NOVEMBER 2026 VOL. 27 ISSUE 11

THE LINDLEY PLAYERS NEWSLETTER

As always, there's quite a lot happening this month. Make sure that you don't miss out on the Youth group production of The Canterbury Tales, 1984 information evening and auditions...and, of course, THE RALPHS!



Editors' Note:
Deadline for newsletter entries is Friday 27th November. Please email **newsletter@playhousewhitstable.co.uk**

What's On

Dates for your Diary!

Thursday 5th November	Opening NIght Youth Group Canterbury Tales **Tickets avaible online and from box office**	**Sunday November 15h**	The Ralphs
Monday 9th November 7.30	**1984 Information evening**	**Monday 16th November 7.30**	**1984 Open Auditions**
Thursday 12th November	NT Live: The Golden Boy	**Saturday 21st November**	Jerusalem screening
Friday 13th November	The Rat Pack	**Wednesday 9th December**	Opening night The Vortex
Saturday 14th November	Queen Tribute: I Want It All **SOLD OUT**	**Saturday 19th December Sunday 20th December**	Chistmas drinks morning Christmas Pub night

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Chairman's Chat

Nick Farrow, 07990 560445

Parties and Productions

Our production of 84 Charing Cross Road completed a very successful run earlier this month, achieving over 86% ticket sales and very positive feedback from our guests. It was worth buying a ticket just to see the beautifully detailed set but it was also a superb production. Well done to everyone involved.

We also celebrated the Lindleys' 80th Birthday (ie since the start of the group by Ralph Lindley in 1946) with a social event in the bar, including a challenging, but entertaining, task for the evening identifying selected shows from pictures of just one scene from over the 80 years! It was a great evening and a big thankyou to the organisers and helpers who provided the excellent buffet and entertainment.

Currently in the final week of set build and rehearsals is the highly regarded Lindley Youth Group's four show run of Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales. The show runs from 5th to 7th November (with a matinee on Saturday 7th).
Tickets are still available for this much-loved classic play so get yours quickly.

Following the Youth Group in November, we have an NT Live on 12th November (the American classic-Golden Boy) and two tribute bands of the Rat Pack and Queen (both sold out). On Sunday evening, 15th November, we are hosting the Lindley awards evening of the Ralphs. Tickets are free but you need to book by phone or in person (not available on line). All members should have received an email about voting for the nominated categories so this is your chance to show your appreciation of a year of Lindley productions and the people who make it all happen.
If that wasn't enough, also in rehearsal is the next Lindley production of the Noel Coward's The Vortex set in 1920's high society, which will run from 9th to 12th December. Tickets on sale now.

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A brief word about security

A few weeks ago we installed an improved security camera system which came into its own recently, capturing some very clear images of two, possibly bored, youths who kicked in and destroyed an air vent at the back of the theatre and then tried to break in through the rear gate (unsuccessfully fortunately).

Full details of this antisocial behaviour have been reported to the police. It's hard to understand what motivates anyone to engage in this sort of pointless damage. However, this could be a timely reminder to us all to be careful to ensure the security of the building at all times. This includes locking Bretts door (if you are a keyholder) when in the building, but not able to supervise who might walk in if left unlocked. This is especially important if you are working or rehearsing on stage, or you are, for any reason, on your own in the building.

You asked, we listened.

A change to the after show bar opening days

You may remember last month Nick mentioned that a number of members had put forward some very useful ideas in the suggestion box. One suggestion was that there could be a slight change to when the bar opened after a show: opening night, and then the Friday night, rather than the Saturday. This would allow the cast and crew to 'decompress and relax' after their final show.

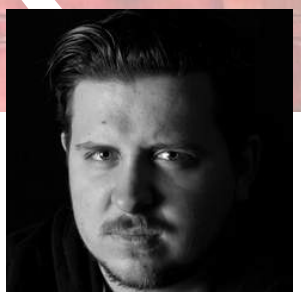
This was felt to be an excellent suggestion and as a result, it has been agreed that from December's production of **THE VORTEX** the bar will be open **after** the show on the **first night and then the Friday night**. Obviously, it will still be open every evening before showtime.

Thanks

Marilyn

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Drama: Taking Centre Stage

Christy Hinchliffe

Looking back, but mainly looking forward

Lovely work from everyone involved in our rather marvellous 84 Charing Cross Road. A production of high standard, and another reminder that sometimes the simplest stories are the ones that stay with us longest, in the very best of ways. Hopefully those involved all enjoyed it as much as the audience did, which I'm hearing to be very much the case.

Imminently, our Youth Group will bring The Canterbury Tales to the stage. They've been working hard on this collection of classics, and we're looking forward to seeing this year's offering. If you haven't booked yet, don't hang about; Youth Group productions typically reach standing-room-only status quite quickly, and since we don't offer standing room that can be a pickle.

Meanwhile, rehearsals are underway for The Vortex, Noel Coward's sharp and scandalous exploration of family, love and the social expectations of the 1920s. It promises to be a gripping evening of theatre; if you've already seen that the NT Live decision-makers are bringing "Hay Fever" to screens in the coming months, this will definitely be your bag.

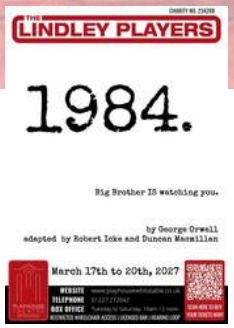
Unbelievably, it's already nearly time for Dick Whittington! With the new year somehow fast approaching, it's the perfect way to kick off 2027 with a bang, bringing a little bit of magic, mischief and mayhem to the Playhouse. Those who've read the script will know that this script is bang-up-to-date, which isn't always the case for panto scripts let me tell you, and we're all excited to see what David, Cast and Crew are able to bring us come January.

And an upcoming opportunity for those wanting to get involved, as the information evening and auditions are coming this month for 1984. I'm well-acquainted with this particular production, having studied the script x years ago as part of the drama curriculum, so it is very worth your while getting hold of one asap and coming along to find out more about our March 2027 slot.

That may well be all - can't believe there's just one further newsletter before annual winter festivities, it's been a fantastic year on stage throughout.

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Audition news!

1984

"The past is whatever the records and the memories agree upon."

Director: Tim Hinchliffe

Information evening 7.00 for 7.30 Monday 9th November

auditions

7.00 for 7.30 Monday 16th November

BIG BROTHER IS ALWAYS WATCHING YOU. This warning rules the frightening, dystopian future of George Orwell's classic novel, 1984, adapted for the stage by Robert Icke and Duncan Macmillan.

The play explores the oppressive regime of Big Brother, focusing on Winston Smith, a Party worker who secretly rebels against the totalitarian state.
It incorporates elements from the novel's appendix, providing a unique perspective on Orwell's themes.
The adaptation has been praised for its intense portrayal of the struggle for individuality and freedom in a repressive society.

Main Characters

• **Winston Smith**: The protagonist and records department worker who secretly rebels against the Party and Big Brother.
• **Julia:** Winston's lover who publicly supports the Party through the Junior Anti-Sex League while privately breaking its rules.
• **O'Brien**: A powerful and enigmatic member of the Inner Party who deceives Winston into believing he is part of the resistance.
• **Charrington**: An antique shop owner who rents a room to Winston and Julia, later revealed to be a member of the Thought Police.
• **Syme:** Winston's colleague working on the Newspeak dictionary who is eventually vaporized for being too intelligent.
• **Parsons:** Winston's naive, brainwashed neighbour who is turned in to the Thought Police by his own children.
• **Mrs. Parsons:** Parsons' terrified wife who lives under the constant surveillance of her children and the Party.
• **Martin:** O'Brien's servant or operative present during Winston's interrogation and torture.
• **The Child**: A young character representing the next generation moulded by Party indoctrination

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The Lindleys' Social Scene



6.30pm Sunday 15th November

THE VOTES ARE NOW IN!!

It has been a great year for the Lindley both on and off stage and now it's time to find out who are your favourites!

Join the celebrations in style; wear your finest party dresses, tiaras, glittery baubles, dickies and tuxes: whatever finery you have...put on the ritz!

Book your **FREE** tickets either in person or by phone from the box office.(01227 272042 open Tues-Sat 10am-noon) or, if you are unable to pop in or phone, by emailing boxoffice@playhousewhitstable.co.uk.



What a swell party that was!

Well, The Lindley Players are now officially 80 years old! We have had the party to prove it. A big thank you to all who came along to join in the fun and celebrate: it was a really, really lovely evening.

A massive thank you also to Sarah, Tim and Dan for putting together a brilliant quiz of 'Guess the Play'. The chosen photos were not only a real conversation piece, but also a wonderful journey through the archives: what an amazing catalogue of productions we have!

It wouldn't have been a party without something to nibble on, so more thanks are due to John D, Caroline J, Fanny and Marilyn for their delicious support with the catering; and to Marilyn, Sandra and Julie for making sure that we didn't go thirsty. Thanks also to Damian for providing the perfect party sounds, and to Lisa for making sure that the room was appropriately festive. Everyone played their part in making sure that the evening was a success. Closing the event with the 'advertising' video that Nick managed to salvage and update, was the perfect ending.

Thank you all: you are bloomimg marvellous.

Trace and the events team xx

Christmas Social dates:

11.30 (ish) Saturday 19th December Christmas mince pies, sausage rolls for Carol, and mulled wine with the bar open at 12.00

7.00 Sunday 20th December Christmas PUB night! Christmas Jumpers to be worn!

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Interesting Snippets

Open Day Charity Cake Sale

Following the refreshments we held at the recent Open Day, I would advise that we raised £261.50 for GOSH (Great Ormond Street Hospital). Many thanks to everyone who donated either by buying a drink or buying/making cakes etc to sell. Thanks to you all.
Best Wishes
Carol Lee

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to become more involved with the Lindleys, there are a wide range of volunteering opportunities available both on and off stage. Here are just a few: front of house; ice cream sellers; bar support; set design, building, and/or painting; social media development. email newsletter@playhousewhitstable.co.uk and we can put you in touch with the right people.

Please do say a big 'Hello' to all of our new members

Please welcome the following new members who have joined the Lindleys in the last month:
Eva Feurtado
Kitty Haylett-Painter
Isaac Luton
We have also had a couple of people renew their membership who have been absent for a year or two - so welcome back!

And now a little memo about membership subs.

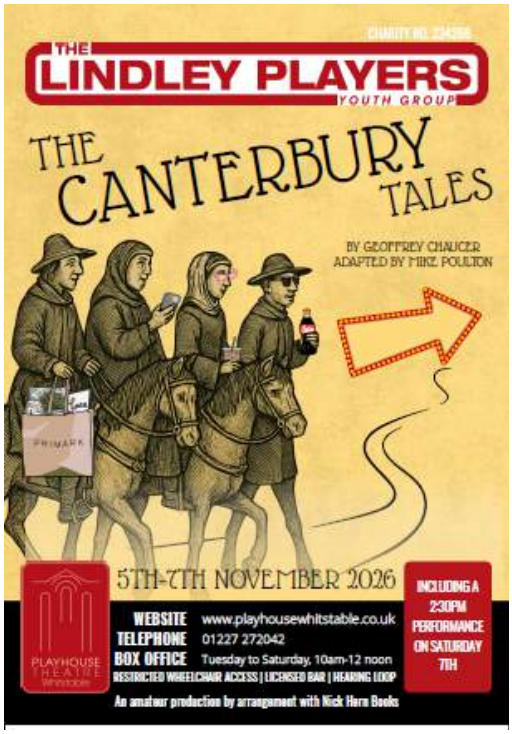
Subs for 2027 membership are due on 1 January but may be paid at any time from now - so get in early and avoid the rush!

Many thanks Sarah x

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There is still time to get your tickets for this little gem!

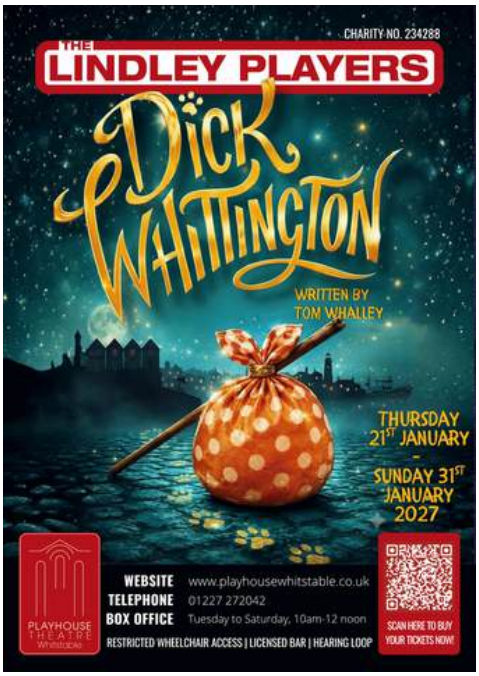




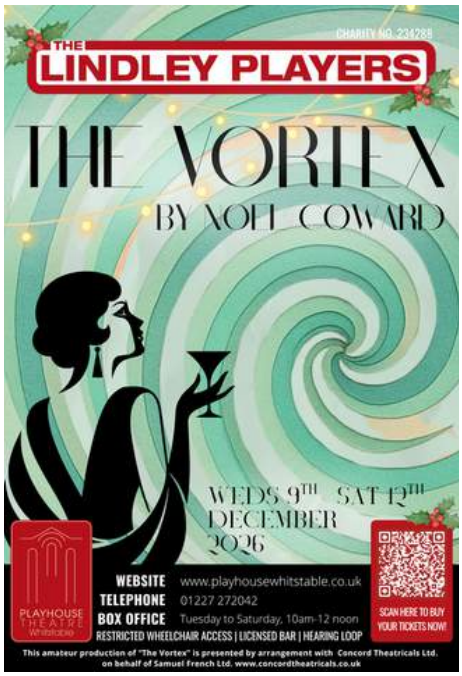




And don't forget to pick up your tickets for these at the same time!







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And finally....Who's Who

Want to volunteer and not sure who to speak to? Look no further. It's also helpful to know who our committee members are!

Management Committee Members

Nick Farrow (Chairman)
Mandy Hunt (Vice-Chairman)
Pam Battson (Secretary)
Carol Lee (Treasurer)
Peter Bressington (President)
Christy Hinchliffe (Production Coordinator)
Sandra Masters (Lettings Officer)
Trace Parvin and Anne Beer (Publicity Officer)
Trace Parvin (Social Secretary)
Geraldine Deas (Front of House Manager)
Marilyn Gillanders (Bar Manager)
Sarah Hinchliffe (Membership Secretary)
Gemma Conway
David Manser-Mullin
Christy Hinchliffe
Alexina Mitchell

committee@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Production Committee Members

Christy Hinchliffe (Production Coordinator)
Anne Beer
Pete Raine
Lizzie Watson
Laura Hunt

Technical Theatre
Nick Farrow - nick.farrow@btinternet.com

Youth Group
Lucie Nash - youthgroup@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Newsletter
Trace Parvin and Carolyn Bramble - newsletter@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Lettings/Room Bookings
Sandra Masters - lettings@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Treasurer
Carol Lee - treasurer@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Health and Safety
Pete Smith - healthandsafety@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Production Coordinator
Christy Hinchliffe - christy.hinchliffe1997@hotmail.com

Sweets & Ice Creams
Alexina Mitchell - lionalex@hotmail.co.uk

Front of House
Geraldine Deas - geraldinedeas1@gmail.com

Box Office
Mandy Hunt - boxoffice@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Wardrobe
David Manser-Mullin - d.manser@outlook.com

Props
Wendy Snelgrove wendawhit@hotmail.com

Publicity
Trace Parvin and Anne Beer - publicity@playhousewhitstable.co.uk

Reading Group
Myra Mills-Baker - 07950 638548

Bar
Marilyn Gillanders - 07909781704, marilyn.gillanders@yahoo.co.uk

Archive
Dan Coles - invictadan@googlemail.com

Company Stage Manager
Tim Hinchliffe - stagemanager@playhousewhitstable.co.uk