

34

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Volunteer Steward Newsletter

Welcome to the Season

'And what so poor a man as Hamlet is May do t'express his love and friending to you God willing shall not lack'

Hamlet Act I, scene 5



Dear volunteer stewards, For those of you returning for another Globe season, I hope you're all feeling ready for the move back outdoors and the prospect of some more magical Globe evenings (a special mention to those brave souls among you who heroically kept the 'snow-Globe' running during *Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank!*). For those of you who are new to the Globe family, I suspect we might find ourselves in a similar position: excited, a bit nervous, and itching to get started! In either case, on behalf of everyone at Shakespeare's Globe, I wish you the warmest of welcomes.

I can't even begin to imagine the amount of knowledge and passion for the Globe that resides among you as a collective, the innumerable connections and memories created over the past 20 years (and even beyond). As we embark on the next phase of our radical experiment, I can't wait to meet you all and learn from you about these unique theatres that we have the privilege of inhabiting and sharing with our audiences and visitors.

The Globe has been a huge part of both my professional and personal life for the past 15 years. I remember my first visit, back in 2002, when I came to watch *Twelfth Night*. It was the most extraordinary experience I had ever had in a theatre: one of unprecedented autonomy and immersion, unlike anywhere else. I immediately caught the Globe bug, and haven't been able to stay away since. In fact, a few years after that, I was back in the Yard watching *In Extremis* and got talking to a very handsome man called Paul, who is now my husband, and father of our daughter, Scout.

One of the things that has stood out for me over the years is the unfailing enthusiasm and warm welcome provided by you, our volunteer stewards. Braving the cold, the rain, the sun, the snow, the daredevil pigeons, the spilled drinks, the rapt school groups, the 'exuberant' midnight matinee audiences – in short, all of the things that contribute to making our 'distracted globe' the unique and beautiful thing that it is – all so that the show can go on.

We – as individuals, as an organisation, as practitioners – are inexpressibly grateful for the enthusiasm and professionalism that you put into what you do. We simply couldn't exist without you.

So what can you expect from this summer?

During our preparations for the season, we've been reflecting on our process and how we go about this whole business. The more we think about it, and the more we experiment, the clearer it becomes that we already have access to the best possible precedent, set for us over 400 years ago (apart from the men-only rule, of course). We've been constantly asking ourselves: "what might Shakespeare and his company have done back then?" Whether that's while grappling with a particular knot in the plays, or thinking about the logistics of a production, or in developing the ensemble: the play really is the thing. And that's the approach that we'll be taking this season, and hopefully future seasons too.

Thank you to those of you who were able to make the open door rehearsal. It's been so illuminating to have tried this and it is definitely something we will be looking to implement in the future... once we have convinced the other companies that it's a good idea! However, I do hear Alistair's and Rosie's recent observation about the poor choice of biscuits in the rehearsal room. Something I will look to remedy immediately!

Inclusivity and collaboration really is the name of our game and as we invite new audiences, new voices and new ideas into the Globe, I am thrilled that you are the people that will welcome them in and make them feel at home. As Hamlet would say: 'Come. Let's go together.'

Michelle











QUESTIONS with... Stuart Surridge

1 Name/s? Stuart Alan Surridge

- 2 Favourite Stewards room biscuit? Highland Shortbread - always have to have one if they are in the box.
- Coffee or Tea? 3 Coffee, two milks no sugar
- 4 How long have you been volunteering at the Globe? Since 2014, so I've done four summers and three winters

5 Favourite Duty?

I always try and see the plays first in the Globe as a Groundling so I like stewarding Upper East or Upper North which gives me a different view of the plays. In the SWP, door 2 or 3 are best for seeing the whole play but for some reason I like Door 8 4 best.

6 What production are you most looking forward to in Michelle's season?

It undoubtedly has to be Two Noble Kinsmen which I've never seen before. I've proudly seen 37 different Shakespeare plays all at least once on stage so this will be my 38th (which is either the very last one or the first of the many 'doubtful plays' according to my Shakespeare Apocrypha book. I should be content at 38 but I'm now thinking that I'd like to see Edward III at some point!)

7 If you could be any Shakespeare Character who would you be and why?

Benedick from Much Ado About Nothing. He gets some funny lines, and although he is the butt of many jokes he ultimately does the right things which includes marring Beatrice, which is not such a bad thing.

What's your favourite thing about volunteering at the globe? It's great to be involved in the stewarding team, you get to see that



little bit more than the audience, the briefings, the backstage areas, actors warming up and I like that sense of anticipation of seeing the empty Globe or Sam Wanamaker Playhouse just before the audience starts coming in.

- 9 What's Your Life Mantra? To stay curious
- 10 If you were on a desert Island, what disc, book and food would you take? Disc: Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon album. Couldn't be on a desert island without some Floyd. **Book: JRR Tolkein's Lord of the Rings** - I've read it the once and want to read it again sometime Food: Fish and chips (I would need the salt and vinegar too!)



We're the Internal Communications Team! In a nutshell, we look at how we communicate within our ever-increasing organisation. working to create a supportive and engaged working environment, where everyone knows what's going on.

We work together with the Human Resources team where we collaborate on making people feel included and listened to as well as making sure everyone is aware of what's happening around the site, including big announcements such new seasons. We are currently planning events for Mental Health Awareness Week in May. We also work closely with the digital team looking at the intranet (as well as a very serious noughts and crosses tournament!).

We're both new to this role so as part of our

OF THE MONTH Sarah and Julia

induction we did some shadowing of stewards during Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank. We dived in at the deep-end, stewarding in the blustery snow showers during Much Ado About Nothing. It was cold and atmospheric and such a pleasure to see (and hear!) the hundreds of school children reacting to the show. It was brilliant to have first-hand insight into the hard work and passion of stewards, some of whom have been here for twenty years.

Our first few months in these roles have been filled with meeting lots of people from across the organisation including Rosie, Lily and Kate, to get to know how each department works within the Globe. We will be in touch again soon to canvas your views on what we can do for you. We also organise a cross-departmental meeting called the Staff Consultation Group where representatives from each department discuss big topics and feed back to the Executive Team. This group is a brilliant way to find out what's important to everyone working here and really emphasises how internal

Internal Communications Team

communications is a collaborative effort. While working on Internal Communications, we both have other responsibilities within the wider Communications Department. Julia works on theatre marketing and is working on the tour which is visiting multiple venues in the UK, Europe as well as Hong Kong and Singapore! Sarah works on answering all the general enquiries that get emailed in to the Globe which span from proposal requests to detailed academic queries. Sarah used to work in the events team where she occasionally gave the odd steward's briefing, so it was nice to finally see it from the other side of the clipboard!

With the sun finally shining, we are both looking forward to getting in to the theatre to watch the upcoming season and hopefully do some more shadowing. Julia is looking forward to seeing how audiences will interact with the cast from the voter's choice tour performances and Sarah can't wait to see Emilia.

Meet Pedro, Visitor Experience Apprentice at the Globe



Hello everyone! My name is Pedro Martins, I'm the Visitor Experience Apprentice here at the Globe and have been for the past 7 months or so. I applied to this position in June, came to the interview in August and started in September. A bit of background on me: I'm the oldest of the apprentices at 19 years old, I'm from Portugal and I've lived in London for 4 years in total.

Since I've joined the Globe, I've done several different things in the exhibition department as an exhibition assistant such as welcoming people that come in through the door, managing and scheduling the guides for all the tours and managing their time as well as giving breaks to people and being on the tills selling tickets and guide books. It's been really fun and interesting experience and giving me a lot of new skills as well as boosting up my confidence to speak to people.

Since then I've moved on to the Front of House department and have been up to all kinds of tasks ranging from stewarding to being the new photographer taking photos of all the new stewards who will be starting this season. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with the FOH team, everyone has been really nice and supportive, teaching me many things I didn't know and giving me skills and information that will be valuable in my future jobs and many wonderful experiences that I will be able to hold on to and talk about for a long time. Some of the jobs that I've done for FOH include processing your expenses, helping set up the rota and stewards room for the shows, taking a log of first aid room stock, inputting steward data, as well as stewarding in both the SWP and Globe but mainly for Much Ado in the snow!

I don't know what I will be doing next yet, but I am sure it will be new and interesting and I'm excited to know what it is. In any case I'm sure I'll see you all around during the next step of my apprenticeship and I am sure I'll enjoy it as much as I have enjoyed the FOH department. Thank you for reading this!

This month

Focus Group members Jo and Alistair were privy to the As You Like It Open Dress Rehearsal. They give us a sneak peak into what they saw...

On Thursday 5th April, as two members of the Stewards Focus Group, we attended an open rehearsal session for As You Like It.

Federay Holmes, the director, explained that the play had been run in full the previous day, so today was devoted to detail.

We arrived, just as the cast were ending a dance (possibly the jig?). Some of the ensemble were in another room working on scenes from Hamlet.

We saw *As You Like It* Act I, scenes 2 and 3 being rehearsed and moves plotted as well as part of Act III, scene 2.

The director then asked Rosalind, Celia and Orlando to improvise the Act III scene (including asides to the audience)

On 9 April the plays move to the main theatre for technical rehearsals, *Hamlet* for a week, then *As You Like It*, then opening nights!

Thank you to Michelle for introducing open rehearsals. We enjoyed the experience.

One final thought – the Steward Room biscuits are much more interesting than the ones we saw in the rehearsal room! **Jo and Alistair**

Dates for your Diary...

May 2018

Read below for all your must-have dates for the diary as we go into our summer season:

	MAY
Tue 1	As You Like It: Opening Night
	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre 7.30pm
Ned 2	Steward Drop-in: Open to All!
L	Hope 5 Crosby Café, Sackler Centre 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Mon 7	Globe On Tour, Various Performances
	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Monday 7 May – Fríday 18 May
Tues 8	Hamlet: Opening Night
	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre 7.30pm
Fri 25	The Two Noble Kinsmen: Opening Night
	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre 7.30pm
<i>N</i> ed 16	Steward Drop-in: Open to All!
	Hope 5 Crosby Café, Sackler Centre 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Wed 16	July – August Globe Shift Release. 2 show per month cap in place
	6.00pm
Wed 30	Steward Drop-in: Open to All!
30	Hope 5 Crosby Café, Sackler Centre
	5.00pm - 6.00pm
Wed 30	July – August Globe Shift Release. 2 show per month cap lifted
	6.00pm
	JUNE
Fri 1	Volunteers' Week
	Shakespeare's Globe 1-7-June
	J'AY S

4

THY NOTICEBOARD

Doing something exciting you want to tell everybody about? Taking part in a fundraiser for charity or got tickets to a show you would like to share? Let us know and we can pin it here...



This is the only inbox monitored 7 days a week.

Call: 0207 902 1531 (Feel free to leave a voicemail if nobody is able to pick up)

Text: 07503 984 933 (Use this if you are running late and on the move!)

Email: foh@shakespearesglobe.com In Person: At our monthly Wednesday Drop ins at Theo's Café throughout the Winter Season. Dates are listed in our Dates for the Diary section.

> Feedback, Compliments or Concerns: Please feel free to contact Rosie on rosie.l@shakespearesglobe.com if you have anything to talk to us about specifically that is regarding something more sensitive.

Special Thanks for your contributions to...

Stuart Surridge, Pedro Martins, Michelle Terry, Matt Haddock, Miki Govedarica, Julia Dorrington, Sarah Fox, Sue Rosner, Helen Huson, Jan Smith