



# Audition Notice

Pinner Players Theatre Company is proud to present  
A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare  
We would like to invite you to audition for an acting role  
or contact us if you would like to be of the production in another area  
For a description of each non-acting role, please see pages 5 & 6

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Playwright: William Shakespeare  
Director: Aruna Clinch  
Auditions: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 7:30pm Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Pinner, HA5 1AA

Production Dates: 16-18<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Synopsis of play

A story of order and disorder, reality and appearance and love and marriage. Theseus, Duke of Athens, and Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons are to be married and great celebrations are planned.

#### INTO THE FOREST

Egeus brings his rebellious daughter Hermia in front of the Duke. Egeus wants her to marry Demetrius but Hermia refuses, because she's in love with Lysander. The Duke orders Hermia to obey her father or, according to Athenian law, she must face a death penalty or enter a convent.

Hermia and Lysander decide to elope that night. They confide in their friend Helena. However, she's secretly in love with Demetrius so, hoping to win his affection, she tells him of Hermia's plan. That night, all four lovers set out into the forest.

Meanwhile, a group of Athenian tradesmen (known as the Mechanicals), led by Peter Quince, are planning to perform a play in celebration of the Duke's wedding. They rehearse The Tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe in the same forest.

#### LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Elsewhere in the forest, the fairy king and queen, Oberon and Titania, argue over Titania's refusal to give up her page-boy to Oberon. He sends his servant Puck to find a magic plant to cast a spell on Titania.

The juice of the plant, when squeezed onto the eyes of someone asleep, causes them to fall in love with the first creature they see when they wake up. Oberon uses the juice on Titania as she sleeps in her bower. Puck overhears the tradespeople rehearsing and magically transforms Bottom's head into that of an ass. The others are terrified and flee the forest. When Titania wakes, the first creature she sees is Bottom and she falls rapturously in love with him.

Helena chases Demetrius in the forest and their fighting disturbs Oberon. He tells Puck to use the magic plant on Demetrius too, so that he will fall in love with Helena. However Puck muddles up the two Athenian men and uses it on Lysander instead, who promptly falls in love with Helena. Both women are confused and Hermia furiously attacks her friend.

Stop reading now if you don't want to know how it ends...

Eventually, Oberon lifts all the enchantments and puts the humans to sleep. Titania is horrified that she's been enamoured of an ass and is reconciled with Oberon. On waking, the lovers decide the night's events must have all been a dream. Lysander and Hermia are back to normal, and Demetrius admits he does love Helena after all. Bottom wakes up and recounts his 'strange dream'.

The wedding of Theseus and Hippolyta becomes a triple celebration as the other human couples marry too. Quince and Bottom's troupe amuses the couples with their amateur performance of the play.

As the couples retire, Oberon, Titania and the fairies perform a blessing, and Puck asks the audience to applaud if they enjoyed the performance.

### **Director notes**

A Midsummer Night's Dream is an exciting play full of opposition and juxtaposition of themes; light/dark, reality/fantasy, joy/sorrow, love/hate as well as imagery of seasons and the elements. We will primarily work to decode the text and find the characters with a lot of in-depth work of language and physical improv.

### **Rehearsals**

Mainly Tuesdays and Fridays 7:30pm at Pinner Village Hall (exception for first Monday of the month).

### **Audition pieces**

This will be provided to auditionees on request.

Auditions mainly consist of a monologue/scene from the play plus some physical movement.

Please arrive in enough time and in clothes you can move in comfortably as we'll be getting it on its feet!

### **Audition time and place**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 7:30pm Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Pinner, HA5 1AA

## Cast

THESEUS, Duke of Athens

HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus

EGEUS, Father to Hermia

LYSANDER, a young courtier, in love with Hermia

DEMETRIUS, a young courtier, in love with Hermia

PHILOSTRATE, Master of the Revels to Theseus

HERMIA, Daughter to Egeus, in love with Lysander

HELENA, in love with Demetrius

The Mechanicals (skilled tradespeople and amateur actors):

QUINCE, a Carpenter

SNUG, a Joiner

BOTTOM, a Weaver

FLUTE, a Bellows-mender

SNOUT, a Tinker

STARVELING, a Tailor

The Fairies:

OBERON, King of the Fairies

TITANIA, Queen of the Fairies

PUCK, or Robin Goodfellow, serves Oberon

PEASEBLOSSOM, COBWEB, MOTH, MUSTARDSEED, serve Titania

Other Fairies attending on their King and Queen

## Scripts

To request a script contact the Director, Aruna Clinch by email to [social@pinnerplayers.com](mailto:social@pinnerplayers.com)

## Calendar (subject to quite a few changes!)

|                                       |           |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August       | 7:30pm    | Auditions                         |
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept           | 7:30-10pm | Script Read with Cast - ALL       |
| Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept         | 4pm       | Summer BBQ @ Simon's House        |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept           | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept           | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept         | 11am-5pm  | Pinner Village Show               |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept         | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept        | 7:30pm    | AGM                               |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept          | 7:30-10pm | LINE LEARNING (no rehearsal)      |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept         | 7:30-10pm | LINE LEARNING (no rehearsal)      |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept          | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept         | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept          | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct            | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct (moving)   | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct          | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct           | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct          | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct           | 7:30-10pm | Rehearsal                         |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct          | 7:30-10pm | Run - ALL                         |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct           | 7:30-9pm  | Run & Halloween Party 9pm onwards |
| Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct           | 3-7pm     | Run - ALL                         |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct (moving) | 7:30-10pm | Run - ALL                         |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov            | 7:30-10pm | Run - ALL                         |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov            | 7:30-10pm | Run - ALL                         |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov           | 7:30-10pm | Run - ALL                         |
| Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov         | 9am-6pm   | Set Build                         |
| Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov           | 9am-6pm   | Set Build                         |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov           | 7-11pm    | Technical Rehearsal - ALL         |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov          | 7-11pm    | Tech/Dress Rehearsal - ALL        |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov        | 6:30pm    | Dress Rehearsal                   |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov         | 6:30pm    | Show Day                          |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov           | 6:30pm    | Show Day                          |
| Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov         | 6:30pm    | Show Day and After Show Party     |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov          | 7:30pm    | Post Production Debrief           |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov           | 7pm       | Auditions Feb Production          |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec           | 9pm       | Christmas Party                   |

## THE COMPANY

### Actors

Pinner Players aims for a very high standard of production and maximum commitment is required to achieve this. Rehearsals can take place for 10-12 weeks prior to the performance dates, typically twice a week in the evening. In the event of not being able to attend the audition date, you should contact the Director.

### Bar

The bar is generally open during rehearsals and always during performances.

### Box Office

Terry Bloch, 12 Ravenswood Park, Northwood, HA6 3PR Tel: 01923 827432  
[treasurer@pinnerplayers.com](mailto:treasurer@pinnerplayers.com)

### Coffee/Tea

Coffee/Tea is sold during the interval see FOH.

### Front of House

The Front of House (FOH) team welcome the public to a show, hand them their tickets where appropriate, escort them to their seats if necessary and remain on hand until the end of the show when the FOH representative will wait until the last patron has left before locking the main doors. The usual commitment is for one or two nights during the run of a show from 7 – 11pm approximately.

If you're interested in joining this team please contact Katherine - [chairman@pinnerplayers.com](mailto:chairman@pinnerplayers.com)

### Lighting and Sound

The Technical Support Group is responsible for the design and operation of the lighting and sound for each production. Setting up a new show normally takes place on two or three separate evenings before the Technical Rehearsal, and then two or three members are at the Theatre each night of the production to operate the lighting and sound desks and provide any additional services required by the show. Training will be given and you won't be left to work alone until you feel completely confident.

If you're interested in joining this team please contact Katherine - [chairman@pinnerplayers.com](mailto:chairman@pinnerplayers.com)

### Prompts

Members of the prompt team are never seen – and hopefully never heard – during the run of a production! Prompts attend rehearsals throughout rehearsals for a show and then the three run nights during a show, sitting in the wings with a copy of the script, ready to whisper a helpful reminder if required!

If you've interested in prompting please contact the Director of the production.

## Properties

Attention to detail when setting the scene can certainly bring life to a production. This is the aim of our props team. New members are welcome to join us with maybe a view to becoming a props leader. To fulfil this we are looking for volunteers who are organised, creative and who can deal with situations in a sensible and realistic manner. Commitment to shows and their rehearsal time is necessary. Working together we can create innovative and exciting productions.

If you've interested in joining this team please contact the Director of the production

## Set Building

For this any DIY or trade experience would be useful, but definitely not necessary! A lot of the work involves carrying/moving theatre flats, steps, doors etc. and holding them while they are fixed in place. We have all the materials and equipment that we need. There is always someone around so you won't be asked to do any job or use any tools that you don't feel comfortable with. We build the sets on the weekend before show week from 9am-6pm. All times are approximate and, of course, you can come and go at whatever time suits you within those time periods. So, if you could spare any time at all (even just the odd hour) we would appreciate it.

If you're interested in joining this team please contact the Director of the production.

## Set Painting

Set painters bring the set to life with their paintbrushes, whether it's a Victorian Drawing Room or a street of terraced houses! You don't have to be Monet - anybody who can use a paintbrush is welcome and the ability to climb a step ladder is also useful! Set painters work during the day, on the weekend before show week from 9am-6pm. Guidance will be provided along with frequent coffees and a lunch break – and you can stay for as long or as short as you like.

If you're interested please contact the Director of the production.

## Stage Management

The role of the Stage Manager is to ensure the smooth running of a performance. You will enjoy this role if you are interested in all things theatrical; tactful when dealing with directors, actors and other members of the theatre; able to remain calm under pressure; able to organise a team; be a good communicator; are mature and sensible in attitude.

If you're interested in joining this team please contact the Director of the production.

## Wardrobe

The Wardrobe Department sources suitable costumes for every production. In addition, the Department is responsible for cleaning, repairing and maintaining the existing costumes. Some heavy lifting can be required, however any help is a benefit to support the department. Ability to sew is a bonus.

If you're interested in joining this team please contact the Director of the production.

**Please note: you do not need to become a member to audition but will be required to become a member to take part in a production.**

**Subs are £20 per year plus £10 for performance/script fee**

**For more info check out [www.pinnerplayers.com](http://www.pinnerplayers.com)**