbourn at his peak*"

It's proving very popular with 87% of seats already sold.

We hope to see you there!

The UNFRIEND

CAST

PETER	Martyn French
DEBBIE	Kim Fletcher
ELSA	Alethea Wiles
ALEX	Joe Campbell-Marsh
ROSIE	Emmeline Spirling
NEIGHBOUR	Michael Mackey
PC JUNKIN	Barry Gray



MARTYN FRENCH



KIM FLETCHER



ALETHEA WILES



JOE CAMPBELL-MARSH



EMMELINE SPIRLING



MICHAEL MACKEY



BARRY GRAY

2025/2026 SEASON'S PLAYS – ‘DYING WITH LAUGHTER’

A season of mystery, murder, ghosts, comedy and sometimes a mix of all four.



This much loved Noel Coward play is Coward at his very best – witty, fast, charming, full of a spirit of fun and a great way to kick off our Christmas celebrations!

The cast has just been announced as:

Edith (a maid) – Mairi Holmes

Ruth Condomine – Belinda Harward

Charles Condomine – Topher Lynn

Dr Bradman – David Maxwell

Mrs Bradman – Carole Allen

Madame Arcati – Eileen Rawlings

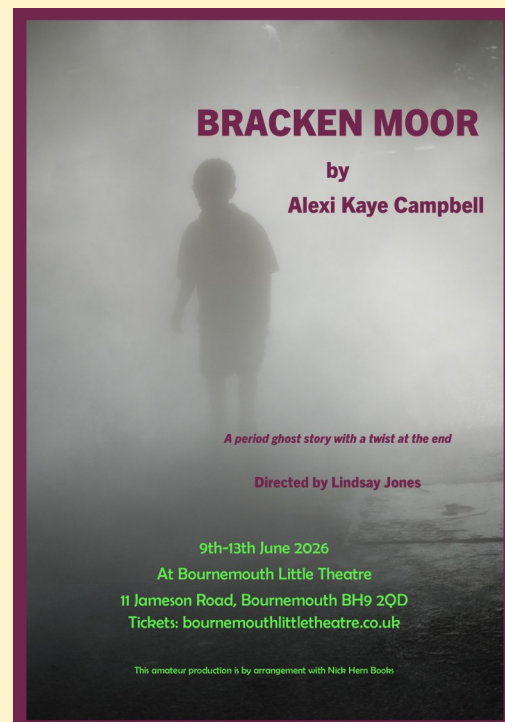
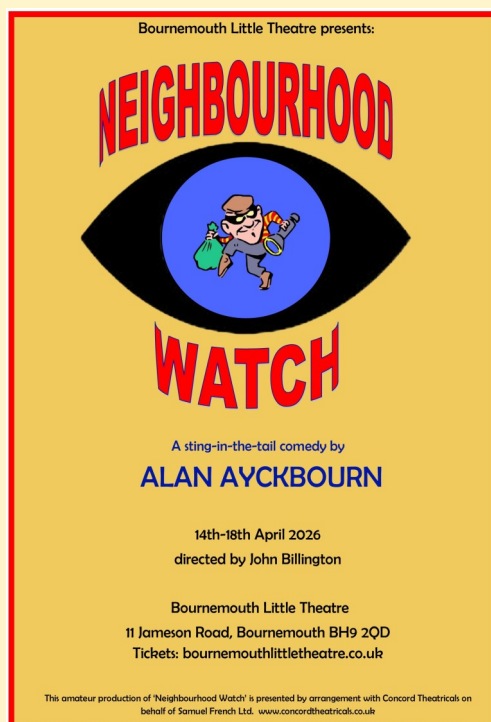
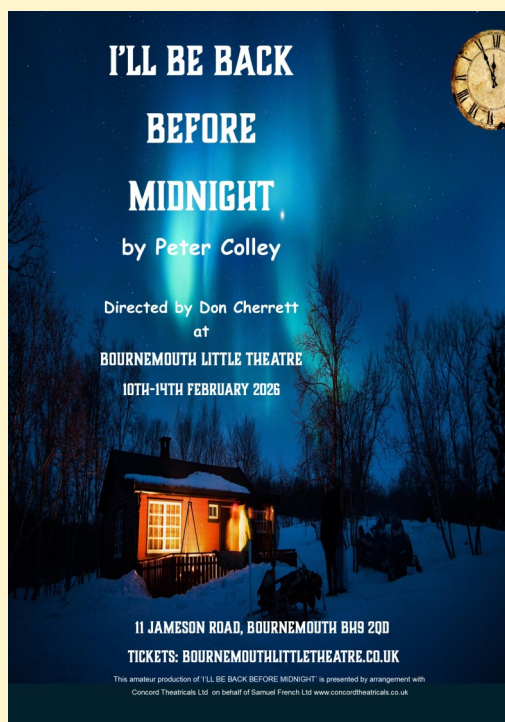
Elvira – Lauren Killham

Many thanks to all who auditioned, sadly there were only seven parts !

However, do try again for our February play:

“I’LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT.”

details in the audition notice on page 7.



CRITIC'S REVIEW— DEATHTRAP

Review by Marilyn Barber—DORSET VIEW

This was the first time I'd been to a production by this company – which has a delightful little theatre in Jameson Road, Winton – but if this play is anything to go by I will certainly be going again. I might be fighting colleagues for review tickets!

Where to begin with accolades?

Written by Ira Levin in 1976, and produced as a film starring Michael Caine in 1982, the story has multiple twists that you just don't see coming.

I jumped out of my seat on more than one occasion.

Sidney Bruhl was a successful playwright, but he has had a series of box office flops, so stealing the work of another author Clifford Anderson seems like the answer to his writer's block.

You could be forgiven for thinking that Sam Sheppard (Sidney) is a professional actor, such is the depth of his performance, taking the audience with him at every step. On stage for most of the time, even when he is not delivering lines, he is under the skin of Sidney 100 per cent.

The part of Clifford gives Topher Lynn the chance to transform from one persona to another and this he does with consummate skill. One moment you sympathise with him, the next you have a different take on his character.

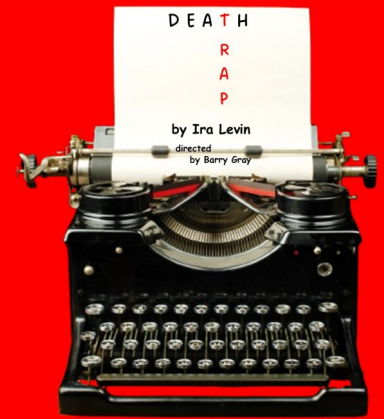
Fifi La Roux is trading the boards for the first time as Myra Bruhl and she does a splendid job, with the part demanding that her emotions span from bored wife to a panicked one as the story evolves.

This play also provides laughs. Step forward Lauren Marie Killham and take a bow as psychic neighbour Doris Hamilton-King. She has had visions of terrible pain coming from the Bruhl home, enabling the actress to display her impressive comedic abilities.

William Lent puts in a well-rounded performance as the staid, law-abiding solicitor Porter Milton – but is he?

This is the second time that Barry Gray has directed at this 95-seater theatre, and he deserves a round of applause for this spellbinding production.

Bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk



The longest-running comedy-thriller on Broadway, nominated for four Tony Awards, including Best Play.

2nd-6th September 2025
Bournemouth Little Theatre
11 Jameson Road
Bournemouth BH9 2QD
Tickets : Bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

Date for your diary

BLTC's AGM and social,

Sunday 12th October 2025 at 7pm

BLT has had its home here in Jameson Road for 50 years this year, as we are still the best kept secret in theatre in Bournemouth!

Come to the AGM and hear how we are doing and what is being planned, then stay for a celebratory drink and some nibbles and get to know us better. All are welcome, but only paid-up members can vote on any matters arising. See you there!

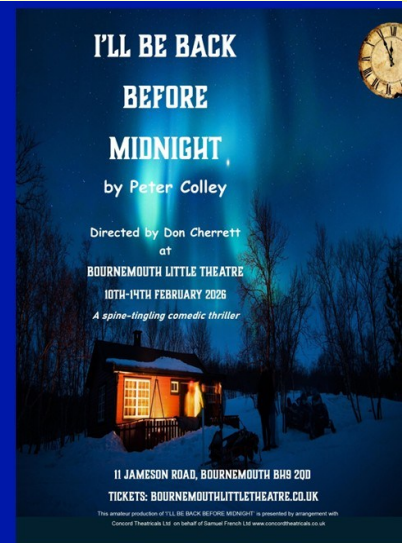
AUDITION NOTICE—for FEBRUARY 26 PRODUCTION OF *I'LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT*

**BOURNEMOUTH
LITTLE
THEATRE**

AUDITION NOTICE

I'll Be Back Before Midnight
by
Peter Colley
To be directed by Don Cherrett

PERFORMANCES: 10th – 14th February 2026, 7:45pm
Readthrough – Friday 14th November 2025 at 7:30pm
Auditions – Sunday, 16th November 2025 from 7:45pm
Production Meeting - Wednesday 26th November from 7:30pm



A spine-chilling mixture of suspense and shocks.

After spending months in hospital following a nervous breakdown Jan is brought to an isolated farmhouse by her husband Greg to help with her recovery. But unsettling things start to happen.

Greg's sister Laura, with whom he seems to have an unnaturally close relationship, arrives.

George, a rather strange and slightly demented old farmer who lives nearby hovers about.

And then there are the flickering lights, mysterious heartbeats, the hand at the window...and blood!

List of characters: -

GREG SANDERSON – The husband. Aged somewhere between late 20s and mid-40s. Handsome. Good physique

JAN SANDERSON - His wife. Younger than Greg. Attractive but not exceptionally so.
Nervous following her recent breakdown

GEORGE WILLOWBY – Local farmer. Possibly 'country' accent. Anything from late 40s to 70s.
Needs to be strong and physically fit

LAURA SANDERSON – Greg's sister. Slightly younger than Greg. Attractive. Sophisticated business woman.

Note: This play has an exceptional number of technical effects and there will be a Production meeting on Wednesday, November 26th in the Green Room from 7:30pm for anyone wishing to be involved. The extent of the technical requirements will become apparent at the readthrough so it is suggested that anyone wishing to get involved 'behind the scenes' should try and attend the readthrough if possible as well as the Production Meeting.

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11 Jameson Rd, Bournemouth BH9 2QD
Tickets: [www:Bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.Bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk)

If you wish to audition or be involved in any way in this production but cannot make the essential dates detailed above please call Don Cherrett on 07428 652427

This amateur production of *I'LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT* is presented by agreement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Get Involved Get Involved Get Involved



Each season, Bournemouth Little Theatre brings six main productions and up to two Studio productions to the stage. Each production requires a Director and cast. In addition to this are the unsung heroes, who toil away (lark about) behind the scenes to make these productions possible. We are all unpaid volunteers at Bournemouth Little Theatre and if you have any occasional spare time and would like to get involved with a production, you would be very welcome- come along to the advertised production meetings to see how you could be involved or to Set Build/ Set Painting days, back-stage or support.



CONTACT DETAILS:

Your Committee Members:

Gwen Jones (*Treasurer /Memberships/Newsletter/
Venue Hire*) 07825 064731

Lindsay Jones (*Play Selection Committees/Photographer*)
01202 083504

Mo Hamill (*Properties and Costumes Co-ordinator*) 07585 504500

Adam Stoddart (*Studio Play Selection Committee,
Rota organiser*)..... 0774 9409634

Tim Fearon (*Play Selection Committees/
Website co-ordinator*) 07973 198811

Caroline Burr (*Main Play Selection Committee*)..... 07905 650952

Adele Smyth (*Properties and Costumes*)..... 07883 095884

Not on the Committee:

Alastair Griffith (*Lighting Design*)..... 07400 014135

Andrew Whyatt (*Main Play Selection Committee*)

Chris Huggill (*Bar Stocks Manager*) 07443 626484

Sue Hyder (*Box Office*)

Hilary Guess-England (*Costumes*)..... 07718 188203

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