

Teachers

By John Godber, directed by Asha Gill



TUE 25 – SAT 29 JAN 2022

teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk


ttc

Programme £2

**HAMPTON HILL
THEATRE**





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TEACHERS

By John Godber



This amateur production is presented by arrangement
with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel
French Ltd.

No photography or recording!

Teddington Theatre Club is affiliated to Arts
Richmond and this production is entered for the
Swan Awards for Drama and Musicals.



In Rehearsals



A Welcome from our Artistic Director - Lottie Walker



Welcome to TTC and Teechers



It is such a pleasure to finally see this wonderful play; it has been a long time coming. Originally headed for our studio space in late spring 2020, it was newly auditioned and just one rehearsal in when all the theatres were closed and the UK went into lockdown. Once we knew we could reopen (but not whether we could operate “normally”) we decided to move the production to the main auditorium in order to hedge our bets and guarantee we could produce it even if we had to play to a socially distanced audience. And then we realised that our director, the visionary Asha Gill had set the play “in the round”. We’d not operated with the theatre “turned” for approximately eight years so along with the question of whether anyone could remember how to make the change came the question of would the mechanics still work. It was all a bit scary, BUT we pulled it off. A great team of volunteers old and new pulled together one chilly winter morning to make it happen and the result of their hard work is the auditorium in which we sit this evening.

I have to say a huge thank you to Asha and the Teechers team for their patience throughout the whole process and also congratulate them on holding their nerve. This cast you see this evening is, despite the odds being stacked against them, the very one that was cast two years ago and throughout the long but interrupted rehearsal process they have never lost their enthusiasm- dropping into the odd rehearsal for this play has been a joy.

The last two years has been very strange in many ways. However, we have had some positive outcomes from the “Covid era”. One is the return of the “in the round” configuration of the theatre thanks to this play. Another is the very real sense of community TTC built during lockdown through our shared love of theatre and the arts. I sincerely hope that we attract a new young audience to this play; the arts are important to our youth and our youth are so important to our future. I absolutely echo the words of playwright John Godber when he says:

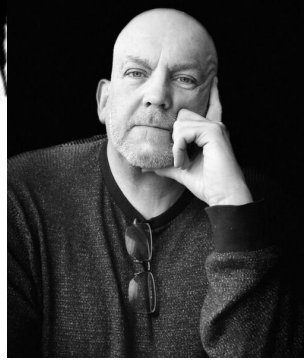


“At the heart of *Teechers* is the very real assertion that the arts, and especially drama, should form an essential part of the school curriculum. It also attempts to demonstrate the effect that exposure to the arts has on young people.”

Writer

John Godber

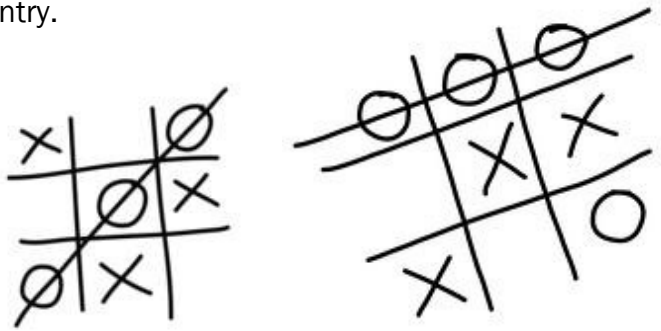
John was born the son of a miner in Upton, West Yorkshire. He trained as a teacher of drama at Bretton Hall College. Whilst he was Head of Drama at Minsthorpe High School, the school he attended as a student, he won every major award at the National Student Drama Festival between 1981 and 1983.



John's plays are performed across the world. He has the distinction of being one of the most performed writers in the English language. He has won numerous awards for his plays, including a Laurence Olivier Award and seven Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards.

His plays include: *Bouncers, Up 'n' Under, April in Paris, Teechers, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Cramp, Happy Jack, September in the Rain, Salt of the Earth, Passion Killers, Happy Families, Up 'n' Under II, Gym and Tonic, Dracula, Lucky Sods, Hooray for Hollywood, Weekend Breaks, It Started With a Kiss, Unleashed, Thick As a Brick, Big Trouble in the Little Bedroom, Seasons in the Sun, On a Night Like This, Our House, Departures, Men of the World, Reunion, Screaming Blue Murder, Black Ties and Tales, Perfect Pitch, Going Dutch, Christmas Crackers* and *Crown Prince*.

His first play for the John Godber Co was *The Debt Collectors*, a co-production with Theatre Royal Wakefield which garnered critical acclaim and rave reviews from the national press after touring to 14 venues across the country.



Since then the company has successfully toured revivals of *Teachers* and *Bouncers*, *Weekend Breaks*, *A Kind of Loving* and *On the Piste* amongst others.

Within his extensive career in writing and directing in TV and film, John also devised the BBC2 series *Chalkface*, and his screenplay *My Kingdom for a Horse*, starring Sean Bean, was nominated for an Alternative BAFTA Award.

John's first feature film, *Up 'n' Under*, was released in January 1998. In 2005, he cowrote *Odd Squad* for BBC2 with his wife, Jane, which was shot in Hull using local actors. *Odd Squad* won two British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards in the Schools Drama category and in the BAFTA Original Writer section.

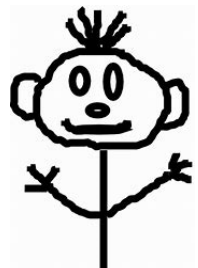
John has an MA from Leeds University, an hon DLitt from Hull University, an hon DLitt from Lincoln University, a DUni for the Open University and was a PhD research student for five years at Leeds University.

He is a professor of contemporary theatre at Liverpool Hope University, a visiting professor of drama at Hull University, a professor at Sheffield Hallam University, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a fellow of Regent's University, London.

John was Artistic Director of Hull Truck for 26 years, taking it from bankruptcy in 1984 to its new home in a £15 million theatre in 2010.

In 2011, he set up The John Godber Company with his playwright wife, Jane, and formed a partnership with Theatre Royal Wakefield to produce two tours of his work each year.

Since then his plays have continued to tour the UK and have been seen by over 200,000 people.



WHITEHALL HIGH SCHHOL

CREATING OUR FUTURE ADULTS

Spring Term 2022

Letter from the Head

Who would have thought, a mere two years-ish since casting this production, we would finally be able to go ahead!? There have been many challenges along the way (a global pandemic, for instance) but I'm so pleased and proud of my young ~~students~~ cast for the commitment and enthusiasm they have shown. Already bursting with greatness, they will go on to do many great things.

I was first attracted to this play from reading it in a book called *100 Great Plays for Women* by Lucy Kerbel, and although there's not much in the way of a feminist message in the play, (although plenty of other political messages can be taken from it) the mere fact that there are twice more women than men, is a good start, and the opportunity for these women to play males of different ages, with vastly different personalities, really does prove that gender is no barrier to great characters.

We started our rehearsal process (a year late!) by first discussing all the different experiences we all had at school. Going to different schools, at different times, with very different personalities, one thing united us – unsurprisingly, it was drama. Where we could step out of our shells, be silly, and develop and understand our own identity without fear of ridicule.

WHITEHALL HIGH SCHHOL

CREATING OUR FUTURE ADULTS

Cont.

In a world of rules, creative subjects are the safest ways to explore how we feel about the world around us. In the wake of this massive global pandemic, so many of us sought comfort in the work of creatives, and never has it been more clear, what it is that keeps us going in the toughest times.

I really could bang on about the value drama has added to our lives, how it has brought us closer to each other, and in this instance allowed us to share our talents with the community. Instead, I will just thank everyone, for supporting this production, at this poignant time in history.

Ms Asha Gill, Head (Director)



The Cast

Salty.....Josh Clarke

GailJoanna Taylor

HobbyCaroline Gudge

School Report Card

Name:

Position:

Best Subject:

Worst Subject:

Josh Clarke

Prefect

Drama

Maths

Extra Curriculars:

Drama club, Choir, Hockey, Served on the Model UN.

Speciation Achievements:

Achieved an award in drama, and public speaking. Voted most likely to become a Teacher.
He received 100% attendance in year 8.

Areas of improvement:

Josh lacks concentration and often does not engage in the class.

Additional Comments:

Since leaving school, Josh has joined Youth Action Theatre and has been involved with over 10 productions with them. This is his sixth production with Teddington Theatre Club, having most recently directed, the swan award winning production of 'Pornography' which was voted as best production of a play.



School Report Card

Name:	Position:	Best Subject:	Worst Subject:
Caroline Gudge	Senior Prefect	English	P.E.

Extra Curriculars:

Drama club, Choir.

Speciation Achievements:

A commendation in Latin speaking, End of Year - Best in the year award won twice.

A prize in English. Completed Youth First Aid, Duke of Edinburgh award, and participated in Young Firefighters.

Areas of improvement:

Caroline talks too much, she needs to be more concise.

Additional Comments:

When at school, Caroline joined Teddington Theatre Club, where her first play was 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

When she was old enough, she joined Youth Action Theatre for around 10 years and did many, many plays with them both on and off stage. She's happy to be back at TTC.



School Report Card

Name:	Position:	Best Subject:	Worst Subject:
Joanna Taylor	N.A.	English and Drama	Science (Chemistry)

Extra Curriculars:

Swimming 5 times a week

Speciation Achievements:

Joanna made a fantastic Millionaire Shortbread in food tech.

Areas of improvement:

Displays disruptive behaviour in class. Joanna served community service (litter picking) for wearing an excessive amount of jewellery. She has poor engagement.

Additional Comments:

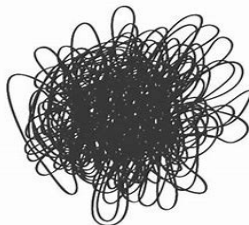
Since leaving school, Joanna went to The BRIT School where she studied Theatre and English. This will be her first show at Teddington Theatre Club, but not her first time performing at Hampton Hill Theatre. She is currently studying Media and Anthropology at Goldsmiths at The University of London.





The Crew

Director..... Asha Gill
Production Manager..... Juliette Sexton
Stage Manager Harri Osborne
Stage Construction Lead.....Mike Elgey
Set Trine Taraldsvik
SoundJoe Olney
Lighting DesignColin Swinton
Lighting Operation Wayland Booth
Lighting Crew Rob Arundel
WardrobeTom Wright
PhotographerJojo Leppink
Artistic LinkDaniel Wain
Backstage & Technical Link..... Gary Stevenson



In the round

Teachers is the first show since *The Thrill of Love* by Amanda Wittington in March 2015 that we have set in the round.

So a team of backstage crew, led by Mike Elgey, met on a Sunday morning to transform our auditorium. There was a fair bit of head scratching but the job was completed in under three hours.

All the seats must be removed from the main stalls area onto the stage. The floor panels were picked up and all the legs underneath removed and replaced, so that the when the floor is replaced it is at the same height. Then the seats are put back in the round and on the stage. Simple!



Thanks to the team who worked so hard and will have to return after the show to put it all back! Fiona Auty, Josh Bayfield, Nigel Cole, Alan Corbertt, Angela Gibbins, Asha Gill, Cath Messum, Nick Osorio, Gary Stevenson, Trine Taraldsvik, Patrick Troughton, Jack Tidball, Priya Virdee and Sian Walters.



Music Credits



A DATE _____
N.R. _____

YES NO

- Cheesy Bomb - The Runaways
- Rise - Public Image Limited
- You're Wondering Now - The Specials
- Age of Consent - New Order
- Sweet and Tender Hooligan - The Smiths
- Science-Fiction/Double Feature - the Rocky Horror Picture Show soundtrack
- Love Buzz - Nirvana
- Rat Race - The Specials

B DATE _____
N.R. _____

YES NO

- Cool For Cats - Squeeze
- Don't you want me - The Human League
- Dreaming - Poly Styrene
- Crazy Train - Ozzy Osbourne
- Dear Prudence - Siouxsie & The Banshees
- Mountain energy - The Fall
- Love will tear us apart - Joy Division



Whitewall High School Players
Presents

THE MIKADO

by Gilbert and Sullivan
Directed by Mrs Cordelia Parry

Starring

Mr Nixon

~~Mr Bistord~~
As Koko

~~Mr Gill~~

Jan 25th-29th

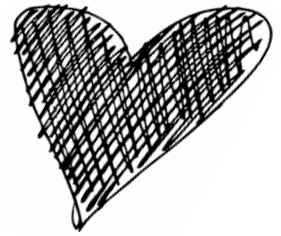
6PM - ~~Midnight~~ 1 AM

Teas, coffees, cakes and buns available to
purchase, strictly no alcohol to be consumed
on school grounds

School
Sucks!



Teddington Theatre Club



Formed in 1927, Teddington Theatre Club is now one of the leading amateur drama groups in south west London, performing in their own custom-built theatre in Hampton Hill.

Starting out to stage Shakespeare for schools, it soon developed to stage a wide repertoire of plays for the general public, originally to raise funds for its schools programmes.

TTC's first production, in 1927, was *Scenes from Twelfth Night* followed in 1928 with *The Merchant of Venice* and *Scenes from As You Like It*. Since then, the Club has gone on to put on over 670 productions and counting as it rapidly approaches its hundredth anniversary.

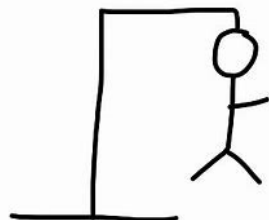
Having performed four or five productions a year in hired halls for many years, in 1969 the Club were granted a lease of part of Richmond Council's Hampton Court House and after two years of conversion work finally opened its own theatre in 1971.

As the lease came towards its end, negotiations with Richmond Council secured a site on Hampton Hill High Street for a new theatre and after a concentrated period of fundraising and with a grant from the National Lottery, the well-equipped Hampton Hill Playhouse (now Theatre) was opened in 1998.

TTC present about ten productions a year and welcome new members - from those who wish to be on stage to the technical teams or front of house. There are lots of ways to get involved, so please go to our website to find out more.

What to keep in touch with what's on at Hampton Hill Theatre? Sign up to our monthly show listing at

www.hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk



H A N _ M A N

COMING SOON

**Booking at www.thelittleboxoffice.com/teddingtontheatreclub
or phone 020 8410 4546 (5.00pm - 8.00pm Mon - Sat)**

TUE 1 FEB — SAT 5 FEB 2022

THE RED LION

By Patrick Marber

Passion. Loyalty. Salvation. The beautiful game comes to the stage.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

TUE 15 MAR—SAT 19 MAR 2022

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

Based on the screenplay by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard and adapted for the stage by Lee Hall, with music by Paddy Cunneen

Based on the Oscar winning film, a play of romance, exuberance, and the magic of theatre.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.

TUE 22 MAR— SAT 26 MAR 2022

BUT YESTERDAY

By Jimmie Chinn

EDWIN

By John Mortimer

A double bill of family dramas.

These amateur productions are presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.



TUE 17 MAY — SAT 21 MAY 2022

WHEN WE ARE MARRIED

By J.B. Priestley

Three marriages. Three anniversaries. Three revelations.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

TUE 24 MAY—SAT 28 MAY 2022

ABIGAIL'S PARTY

By Mike Leigh

Step into 70s suburbia, down a gin and tonic, and settle in for the drinks party from hell.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.

TUE 28 JUN— SAT 2 JUL 2022

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD

By Timberlake Wertenbaker

The funny, uplifting and true story of the first play to be performed in Australia.

This is amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

TUE 5 JUL — SAT 9 JUL 2022

THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE

By Frank Marcus

Foul-mouthed. Foul-tempered. But does she deserve to die? .

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.





TEDDINGTON THEATRE CLUB

Teddington Theatre Club is resident at Hampton Hill Theatre.

90 High Street, Hampton Hill, TW12 1NZ

Company registration number 939448

Registered charity number 257265

HAMPTON HILL
THEATRE

