



**EVERYMAN**  
**THEATRE ASSOCIATION**

FRIENDS OF THE EVERYMAN THEATRE

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Number 270

September 2017

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## Chairman's Report

In late August, as I write this, the theatre is dark and we are very much looking forward to the start of the new season. Mark Goucher invites ETA members to join him for a glass of wine on September 28th when he will launch the new brochure and talk about the new season's productions. If you would like to stay on, you are offered complimentary tickets afterwards for *The Weir*.

Since our last Newsletter in May much has been happening in the theatre. The Langtry Room has been refurbished as the Directors Lounge, Matcham's has been redecorated and has new furniture, the patio in Regent Street has been improved, and screens have been placed at the front of the Box Office to make it quieter for the staff when dealing with bookings. Improvements are also planned for the Café Bar.

I'd like to thank Mark for his generosity in offering complimentary tickets to ETA members for some shows - for the evening with Ed Balls, and for *Showstopper! The Improvised Musical* in May, and for *The Weir* in September. Your committee also appreciated an invitation to the newly-opened Directors Lounge, with tickets for the show afterwards.

A number of ETA events have taken place since I last wrote to you. Our Seasonal Supper in May was a happy occasion and members were able to meet Mark and to hear about his work. In July we enjoyed meeting the talented cast of *Around The World in 80 Days* and at the party Paul Milton, on the theatre's behalf, accepted an ETA cheque for £4,000, presented for us by Joey Parsad. In August Mike and I were pleased to welcome members to our garden party - in fine weather, I'm glad to say! We appreciate the loyal support of members at these fund raising occasions, as well as the help the committee gives us.



I hope you will find plenty of events to enjoy in the coming months. There will be opportunities to meet Pam Ayres in September and the cast of *The Wipers Times* in November. On both occasions we hope to have cheques to present to the theatre. Our Christmas events are always popular, so even at this early stage do book your tickets for the Christmas Dinner and the Studio event. In January Hayley Spicer, who so efficiently looks after the pantomime wardrobe, will talk about her work and give us a tour backstage - always a fascinating event. We also look forward very much to the Everyman's own production of *Quartet* in February. Details of all our events are on Page 4.

I hope you will agree that our ETA donation of £1,000 towards five bursaries for the Everyman's Summer School was very worthwhile. (See Page 2) Several of our members have joined the Ambassador scheme and have enjoyed the events they have attended in recent months. Please contact Francesca Goddard if you would like to help.

As always I look forward to seeing you at our events and I thank you for your support.

**Janet Limb**

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## The Directors Lounge

In July the ETA committee members were invited to the opening of the new Directors Lounge - the former Langtry Room which has been redecorated and refurnished.

Relax in the comfort of a private space to enjoy a complimentary drink and canapés from an hour before the show, and return at the interval for a fully stocked cash bar with dedicated waiting staff. A Directors Lounge Experience can be booked for £10 per person with your tickets. Places limited to 20 per performance.



## Everyman Ambassador Scheme

We are looking for volunteers to join our Ambassador scheme to represent the theatre at outside events, to promote the work of the Everyman and to talk to people about forthcoming shows and to publicise our various membership schemes. The role is voluntary but we look after our Ambassadors and will make it fun and sociable too! It will give you a chance to become more involved with your theatre, find out what goes on behind the scenes and make some new friends at the same time! So if you enjoy chatting to people and feel you might have a couple of hours spare from time to time to help out, please do get in touch with me on 01242 236700 or email [francesca.goddard@everymantheatre.org.uk](mailto:francesca.goddard@everymantheatre.org.uk) **Francesca Goddard**

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## The Everyman's Musical Theatre Summer School

We were very pleased to be able to give £1,000, from our ETA funds, to enable five young people to have free places at the Summer School. We received the following report, which includes feedback from some of those we helped:

The Everyman Theatre Senior Summer School gave 57 young people the opportunity to take to the main stage on August 11th putting on a production of "Come Fly With Me". It was the culmination of two intense weeks learning the skills needed to communicate ensemble-led songs, dances, dramatic extracts and even aerial performances that were connected by the theme of Flying. The young people worked with over 15 professional theatre practitioners who guided them through the varied programme and were accompanied on stage by a live band of six talented young musicians provided by the Cheltenham Rock School.

The course cost each young person £200 for two weeks and this year, due to the generosity of the ETA, we were able to offer 5 free places to young people who would otherwise not have been able to take part. We were inundated with applications and the theatre agreed to offer a further 6 partially funded places.

The young people who received the bursaries were fantastic and they and their families were very appreciative. We received many messages and cards of thanks, including the comments below from just two of those who took part. The first came from a single mum whose son attended on a full bursary due to financial difficulties, and the second was from a mum whose husband has been diagnosed with cancer. Because she had become his carer, the family was struggling financially. The ETA funded places for both her children.

*"Would just like to take this opportunity to thank you so much for all the support you gave to ....., and mostly for accepting him for a bursary. What a fantastic opportunity that was. It was an outstanding performance and obvious how much hard work was put in by all. He really enjoyed it and is gutted that it has come to an end. I'm sure he'll be back again next year. Loved his part as the American judge, so funny! Thank you so much for this opportunity for young people."*

*"First of all I would like to say a HUGE THANKYOU! to everyone from the Everyman and especially to whoever facilitated the bursary/scholarship for ...and ... They were both very nervous when I dropped them for the first day, but when I collected them that afternoon they were brimming over with enthusiasm and talked non-stop about everything and everybody. I really can't thank you enough, they had an absolute blast and are already planning how they can afford to come back next year, by saving Birthday/Christmas money etc! The show was wonderful, their Dad managed to come and we were blown away by the level of performance! Thank you again!"*

**Louise Partridge, Education and Community Manager**

The Everyman's Musical Theatre Summer School's production of "Come Fly With Me".  
August 11th, 2017

Photo by the Gloucestershire Echo



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT THE EVERYMAN THEATRE

Like you, I and the members of the ETA committee love the Everyman Theatre; the range of plays and big musicals on the main stage - fantastic! There is so much variety on offer at our amazing theatre and it appears that one or two pre-London productions may well be part of the programme in the near future too - brilliant!

I also like the intimate atmosphere of the Studio: the small theatre companies' work, sometimes startling, at other times uplifting; the Youth Theatre's activities, allowing young people to dip their toes into theatre life and helping them gain confidence in themselves; the less heralded activities linked to our community education programme, such as the story-telling, craft and musical workshops, assisting people with dementia.

From listening to people who have full involvement with the varied community projects our theatre supports, it seems to me very possible that some of these may not be completed, through lack of funds. I know Arts and Borough Council funding is getting less and less year on year, but to me it seems wrong that productions should be squeezed so tightly. Let me tell you about a couple of projects which could fold if no assistance is given. In both cases, the funding for the first of two stages has been secured by the theatre. The second phase will be in the lap of the pecuniary gods.

The exciting physical theatre company, Theatre Témoin, will be working in October with groups of young people, discussing how the use of technology affects the capacity of today's youth for empathy: i-phones at the dinner table, children computer-blinkered, talking on screen, not face to face. It is hoped that the second phase of this project will be a full production of the ideas created.

The theatre company, Imove, has been working in spa towns around the country exploring links between health and the homeless. Between October 9th and 13th the group will seek stories from some of the homeless people in our area to develop and dramatise, through a mixture of movement and storytelling. This will culminate in a sharing of the work in the Studio on Friday 13th. It is hoped that a full performance of the project's results will take place in the Studio in the second phase.

I know the ETA newsletter isn't normally the vehicle through which to ask for assistance, but I thought that if there's a danger of two small theatre companies' ideas collapsing, why not?! So...I know that by belonging to the ETA you are already supporting the theatre, but if there is anybody out there who thinks "I could help here", please get in touch. Each project needs up to £10,000 to complete the second stage. The ETA has given some money and hopes to give more, but we would be unable to cover all the costs. So...any amount, large or small, would be most welcome. Do contact me at [pg.hornet@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pg.hornet@hotmail.co.uk) if you are considering some sort of support and I will give you more detailed information about the projects.

**Pete Green, ETA Project Support**

Members enjoy the Seasonal Supper in May

Cast members at the party after *Around The World in 80 Days* in July

Mark Goucher with members at the Garden Party in August  
Our Treasurer, Daniel Nicholas, chooses his raffle prize





## Dates for your Diary

### Wednesday, September 20th

Meet the ETA's Patron, Pam Ayres, in Matcham's after her performance. For free party tickets, contact the Box Office.

### Meet and Greet

### Thursday, September 28th

6.30 p.m.

### Launch of new season's brochure

Join Mark Goucher for a glass of wine in Matcham's and be the first to hear about the exciting new season. Members are also invited to stay afterwards to watch *The Weir*. For **FREE** ETA tickets, contact Francesca Goddard [francesca.goddard@everymantheatre.org.uk](mailto:francesca.goddard@everymantheatre.org.uk)

### Monday, 13th November

### Meet the Cast Party

An opportunity to meet the cast of *The Wipers Times* by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman, in Matcham's after the show.

### Friday, December 1st

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

### Christmas Dinner

A traditional turkey meal in Matcham's, with vegetarian option, plus dessert. A glass of wine and coffee included. Sally, the Catering Manager, will carve the turkey in the restaurant. Please send cheques for £25 (payable to ETA) to Janet Limb, Springfield, Talbot Road, Cheltenham GL51 6QA by November 24th. (Places will be limited to 40.) Do join us for this popular festive occasion!

### Thursday, December 14th

7.30 p.m.

### Exclusive ETA Studio Event

A performance of *A Gloucestershire Midwinter*, a lighthearted revue dealing with all things wintry, past and present, in Gloucestershire, and featuring song, drama and poetic humour. Tickets £15 from the Box Office (limited to two per member), to include festive refreshments afterwards.

### Saturday, January 6th

11 a.m.

### Pantomime Talk and Tour

Hayley Spicer will talk about the pantomime costumes and will take us on a tour backstage. There will be refreshments afterwards. Tickets £10 from the Box Office. You are welcome to bring a guest.

### Thursday, 8th February

### Meet the Cast of *Quartet*

Meet the cast after the first performance of the Everyman's production of *Quartet*.

### Tuesday, March 6th

### Meet the Cast of *Pressure*

### Sunday, March 18th

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in the main auditorium, with lunch afterwards. Further details later.

See our e-mails, website, notice board, Facebook page and Twitter for up to date details of our events.

## Instagram

We have now joined the social media networking platform Instagram. It is similar to Facebook and Twitter in that users create a profile and make posts, which are seen by followers in their news feeds. Instagram, however, is an app designed for sharing photos and videos on mobile devices (such as smart phones). Our Instagram name is everymanfriends - do please follow us and we will be glad to follow back. **Miranda Walker**

## Your ETA Committee

<b>President</b>	<b>Roger Nicholls</b>	<b>Chairman &amp; Newsletter</b>	<b>Janet Limb</b> 01242 237484 <a href="mailto:chairman@everymantheatreassociation.org.uk">chairman@everymantheatreassociation.org.uk</a>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Lesley Whittal</b> 01242 263713	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Pat Redmond</b> 01242 520749
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Daniel Nicholas</b> 01531 828474	<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Peter Green</b> (ETA Project Support) <b>Aidan Rose</b> (Website) <b>Miranda Walker</b> (Twitter, Facebook & Instagram) <b>Judi Williams</b>

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**Twitter:** @EverymanFriends **Instagram:** everymanfriends

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