

## Introduction

Welcome to our Spring/Summer brochure detailing all the fabulous productions on offer at the only 'live' theatre venue in the Wyre Forest area, The Rose Theatre.

There is a broad range of entertainment on offer this season from new 'cutting edge' drama to some old favourites and some popular return visits by both amateur and professional companies.

If you have yet to see a production at the theatre, what are you waiting for? There is sure to be something in our programme to tempt you. We offer a warm welcome, a good range of facilities and the excitement of live entertainment.

If you are a regular patron, then welcome to our new season, we hope you enjoy the selection of entertainment we have selected with the tastes of our audiences in mind.

This document has been produced for use on the web site. It contains most of the information that is in the brochure. If you are on our mailing list you will receive a printed copy, if you would like to go on our mailing list please call our box office or email to [admin@rosetheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@rosetheatre.co.uk)

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## Seating Capacity

Main House seats 181  
Studio Theatre seats up to 60

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## Acting Companies

For each production (a) denotes amateur company and (P) denotes professional company

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## Theatre Hire

The theatre has a variety of different sized areas that can be hired for meetings and conferences. Contact the Theatre Manager Brian Potter for further information on 01562 743745

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## The Rose Theatre Spring/Summer Season 2006

**30<sup>th</sup> January - 4<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

***Billy Liar* by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall**

*The Nonentities in the Main House (A)*

Billy Fisher is an ambitious but ultimately lazy young Yorkshire slacker with a dreary occupation working as a clerk at Shadrach and Duxbury's funeral directors. He spends most of his time daydreaming of Ambrosia, a fantasyland where he is a hero but a number of minor indiscretions cause Billy to lie in order to avoid the penalties. As these events start catching up with him, his lies snowball with highly comedic results to cover his tracks. Finally, when his life is a total mess, and nobody believes a word he says, an opportunity to run away from everyone to London presents itself. Billy has a difficult decision to make.

**Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain Up 7.30pm**

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2006

**'Play On' by Rick Abbot**

*The Once Removed Theatre Company in the Main House (A)*

This is the hilarious story of a theatre group trying desperately to put on a play in spite of constant interference from the author, who keeps revising the script. In Act I the audience will see the actors struggling in an early scene from the play, Act II reveals a near-disastrous dress rehearsal with the final Act showing the actual performance in which everything that can go wrong does! As if the mishaps were not enough, the author uses the occasion to take to the stage and give an impromptu speech about the state of today's theatre.

Wonderful stuff, a theatrical **'tour de farce'**

**Warning:** Please note strobe lighting is used during the performance

*Standard Ticket Prices.....Curtain Up 7.30pm*

17<sup>th</sup> February

**Les Barker is 'Speaking Volumes'**

*Main House (P)*

Laugh away the winter blues during an audience with Les Barker. He is a man from Manchester who used to be an accountant before turning into a professional idiot. He writes strange poems, songs and has written 63 books. His poems have spawned a number of folk heroes such as 'Jason and the Arguments, Cosmo the Fairly Accurate Knife Thrower, Captain Indecisive and Spot of the Antarctic' to name but two.

*The Financial Times* commented " 'Mrs Ackroyd explores her Roots' is not about national or regional identity. Radio 2's gentle, modestly off-the-wall comedy is a discovery.....mild mannered Les Barker blends Edward Lear's nonsense, Stanley Unwin's wordplay, the surreal inconsequentiality of Reeves and Mortimer and the demonic robustness of Stanley Holloway monologues"

If you fancy something a little different, this is a must

*Tickets £9 .....Curtain Up 8pm*

20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006

**'Frozen ' by Bryony Lavery**

*Nonentities in the Studio (A)*

Agnetha, an American academic, comes to England to research a thesis entitled "Serial Killing: A Forgivable Act?" This brings her into contact with Nancy, a mother in a state of frozen hope following the disappearance of her daughter, and Ralph, a loner with a bit of previous who is looking for some distraction. Drawn together by horrific circumstances these three embark upon a long, dark, emotional journey which finally curves upward into the light. Frozen was first produced at the Birmingham Rep in 1998 and went onto win the TMA Best New Play Award and the Eileen Anderson Central Television Award for Best Play. If you consider yourself an informed 'theatre goer' you owe it to yourself to see this production. Child abuse, along with strong language may not seem to be a 'fun night out', however, audiences can be sure of witnessing some first class performances in a thought provoking play that ends on an optimistic note. ----

*Standard Ticket Prices.....Curtain Up 7.30pm*

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March**

**'My Fair Lady'**

*Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Society in the Main House (A)*

Kidderminster Operatic and Dramatic Society is celebrating its **90<sup>th</sup>** anniversary by presenting one of the great musicals – 'My Fair Lady'. Lerner and Loewe's adaptation of Bernard Shaw's play Pygmalion is one of the best-loved pieces of musical theatre. The story of Eliza Doolittle's transformation from common flower girl into a society lady by the irascible Professor Henry Higgins is told amid a host of memorable songs – "Wouldn't it be lovely?" "On the street where you live", "With a little bit of luck", "I'm getting married in the morning", "I've grown accustomed to her face", and many more. If you have never seen this show before – catch up now, if you have seen it before – take this chance to renew your acquaintance with a classic musical. Welcome to My Fair Lady.

*All Tickets £9.00 except 2<sup>nd</sup> @ £8.00 & matinee £6.50 ..... Curtain up 7.30pm*

**17<sup>th</sup> March**

**'Spirit of Piaf' A Concert**

*Troika Productions in the Main House (A)*

From the company that brought you the much-acclaimed production tracing the events in the life of 'Piaf' by Pam Gem, Troika Productions bring you an evening purely of unforgettable songs from the French Diva. 'Spirit of Piaf' features once more the celebrated actress/singer Margaret Griffiths, singing the songs which made Edith Piaf so famous, including: La Vie en Rose, Milord, Mon Dieu, Non Je ne regretted Rien and many more. The Little Sparrow takes the stage again accompanied by a live backing and requests you join her for this most memorable evening.

*Tickets £9 (£8 concessions)..... Curtain Up 7.30pm*

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

**'And A Nightingale Sang' by C P Taylor**

*Nonentities in the Main House (A)*

During wartime there are no public worries, only private worries. This is the story of a working class family from Newcastle as they deal with their personal relationships, preoccupations, troubles and joys whilst the future of their country is under threat. The use of period detail and music create an atmospheric backdrop that best shows off the spirit and determination that the family display in living through the dark days of the Second World War. C P Taylor's engaging drama was first presented in Newcastle in 1977.

*Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain Up 7.30pm*

**8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

**'When We Are Married' by J B Priestly**

*Nonentities in the Main House (A)*

Priestly's perennial favourite has been a staple of the British stage since it was first performed in 1938. When three Yorkshire couples gather to celebrate their twenty fifth wedding anniversary, their values are threatened when the chapel organist informs them that they are not married at all and have been living in sin all this time. With sparkling and witty dialogue and well-drawn characters, "When We Are Married" is a gem. A feast for the eyes and ears, this lavish costume piece is sure to be a winner this season.

**Book early to avoid disappointment.**

*Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain Up 7.30*

**19<sup>th</sup> May**

**'Food Glorious Food'**

*The Swan Playwright in the Studio (A)*

Three half hour 'script in hand' performances on the theme of food. See what drama three local writers created out of the culinary 'F' word. Warning- eat first. This is a great opportunity to be the first to see new writings by this local talented group.

*Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain Up at 7.30pm*

**17<sup>th</sup> June**

**'Blues at 10'**

*In the Main House (P)*

Music fans who appreciate the best of blues, classic rock and R'n'B are in for a treat on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2006 when top live band 'Blues at Ten' make a welcome return to The Rose. The show was a sell out at The Rose last year, and is the band's only Kidderminster gig this year!

Boogie, R'n'B and classic rock hits from stars like, Jools Holland, Gary Moore, Peter Green, John Mayall and Eric Clapton are performed with energy by this exciting 5-piece band. This show will also include the band's sophisticated acoustic set which has been acclaimed by music fans and journalists across the UK. The show will include the band's usual rock 'n' roll anthems to bring the show to a climactic conclusion!

The band is made up of musicians who have been performing in top bands for longer than they care to admit! The hand picked musicians are passionate about the show, the songs and making sure the audience has a night to remember! Reaction to their shows is always incredible. London's top venue The Standard described the musicians as "One of the best bands we've ever heard!"

*Tickets £9..... Curtain up 8.00*

**5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2006**

**'Blithe Spirit' by Noel Coward**

*Nonentities in the Main House (A)*

A welcome return for this classic masterpiece. When Charles Condomine invites Madame Arcati, a local medium, to conduct a séance he little thinks that this will signal the return from the dead of his first wife. Charles is a helpless spectator as his current and former wife squabble over him in this world and the next. Containing some of Coward's most memorable characters as well as his usual sophisticated dialogue, "Blithe Spirit" has continued to enthral audiences long after its first performance in 1941. What more can we say? Sure to be a sell out and a fitting climax at the end of the season.

*Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain Up 7.30*

**6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July**

**'END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE'**

*Kidderminster College Performing Arts Students in the Main House (A)*

Did you know that Kidderminster College of Further Education runs a series of very successful Performing Arts Courses? Every year it is our privilege to stage the graduating students' final production here at the Rose Theatre. The students will be rehearsing with a professional director and hope to bring you a showcase of budding talent. Why not come and see them? Who knows, one day their names may be up in lights and you can say you saw them first at the Rose.

*Standard Ticket Prices..... Curtain 7.30*

## Box Office

Open Monday to Saturday 10am – 4pm

On performance nights from 6.45pm to the end of the last interval

**01562 743745**

**Answer Service available 24 hours**

## Coffee Bar

Open from 6.45pm to the end of the last interval for tea, coffee, soft drinks and a variety of sweets and ice creams.

## Bar

Open from 7.pm to 10.30pm

Enjoy a drink and a pre or post performance chat in our friendly bar.

## Standard Ticket Prices

**Concessions:** Tuesday to Friday for senior citizens, students, and children under 16 yrs are shown in brackets.

**Group Bookings:** Buy 13 seats or more and get 50p reduction per seat

	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues- Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
<b>Main House</b>	£7.00	£7.50 (£7.00)	£8.00
<b>Studio</b>	£5.50	£6.50 (£6.00)	£7.00

## Bookings

Postal Bookings: must be accompanied by the remittance and SAE

Telephone Bookings: may be paid by credit or debit card (for which a handling fee of 50p is charged)  
Seats may be reserved for 4 days after which they will be resold.

Same Day Telephone Bookings: must be collected by 7pm on the evening of the performance

Bookings 4 Days Prior: those made within 4 days of a performance must be paid for 24 hours prior to the performance

## New Members

Actors, set builders, costume makers, bar staff, front of house, technicians.....all these people and more are needed to help produce a variety of productions at the only 'live theatre venue ' in the Wyre Forest.

If you love the theatre and want to take an active part, no matter what age or ability, contact our Membership Secretary, **Marika** on 01562 743745