




The Jester

February — March 2015

www.kelvinplayers.co.uk

Charity no. 294367

The official Kelvin Players newsletter



Lilies on the Land: Kelvin's moo-ving production about the Womens' Land Army. The Rose Bowl had no beef with this production and was udderly blown away. They certainly didn't milk it. It was one of the highlight's of this year's dairy.

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If you would like to send in an article or idea to the Jester, then please email Mat Rees at: jester@kelvinplayers.co.uk or call: 07957 593155.

A view from the chair

Dear Members,

The company of Lilies on the land turned in a great production. I watched this on several evenings, and found myself in awe of the women's lives that were being portrayed. This was no mean feat for the company working from a script that had no real beginning, middle or end, and minimal relationships between any of the characters. It was particularly fascinating that one evening we had a real live Land Girl in our audience, I found myself watching her rather than the play most of the time. Seeing her go through a variety of emotions told me enough to feel we had got it right. Well done to everyone concerned.

The Black Box production is will soon be upon us. This includes the opportunity to see three rarely performed short plays by Samuel Beckett: The Ghosts of Bedlam, which tackles the issue of just how ignorant some people can be in their attitudes towards mental health; and Make Yourself Comfortable, an absurdist comedy written and directed by our very own Mat Rees. This is a combination of fascinating plays that are well worth seeing. Make sure that you have booked you tickets. It never ceases to amaze me that about half of the club do not come and support their fellow members.

The refit of the kitchen into a bar is continuing a pace. The gutting has now been completed, new appliances have been bought, rewiring installed and the rebuild commenced. Completion date should be late spring.

At the AGM each year there are a number of trophies awarded for various aspects of the clubs activities. Up until the last AGM there has been an award for best actor, be they male or female. However since the majority of plays have more roles for men that women the odds are stacked against females. As of this year's AGM in the autumn the existing trophy will be for males only and a brand new trophy for best female actress. So as you watch and think 'gosh they were brilliant' you will no longer have to pit male against female when you come to cast your vote. Equal opportunities at last.

Parking! Sadly we have had a running battle with a near neighbour for about a year now over parking. Unfortunately this particular neighbour has made this into a personal crusade with a zeal that will take no enemies. He has involved both the police and the local councillor, who I shall be meeting with shortly, over parking at the Studio. We will shortly be marking out more permanent parking bays by the main entrance. Can I please ask that any one parking here has their vehicle within the bay. Please have no part of your car over hanging the pavement. Thanks.

Robin Turner

Chair

chair@kelvinplayers.co.uk

Latest news from the construction team

Hi All

Well, if you've visited the studio since the last Jester you'll have seen that changes are afoot!

We decided that it was high time that the downstairs kitchen was renovated. It was originally set up by us building the bar wall with the sliding hatch and fully tiling as an almost commercial kitchen as it was used by us and others on a frequent basis, but with the changes in the way we use the building, and with a 'new' kitchen upstairs, it was no longer needed.



Also it felt very much like a 'church hall' kitchen. One almost expected to see lovely old ladies in floral prints wearing 'official' tabard pinnies serving tea from enormous teapots into yellow cups and saucers with a nice plate of rich tea biscuits, rather than Bill West and his professional team of bar staff.

Change was needed to create more of a 'bar' atmosphere. So we've removed the wall and most of the plaster. Andy, Derek and Susan are re-wiring and we're building a new bar with a bottle fridge below, and units in a smaller space to give more room for patrons in the Morton Room bar and to avoid the crush of trying to leave the bar whilst moving to the hall.

For Lilies on the Land, we had already started the destruction so kitted it out like a bomb-damaged kitchen to add to the atmosphere. It's unlikely that we'll be finished by the time of the Black Box productions but we'll still at least have a functioning bar in some form (even if it's just a table). The following production, Tartuffe, is of course at the tobacco factory so we've effectively got another 3 months to finish it off before we start on the set for Alex's Glory Dazed in July.

I must record a formal apology to especially Paul Garner, but also to Tony Mo and Mat Rees for any disruption caused by the works during their rehearsal period.

Other work has been kind of put on hold for the moment. As there's little to build for the Black Box or indeed Tartuffe, we're focussing on getting this stuff done and dusty!

If you're interested in helping with set construction (or indeed major building works) let me know and I let you know if/when we can use you. Construction Team generally meets on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:30 until 10:00 ish.

Jonny Wilkinson

Company Stage Manager

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Good memories of the Lilies

It seems ages since I was last at the Kelvin studios, rehearsing and then performance week with our tale of the Women's Land Army during the war. However, it still remains fresh in my mind and I think this play turned out to be one of my directing favourites along with 'Blue Remembered Hills' and 'Pygmalion'.

From the very start the four members chosen to portray the WLA girls worked really hard, turning up to all the rehearsals and learning their lines. Huge parts for all of them as they were on stage for all 49 pages of the script. The supporting cast members were equally a big success and vital part of this play, breathing life into the various characters that featured in the stories and memories of the WLA.

The play was not easy to direct in terms of staging – the trick is to keep the pace moving but also to allow the audience to understand and feel the various emotions ranging from comedy to absolute sadness and despair. They interact with the audience in telling their stories and then develop the scene by acting it out and bringing it to life.

I must pay tribute to the technical crew on this production – Robin Turner created a beautiful set with plenty of open space and levels to give a feeling of rural Britain and farming. Within the set he created a window that allowed me to project film and slides of the period on to a gauze and at the same time give us a beautiful picture that was lit from the other side when not in use. The joint creativity of Anna and Derek Marshall in producing a much in demand "souvenir ration book programme" and designing a very busy lighting plot also helped with the feel and atmosphere of the play.

I think the audience loved this piece of theatre and the truthful nature of it – right from the moment they entered the building and surveyed the "bomb damaged" bar (fortunately for us the upgrade of the bar coincided with our production!) followed by the very real stories of the WLA. We were honoured on one evening to have a past member of the WLA come and watch the play. Her words at the end were she that she had shed a little tear but they were tears of joy at the happy memories the play had invoked.

It was also fitting that we ended the play with a poem written by a 'gone but not forgotten' member of Kelvin – Barry Paine. He wrote the poem in tribute to his cousin who was a land army girl and who after the war moved to Canada. He kept in touch with her frequently and was very pleased when the WLAs contribution in the war was finally recognised and awarded a medal for their efforts.

So in summary... Thank you again to both the cast and crew and my very helpful producer Jacqs Graham in helping me create this wonderful piece and I look forward to working with you again.

Sue Stobbs and Jacqs Graham

Director and Producer

stobbsy@blueyonder.co.uk

Three for the price of one

It's so interesting moving across from performing to directing. All those things that seemed to happen like magic for the plays I have been in—they actually get done by people!

So I start my production update with sincere and copious thanks to Mary McCallum, who has worked her socks off—and is still working—to find suitable costume and wigs; to Peter Spence who inspires me with confidence regarding the music and sound plot, and our producer Richard Newman who seems to have everything sorted (or will have) regarding lighting and a couple of pieces of furniture.

Cast too. There have been a few changes since we set out, but I have six players who seem to be very enthusiastic about these three unusual and very demanding plays. They are all receptive to my suggestions and coming up with great ideas themselves. Good to be working with you all.

Despite a few hitches and difficulties, I'm enjoying the task of making the mental vision I had of these plays a reality.

Paul

When Josh and I sold the venture of having the Black Box production I never dreamed that I'd be one of the first directors to be actually involved in it.

I first came across one of Arthur Aldrich plays last year involved in "The Housewarming". So when I thought about proposing a play, I looked at his other plays and found a connection to *Ghosts of Bedlam*, leading to successfully pitching the play for it to be performed.

The cast and I have thoroughly enjoyed breaking/analysing the text, rehearsing the scenes, finding the characters and translating the themes of the play.



Above: Jon Bard deep in thought, rehearsing Beckett...



I'm sure you will enjoy watching the play

Tony

Below: Becky, Caroline and Rob relax during *Ghosts of Bedlam*

Three for the price of one

Kelvin Grapevine

History of Kelvin: 2005-2014

The second volume of the Kelvin history covering 2005-2014 will be published early this year.

It's hoped that photos of events, and production photos, will be included. If you've any that you might like to submit, please let me have a copy, preferably electronically, asap. The Kelvin archives has photos of each show, but digital cameras give more opportunities for interesting images of events and personalities.

So let me have them giving me permission to include and getting the approval of the person who features in the image for their inclusion. When finalised the launch date will be fixed to take place at the Studios so you can all see what you have been getting up to over the last 10 years.

Richard Jones
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And so another production reaches its conclusion, but this one is quite different to any other I've been involved in. It's felt, intentionally so, more like an extended rehearsed reading than a full production. Music, lighting, costumes, props and set have all stripped down to the bare minimum (although, when I stripped down, you'll be pleased to hear all three of my cast will still be *wearing* clothes—there's just been little fuss around it).

After the behemoth that was James and the Giant Peach, It's been a pleasure to concentrate on the acting alone. It's been great to have the quietly efficient Richard Newman worry about all the production 'things' for all three of us Directors.

Anyway, in around a week the cast of Make Yourself Comfortable will be performing for the first time in front of an audience at the Bristol one act festival at the Olympus Theatre in Filton. This is a competition, so it would be fantastic to have your support as the Kelvin Players entry in this competition. If you would like to come, give me a call on 07957593155.

Thanks,

Mat

Paul Garner (*Three short plays by Sameul Beckett*),
Tony Mohammad (*Ghosts of Bedlam*) and **Mat Rees**
(*Make Yourself Comfortable*)

Directors



Above: Rick makes himself comfortable, while Lisa and Dominick discuss ownership of the seat...

Ta...Tart...Tartuffe

As it gets nearer it gets bigger! The Tartuffe process is now well underway. The read-through saw over thirty five old and new members and some about to be members gather in the Hall. A very pleasing turn-out, and over the next couple of days people who missed it because of illness or not being available on the night were in contact about auditioning.



At the last count we have 74 auditions for 11 speaking roles. We had to increase the number of audition dates from four to seven to accommodate everyone. By the time you read this we expect to have filled most if not all speaking roles. However, we still have some non-speaking roles if any actors wishes to be involved on a major stage in Bristol without having to learn lines!

By the time this is delivered we should be finished with auditions, the cast almost finalised and looking forward to the first rehearsals. For this show we have planned a slightly longer rehearsal period than usual for recent productions – if we are at the Tobacco Factory Theatres (TFTs) immediately following Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory we need to be at the top of Kelvin's very considerable game.

Meanwhile, the production team is coming together, but we still need some members to complete the team. Sound will need to be pulled together and put into a format that can be used on the TFTs sound-system. Backstage we also will need assistance with hair and make-up and dressing with 11 cast in period costumes and some changes. So if you would like to help please send your details to Teri Mohiuddin on terimoni@gmail.com.

Rehearsals start after the Black Box production ends. We will start our publicity drive then. Craig Malpass will co-ordinate publicity. If you want to be involved and would like to help, please contact him after the Black Box shows. We will need blogs/Facebook/Twitter and I'm sure a few other outlets. Any photographers, too, would be welcome to keep a record of rehearsals and to use the images on social media to build excitement for the show!

Ralf Togneri

Director

ralf_togneri@hotmail.com

Launch night 2015

Another year bursts upon us once again, and it's February already. So by the time you read this, the first Launch Night of the year will have flown by—hopefully it was a success...! If so, then the readings we have planned, as excitingly revealed below, should have been fully cast, and it will merely be a matter of time before we can all sit back and enjoy them.

Diaries out, folks! Be there or miss out!

28th February

Dahling, You Were Marvellous by Steven Berkoff, directed by Pat Needham
Two by Jim Cartwright, directed by Josh Cooper

28th March

Di and Viv and Rose by Amelia Bullmore, directed by Jacqs Ludgate
Shining A Light by Fran Lewis, directed by Rick Procter

25th April

The Wedding Proposal and The Bear by Anton Chekhov, directed by Jon Bard
The Further Adventures of Dr. John Watson, Part 1: Betrayal by Laurie Barth, directed by Paul Dawson

6th June

Pale Primroses directed by Phil Joyner

Having secured 7 slots, we decided to go with Pale Primroses as a single-bill in June for a few reasons - partly because we thought this summertime slot would lend itself to a slightly more 'social' affair (although we're not planning any catering on this occasion, on the majestic scale of last November) and would be the most appropriate date when we could perhaps start the performance a little later at 8pm, allowing punters a whole hour between bar-opening and show-viewing for a bit of social chat.

And finally, if you've got a little hankering to direct one yourself, don't be shy—drop me a line. There are certainly still slots available for the second half of 2015, for which the launch will take place in July, date to be confirmed in due course—so grab them while they're hot, budding directors.

Ever hopeful of avoiding typecasting, I have kept it reasonably short and to the point this time. Catch you later, Kelvinfoolk...

Rick Procter

Rehearsed Readings Organiser

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The 2016 Season

With the Black Box Production only a few weeks away and auditions for Tartuffe taking place we are well into this years' play programme. However, we on the APC are always looking ahead and our thoughts now turn to next season. Now that the festive period has passed it's time to start thinking of the future, and there are only a few months until the deadline for proposals for next year's Kelvin season.

Remember that this year the deadline is a month earlier to allow the APC to read and digest the different plays and proposals so now really is the time to read some plays and get your ideas and proposals into us. **The DEADLINE for proposals is 1 May 2015.**

Remember your chances are likely to be improved if you propose more than one play, and if the choices contrast in style, scale and genre then so much the better. We are also actively seeking proposals of One Act plays to continue the Black Box Production – which is especially tailored to new directors - and enter into the Bristol One Act play festival in February, and these will be considered the same as any full-length play.

If you want to direct but can't think of a play the APC has an approved list which we can point you in the direction of. Or you could get in touch with our learned Librarian Chris Warren and borrow plays from Kelvin's extensive selection. If you'd like to see a play performed, but don't want to direct do please still get in touch. If you can offer us a copy of the play then we can read it and approach directors who have not found plays yet as a possible submission for them.

ELIGIBILITY – Now that the Black Box is firmly established the eligibility criteria for a full studio production is: one rehearsed reading, one backstage role and one Black Box production. However, we will take each proposal and director on their merits and experience and we welcome proposals from anyone in any current circumstance as you may be able to meet the criteria before your play is actually put on in 2016.

If you have any questions about eligibility or proposing to the APC, please get in touch with me, or see the web link below. Proposal forms are on the APC section of the Kelvin Members pages of the website: **www.kelvinmembers.co.uk/APC/apc.html**

There is also plenty more information about proposing here, including Frequently Asked Questions. If you have any queries please feel free to speak to me or any other member of the APC. We have a new look APC this year with several new members so we're really looking forward to reading your plays and proposals. Why not give it a go?

Joshua Cooper
Artistic Director
artisticdirector@kelvinplayers.co.uk
07947354227

The APC are: Anna Barry, Josh Cooper, Jacqs Graham, Fran Lewis, Sam Skelton, Peter Spence and Robin Turner.

Voice workshop

Kelvin Players will be hosting a voice workshop on Sunday 8 March from 11am to 2pm.

The workshop will be entitled, "Discover the tools to protect your voice" and there are 16 places available. The course is being offered for a special price of £12.50 to KELVIN PLAYERS members only.

The workshop will cover the following areas:

- How the voice works
- The importance of breath, posture and support
- Control, projection and 'voice-body' connection
- Common voice problems
- Suggested do's and don'ts

The workshop will be interactive and have practical exercises to cover each area. Participants will be encouraged to talk about any problems that they experience so that we can look at specific exercises to help with these.

Workshop facilitator – Jules Olsen- voice coach

Jules is an experienced Bristol based vocal coach. She offers 1-1 singing and voice coaching sessions and runs workshops and various groups in and around Bristol. She is particularly interested in supporting people to have more confidence in their voice as well as using it well and safely. For more information about Jules please visit her www.julesolsen.co.uk

Email Tony Mohammad at tonymoh@me.com if you would like to book a place. (Please put "Voice workshop" in the subject line)

Tony Mohammad

Membership Development Officer

tonymoh@me.com

Meisner one day workshop

Come and experience the Meisner technique at our Meisner Technique Taster Day on Saturday 11th April, 10 till 4pm.

“Discover the tools to enable you to act truthfully with spontaneity.”

30 places available. For a special bargained price of £10 for the day's workshop to KELVIN PLAYERS members only.

Meisner's famous acting technique develops the skills to act before you think. It aims to free you up and puts your attention on your fellow actors, stripping you of thinking how you might say something. It creates fresh and truthful performances time and time again. It enables a performer to act honestly in the moment and to move and inspire their audience.

Sanford Meisner pioneered the technique in the 1930's at the Neighbourhood Playhouse in New York. Among his students were Arthur Miller, David Mamet, Jon Voight, Grace Kelly and Steve McQueen. Recent graduates include Naomi Watts, James Franco, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Christoph Waltz.

"Every time I am reading actors I can pretty well tell which ones have studied with Meisner. It is because they are honest and simple and don't lay on complications that aren't necessary." Arthur Miller

The tutors

Nicola Miles-Wildin and Sarah Fyson both studied Meisner extensively with Scott Williams at the Impulse Company in London. Scott studied at the Neighbourhood Playhouse with Sanford Meisner and teaches all over the world.

Nicola studied Theatre & Media Drama and has since worked extensively in theatre and BBC Radio. She is probably best known for her role of Miranda in the Paralympic Opening Ceremony, London 2012. She is Associate Director for Kazzum Theatre Company and artistic director at Graeae Theatre Company both in London.

Sarah trained at the Oxford School of Drama. She has acted in theatre, commercials, worked for the BBC and done voice over work for channel 4. She taught on a one year Meisner programme in Bristol with director Jack Price, has taught at the Tobacco Factory and in London at the Kogan Academy of Dramatic Arts.

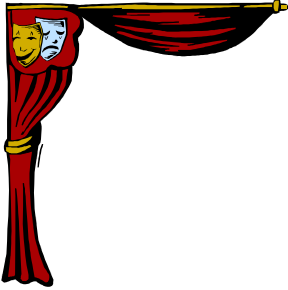
Email Tony Mohammad at tonymoh@me.com if you would like to book a place.

Tony Mohammad

Membership Development Officer

tonymoh@me.com

What's going on...

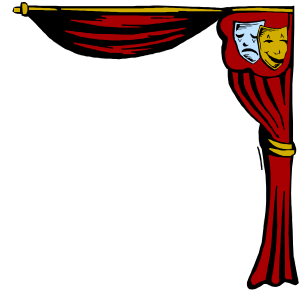


Stuff is going on in Bristol over the next couple of months. What a vast number of venues we now have in Bristol.

- War Horse 14 Jan—14 Feb, Bristol Hippodrome
- Submarine (Written by Richard Ayoade) 2—4 Feb, Alma Tavern and Theatre
- The Forbidden Door 3—4 Feb, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- Two Legged Animal 4 Feb, Wickham Theatre
- Fooligan: How To Be Happy & The Secret Fools Show 5 Feb, The Bristol Fringe
- The Life and Times of Fanny Hill 5 Feb—7 Mar, Bristol Old Vic, Theatre
- Christie In Love 6 Feb, The Wardrobe Theatre
- Black Box Production 10—14 Feb, The Kelvin Studios
- The Autumn of Han 11 Feb, University of Bristol: Drama Department: Wickham Theatre
- Jean-Luc Picard and Me 11—12 Feb, Alma Tavern and Theatre
- The Vagina Monologues 11—13 Feb, Bierkeller Theatre
- Les Misables 11—14 Feb, Olympus Theatre
- Light Presented 12—14 Feb, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- Fourplay 3 14 Feb, The Yard at The Old Fish Market
- United We Stand 16—17 Feb, Bierkeller Theatre
- The Star Seekers 16—20 Feb Venue: The Wardrobe Theatre
- Detective O and the Cold Case Caper 16—21 Feb, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- A Little Man's Holiday 17—21 Feb, Alma Tavern Theatre
- Red Riding Hood 17—22 Feb, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- Bonnie and Clyde 18—21 Feb, Blakehay Theatre
- Romeo and Juliet 19 Feb—4 Apr, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- One Man Variety Show 20 Feb, The Wardrobe Theatre
- Father Dagon 20—22 Feb, The Basement at The Island
- The Devil with the Three Golden Hairs 21—22 Feb The Cube Microplex
- Radiant Vermin Metal Rabbit and Supporting Wall 27 Feb—7 Mar, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- Elizabeth I: Virgin on the Ridiculous 1—22 Mar, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- I Love You Because 3—7 Mar, Alma Tavern Theatre

What's going on...

- **The Bristol 24hr Plays** 6 Mar, The Wardrobe Theatre
- **The Heresy of Love** 6—14 Mar, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- **The Absense of War** 10—14 Mar, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- **Fat Man** 17—28 Mar, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- **Ablutions** 18—20 Mar, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- **Two Punks and A Tandem** 23—27 Mar, The Wardrobe Theatre
- **Mass** 30 Mar—2 Apr, Bristol Old Vic, Studio
- **Two, Four, Six, Eight!** 30 Mar—2 Apr, Tobacco Factory Theatres
- **Room on the Broom** 31 Mar—2 Apr, Bristol Old Vic, Theatre



Also for you delectation you might like to know that The Bristol Improv Theatre Festival 2015 is happening Friday 6—Sunday 8 March 2015 at The Bristol Improv Theatre, 50 St Paul's Road, Bristol, BS8 1LP.

BIT FEST 2015 is a celebration of improvised theatre and comedy, showcasing talent from local, UK-wide and even international acts, and featuring workshops from the UK's best-loved improv gurus.

This year, the festival will be held for the first time in the Bristol Improv Theatre.

Featuring the amazing AUSTENTATIOUS, the fabulous MUSIC BOX, the brilliant MAYDAYS, and the return of the Bristol Improv Theatre Throwdown!

Full line-up and tickets now available at www.Bitefestival.co.uk



Obituary

Kelvin Grapevine

Digestible?

Some of you have mentioned that you're not receiving the Digest.

The Digest is sent out weekly or fortnightly or whenever stuff happens by email only.

If you're not receiving it, firstly please check your junk mail folder and mark it as 'Not Junk'.

If you still can't find it, please email:
web@kelvinplayers.co.uk

We can then check that we have your correct email address.

Jonny Wilkinson

On visiting good friend and long time Kelvin member, David Higson (joined 1953), I was given some newspaper cuttings both dating back to last August in which were recorded the deaths of one time members.

Ken Taylor played for Kelvin in the 1980s, a fine actor who also played for Bristol's Headley Players taking lead roles in more than 100 musicals, plays and pantomimes in Bristol. A keen cricketer and fearsome fast bowler he was accepted by Gloucestershire but turned them down and went on to play for Downend Cricket Club for many years. He had eight children.

The second cutting featured the death of Nigel Lennard husband of Vickie Bellinger part of the family of that name, comprising sister Jacquie and mum and dad Ron and Ann, who did so much for Kelvin particularly in assisting to ensure that the transition from the old Somerset Street studios to our present one in the late 1970s and 1980s went as smoothly as it did.

David also reported that Beryl Ridout had died in January this year. Herself a lovely actress she appeared, arguably most notably, with her husband Esmond (as 'Sir' and his wife) in the Kelvin award winning production of The Dresser. I had the pleasure of partnering her in Quiet Wedding, dancing and singing to her 'Red Sails in the Sunset'.

Richard Jones

Vice President

New members

Hello,

And a big welcome to all of our new members, below. There's plenty of them this week, so make sure you say hello when you see them about...

James Boreham

James has had some experience of acting at Filton College. He has just been in the college production of 'A Christmas Carol'. He is very interested in learning about all aspects of theatre; both as an actor and helping backstage. He enjoys watching different kinds of plays and loves films – especially the 'Carry On' films.



Above: Membership Secretary, Mandi Bailey-Turner dictates the biogs of her latest batch of recruits...

Heather Byrne

Heather has a background in Art and Design. She has experience with Mixed Media 3D/ sculpture and painting at Art College and now enjoys painting, making filo models and has recently turned her hand to making bags and draught excluders! She has no desire to 'tread the boards' but would like to get involved with set design, costumes and props.

Arven Dobay

Arven came to Bristol to be involved with drama. She came to the Studio and loved the atmosphere and thought she would like to be involved in acting with the group. Arven has had some experience with acting with other amateur groups. She describes herself as 'utterly and completely passionate and fascinated by drama'.

Jaleelah Galbraith

Jaleelah joins us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. She was an award-winning actress at UWE where she gained a BA(Hons) in Drama and English. She is also an alumni for the The American Academy of Dramatic Art in New York. She has performed in and around London. She writes sketches and a comedy blog and has performed some of her work in Bristol. Jaleelah has been involved with BAOS and CADS both as a director and performer. She wanted to join Kelvin because our reputation is so good.

Paula Gontan

Paula works at the BRI in the Bristol Heart Institute as a cardiology nurse. She loves theatre and has had a 'very brief experience as a non-professional actress' and would love to explore this further. She enjoys meeting new people and is looking forward to getting involved in the Club both on and off the stage. She is happy to work as crew on shows; help with Box Office and Front of House and is also interested in costume and make-up.

New members

Sheila Hammond

Sheila brings a wealth of experience and knowledge with her to Kelvin. She was a Drama Examiner for 12 years at Trinity College, London and a Drama and Communications teacher in New Zealand. She has worked in Repertory as an actor and in stage management. She has worked in TV, film and radio both in the UK and in New Zealand. She is very interested in getting involved with performance, direction and stage management at Kelvin.

Pierre Jomain

Pierre has always enjoyed watching plays but now feels he would like to get involved 'the other side of the curtain'. He is interested in working backstage with set construction, lighting and photography and also helping with Front of House. He says he finds the idea of acting a bit scary but might like to 'give it a go' one day. Pierre is from Lyon and would like the opportunity to meet new people in Bristol.

Megan (Meg) Pickup

Meg enjoyed acting when she was younger and is keen to get involved again. Her favourite acting experience was being in *Blood Brothers*. She is enthusiastic and eager to meet new people. She also has some backstage experience. Meg has been cast in the Samuel Beckett plays as part of the Black Box productions.

Tegan Westall

Tegan has recently moved to Bristol to study Drama and Acting at UWE. She has been a member of several theatre companies in her home-town of Stratford-on-Avon. She has experience acting in both theatre and films as well as backstage work with costume and lighting.

Mandi Bailey-Turner

Membership Secretary

Lisa Hamilton-James

How long have you been a member? 2003—so eleven, no twelve years.

What was the first production you were involved in? *Much Ado About Nothing* and I played Hero. And it won a best dramatic production at the Rose Bowl awards which was nice, too. It was also where I met Dom for the first time (who Lisa is starring with in the Black Box).

Which production would you most like us to do? I would love for us to *Dangerous Liaisons*, the play version by Christopher Hampton based on the novel by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos or however you pronounce his name. It has a series amount of period costumes for Kelvin to do. There are some awesome characters—it's very intense. Very dramatic.

If you could play any character in any show, who would it be? Well, I have already. The character I always wanted to play was Lizzie Bennett, and of course Kelvin Players has already done *Pride and Prejudice*. Aren't I lucky?

What is your favourite film? *Hot Fuzz*, obviously. *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Life of Brian*, *Jaws*—how many more do you need? I don't really have a type, I like all sorts. *A Few Good Men*, *Despicable Me*, *How to Train Your Dragon*, *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*, *Tombstone*.

What is your favourite song/singer? Well, I had massive indie phase, as you know (*Lisa used to be a music journalist—Ed*). At the moment I really like George Ezra and Paloma Faith. I like alternative music, not mainstream. I do love a bit of rock. I really like a bit Metallica. I like a bit of classic, too. It depends what mood you're in, doesn't it? I do love a bit of cheese. You can't go wrong with a bit of *Abba*. *Dancing Queen*. Classic.

What do you have planned for the year ahead? Organising a 30th birthday for the Workshop. ITV Workshop is 30 years old. I'm taking them to Canada and I'll be directing lots of shows. I would really like to write my first play, too. It's going to be about World War 1. Meeting Emma Thompson—that's what I'm going to be doing. She's our patron, so I'm trying to get her to come down.

What do you like most about Kelvin? The people. I've made some of my closest friends, and met my husband, through Kelvin. And I love how committed everyone is. They all work so hard to make something happen—it's all very inspiring.

AND FINALLY...

Well, that's my penultimate edition of this publication and the role of Jester Editor still seems to be up for grabs. If you want to take over—and let's be honest, you'd be a fool not to want to take on this fabulous, highly rewarding role—then let the committee know.

Anyway, onto the next edition and please can you send all your articles and information for the **APRIL/MAY 2015** edition to be sent to me by **FRIDAY 20 MARCH**. Start writing now! Send to: jester@kelvinplayers.co.uk or call 07957593155.

Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT
Sat 7 Feb	14:00	Bristol One Act Festival: Make Yourself Comfortable	Olympus Theatre, Filton	Director: Mat Rees
Sun 8 Feb	09:30	Get in: The Black Box production	Studio	Producer: Richard Newman
Tue 10 to 14 Feb	19:30	BLACK BOX (Three short plays by Samuel Beckett, Ghosts of Bedlam, Make Yourself Comfortable)	Studio	Director: Paul Garner, Tony Mohammad and Mat Rees
Sun 15 Feb	09:30	Get out: The Black Box production	Studio	Producer: Richard Newman
Sat 28 Feb	19:30	Rehearsed readings: Dahling, You Were Marvellous directed by Pat Needham and Two directed by Josh Cooper	Studio	Organisers: Rick Procter and Chris Warren
Sun 8 Mar	11:00 — 14:00	Voice workshop	Studio	Organiser: Tony Mohammad
Sat 28 Mar	19:30	Rehearsed readings: Di and Viv and Rose directed by Jacqs Graham and Shining A Light directed by Rick Procter	Studio	Organisers: Rick Procter and Chris Warren
Sat 11 Apr	10:00 — 16:00	Meisner one day workshop	Studio	Organiser: Tony Mohammad
Sat 25 Apr	19:30	Rehearsed readings: The Wedding Proposal and The Bear directed by Jon Bard and The Further Adventures of Dr. John Watson, Part 1: Betrayal directed by Paul Dawson	Studio	Organisers: Rick Procter and Chris Warren
Sun 10 May		Get in—Tartuffe	Tobacco Factory	Producer:
Tue 12—Sat 16 May	19:30	TARTUFFE	Tobacco Factory	Director: Ralf Togneri
Sun 17 May		Get in—Tartuffe	Tobacco Factory	Producer: