

# THE RED LION

By Patrick Marber, directed by David Shortland



**TUE 1 – SAT 5 FEB 2022**

[teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk](http://teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk)



**Programme £2**

**HAMPTON HILL  
THEATRE**





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# THE RED LION

By Patrick Marber

A play in three acts over  
three Saturdays in winter:

Noon

Dusk

Night

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 our production of *The Red Lion*

I admit to at first thinking that this play was about a pub and being quite disappointed to discover its football theme. As one who grew up in the shadow of Upton Park and the reputation of the great Bobby Moore (1966 and all that) I had my fill of Saturday afternoon footie a long time ago.

And then I read the play and realised it could be set anywhere – a theatre dressing room, office rest room or teachers' staff room. This play is not about the beautiful game. It is about the people who make it happen and their motivation and emotions relating to it. I wanted us to produce it from my first reading and consider that we've been very fortunate in finding a director who understands football and a cast who vary in their interest in the game from full on fan to no interest whatsoever. There's something in each of our three characters that everyone can relate to and I really hope that you enjoy the play as much as I do. Like all good plays this one makes you laugh and it makes you think.

This is also the first "proper" production in our studio since lockdown, so a special thank you to everyone on stage, backstage and front of house who has raided their collective memory banks to remember how we do this. It's good to be back.

And now I crave your indulgence as I remember where my true loyalties lie:-

Come on you Irons..!

## Writer

### Patrick Marber



Born in 1964, Marber grew up in Wimbledon, studied English at Wadham College, Oxford and is now married and has three children. He started out as a stand-up comedian before becoming a writer and performer for radio shows such as *On the Hour* and *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, and their television spinoffs *The Day Today* and *Knowing Me, Knowing You... with Alan Partridge*.

His first play, which he also directed, was *Dealers Choice*. Set in a restaurant and based around a game of poker (and partly inspired by his own experiences with gambling addiction), it opened at the National Theatre (NT) in February 1995 and won the Evening Standard Award for Best Comedy. Numerous plays have followed, including: *After Miss Julie*, a version of the Strindberg play *Miss Julie*, broadcast on BBC TV in 1995 and followed by a stage version in 2003 at the Donmar Warehouse; *Closer*, a comedy of sex, dishonesty, and betrayal, opened at the NT in 1997 and, directed by Marber, won the Evening Standard award for Best Comedy as well as the Laurence Olivier award for Best New Play. It has since been translated into thirty languages.

Marber's screen adaptation of *Closer*, directed by Mike Nichols, was released in 2004 and starred Hollywood A-Listers Julia Roberts, Jude Law, Natalie Portman and Clive Owen; Howard Katz, about a middle-aged man struggling with life, death and religion, first performed at the NT in 2001; *The Musicians*, a play for young people about a school orchestra's visit to Russia, performed for the NT's Shell Connections programme in 2004; *Don Juan in Soho*, his contemporary rendering of Molière's comedy *Don Juan*, opened at the Donmar Warehouse in 2006 with Rhys Ifans in the lead role.

In June 2015, Marber's play, *The Red Lion*, opened at the National Theatre. He is quoted as saying that the play was inspired by his desire to 'save' Lewes football club – “I made a promise to the manager, Steve Ibbotson – I dedicated the play to him – on a wet day in November 2009. I said: “I'm going to help you save your football club.” At the time, I didn't feel I had anything better to do. I was one of six people who “bought” the club. It cost us a pound each and we owned it on paper for about a day before turning it into a supporter-owned club.”

In addition to his writing credits, Marber has an impressive list of directing credits, the first most notable being his 2016 revival production of Tom Stoppard's play *Travesties* at the Menier Chocolate Factory which, after a sell-out run, transferred with the same cast to the Apollo Theatre and was nominated for five Olivier Awards before transferring to Broadway in the spring of 2018 with Marber directing. Other directing credits include *Blue Remembered Hills* by Dennis Potter (NT), *The Old Neighbourhood* by David Mamet (Royal Court Theatre), *The Caretaker* by Harold Pinter (Comedy Theatre), and, most recently *Leopoldstadt* by Tom Stoppard (Wyndham's Theatre) in 2020, which closed during the pandemic and re-opened on 7 August 2021 for a 12 week run.

## The Play

Passion. Loyalty. Salvation. Small time semi-pro football, the non-league. A world away from the wealth and the television cameras. A young player touched with brilliance arrives from nowhere. An ambitious manager determines to make him his own. And the old soul of the club still has dreams of glory.



A non-league football club have a new young star on their hands, the kind who might win the championship for them. The manager, Kidd, has designs on flogging him to a bigger club so he can get the kickback he needs to keep the wolf from the door. The kitman (and club legend), Johnny Yates, on the other hand, wants to keep him on board for the good of club, town and fans. Thus, over three scenes set in the home changing room, the older men begin a battle for young Jordan's heart and mind.

## Director - David Shortland

The Red Lion is David's second studio play at Hampton Hill Theatre and his first as director. He first performed at TTC in 2016, as Buttons in *Cinderella*. David has also portrayed Arthur in TTC's production of Owen Sheers verse-drama *Pink Mist*, for which he received a Best Actor Swan Award, Joe in *The Ghost Bell of Indian Queens*, Davey in the hard-hitting *Jerusalem* and Joe in *The Matchgirls*. David most recently performed in TTC's 'play in a week'–

*The Recruiting Officer*. In addition to acting, David has enjoyed performances in the musicals *Sweeney Todd* and *Sister Act*, the latter being at the famous Minack Theatre.



# The Cast

Kidd ..... Matt Beresford

Yates ..... Ian Attfield

Jordan ..... Arthur Holmes



## Biographies

### Matt Beresford

This is Matt's first acting role for TTC, although he is no stranger to the Club having directed several recent productions – *The Wind in the Willows*, *Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense* and the recent 'play in a week' – *The Recruiting*

*Officer*. Having performed in countless musicals in his hometown, Portsmouth, Matt moved to straight acting roles such as Ralph in *Our Country's Good*, Ross in *Macbeth* and the title role in *Henry V*, before studying for his Theatre Director MA at St. Mary's University, Twickenham. He will be revisiting *Our Country's Good* to direct TTC's upcoming production of this superb play in June/July 2022.



### Ian Attfield

Ian has performed in a wide variety of stage and screen roles including leading parts in theatre productions of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Blue Remembered Hills* and *Rope*, extended West End Fringe runs of *Audacity* and *Painting by Numbers* as well as feature films such as *Tangled Up in Blue* and *The Killers*. This will be Ian's third Patrick Marber play having previously appeared in both *Closer* and *Dealer's Choice*. *The Red Lion* marks Ian's debut for TTC.



# JORDAN

I WONT LIE AND I  
WONT CHEAT



## Arthur Holmes

Arthur's interest in the theatre started with a passion for dance in his Triple Threat years but later developed into a love for acting. After several summer courses with The National Youth Theatre, performing at The Rose Theatre and participating in multiple school

productions, Arthur made his TTC debut as Igor in the Halloween Pantomime *Cinderella Meets the Monsters*. Deciding to cure his post show blues by heading straight onto the next show, he's now playing a young footballer touched with brilliance, and a more than complicated history, fighting for his moral beliefs.

## What are the pundit's saying:

### Red Lions 0 - Green Dragons 0

"There would have been a couple of great goals if only they had gone inside the post."

### Constitution Stanley 0 - Red Lions 0

"Football is a simple game; 22 men chase a ball for 90 minutes and at the end, someone should win."

### Red Lions 2 - Brewers Athletic 1

"The Brewers drooped in the second half and underestimated the Red Lions."

### Royal Oak Dons 1 - Red Lions 1

"Football is a game of skill, we kicked them a bit and they kicked us a bit - It was all square at the end of the day!"

### Red Lions 3 - Taverners 1

"The Red Lions have found their form after a consistently patchy start to the season."

# The Crew

Director  
David Shortland

Stage Manager  
Laura Duke

Asst. Stage Manager  
Harri Osborne

Production Manager  
Sally Halsey

Set Design  
Fiona Auty

Build  
Patrick Troughton

Painting  
Priya Virdee

Sound Design & Operation  
Fintan Davies

Lighting Design  
Rob Arundel

Lighting Operation  
Rob Foot

Props  
Izzy-Eloise Sketchley

Wardrobe Zoe Harvey-Lee

Promotion Christine Wayman

Artistic Link Douglas Schatz

Backstage & Technical Link Dave Rumens

With thanks to:

Nicky Shaw for the loan of the Massage Table

NPL Football Club for loan of kit and equipment.

# 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. All shows at the Theatre are supported by a huge team of volunteers – so thanks to all of those who have supporting this show with marketing, front of house, bar, health & safety, box office, finance and more.

There are lots of ways to get involved, so please go to our website to find out more and to keep in touch with what's on at Hampton Hill Theatre? Sign up to our monthly show listing at .....

**[www.hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk](http://www.hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk)**

# COMING SOON

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

**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 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

