

Dear Shakespeare's Globe Stewards,

It's May, which can only mean two things: The Globe Theatre summer season has opened, and summer on Bankside has officially begun! If Past, and to come, seem best; things present, worst, then there can be no better time to interrogate and more importantly celebrate all that is brave, bold and completely bonkers about The Globe and our scepter'd isle.

#### O what fools these mortals be!

Whilst these mythic tales shine a light on the complexity of human beings, and the political and personal confusion we create, these plays also remind us of the immense power that we all have: the power to imagine. Because beyond the now, there is another world, a different time, a place elsewhere.



#### On your imaginary forces work.

With the heavens above us and the Thames below, within this ultra-live, democratic wooden O, we can imagine and reimagine what is possible when individuals come together, across difference, in a shared space, a shared light, a shared experience.

#### Together: Ensemble.

These expansive, transcendent, precocious works of art ask us to consider our collective capacity for restoration as well as destruction, kindness as well as cruelty, profound forgiveness as well as revenge.

The Henry trilogy, the Merry Wives of Windsor, Midsummer Nights Dream, As You Like It and Bartholomew Fair are all jostling for attention in what promises to be a carnival of a season.

## I like this place and could willingly waste my time in it.

I so look forward to wasting time with you all this summer during our feast for the imagination, and chew the fat with some of the most deliciously life-affirming people we will ever meet; share a beer with Falstaff, make mischief with Puck, break bread with Rosalind.

and amidst all the chaos, knowing how quick bright things come to confusion, I look forward to us making space for laughter, reflection, celebration and a reminder that there are tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones and good in everything.

With very best wishes,



## Team of the Month SECURITY

Head of Security, Richard, delivers some reassuring lines about security at the Globe Theatre

When I was a kid I was made to study Shakespeare. Ugh. Mum persuaded me to audition for a part in *Macbeth* at the Abbey Theatre in St. Albans. She thought the repetition of the script might improve the grades of her lazy son. So it was there that I played my first Shakespearean roll as .... 'Servant'. I loved the Scottish Play and passed the exam! Now, a few years on and after a career in the military, looking after the

House of Commons dressed like Dick Whittington (as a man in tights) and then looking after the world's most successful live music and entertainment,

with the Bard and looking after you. I have been blessed with a great security

venue I find myself back

team and last year I was given the opportunity to develop the security operation here to respond to the situation that London finds itself in. After the recent terrorist attacks we wanted to take things seriously. Luckily I have lots of experience protecting crowded places whilst ensuring that the customers have a great time. I am also well connected to law enforcement agencies and I have learned a lot from them over the years. Ariana Grande was due to have a show at my venue after the Manchester Attack so that focussed my mind as I designed a crowded place security operation.

We now have a new security operation for the summer season which we trialled during *Playing Shakespeare*. This will have more officers with improved training. It will be proportionate and professional. I am sure that you will find it reassuring. We will also enjoy regular police presence and I hope that you will look for, and maybe see, the plain clothed officers who will also be deployed.

My security team is only the second line of defence; you are the first line! You have some 1,200 eyes and 1,199 ears. That is one big detector. If you see something that looks wrong please tell one of my team or the Duty Manager and we will act. Hopefully we can spot an undercover police officer and impress them that way!

Our operation is designed so that some of our security measures are obvious and others are not. It is designed to reassure and not to alarm. I look forward to my first full summer season with you all as we give the audience a great experience in a safe environment without too much amateur dramatics!



Alison Yates

2 Tea or coffee?

**3** What drew you into volunteering at the Globe?

I attended an interview in my local area, to find out about volunteering opportunities. After initially telling them I was interested in theatre, the interviewer said' You do know that it's possible to volunteer at the Globe, don't you?' It was the quickest Interview of my life!

4 Favourite Steward's room biscuits?
Llike them all!

5 Favourite duty?

Yard steps. In amongst the Groundlings and very close to the stage.

6 What has been your favourite production?

What's a very difficult question as I've seen so many wonderful productions. Maybe Matthew Dunster's Much Ado About Nothing. I was captivated by the whole production but particularly Beatriz Romilly and Matthew Needham who I thought were perfect as Beatrice and Benedick

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

Paulina from *The Winter's Tale*. Serine Saba's fabulous interpretation of the role last season really brought her character to life for me. She a strong, highly principled woman, who refuses to be cowed by the authority of a King. She is devoted and utterly loyal to Hermione and despite her disapproval, to the King as well. She

to the King as well. She embodies all that is laudable; high moral principles, loyalty, love, devotion, empathy, care, confidence and strength of character.

8 Tell us a funny story from your time at the Globe:

I was stewarding for Alternative Miss World in Upper North. An exquisitely attired (v short, sequinned, luminous green skirt, pink feather boa, etc) patron asked me to escort them down to the Piazza as they were having difficulty balancing on some of the highest heels I've ever seen. As this patron was about 6 ft 3in tall and I am 5 ft 5in they put their hands on my shoulders, I walked ahead and we made a somewhat precarious descent to the bottom of the stairs. It was one of my more unusual duties and I felt that as I am a rather dowdy OAP, we must have made an incongruous couple!

9 What's your life mantra? 'You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.' Mae West.

**10** If you could pass on one stewarding tip to other stewards, what would it be?

As all the stewards are very able I don't have any tips to pass on. I love being a part of such a good team and am very grateful for all the support I get from my fellow stewards.



## An Evening with Mark Rylance

David Cleverly gives us the low down on the pre Shakespeare Walks workshop with Mark Rylance

It's not every day you get an invitation to a workshop led by an international star of stage and screen. So around thirty of us who had signed up to steward this years *Shakespeare Walks* were more that happy to meet with Mark Rylance on 16 April.

After being invited to say how long we had been stewarding (that varied from 26 years to 'not started yet'), we were introduced to Darren Raymond, Artistic Director of the Intermission Youth Theatre, a group who were going to perform many sonnets and scenes from

plays in the Walks and *Shakespeare Within the Abbey*. He spoke of his own journey from a troubled life to self-discovery through Shakespeare's writing, initially by identification with Othello. Then about how the Youth Theatre has shared this process with hundreds of London based young people. In view of the initial barriers presented by 16th–17th century language, they often use rewritten versions of plays – with titles like '*Taming who?*'

and 'Love me to Death' (guess the original of the latter!)

Have a look at their website intermissionyouththeatre.co.uk

Mark then explained the history of the Walks, developed on the idea that the West walk was heavenly, a progress from the pomp of the Abbey to the dump that was the Southbank, and the East was earthly, from poverty of the old East end to the Southbank, via the wealth of the City. The aim was to create a ritual experience for the participants, a voyage of self directed discovery – so the steward's role was to only intervene when absolutely necessary, for example, if a group got lost.

We had all been invited beforehand to prepare a favourite sonnet, but we had used all the time available and only three stewards got a chance to perform their piece. I'd spent a while learning mine, but it was not wasted: During the East walk on the following Saturday I had to hold a group back as they were about to run into the preceding one. A member of the group said 'Give us a sonnet while we are waiting', and I was able to oblige!

## **Mental Health First Aid**

Volunteer Coordinator **Tasha** tells us about attending a course in Mental Health First Aid

A few weeks ago, Rosie and I attended a Mental Health First Aid course to educate ourselves on how we can better support those around us who may be struggling with their mental health. According to recent statistics, approximately 1 in 4 people in the UK will experience a mental health issue each year and specifically in England, 1 in 6 people report experiencing a common mental health issue (such as anxiety and depression) in any given week. The course opened our eyes to a number of diagnosable conditions and the treatments available. We also discussed the stigmas that we attach to mental ill health and the positive and negative influences we put on ourselves and feel from others and the world around us.

I think that the most important thing discussed on the day was the

understanding that mental health exists for everyone and it should be considered in the same way that we consider our physical health. The World Health Organisation defines 'mental health' as 'a state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential'. We all make daily efforts to support our own mental health through actions like listening to music, talking to friends and family, thinking about nice memories and so on, but these small activities can become really difficult if you are someone who is suffering with mental ill health. On the day we opened up as a group about areas of our lives that could have a negative effect on our mental health as well as identifying the ways we can combat these effects. I think that my biggest take-away moment from the day was realising how much easier it

is to talk about your own worries within an accepting and welcoming environment free from judgement. As a group we worked on how we could instigate conversations with those around us who were showing signs of mental ill health and explored the range of charities and services that are available to us all if we are ever in need. I have added a list of these resources to the stewards' room board for you. We also have a number of Mental Health First Aiders across the site if you ever feel like you need to talk to someone. We as your Volunteer Management team want to support you all in every way that we can, so if you are concerned for yourself or a fellow member of the team please let us know and we can begin these conversations.

'Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.'

All's Well that Ends Well

## Dates for your Diary...

## May & June

Read below for all your must-have dates for the month ahead:

## May

Mon 13 Woman & Power Festival SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE Monday 13 May—Saturday 18 May

Thu

16

Steward Drop-in: Open to All!

CROSBY & HOPE CAFÉ, SACKLER STUDIOS
Thursday 16 May, 5.00pm-6.00pm

The Merry Wives of Windsor
Opening Night
GLOBE THEATRE

Friday 17 May, 7.30pm

Wed 22 GLOBE THEATRE Wednesday 22 May, 7.30pm

July and August 4 shift cap released
GLOBE THEATRE
Sunday 26 May, 4.00pm

Steward Drop-in: Open to All!
CROSBY & HOPE CAFÉ, SACKLER STUDIOS
Thursday 30 May, 5.00pm-6.00pm

# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Dates and times of audio described, signed, captioned and relaxed performances are shown with the following icons:

AD

BSL

CAP

R

### June

Volunteers' Week 2019
GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 1 June—Friday 7 June

Henry IV Part 2 CAP

GLOBE THEATRE
Thursday 6 June, 7.30pm

The Merry Wives of Windsor

GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 8 June, 2.00pm

Trilogy Day

BSL

GLOBE THEATRE
Sunday 9 June, 12.00am, 4.00pm and 8.00pm

Thu

13

Steward Drop-in: Open to All!

CROSBY & HOPE CAFÉ, SACKLER STUDIOS
Thursday 13 June, 5.00pm-6.00pm

Sat

The Merry Wives of Windsor

GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 15 June, 2.00pm

'Globe Remembers'

GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 15 June – following matinee performance

Sun 16 GLOBE THEATRE Sunday 16 June, 6.30pm

Thu
20 GLOBE THEATRE
Thursday 20 June, 6.30pm

Globe on Tour:
Audience Choice Midnight Matinee
GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 20 June, 12.00am

The Merry Wives of Windsor

GLOBE THEATRE
Saturday 22 June, 2.00pm

Thu
27 Steward Drop-in: Open to All!
CROSBY & HOPE CAFÉ, SACKLER STUDIOS
Thursday 27 June, 5.00pm-6.00pm

A Midsummer Night's Dream Opening Night
GLOBE THEATRE
Friday 28 June, 7.30pm

## 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...



The flag has risen to mark the start of the 2019 summer season!



A busy Stewards' Room for our first night of the season!



Falcon the dog spent time with our dog sitter in Chief, Sally Winter whilst their owner watched a Sam Wanamaker Playhouse performance.



Here's Julie practicing CPR as part of our most recent First Aid Course.







## **CONTACT US...**

Email: foh@shakespearesglobe.com This is the only inbox monitored 7 days a week.

Call: **020 7902 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!)

In Person: At our monthly drop-in's at Crosby & Hope Café throughout the Summer 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 or Kate on kate.hi@shakespearesglobe.com if you have anything to talk to us about specifically that is regarding something more sensitive.

## **Special Thanks**

for your contributions to...

Michelle Terry, Richard Latham, Alison Yates, Tasha Saxby, Rosie Lawton, Chris Rhodes, David Cleverly.