NEWSLETTER

2026-2027 Season

November 2026

Issue 1724

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

11 Jameson Road, Bournemouth BH9 2QD



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COMMITTEE CORNER

Dear Members and Patrons,

Our marvellous October production of 'Home I'm Darling' was staged to a capacity audience, who were wowed by the fabulous set, and delighted to follow the dream of a life in better times (?)

Our Christmas play "Bracken Moor" by Alexi Kaye Campbell is well into rehearsal with some old and some new faces bringing the story to you in early December. There are six performances, including a Matinee on Saturday, 12th December at 2:30pm. Over 68% of tickets have been sold already. In true BLT Christmas style, there will be a raffle at each performance, and mulled wine and mince pies will be on sale at the coffee shop, along with our normal fare of teas, coffee and ice creams, the bar will, of course, also be open.

Auditions are currently underway for our February production of "84 Charing Cross Road" by Helene Hanff, directed by Peter Watson. A production meeting for the production is taking place on Friday 27th November, at 7:15pm. If you would like to be involved backstage, helping source props, build, paint or dress the set, or just to find out what you can do to help, come along. We will be in BLT's Green Room bar.

On Wednesday, 25th November 2026 at 7pm we are holding our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (see page 5), and afterwards will be in the green room bar having a SOCIAL EVENING for both new people, who would like to find out more about us, and regulars who can meet up with old friends. It would be lovely to welcome you again!

See you at BLT soon! 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 take 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:
'BRACKEN MOOR'
by Alexi Kaye Campbell

Directed by LINDSAY JONES



Lindsay has been an active member of B.L.T. for nearly ten years and this is the sixth play he has almost directed for us.

He has enjoyed a chequered career which has embraced teaching in Singapore; heading a school's drama department; writing comedy for SKY, B.B.C 1 & 2 and Channel Four, along with performing on the London comedy circuit.

Lindsay has also appeared on BLT's stage in several of BLT's productions.

About the play

Bracken Moor' is a boldly theatrical tale of grief and denial, set against the economic crisis of the 1930's.

After years apart, two families come together to rediscover their lost friendship. Instead, they conjure up the spirit of a buried tragedy.

A gripping and spine-tingling tale of the supernatural.

A great ghost story to start your Christmas fun!

'Somewhere between *An Inspector Calls* and *The Woman in Black*... I jumped out of my seat' *The Times*

'There are echoes of *The Weir*... commendably bold' *Evening Standard*
'A superior kind of ghost story... intellectually as well as emotionally haunting' *The Stage*

About the Author

Alexi Kaye Campbell, born Alexi Komondouros, is a **Greek-British playwright and actor**. After two decades in acting with companies like the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Royal Court Theatre, he gained acclaim for his debut play *The Pride* (2008), winning the Laurence Olivier Award, the Critics' Circle Award, and the John Whiting Award.

His other plays include *Apologia*, *The Faith Machine*, *Bracken Moor*, and *Sunset at the Villa Thalia*. He co-wrote the film *Woman in Gold* (2015). His works often explore identity, politics, and personal relationships, and have been staged internationally. His new play *Bird Grove* is scheduled to premiere in 2026/7.

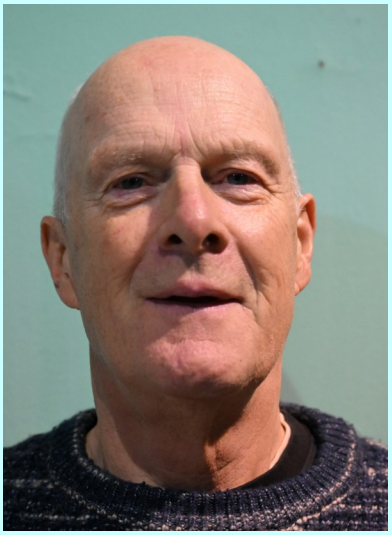
CAST of 'BRACKEN MOOR'



ELIZABETH PRITCHARD
- Belinda Harward



TERENCE AVERY
- Jonathan Cockeram



HAROLD PRITCHARD
- George Findlay



VANESSA AVERY
- Denise King



GEOFFREY AVERY
- Andy Gill



JOHN BAILEY
- Scott Bedwell

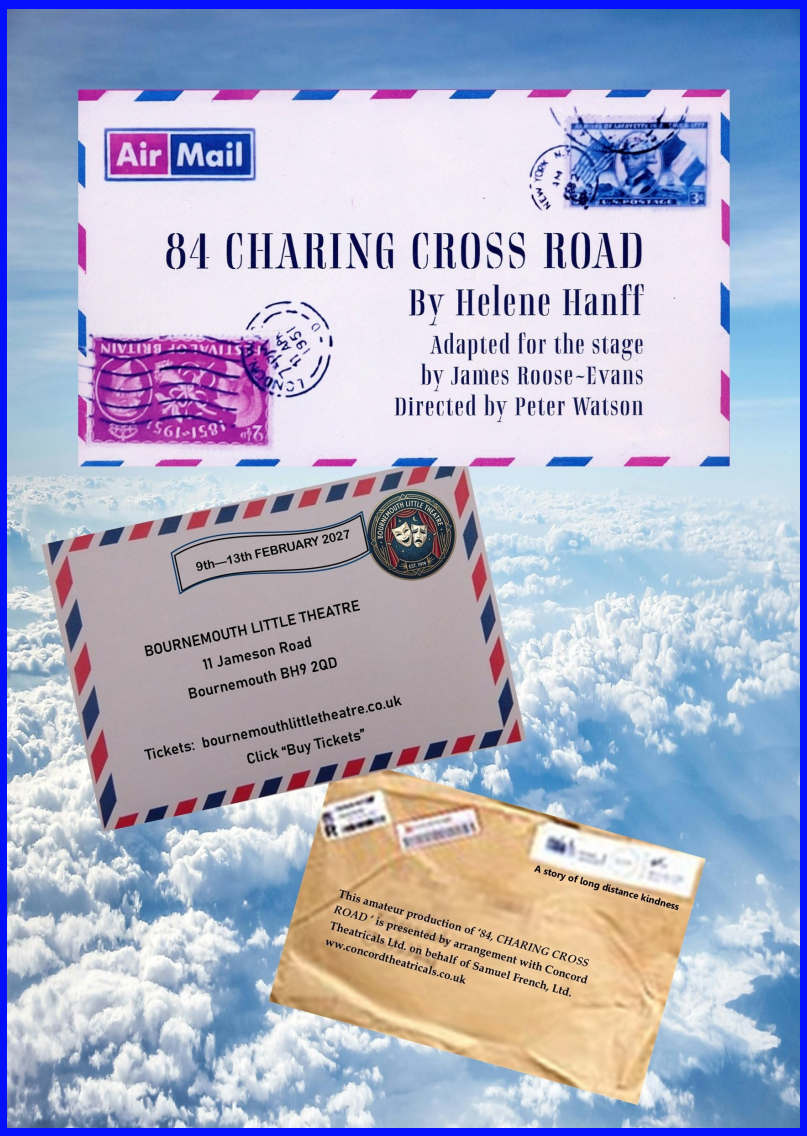


EILEEN HANNAWAY
- Caelin Toms



DR GIBBONS
- Bob Rankin

2026-2027 SEASON "DIRECTOR'S CHOICE" COMING SOON



84 CHARING CROSS ROAD by Helen Hanff,

9th-13th February 2027

directed by Peter Watson

This wonderful show is a dramatization of business letters between a young struggling writer in New York and an antiquarian bookstore in London. In a sense, these are also love letters. They are about the love of good literature and show a story of long-distance kindness.

The play takes place over a twenty year period, beginning in 1949 when Helene Hanff first writes to Marks & Co. the delightfully dusty suppliers of so many treasured volumes over the years to whose staff Helene has shown her gratitude through her many letters and "care packages" at a time when England was still recovering from the effects of the Second World War.

84 Charing Cross Road was made into a very successful film, starring Anne Bancroft, Anthony Hopkins, Judi Dench, Mercedes Ruehl, and Jean De Baer.

PRODUCTION MEETING

If you would like to be involved in this production behind the scenes, come along to the production meeting on Friday, 27th November 2026 at 7:15pm.

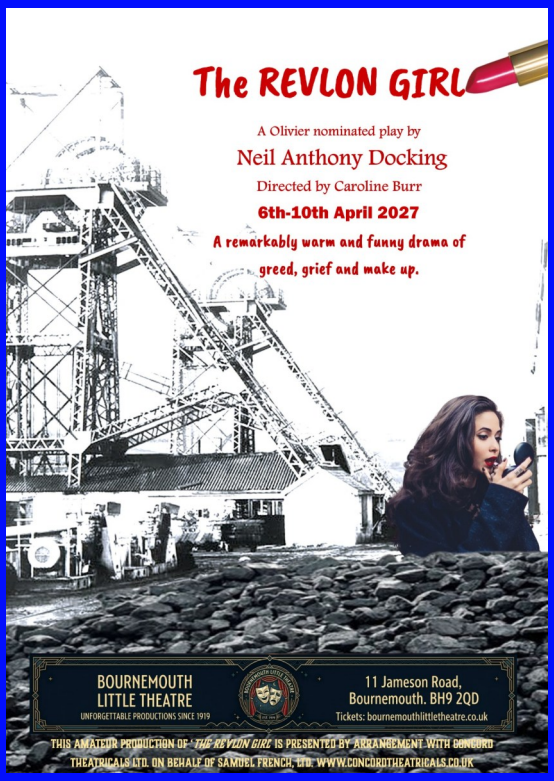
A REMINDER

Our Annual General Meeting for the year ended 30th June 2026 is being held on Wednesday, 25th November from 7pm.

Come along to hear how we did during the year and what is planned for this year.

The event will be followed by a Social evening for you to meet us, get to know us better, and catch up with friends you maybe haven't seen in a while. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a complimentary drink and snacks.

2026-2027 SEASON "DIRECTOR'S CHOICE" COMING SOON



THE REVLON GIRL **by Neil Anthony Docking,**

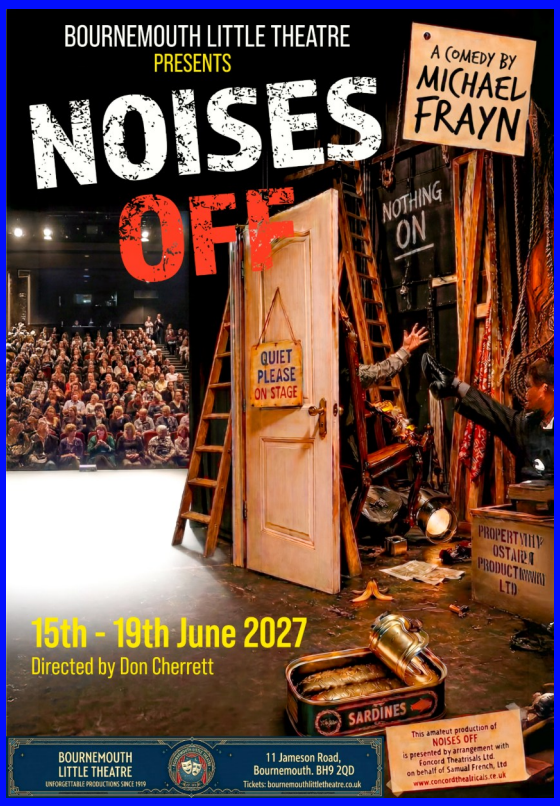
6th-10th April 2027

directed by Caroline Burr

Set in a Welsh mining town, during the 1960's, where a group of bereaved mothers meet weekly above a local hotel to talk, cry and even laugh without feeling guilty.

At one of their previous meetings, the women looked at each other and admitted how much they felt they'd let themselves go.

Although afraid that people will think them frivolous, they've secretly arranged for a representative from Revlon to come and buck up their spirits by giving them a talk on beauty tips with moving and often hilarious results.



NOISES OFF **by Michael Frayne,**

15th-19th June 2027

directed by Don Cherrett

Called "the funniest farce ever written, '*Noises Off*' presents a manic menagerie of itinerant actors rehearsing a flop called *Nothing's On*.

Slamming doors, on and offstage intrigue, and an errant herring all figure in the plot of this hilarious, high-energy comedy.

Mixing mockery and homage, Frayn heaps a hilarious melée of stock characters and situations into his side-splitting play-within-a-play.

REVIEW– 'HOME, I'M DARLING' by Laura Wade

By Geoff Spick, Dorset View Magazine

"The maxim "never work with children and animals" often extends to food and drink. Rarely seen in live productions, due to their slip, choking or escape-artist hazard tendencies, it was delightful to see the cast of Home I'm Darling going about their days with a regular diet of breakfast, dinner and party food, even in dialogue-heavy scenes.

A key part of 1950s life, the food is as much a part of the scenery as the vibrant furniture, period electricals and glorious between-scenes soundtrack. They all help set the platform for the trials and tribulations of Judy (Lauren Killham) and Johnny (Sam Sheppard) in their escapist ideal, as the wheels rapidly come off their lives though bittersweet disasters, crushed by the modern world they are also forced to inhabit.

Enabled or impaired by long-time friends, Fran (Karthy Sreekala) and Marcus (Seth Martin), Judy's actions and extensive monologues (often while she's nibbling away) travel abroad emotional range to deliver the light-then-heavy disasters that befall her.

Along for the ride are thoroughly modern boss Alex (Fiona Fox) and long-suffering mother Sylvia (Jane Kerfoot), all adding different tensions and reality checks from their own perspectives, as politics and gender roles are hung out to dry on the rotary washing line of life.

They also get star turns when their side of the sixpence drops, with Director Tim Fearon presumably a restrained hand behind the scenes. With a wide age range in the audience, there was a little something for everyone among the jokes and nods to vintage or modern living, with the arrival of devilled eggs getting a particular groan.

Home, I'm Darling runs until 31 October, all tickets are sold out.



'A MARVELLOUS PIECE OF THEATRE'



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 social evenings to get to know us, then to the advertised production meetings to see how you could be involved or to Set Build/ Set Painting days, back-stage or give other support.

Bournemouth Little Theatre Club
11 Jameson Road
Bournemouth BH9 2QD
www.bournemouthlittletheatre.co.uk

Email:
bournemouthlittletheatre@gmail.com

Facebook:
http://facebook.com/BLittleTheatre

Co Reg No: 02699332
Charity Ref: 1019571

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*)..... 07749 409634

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

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

Sue Hyder *(Box Office)*

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