

5TH - 7TH
OCTOBER
2023

IVER
VILLAGE
HALL



**The
Richings
Players**

ADAPTED BY DAVID WOOD
FROM THE NOVEL BY MICHELLE MAGORIAN

GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM

DIRECTED BY PIPPA VINALL

PROGRAMME

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION OF "GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM" IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD.
ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH LTD. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.CO.UK



COME AND JOIN US!

We've been entertaining the Ivers since 1926 and we're always delighted to welcome new members.

Whether you prefer to be on the stage or in the wings, there is something for everyone to get involved in, with our friendly society.

We usually perform 3 productions a year and members are welcome from 6 years old, so why not get the whole family involved?

Our membership fees start from just £10 per year.

For more information, or to contact us, head to our website:
www.richingsplayers.co.uk or follow us on **Instagram**, **Facebook** or **Twitter...**

Come and join us, we can't wait to meet you!



FROM THE CHAIRMAN EVELYN STAFFORD-ALLEN



I am beyond excited to see this production of “Goodnight Mister Tom” for a variety of reasons! Firstly, my mum loved the 1998 ITV film adaptation starring one of her favourite actors John Thaw. Secondly, the cast are simply spectacular and will be brilliant to watch. Thirdly, Howard Gibbs is the Assistant Director and he is one of my favourite people in the world. But finally and most importantly; Pippa. I’ve known her a very long time. She came to the RP family when her daughter, Lily was young and helped with hair and make-up. Naturally, I talked her into applying for a theatrical makeup course at Pinewood Studios, which she completed a while back and she is now working at the Royal Opera House as part of the Make-up and Wigs department.



Straight out of lockdown, she also assisted our Vice President Adrian on our production of “Ladies’ Day” in January 2022 and then plucked up the courage to audition for Liam’s production of “Night Must Fall” last October and played the role of ‘Olivia’, which she loved but hated in equal measure – oh, the nerves! But, now here we are, about to watch her work! All of us at the Richings Players are very proud of ‘our Pippa!’ As always, a huge thankyou to you; our audiences, friends and families for being always so supportive and keeping theatre in Iver alive and kicking!

We are looking forward to see the youngsters take centre stage for “Matilda Jr.” very shortly and hope to see many of you in the audience for that at the end of January 2024.

We hope you enjoy the show.

Big love...

Ev

PLEASE NOTE

- Please switch your mobile phones to airplane mode so that it doesn't interfere with the sound system.
- Photography or recording of any kind is strictly prohibited during the performance.



FROM THE DIRECTOR PIPPA VINALL



It has been a huge privilege to direct “Goodnight Mister Tom” for Richings Players and I am so proud they have trusted me with it. “Goodnight Mr Tom” is a wonderful, often funny, heart-warming story and I don’t think there will be a dry eye in the house. It is set during World War 2, in a small country village and centres around an evacuee from London and his unlikely friendship with a reclusive man. Our wonderful cast have been so invested in this project since it was announced and have been fully dedicated to doing it justice. It has been a challenging project for us, with a lot of emotion to impart and for many of the cast, their first straight play. I cannot wait to finally see it come to life on the Oxley Stage during show week!

I would like to thank my amazing Assistant Director - Howard Gibbs. This has been a huge learning curve for me and he has been there every step of the way. His ideas, commitment and knowledge of theatre have been invaluable and I certainly could not have got this play going without him. I would also like to thank our Production Assistant - Lily Vinall. I may be a bit biased, but she has done an amazing job helping with the children, music, ideas and also all the organisation and paperwork that I am so bad at! Thanks also to our amazing Production Team - Richard Evans, Haydn Parnell, Robin Bishop and Les Brewer. They always do such an amazing job and this play has been no different. Huge thanks also to Joan Gibbs and Harsha Burton for coordinating costumes - a mammoth task.

This play is personally very special to me. My late Grandad loved this story, especially the film. My Grandparents all remember the war. None of them were old enough to fight, but everyone at that time made sacrifices and pulled together. One of my Grandmothers was an evacuee herself, although lucky enough to be evacuated with her mum and I know that the play will evoke some bittersweet memories for them. I would like to dedicate this play to them - my gorgeous Grandparents and all the brave people who lived through a time we, thankfully, cannot imagine.

Pippa

ABOUT THE SHOW

GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM



One of the most uplifting stories ever written, Michelle Magorian's stunning Goodnight Mister Tom is brought gloriously to life in this stage adaptation by David Wood – the UK's 'National Children's Dramatist' (The Times).



Set during the dark and dangerous build up to the Second World War, Goodnight Mister Tom follows sad William Beech, who is evacuated to the idyllic English countryside and builds a remarkable and moving friendship with the elderly recluse Tom Oakley. All seems perfect until William is devastatingly summoned by his mother back to London.



Winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and commended for the Carnegie Medal, "Goodnight Mister Tom" is now a world-wide literary favourite and BAFTA award-winning TV film (starring John Thaw), the story continues to inspire audiences and bring generations together.

The "Goodnight Mister Tom" play premiered at the Chichester Festival Theatre in Sussex in February 2011 under the direction of Angus Jackson.



BAFTA AWARD 1999

GOODNIGHT MISTER THAW? It's official: John Thaw was voted the people's choice after picking up the Low Grade audience award for most popular programme, voted for by RT readers. Thaw was delighted as he accepted the award for Goodnight Mister Tom from Michael Grade, and made sure his 12-year-old co-star Nick Robinson, took most of the limelight, calling him, "my leading man". Thaw said: "I never dreamt this role as a cantankerous widower would make such an impact. I haven't had so many people coming up to congratulate me since the first Inspector Morse went out."

INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION AWARD

In her first novel for young people, Michelle Magorian has created a vivid cast for an English story with a universal appeal. The writing style has a compelling natural flow, and a quiet humour permeates the story and provides a contrast for some episodes of high drama.

HAY FESTIVAL 2010

Michelle Magorian's classic second world war novel for children "Goodnight Mister Tom" voted favourite Puffin title of all time!

"A book I can barely say the title of without beginning to cry. I'd never read a book before that pushed the boundaries... and made me cry so much – I didn't realise we were allowed to do things like that in children's books."

Cathy Cassidy

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

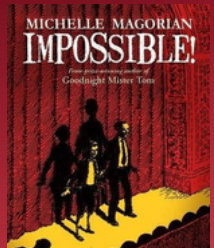
MICHELLE MAGORIAN



By the time Michelle Magorian was eleven she had decided that the perfect life would be to spend half the year acting and the other half writing. After attending the Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance and Marcel Marceau's L'École Internationale de Mime in Paris, she wrote between acting jobs and on Sundays when rehearsing and performing musicals and plays six days and six nights a week (as Mikki Magorian).



In her twenties she became interested in children's books and began writing "Goodnight Mister Tom" - a winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and the International Reading Association Award. The musical version (composer Gary Carpenter) was a winner at the 1992 Quest Fest for New Musicals at Buxton Opera House. It has been adapted for television by Brian Finch and as a play by David Wood, broadcast as a radio series in Sweden and Norway, and been optioned by Gaumont for television.



Michelle has written the book and lyrics for three more musicals and eight other novels, including award-winning "Back Home" and "Just Henry", which won the Costa Award. She has recorded "Back Home" and "A Little Love Song" on Audible. Other audiobooks include "Just Henry", read by the actor Richard Mitchley; and "Goodnight Mister Tom", read by Christopher Saul for the RNIB (full version), and an abridged version read by Patrick Malahide.



Michelle has a postgraduate certificate in Film Studies (London University/BFI), was awarded an honorary doctorate by Portsmouth University in 2007 and has been made a fellow by Rose Bruford College.



Find out more about Michelle and her work, by visiting her website: www.michellemagorian.com



MEET THE CAST

GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM



Tom Oakley - Liam Tebbit

William Beech - Maggie Coady

Zach - Emily Rayner

Sammy - Richard Evans (Puppeteer)

Carrie - Avaani Kang

Ginnie - Dhani Khatker

George - Seva Khatker

Mrs Beech - Bronte Delasalle

Mrs Hartridge - Kaitlin Florida-James

Mrs Fletcher/Glad/Social Worker - Laura Coady

Charlie Ruddles/Vicar/Mr Stelton - David Bainbridge

Dr. Little/Ticket Collector - Tim Chalklen

Mr Hartridge/Policeman - Michael Lucas

Billeting Officer/Ms Thorne - Kam Khatker

Mrs Miller/ARP Warden/Sister - Harsha Burton

Miss Miller/Nurse - Ella Parslow

LOCATIONS IN THE SHOW

Little Weirwold,
West Country of England

Tom's Cottage,
the Library,
the Post Office,
the Church Hall and
the Graveyard

London

The Railway Station,
Mrs Beech's House,
an Air Raid Shelter,
the Hospital

Ensemble

Karam Khatker,
Miraya Burton &
Emily Pledge



INCIDENTAL MUSIC

"It's a Long Way to Tipperary"
"Dad's Army theme"
"Dam Busters"
"We'll Meet Again"
"Roll Out the Barrel"
"Run Rabbit Run"
"Adolf"
"Wish Me Luck (As You Wave Me
Goodbye)"
"White Cliffs of Dover"
"Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy"
"Moonlight Serenade"
"Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree
(With Anyone Else But Me)"



TOM OAKLEY
Liam Tebbit



WILLIAM
Maggie Coady



ZACH
Emily Rayner



SAMMY
Richard Evans



CARRIE
Avaani Kang



GINNIE
Dhani Khatker



GEORGE
Seva Khatker



MRS BEECH
Bronte
Delasalle



MRS HARTRIDGE
Kaitlin Florida-
James



**MRS FLETCHER/
GLAD/SOCIAL
WORKER**
Laura Coady



**CHARLIE
RUDDLES/
VICAR/MR
STELTON**
David
Bainbridge



**DR LITTLE/
TICKET
COLLECTOR**
Tim Chalklen



**MR
HARTRIDGE/
POLICEMAN**
Michael Lucas



**BILLETING
OFFICER/
MS THORNE**
Kam Khatker



**MRS MILLER/
ARP
WARDEN/
SISTER**
Harsha Burton



**MISS MILLER/
NURSE**
Ella Parslow



ENSEMBLE
Karam Khatker



ENSEMBLE
Emily Pledge



ENSEMBLE
Miraya Burton

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM



Director – Pippa Vinall

Assistant Director – Howard Gibbs

Production Assistant – Lily Vinall

Set Design & Props – Richard Evans

Sound – Robin Bishop

Lighting – Les Brewer

Stage Manager – Haydn Parnell

Scenery & Set Construction – Members of the Society

Costumes – Joan Gibbs and Harsha Burton

Hair & Make Up – Members of the Cast

Additional Properties – Tim Chalklen and Laura Coady

Front of House & Refreshments – Members of the Society

Box Office – Paul and Lis Dunham

Photography – Ley Dobson

Publicity – Will Torrent and Laura Coady

Poster Design & Programme – Will Torrent

With thanks to

Malcolm Roberts, Concord Theatricals, Iver Parish Council,
Iver Village Hall and Cowley St Laurence Church of England
Primary School

GET SOCIAL WITH US

Remember to follow our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels, as well as our website for all the latest RP news!



IN REHEARSAL



Concord Theatricals Ltd is the UK home of R&H Theatricals, Samuel French Ltd and Tams-Witmark, plus dozens of new signings every year. Our unparalleled roster includes the work of Irving Berlin, Agatha Christie, George & Ira Gershwin, Marvin Hamlisch, Lorraine Hansberry, Kander & Ebb, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Harold Pinter, Cole Porter, Terence Rattigan, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Thornton Wilder and August Wilson. We are the only firm providing truly comprehensive services to the creators and producers of plays and musicals, including theatrical licensing, music publishing, script publishing, cast recording and first-class production. Concord Theatricals is passionate about cultivating theatre and making it accessible for all. Beginning in 2020, a portion of our commission from every licence will be set aside to create a fund for significant annual donations to charitable organisations whose emphasis is to support theatre writers and composers, and music and drama education. With offices in London, New York and Berlin, we have the most expert team in the industry. We look forward to working with you to make theatre happen!

Huge thanks to all of the Concord Theatricals team for all their help and support with 'Goodnight Mister Tom'.

*Do join us before the show
or during the interval...*

THE PLAYERS' BAR

WINE (Red/White) - £4

PROSECCO - £4

GIN & TONIC - £4

BOTTLE OF LAGER - £3

WATER (Still) - £1

SOFT DRINKS - £1

CRISPS - £1

CONFECTIONERY - £1

ICE CREAMS - £2

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

Not only do we have an official Facebook page where you can find all the latest RP news, we've also launched a new "*Friends of Richings Players*" Facebook group, where members can share what they're up to as well sharing RP stories and more...



ROALD DAHL'S

matilda

THE MUSICAL 

Book by DENNIS KELLY Music & Lyrics by TIM MINCHIN

Orchestrations and additional
music by
CHRIS NIGHTINGALE

Director

PHOEBE

PEARSON-HALL

Musical Director

TOBY

STAFFORD-ALLEN

Our next
production:
25th - 28th

**JANUARY 2024,
IVER VILLAGE HALL**

ROALD DAHL'S

matilda

THE MUSICAL JR

We're absolutely thrilled to announce that our Junior Players will be 'joining the revolt' in a Broadway Junior adaptation of the Olivier Award-winning hit musical "Matilda Jr." as our January 2024 production! Richings Players legend Phoebe will be making her directorial debut with Toby Stafford-Allen as Musical Director as the Roald Dahl classic comes to Iver Village Hall next year!

Rebellion is high in "Matilda Jr., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audiences rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence... and special powers! She's unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda's school life isn't completely smooth sailing, however – the school's mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don't abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts and could be the school pupils' saving grace!

Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs written by Tim Minchin, "Matilda Jr". is a joyous girl power romp. Children and adults alike will be thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Phoebe says;

"Matilda once said "Never do anything by halves if you want to get away with it. Be outrageous. Go the whole hog. Make sure everything you do is so completely crazy it's unbelievable..." and that's exactly what Toby, myself and the team plan to do with this show! We're all excited to get stuck in and make a magical show full of chocolate cake, revolting children and miracles!"

Keep an eye on our Facebook or other socials for more details coming soon! For more information please email richingsplayers@mail.com.



The Richings Players