



# The Jester



October — November 2022



25th — 29th October 2022



6th — 10th December 2022



14th — 18th February 2023

## *Our Upcoming Productions*

### Hi Kelvinians!

Apologies that this issue is a few days late, but there was so much stuff to tell you about, especially with reporting on the AGM on 25th September and the new 2023 season of plays being announced by our Artistic Director Nicky Schoonderwoerd in her report! Our new season kicks off with *Blue Stockings* directed by Ralf Togneri about women's struggle to get into university.

Inside this issue, you'll find details and pics of *James III: The True Mirror* by Rona Munro, directed by Mary McCallum, news of our upcoming productions, another very thoughtful blog from Mat, our philosopher Chair, info about our Rehearsed Readings, the Rose Bowl nominations and a warm welcome to our large number of new members!

I can strongly recommend checking the Kelvin Facebook members' page regularly to see what else is going on and for announcements (facebook login required):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2364145819/?ref=share>

Do check out our website: [www.kelvinplayers.co.uk](http://www.kelvinplayers.co.uk) and follow us on Twitter, Facebook etc.

If you have anything at all to send me for inclusion in the next issue of *The Jester*, you can do so at any time by emailing it to me at: [jester@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:jester@kelvinplayers.co.uk) But a plea: if possible, please do not send your articles in attached files 'ready formatted', as it can make it difficult for me to use them (especially if done on a mac — I use a PC). Just email them to me in plain text please, or in a Word file. **Geoff Collard (editor)**

*The Jester* is bi-monthly. The deadline for the next *Jester* is always a couple of days before the last day of the month before publication. And it's always given in the current edition, so you can always check the deadline as below in *The Jester*. **So, please note it in your diary!** (December/January is the next issue.)

**The deadline for the next *Jester* will be Monday November 28th 2022**

# James III : - The True Mirror



By Rona Munro  
Directed by Mary McCallum  
October 25th - 29th 2022



The Work in Progress...

Well, we're just 3 weeks away from our opening night, and as usual everybody continues to work hard to make *The True Mirror* yet another of Kelvin's usual successes.

Mary acknowledges the huge support she's had from Angela Markham (assistant director and master reader-in of all parts) and Eszter Vass (super efficient production manager and mother of a prince). And she sends thanks yet again to the cast for their good-natured acceptance of last minute changes in the rehearsal schedule when the unexpected or unplanned for happened.

Our 'comedy choir' has been working with our new-to-us Musical Director Claire, making up in their huge enthusiasm for any lack in vocal expertise (as a member of the choir, I'm pretty nervous!!) The cast continue to go through their steps in a modern/medieval Scottish dance, set to medieval/modern music!

Bronwen Grover has as usual put a huge amount of effort into the set, in particular a very meticulous and painstakingly beautiful hand-painted backdrop. It took my breath away when I saw it, as did Bronwen's very tasteful design for the floor of the stage, again beautifully executed. When we go up, I believe the set will be an absolute treat, especially when lit by our master lighting designer Neil Bonnett.

Chrissy and Mary have had a lot of fun discussing inauthentic and bizarre costumes made or adapted from inauthentic and bizarre recycled materials and fabrics to try to match my vision for this theatrical, witty and above all totally accessible portrayal of an uncharted period of Scottish history.

*James III : The True Mirror* promises to be a very enjoyable evening out, so get those tickets!! **Geoff.**



*The True Mirror* cast & director Mary



# **James III : - The True Mirror**

**By Rona Munro**  
**Directed by Mary McCallum**  
**October 25th - 29th 2022**

*The True Mirror* is the last of a trilogy of plays called *The James Plays* about the first three King Jameses of Scotland. The last was James VI, son of Mary Queen of Scots, who became King James I of England. Although few people are familiar with this period of Scotland's history Rona Munro's robust scripts, first played by the National Theatre of Scotland during the 2014 Edinburgh Festival, are exciting and accessible being written in modern Scots speech.

The play is set mostly in Stirling and Edinburgh Castles.

## **THE PRODUCTION TEAM**

It's still not too late to get involved backstage, whether it's construction, assisting backstage during performances or joining the Front of House team — all of which are good opportunities for new members to see how Kelvin works. So if you think you could help with any backstage role at all, please do get in touch with Eszter Vass (below) whatever your interest and she will put you in touch with the right person.

Someone made a remark recently that in the professional theatre everyone has their own job to do and doesn't encroach on other people's territory. Well aren't we in Kelvin lucky to be able to dabble our toes in various areas of interest and learn about all aspects of putting on a production?!

## **Characters**

**James III**, King of Scots  
**John**, Head of the Privy Council  
**Ramsay**, King's personal servant  
**Cochrane**, King's purveyor of fine wines  
**Sandy**, The King's brother  
**Jamie**, The King's eldest son  
**Ross**, The King's middle son  
**Tam**, A member of the household  
**Margaret**, Queen of Scots  
 woerd  
**Annabella**, King's paternal aunt  
**Phemy**, Young lady of the Court  
**Daisy**, Laundress, the King's mistress

## **Cast List:**

Sam Grayston  
 Jonny Wilkinson  
 Ewan Poole-Gleed  
 Mike Jessup  
 Paddy O'Sullivan  
 Harry Wales  
 Patrik Rocz  
 Philip Burnett  
 Nicola Schoonderwoerd  
 Helen Hollick  
 Lucy Payne  
 Jess Brassington



**Queen Margaret & King James**

**Photo by Mike Jessup**

**Ensemble**, Parliament, members of court, soldiers, guards, choir:

Claire, Ralf, Satadru, Avanti, Marion, Geoff, Andy, Steve, Phil J, Phil B, Angela

## **Mary McCallum**

**Director, James III: The True Mirror**

[marygreencroft49@gmail.com](mailto:marygreencroft49@gmail.com)

**07776213916**

**Angela Markham - (Asst. Director) 07894916618**

**Eszter Vass - (Production Manager) 07401081198**



# REPORT OF THE AGM held on 25th September

For this year's AGM format, we decided to make a few changes. No awards, firstly – and we changed the seating layout to make it feel a little more inclusive. We also tried to be a bit more open and discuss some of the projects that we've been working on over the last 12 months.

The lack of awards was a biggie – and we were a little worried it might impact on the number of attendees. Thankfully the lure of free Prosecco(!) won people over and more than 50 people attended in the end (around a third of the membership) – thank you to everyone who came along and contributed to the evening, either with your votes or your feedback.

We've decided to move the awards – partly to align the season with the awards, partly to make much more of them, and partly to give the membership something special to look forward to. Instead, we will be hosting a special Oscar-style Kelvin awards night at the end of this year.

An investment in the membership last season and next is the big commitment we are making as a committee. Offering a pay-what-you-can-afford to members, increasing the training that we run, adding more social activities and creative activities, and implementing a new equality, diversity and inclusivity (EDI) policy in order to help us become a more welcoming and inclusive place.

The aim of the EDI policy was to increase the support we offer members, to ensure the club takes greater responsibility to make it a safe place for our members and audiences, and to put the onus on each of us to take responsibility for our words and actions. The new policy will be on the website soon, and we will also make it visible around the building too.

One thing we kept back until the AGM was the announcement about the new 2023 artistic season – congratulations to all those directors who were chosen to direct a show next season. We're also asking these directors to ensure they work with an up-and-coming director to encourage the development of younger and female directors in the future.

The AGM is also a point in the year when we see lots of changes in numerous roles across the club, and we're always so grateful to those who step up to take on a new responsibility, as well as those who have worked so hard for the club. Huge 'thank-yous' to Phil Joyner, Jon Bard, Anna Bonnett, Sharon Dudbridge and Peter Phillpot for their contribution to the club. All of whom have given so much, and have spent a great deal of time training their replacements. Congratulations and thank you to Adam Church (Membership Secretary), Joanne Brooks (Lettings Manager), Simon Shorrock (Marketing Officer), Jack Finney (Club Secretary), and Eszter Vass (Treasurer) for stepping up and offering their precious time to help develop the club. I'm also pleased to welcome Ben Pavord onto the committee as Business Development Director to help develop the business side of the club.

It's a really exciting year coming up and we're really looking forward to the productions and creative opportunities we've been working on. Thank you to everyone who is involved in this, and if you want to get involved, please come and speak to any one of us on the committee.

- **Mat Rees (Chair)**
- **Jack Finney (Secretary)**
- **Eszter Vass (Treasurer)**
- **Nicky Schoonderwoerd (Artistic Director)**
- **Ben Pavord (Business Director)**
- **Lydia Williams (Membership Director)**

**Mat Rees (Re-elected Chair)**

# Earthquakes

## in London

*A few weeks ago, more than 20 cast and crew members of Earthquakes in London gathered together in the Hall for our first rehearsal. It was a daunting prospect for me – it's almost three years since I last directed a show, and I've never directed such a large cast before. Happily, being able to share the stress of these early sessions with my assistant/co-director (not sure he's got an official title?), Josh Cooper, as well as our Production Manager, Alice Chadwick, and Production Assistant, Katie Kneen (a new member, who's been a great help so far) made things a lot easier.*

*There's no getting round it: **Earthquakes in London** is a huge, five act show. Nineteen cast members, and more than 40 parts (there's lots of doubling up) means there are a huge number of costumes and props, and around half a dozen people working backstage across both these areas. It's also a technically complicated piece, with lots of sound fx, lighting fx and video projections. Neil, Pete, Bronwen and others are going to find themselves busy, once James III is over.*

*But it's also an exciting, thrilling, fast-paced scenes in this the end of the world.*

*Directing it is such fun, and it turn up, I find myself working of whom are new faces and*

*worked with before. It's amazing to think I've never directed Tim Whitten or Alex Needham given how long we've all been around. It's also exciting to work with so many talented new actors, too – Maya, Elly, Migs, Evie, Elena, Abdi, Ollie, Lydia and Amy. There are so many, I keep forgetting who I'm working with...*

*There's a long way to go – to learn – but it's a you can all make it*



*ing piece to work on. Lots of energetic rollercoaster ride about*

*never gets boring. Every time I with a different set of actors, many many are old hands who I've never*

*lots of rehearsals to attend and lots of lines promising and enjoyable start. I hope along.*

**Mat Rees**

**Director.**

# Earthquakes

# **Artistic Director's Report**

Thank you for coming along last night to hear about the new season's launch and my plans for expanding creative opportunities for members of Kelvin. It was lovely to see so many faces, old and new in our club.

So – for those of you who were unable to attend, here is an announcement of the 2023 season and what I have up my sleeve to really transform Kelvin into a thriving creative hub for all.

## **Submissions & APC (Artistic Programme Committee) Process**

It was a slow start for submissions, Covid was still rearing its ugly head and it took a while for plays to start coming our way. Once the deadline had expired, we had received 14 submissions in total, which was a good pool of plays to choose from. However, it is important to note that we had a disproportionate number of submissions from male directors.

Of the plays submitted:

- 21% were female
- 79% were male

The APC read and discussed all the plays and took into consideration, the quality of the writing, the plot, genre, period, style etc along with what the opportunities the plays presented for our membership in terms of acting and design/tech etc. The APC and I then underwent a shortlisting process.

Of the plays shortlisted:

- 66% females were shortlisted
- 63% males were shortlisted

Then the directors of the shortlisted plays were invited to a 'pitch night', where they had the opportunity to expand on their creative ideas and 'vision' for the play they had submitted. Once all plays were pitched, the APC debated each play choice and undertook 'blind voting' to decide on the season.

Of the plays accepted:

- 20% are female 80% are male.
- 3 directors did not direct in the previous season
- There is no new/emerging directing talent
- 3 plays are written by female playwrights, 1 play devised by a theatre collective, 1 play a male playwright.

Membership opportunity is well balanced.

Gender	# Roles		Age	# Potential Roles
Male	18		Teens – 20s	17
Female	18		30s -40s	29
Any Gender	8		50s – 60s +	21
			Any age	8

All plays selected present an opportunity for ethnically blind casting.

## The Season

14 – 18 February: **BLUE STOCKINGS** by Jessica Swale, directed by Ralf Togneri

25-29 April: **THE NETHER** by Jennifer Haley, directed by Josh Cooper

11-15 July: **SPLENDOUR** by Abi Morgan, directed by Jaqs Graham

24-28 October: **DEATH & THE MAIDEN** by Ariel Dorfman, directed by Alex Needham

5-9 December: **DEAD DOG IN A SUITCASE** by Kneehigh Theatre, directed by Simon Shorrock

## Opportunity for Female & Emerging Directing Talent

From the stats above, you can see that there is still an ongoing issue around enabling female directors and emerging new talent to successfully filter through this submission process. The gap from rehearsed reading to full scale production is too high and I want to address this. I hope some of the initiatives I discuss below will start to progress this, however I am always open to ideas.

### Assistant or Co-Directors

All the directors chosen for this season will appoint a co-Director who:

Will shadow the director through the entire production process from vision to production

Learn directing techniques and tricks 'on the job' with an experienced director

Work with small groups to support direction of scenes

Receive mentorship and support towards their own play submission and pitch for the next season (if they want this)

This opportunity is open to all new directing talent in Kelvin. Please reach out to me if you are interested and I will be happy to help point you in the direction of the season's directors.

[artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

### Black Boxes

I intend to create space in the season for 2-3 Black Box productions for new talent to develop their theatre-making skills, without the added stress of navigating production design, the tech or marketing. These Black Box nights could be as follows:

Bristol One Act Festival entries performing in-house before they compete

New writing showcases

Devised theatre scratch nights

One Act Plays performed as a 'stripped back' version of a full production.

If you are interested in directing a Black Box production, please reach out to me with your ideas.

[artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk)



## Expanding Creative Opportunities for the Membership

### Membership Workshops

Our member development officer Josh Cooper has been doing an awesome job at curating a whole host of training workshops. We started mid-way through the year with the highly acclaimed 'Intimacy Practice' with one of Netflix's own Intimacy Directors Lucy Fennell. This was an insightful session, and it is great to see more consent-based practice and choreography of intimate scenes in the rehearsal rooms. Many people who were unable to attend have reached out to me to see if we can get her back for another session. If there is enough demand – we will certainly consider it.

Josh has also just launched the first season of 'Style It Out', monthly workshops utilising our homegrown talent of theatre practitioners and drama teachers. Each monthly workshop will focus on a different practitioner, style, acting technique etc. These sessions are a fantastic way to meet new members and feel involved with the club, especially when not rehearsing for the current production.

I know Josh has aspirations for developing tech and design skills within the club, but if there is anything you would like to learn, or would like to offer a skill to share, please get in touch.

[membershipdevelopment@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:membershipdevelopment@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

### Writer's Group

Sam Grayston picked up the helm of Writer's Group Facilitator early this year and has made fantastic progress in nurturing new writers to become a supportive, collaborative group. They regularly meet every fortnight (Weds) in the bar to learn and refine their storytelling skills.

It is wonderful to see new writing now emerging in this autumn's rehearsed reading season, but we also have 3 potential entries for the Bristol One Act Festival!

The group is open to all – please reach out to Sam for more info.

[writers@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:writers@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

### Rehearsed Readings

The current season is well underway and continue to be a huge success with Rick Proctor-Lane tirelessly co-ordinating this for nearly a decade! It is always wonderful to see new members trying their hand at directing in a low stakes way. I recognise that the directors emerging from these rehearsed readings are the directors for future seasons. Rick and I continue to collaborate to find ways in which we can support that development pathway.

### Last but not least.....Tech

I want to expand the technical capability within the club. We have amazing individuals with these skills, but often they end up doing the lion's share of the tech/design work for the club. I want to expand the pool of members with these skills.

I propose that the managers of each tech area take on assistants or apprentices who they can train up and share skills. These areas include:

Lighting Design – Neil Bonnett

Sound Design – Peter Spence

Props – TBC

Costume – Chrissy Fryers

Design – Bronwyn Grover

I also have the following positions vacant:

Props Manager

APC Member

If you are interested in learning more about design or tech and fancy getting stuck in, please reach out to me.

[artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

### **Final Words**

I hope there is something in my creative season for everybody. My focus of this year was to expand opportunities, particularly for members not involved in the season's productions. My ambition is to enable Kelvin to become a thriving creative hub. Whilst the play season is our heartbeat, our members creatively connecting, learning, and supporting one another is our club's soul.

Please do reach out to me if you have any ideas or opportunities to continue to make Kelvin a more inclusive, creative place, full of opportunity for all.

[artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

Thank you

**Nicky Schoonderwoerd**

## **LEARN COSTUME DESIGN AND COSTUME MAKING! A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS OFFERED BY CHRISSY FRYERS**

Who wants to learn the procedure followed to costume a play from start to finish under my supervision? I'm looking for people to join me. I will be heading up a costume team for ***Earthquakes in London*** which runs from 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December.

I'll take you through step by step instructions using the formula that I've used for years.

It'll start with the first reading of the play with the cast and end with the dress rehearsal / performances. We can treat each week as a workshop where we can support each other, take notes, create mood boards and look at the text for clues as to how to costume the characters in the play.

***Earthquakes*** has a large cast so it gives us all an ideal opportunity to learn a great deal from this experience.

So who is going to join the team?

I'm pleased to say that **Jacqs Graham** and **Fran Lewis** have both said they are willing to be part of this.

All Kelvin members welcome! Kelvin Players needs YOU !!!!!

So if you want to learn how to design and make costume, or if you want more information, please email me at: **christinefryers@mac.com**

**Chrissy Fryers**

Kelvin's Costume Designer/Maker

# Rose Bowl Nominations

The nominations are in for this year's Rose Bowl, and we are lucky enough to have been rewarded with **six** nods from the Rose Bowl adjudicators.

Many congratulations in particular to **Fran Lewis**, who has two acting nominations this year (Jane Eyre – Best Supporting Actress and Hamlet – Best Actress), as well as two Best Actor nominations for **Pete Cottell** (Comedy of Errors) and **Jolyon Wolfin** (The Goat) for their roles.

There are also two nominations in the Best Shakespeare, Classic or Restoration Plays for our two Shakespeare productions this year, **Hamlet** and **Comedy of Errors**.

Congratulations to everyone involved in all of these productions, as none of these nominations are possible without the efforts of the entire cast and crew.

The full list of nominations:

Best Actress - **Fran Lewis** in **Hamlet**

Best Supporting Actress - **Fran Lewis** in **Jane Eyre**

Best Actor - **Pete Cottell** in **Comedy of Errors**

Best Actor - **Jolyon Wolfin** in **The Goat**

Best Shakespeare, Classic or Restoration Play - **Hamlet**

Best Shakespeare, Classic or Restoration Play - **Comedy of Errors**

This year's Rose Bowl Awards Ceremony will take place on **Sunday 27 November 2022** at the **Bristol Marriott City Centre Hotel**. Currently, Kelvin Players has been allocated two tickets per nominee.



## *FROM THE KEYBOARD OF THE CHAIR'S DESK*



### **The Value of a Third Place - Mat's Blog**

**I recently fell down a metaphorical rabbit hole** online, and learnt about the value of Third Places to society. A third place, for those like me who are unsure, is somewhere that is neither the home (first place) nor a place of work (second place). A café, for example, or a library. Basically, anywhere that people can gather and meet others without the pressure of work – pubs, clubs, cinemas, community centres, churches, parks, and indeed theatres are other examples.

These are neutral territories that we go to in order to escape our work and to meet others; to engage in cultural activities; and to help establish feelings of a sense of place. We go there to meet friends and strangers. Chat about ideas and share our passions. Where loves are won – and lost.

Many third places have been under threat in recent decades – the closure of pubs, churches, community centres and libraries have reduced the number of free spaces for people to visit, and the rise of the internet has seen many try to recreate third places online. The pandemic, too, has had an impact with many of us unsure about returning to public spaces for fear of getting Covid.

**Hearing about the value of the spaces to local communities brought home to me again the importance of the Kelvin Players Studio, particularly after seeing more than 50 of members gather together for the AGM on Sunday evening.**

Most of us become members of Kelvin Players because we want to act. But we also join because the club shares our values and our interests, and because we want to find people with whom we can become friends. We crave social interactions – even people like me who have social anxiety – and we particularly want to meet people who are like ourselves. We also join because we want to feel like we have a place in society – to not feel dislocated and fractured, but to have something we can actively contribute and build towards. A common goal.

Third places also provide opportunities to meet and fall in love – I won't even begin to list the number of couples who have been brought together at Kelvin Players through their shared love of theatre.

Our Studio doesn't just give our members a sense of place – there are dozens of dancers, performers, tai chi practitioners and audience members who also use our premises throughout the year. It is equally as important for them to feel a part of something through their classes and groups, as we do through ours.

I often find myself referring to the Studio as a second home – and my fellow members as being like a big giant, extended family. But doing that actually does a disservice to both club and members. You are my cultural peers, and together we are building an important, community facility that gives a sense of real belonging and inclusivity to so many people.

**Mat Rees.**

# REHEARSED READINGS

Dearest Kelvinfolk,

First of all let's not forget, there are 2 more Rehearsed Reading ("RR") evenings to come this year - on 15th October when Lucy Payne and Eszter Vass are directing, then again on 12th November when Tim James is directing and the Writers Group get to present their showcase of ageing-themed pieces.

Meanwhile the AGM has been and gone and happened, and a wonderful new slate of main shows has been announced - exciting times indeed, as always at this time of year. In betwixt those shows of course, you won't be left bereft - because as ever, your beloved RRs will fill the gaps. Please see below the full list of 2023 dates for RRs that are now booked in, including the usual winter and summer launch dates as noted.

The RR content for 2023 is all still very much up for grabs, indeed I haven't started contacting potential directors yet - but this means of course that if you're interested in directing a RR, there's no time like the present to get in touch. All you really have to do is ask - there is no prerequisite or pitching process to be given a directing slot. And as for acting, just make sure you have 4th February and 22nd July in your diary - these are the evenings to attend, as you're bound to get a part in something if you come along.

If you're new to Kelvin or are wondering what these RRs are all about, there's a page here on the members website <https://www.kelvin-members.co.uk/rehearsed-readings> (under Members Stuff > Rehearsed Readings) - but if you just fancy having a chat with me about it, feel free to get in touch. More encouragement to get involved in the 4th February launch will follow nearer the time, here in the Jester as well as in the Digest email and on the Facebook group - but in the meantime, please get ALL the following dates in your diary for the whole of 2023 lovely Kelvinfolk!

Lots of RR joy to behold - so those dates in full...

**15th October - Lucy Payne and Eszter Vass**

**12th November - Tim James and Writers Group**

## **Then in 2023...**

**4 February (launch)**

**4 March**

**25 March**

**13 May**

**3 June**

**22 July (launch)**

**9 September**

**30 September**

**4 November**

**25 November**

**Rick Procter-Lane**

**0794 1878 460 / [rick.procter@icloud.com](mailto:rick.procter@icloud.com)**

# ***New Members***

[Since the AGM, Phil has stood down as membership secretary and we give him our thanks for doing such a great job over the years.

We welcome **Adam Church** as our new membership secretary. He can be contacted at

*membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk* — ed.]

I am very delighted to welcome yet more new members for 2022:

**Phil Joyner**

## **Ewan Poole-Gleed**

Ewan was asked to join Kelvin Players for the production 'James III' and says he was immediately welcomed with open arms! He first moved to Bristol in 2014 when he studied Drama with Creative Writing at UWE and performed in several original plays written by fellow students. In this time, he co-directed the play 'Chatroom' which was taken to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival by UWE Drama Society and performed with the UWE Centre for Performing Arts in several shows at the Redgrave Theatre, including taking the lead role of 'Clyde' in 'The Witches of Eastwick.' Since finishing his studies, he has continued to act and direct, mainly with BAOS and BAOS Youth, but he has also taken roles with groups such as St Albans Players, BLOC, and Janus Theatre Company.

## **Thomas Cooney**

Thomas describes himself as optimistic and empowered by a sense of community. He has limited acting experience with The Taunton Thespian and more recently with a group of players in Westbury on Trym, he is keen to do more.

He is also a playwright.

## **Oleksandra Kovalchuk**

A warm welcome to Alex who joins us from Ukraine. An actor and dancer who also was responsible for the musical accompaniment of productions in her home country, Alex is desperate to return to a group of like-minded people where she can develop her skills. She wishes to help in any way she can in productions as she enjoys the whole process and is a great team player. I know that all members will do everything they can to make you feel at home.

## **Joseph Chadney**

A warm welcome back to Joe who used to be a member. As well as being an actor, Joe is extremely useful backstage as a carpenter, electrician and lighting designer. Open to all forms of practical training, Joe recently learned leather crafting. He would specifically like to improve his lighting skills.

.....more new members....

### **Ike Sherr**

Ike is a full-time acting student who wants to gain as much experience as he can and be part of his local community. He undertook a foundation course in Finland that included physical theatre and creative writing. He also has a lot of experience in accents and voice over including commercial and audio book narration.

### **Andy Mc Bride-Coogan**

Andy met one of our members in Shepton Mallet Prison (on a film set or so he says!) and decided to join. Acting since the age of 8 he has been a member of St Annes Players and The Ecumaniacs in Whitchurch. In recent years, he played 6 characters in "Drink Up Thy Cider" at The Redgrave Theatre.

### **Julia Beasley**

Julia is an artist and friend of Bronwen Grover. After seeing some of our productions she was persuaded to join us. She is extremely welcome and will be a great asset as a member of production teams and as a scenic artist.

### **Juliet O'Connor**

Juliet heard about Kelvin on the first day of her new job, "highly recommended". She was a regular performer in the Drama Society at Sussex Uni and has taken shows to the Edinburgh and Brighton Fringe. With Putney Arts in London, she has played Juliet in "Romeo and Juliet" (there's a joke here about lazy casting but I'll refrain) and performed in a new writing festival "Human Resources" by Chloe Banks. She is very enthusiastic and a first aider.

### **Abdi Mirreh**

Abdi has joined us to play Tom in "Earthquakes" after a successful audition that he heard about from a friend. He will bring diversity to the club and is looking forward to socials and showing off his sparkling personality. He has done 5 years of Musical Theatre and has performed at The Hippodrome and Redgrave Theatre.

### **Max Hannay**

Max wants to have fun and meet like minded people. He loves performing and has studied Drama at school at GCSE and A level. He's a qualified First Aider but may be a bit rusty.

# MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2022/23

Financially, it's been a tough couple of years for many of us. Suspending Kelvin subscriptions for current members over the last couple of years has no doubt helped. But this isn't a long-term solution and at some point we have to look at what we ask people to pay to become a member of this club.

**As of 1st August, subscriptions for 2022/23 are due.** However this year, following the recent membership survey, we've decided to take a new approach. **While our recommended subscription fee will remain the same (£40), we will also be offering a new pay-what-you-can-afford policy, with a £10 minimum,** to help those of us struggling during the current cost of living crisis. Whilst our members told us that the cost of Kelvin Players' membership compares favourably with memberships of similar organisations, we need to remember that not all of us are in the same position, and it's unfair to restrict some people from the club because their spending potential has been affected by fuel price increases and inflation hikes. And £40 is not the maximum fee – if you feel able to give a little more to the running of the club, then your contributions will be welcomed and very much appreciated.

Doing this is right for several reasons:

Earlier this year, the executive group agreed that focusing on retaining our membership was our main priority. We don't want to lose people who are valuable members and who have contributed lots over the years. It's also worth bearing in mind that our current subscriptions are quite prohibitive for many potential new members from some of the groups we're particularly keen to encourage to join. Two years ago we highlighted that we are largely a middle-class group, and removing the fixed £40 fee helps to make us a more equitable club for those for whom £40 is too big an expense. We want more people from a wider variety of backgrounds, and reducing this burden is one way to help.

Therefore the recommended membership fee for 2022/23 will remain £40 for full membership. However, if this is too much for you right now, you can pay as little as £10 to retain your membership.

**In the meantime, please don't forget – all subs payments were due as from the AGM last Sunday 25th September, and you must be a fully paid up member of Kelvin to audition or perform in any shows.** If you still need to pay, please contact our membership secretary at [membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

**Mat Rees, Chair**





# Kelvin Players

## Subscription form 2022/23

To: **Membership Secretary**. email [membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

I wish to renew/apply for membership (delete as appropriate). I enclose a cheque made payable to KELVIN PLAYERS/ have made a BACS payment as per instructions below. My details are as follows:

Name	
Address	
Postcode	Email
Telephone (home)	Telephone (mobile)

### New Members

Please talk to the Membership Secretary to find out the appropriate amount. The subscription rate is reduced at intervals throughout the Kelvin year to allow for new members joining part-way through. Please fill in the agreed figure in this box.

### **Subscription Renewal (tick as appropriate.)**

Recommended: £40 single membership. You are welcome to contribute more if you are able to do so.

Pay what you can (from £10). For those who are struggling with the cost of living crisis, including those who are students, pensioners or in receipt of benefits, we are asking people to pay what they can afford, with a minimum fee of £10.

### **Patron Membership (tick as appropriate)**

£15 Single membership  £20 Joint membership (living at the same address)

### **BACS Payment Option**

If you choose to pay via BACS you MUST confirm payment by emailing both the membership secretary and treasurer at time of payment - [membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:membership@kelvinplayers.co.uk) and [treasurer@kelvinplayers.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@kelvinplayers.co.uk)

Please make your payment to the following account:

**Lloyds Bank plc**; Sort code: **30-99-38** A/C no. **02923749** A/C name: **Kelvin Players**

Reference: "Sub-(your initial & surname)" (to ensure we can identify your payment on the statement) (e.g. 'Sub-J. Smith')

### **Gift Aid Donation (optional)**

I confirm that I pay an amount of UK income tax or capital gains tax at least equivalent to the tax on my Kelvin subscription. I want Kelvin Players to treat the above payment and all future payments as a Gift Aid Donation.

# Organogram showing the Organisation of the new Kelvin Committee Structure

Approved at the Kelvin AGM 26th September 2021

