



Network Theatre Stagecraft Guild

Regular-if-infrequent Newsletter. What? It's one every six months so far!

July 2014

Essential dates:

17th July: Reading

20th July: Work day

13th September: 24 Hour Play Briefing

19th/20th September: 24 Hour Play

5th October: PLASA

11th or 12 October: QLab Workshop

Short Notice!

Work Day on the 20th July

Slightly longer notice:

Apologies for the late notice, but if anyone can make the workday this coming Sunday you'd be welcomed with open arms! Meet at Barbarella's (10am—see *Bye Bye Bay* on page 3) or the theatre at 11.

In this issue:

Dude, who closed our caff?

QLab: Learn a Broadway-quality show control system.

75 Years: 24 Hours: Celebration or certifiable?

Zucco: Dark and dramatic.

Next time:

The David Murray Award presents *When We Are Married*

Network Theatre Presents
Network Theatre presents...
Who Shot Santa? starring
Michael Pritchard as Santa

I Love to be in Control

For anyone who saw *Love and Deceit*, *Life and Beth* or *King Lear* you've already witnessed the wonders of [QLab](#). Audio and projections were controlled from QLab and, through a MIDI interface, it can even be used to run the lighting desk.

QLab is used everywhere from fringe venues like ours to Broadway shows and if you've ever wanted to learn how to make the most of it, now's your chance. The awesomely talented and generous Mike Wyer will be running a QLab workshop in October on the 11th or 12th (exact date and time TBD). Email tech@networktheatre.org to register your interest. Spaces will be very limited!

75 Years 24 Hours

As if you weren't already well aware, Network Theatre (formerly the Southern Railways Dramatic Society) turns 75 this year. There has been an amateur dramatics company in continuous operation as part of the railway since 1939.

As part of our celebrations, someone¹ volunteered to organise a play in 24 hours. And it needs you.

It all starts at **10pm on Friday the 19th September²** and the doors open to a paying audience at 7pm on the 20th. We need teams for stage management, props, furniture and costume, direction, lighting and sound, and social media, not to mention writers. Oh, and we probably need some actors too.

Please come to the briefing meeting at 7:30 on the 13th September!

Adopts best Shakespearian declaiming stance

**And Networkers in London now a-bed
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,
And hold their manhoods cheap³ whiles any speaks
That Played with us⁴ upon St Eustace's day!**

¹ For evidence of that person's state of mind, see Figure 1

² It was going to be 7:30 but someone said that wasn't challenging enough. You know who you are.

³ Snarf!

⁴ *Ibid.*

Figure 1: Proof that it is dangerous to give me access to caffeine and Google Slides

WTAF?

Network Theatre turns 75 in 2014.

It started at the beginning of WWII when the Southern Railway company relocated to...somewhere?? Byrne, check this.

It's survived nationalisation and privatisation.

If we have anything to do with it, it'll still exist in 75 more years! Fuck, yeah!

No, srsly. WTF?

A play in a day!

We start at 7:30pm on Friday with a blank whiteboard.

We perform a play at 7:30pm on Saturday.

???

Profit!

Byrne, are you high?

Damn right I am - high on THEATRE!!!

This is going to be the most memorable 24 hours of theatre you've ever done.

Fun neuroscience fact: as sleep is required to lay medium term memories down as longer term memories the chances are you won't remember much about this at all!

But anyway...

Some initial thoughts

Hey, Radio Days, if we put up a big acknowledgment can we borrow some of your stock as costumes?

Hey, Dan, will we have broadband by then? We should post hourly reports or something...

Hey, everyone, sleeping bags and toothbrushes, right?

Hey, Starbucks, how strong is this coffee?

Coming Up: October 2014

James McKendrik is directing a dark thriller for the October slot.

The read through is this Thursday (the 17th July) with auditions on the 28th and 30th of July. Rehearsals are scheduled for September and October and the production runs from the 29th October to the 1st November.



Don't forget that you can still register for PLASA for free. This trade show is a great place to see new kit, play with fun toys and scrounge a freebie or two. There are also free training events. And, as we

did last year, we will probably say "sod schoolnights" and finish off with a curry and a beer (or several).

Register now at: <http://www.plasashow.com/visitors/>

Bye Bye Bay

After years of cheap breakfasts and mugs of tea strong enough to waterproof canvas, the Coral Bay ceased trading earlier this year.

Our default meeting place is now Barbarella's, at the Westminster Bridge Road end of Lower Marsh. They have a website old enough to attract Grade II Listed Status which gives (some) more information:

www.barbarellaswaterloo.co.uk



Network Theatre Stagecraft Guild is for everyone who wants to be involved in the production side of theatre, from set design to sound engineers, seamstresses to stunt coordinators. If you have a burning desire for a workshop, ideas for field trips, questions, complaints or compliments, email tech@networktheatre.org. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NetworkTheatreStagecraftGuild>