

The top half of the poster features a warm, golden-yellow background. In the upper right corner, there is a red logo with the letters 'ttc' and a small red bird-like icon above it. The central image shows the black silhouettes of three children holding hands in a circle. Their long, dark shadows are cast across the floor, stretching towards the bottom left. The floor appears to be a stage with a white border on the right side.

ttc

TEDDINGTON THEATRE CLUB PRESENTS AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION
PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH JOSEF WEINBERGER LTD

The Children's Hour

By Lillian Hellman

Directed by Dawn Lacey

Sun 16 Mar – Sat 22 Mar 2014

£1.50



Hampton Hill Playhouse

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

For reasons of safety, glassware must NOT be taken into any part of the auditorium.

Latecomers will be admitted at the first convenient moment provided that no interruption or distraction to the performers might be caused.

All gangways, passageways and stairways must be kept free from obstruction. Persons are not permitted to sit or stand in any gangway.

The taking of photographs and the making of sound and/or visual recordings in the auditorium are not permitted.

An induction loop system is installed in the Main Auditorium to assist those who use hearing aids with the relevant setting.

Wheelchair positions are available in both Stalls and the Balcony. The Box Office Manager will be happy to discuss your requirements.

TTC Ltd, as managers of the Playhouse, reserves the right to refuse admission and to make alterations to the programme and cast without notice.

Timeline of women in education in America:

1639 - 1934

1639: The French colony of Acadia, which at the time included part of Maine, had an Ursuline boarding school by 1639 that was geared toward the education of young girls. The school was founded in Quebec City and is still in operation today.

1742: At only 16 years of age, Countess Benigna von Zinzendorf established the first all-girls boarding school in America. Originally known as the Bethlehem Female Seminary upon its 1742 founding, it changed its name to Moravian Seminary and College for Women by 1913.

1783: Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, appointed the first women instructors at any American college or university, Elizabeth Callister Peale and Sarah Callister - members of the famous Peale family of artists - taught painting and drawing.

1803: Bradford Academy in Bradford, Massachusetts was the first higher educational institution to admit women in Massachusetts. It was founded as a co-educational institution, but became exclusively for women in 1837.

1826: The first American public high schools for girls were opened in New York and Boston.

1871: Frances Elizabeth Willard became the first female college president in the United States, as president of Evanston College for Ladies in Illinois.

1871: Harriette Cooke became the first female college professor in the United States appointed full professor with a salary equal to her male peers.

1889: Maria Louise Baldwin became the first female principal in Massachusetts and the Northeast, supervising white faculty and a predominantly white student body at the Agassiz Grammar School in Cambridge.

1900: Otelia Cromwell became the first black woman to graduate from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

1904: Helen Keller graduated from Radcliffe, becoming the first deaf blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

1909: Ella Flagg Young became the first female superintendent of a large city school system.

1931: Jane Matilda Bolin was the first black woman to graduate from Yale Law School.

1934: Ruth Winifred Howard became the second African-American woman in the United States to receive a Ph.D. in psychology, which she earned from the University of Minnesota.

Directors Notes...

After directing Christmas Shows *Peter Pan* and *Beauty and the Beast*, for TTC, I thought it was time to sink my teeth into something rather more serious and dramatic. I then recalled being enthralled by the film adaptation of *The Children's Hour* starring Audrey Hepburn, Shirley MacLaine and James Garner. Although the film was made in 1961, I saw it many years later, but it made a great impression on my then young mind and I was captivated by this dramatic story of false accusation.

I was then reminded of the play following the 2011 revival in the West End with Kiera Knightley and Elizabeth Moss which was directed by Ian Rickson. As with the film, I was again riveted by the storyline and the premise that a successful professional life could be devastated by the malicious fabrications of others. Curiously, Lillian Hellman's play was inspired by an 1809 true story of two Scottish school teachers whose lives were destroyed when one of their students accused them of engaging in a lesbian relationship, but in the Scottish case, they eventually won their suit, although that didn't change the devastation on their lives.

I had wondered whether to relocate the action to Scotland for tonight's production but in the end I thought it better to stay with Hellman's original vision where the boarding school is located in Massachusetts. The play is now some 80 years old and of course the attitudes of society to homosexuality have, thankfully, changed out of all recognition. At the time of the play's premiere in 1934, even the mention of homosexuality on stage was illegal in New York State but the authorities chose to overlook its subject matter when the Broadway production was acclaimed by the critics. The play opened in London in 1936 at the Gate Theatre Studio in Villiers Street by Charing Cross Station. As a theatre club, where membership was obligatory, the theatre was able to produce *The Children's Hour* without fear of censorship from the Lord Chamberlain. Sadly, the Gate closed in 1941 following bomb damage. Since then the play has been revived on a number of occasions and was also produced for radio by the BBC in 1971.

My sincere thanks go to Heather Morgan who has been an absolute rock for me during this production. To my wonderful and talented cast for making this amazing piece of drama come to life. And to my crew for all their hard work and dedication and to every one front of house, bar and box office for their continuing work at TTC.

Dawn Lacey

Running Order...

ACT ONE

*Common Room of the Wright-Dobie School.
Late afternoon in April.*

ACT TWO

Scene 1

Living Room at Mrs Tilford's House. A few hours later.

INTERVAL

Scene 2

The same. Later that evening.

ACT THREE

Common Room of the Wright-Dobie School. November.

Special thanks to...

- Our lovely chaperones Sharon Lock, Catherine Norwood, Julie Spires and Rebecca Whitford-Webb.
- Michelle Hood for furniture.
- Anne and Peter Payne for furniture.
- Alan Corbett, Alan Emsden, Peter Czaja, Mart Stonelake, Gary Stevenson, Jenna Powell, Stephanie Mott, Sarah Perkins, Antony Sugden and Jack Tidball for their help with the set build and get in.

School 1934



Agatha - Mrs. Tilford - Mrs. Mortar - Martha Dobie - Karen Wright - Joseph Cardin - Grocery Boy

Rosalie - Catherine - Mary - Evelyn - Peggy - Lois

Emily - Rhea - Lily - Jasmin - Liberty

This amateur production of *The Children's Hour*,
by Lillian Hellman, is presented by
arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

Crew List

Director	<i>Dawn Lacey</i>
Producer	<i>Heather Morgan</i>
Stage Manager	<i>Bridget Arnold</i>
Set Design	<i>Wesley Henderson Roe</i>
Sound	<i>Harry Jacobs</i>
Lighting	<i>Mike Elger</i>
Lighting Assistant	<i>Nigel Humphreys</i>
Wardrobe Design	<i>Maggie Wrightson</i>
Wardrobe Assistant	<i>Margaret Williams</i>
Props	<i>Heather Morgan</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Zara Simmonds</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Homera Ali</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Harri Osborne</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Vicky Horder</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Devon Hyde</i>
Stage Crew	<i>Annie Brett</i>
Photography	<i>Jen Lanery</i>

The Bar is open after the show...

The foyer bar remains open after the show and is well used by cast, crew and members. We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who has been to see the performance - it is an ideal opportunity to meet the actors you have seen performing, find out more about our theatre and our club or simply relax over a drink.



Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones

Please don't spoil the performance...

We respectfully request all members of the audience to make sure that mobile phones are switched off during the performance. Thank you.

Adults of 1934



Karen Wright: *Sarah Perkins*

Favourite Subject: *Maths - yes, I was that geek!*

Have you ever had detention: *Of course not I was House*

Captain! Oh hang on there was a whole class one in primary school because someone blocked the door and wouldn't let the teacher back in.

Wasn't me, naturally, but pretty sure parents will read this and so can't lie. Think it was Victoria Chapple. Will I still be called a "grass" after all these years?

What would you tell your younger self: *Well not the answers, as I'm not a cheat. Maybe that I would only ever be asked for ID once I was old enough to have it ... (sorry mum).*

What would you do differently: *Join the choir.*

Last Show: *I played Clair in "The City" in Nov 2013 for TTC.*

Martha Dobie: *Jenna Powell*

Favourite Subject: *Art (Would say Drama, but I guess that is kind of obvious!)*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes - answering my teacher back - can't remember why but I got an order mark and detention!*

What would you tell your younger self: *Stop worrying.*

What would you do differently: *I wouldn't bother with the extra curricular piano lessons and would go straight for Drama lessons. I didn't get past Mary Had A Little Lamb, even after 9 months of lessons!*

Last Show: *I played Adele in "Shakers!" last year, in the Studio.*



Lily Mortar: *Michelle Hood*

Favourite Subject: *History*

Have you ever had detention: *No! I was Vice Head Girl!*

What would you tell your younger self: *To respect the Biology teacher - unfortunate name of Mrs Holdup!*

What would you do differently: *Take more languages.*

Last Show: *"Steel Magnolias" at CDs, and "Beauty & the Beast" for TTC.*

Dr Joseph Cardin: *Antony Sugden*

Favourite Subject: *Music.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yup. Organizing a sixty-strong 'bundle' with a rival tutor group.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Knuckling down and becoming a lawyer is well worth it.*

What would you do differently: *I would have learned to play the guitar - girls love guitarists!*

Last Show: *"Arcadia", Main House for TTC.*



Mrs. Amelia Tilford: *Helen Smith*

Favourite Subject: *Art.*

Have you ever had detention: *No, I was a good girl!*

What would you tell your younger self: *.....*

What would you do differently: *Would liked to have studied more Chemistry and Woodwork, but only the boys were allowed to do that. Girls had to do Biology and Typing.*

Last Show: *Lady Saltburn in "Present Laughter" by Noel Coward.*

Agatha: *Stephanie Mott*

Favourite Subject: *Maths, I got to make a perfectly shaped house out of chocolate!*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes - once, for not underlining a title with a ruler and doing squiggly lines instead.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Bullies are evil cowards and there is nothing wrong with you.*

What would you do differently: *Learn how to write a decent essay.*

Last Show: *I played Frigid Bridget in "A Slice of Saturday Night", YTT.*



Children of 1934



Mary Tilford: *Sarah Collins-Walters*

Favourite Subject: *I enjoyed Art, English and History.*

Have you ever had detention: *No, unlike Mary.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Hmmm, tricky! I only left Secondary School two years ago. I think I know pretty much everything I knew then, but the only difference is I believe in what I know more and try to put it into action quicker. So I guess I would say: BELIEVE!*

What would you do differently: *I would try to enjoy it more.*

Last Show: *This is my first show at TTC! The last performance I did was my practical exam for A Level Theatre Studies in February. This was a devised piece based on the book "We Need To Talk About Kevin" by Lionel Shriver.*

Rosalie Wells: *Caroline Bradshaw*

Favourite Subject: *Loved history, best subject was Music.*

Have you ever had detention: *I was away with the fairies at school, but my detentions were for forgotten homework and reading.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Math's is NOT that scary!*

What would you do differently: *I probably would have tried harder with subjects I wasn't very good at, instead of ignoring them.*

I'd understand algebra by now!

Last Show: *This is my first play with TTC, but I did work backstage on the Christmas panto, "Snow White".*



Evelyn Munn: *Anna Carlson*

Favourite Subject: *Art was my first love!*

Have you ever had detention: *Once, for 'talking too loudly and using a phone' on the way to Games, when I was actually reading. The real noisemakers never confessed and are still at large.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Revision does actually work!*

What would you do differently: *I would have a stack of witty responses ready for both bullies and exploitative authoritarians.*

Last Show: *The Huntsman in "Snow White", for TTC.*

Peggy Rogers: *Elizabeth Ward*

Favourite Subject: *Drama.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes, on the first week of secondary school because I was late to assembly.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Things aren't always as big a deal as they seem at the time, especially failing exams.*

What would you do differently: *Not to worry about my grades as much.*

Last Show: *I was in "Snow White", the TTC Christmas Panto.*



Catherine: *Elspeth Adam*

Favourite Subject: *P.E.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes, too many to mention.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Have fun.*

What would you do differently: *Study more.*

Last Show: *"The Country Wife".*

Lois Fisher: *Jessica Parsons*

Favourite Subject: *Drama.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes, for the most silliest thing! I didn't tie my hair up and the head teacher caught me.*

What would you tell your younger self: *Do my homework!*

What would you do differently: *Try harder.*

Last Show: *"Confusions" with YOT.*



Grocery Boy: *Milo Simmonds*

Favourite Subject: *Drama.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes, but not sure I should say, as it's too stupid!*

What would you tell your younger self: *To my Primary School self - do what you want, but think about your future.*

What would you do differently: *I'm still at school so ask when I leave!*

Last Show: *I was the narrator for a Richmond Borough youth group self-written play using mime and sound last summer.*



Lily-Rose Lacey

Favourite Subject: PE

Have you ever had detention: No!

Last Show: I played Chip in "Beauty and the Beast".

Emily Williams-Spires

Favourite Subject: Drama.

Have you ever had detention: Yes, for not handing in homework.

Last Show: I played Chip in "Beauty and the Beast".



Rhea Norwood

Favourite Subject: Drama.

Have you ever had detention: No, I am very well behaved.

Last Show: This is my first show.

Jasmin Lock

Favourite Subject: P.E. - especially when we do Dance!

Have you ever had detention: No, not yet!

Last Show: I was in "Chadsworth Does Broadway" with Chadsworth Stage School.



Liberty Whitford-Webb

Favourite Subject: ICT or PE

Have you ever had detention: No, not yet.

Last Show: This is my first show.



Crew of 1934



Director: Dawn Lacey

Favourite Subject: *Didn't have one.*

Have you ever had detention: *Frequently.*

What would you tell your younger self: *To stand up to bullies.*

What would you do differently: *Work harder and achieve more than I did.*

Last Show: *I directed "Beauty & the Beast" for the TTC 2012 Christmas show, more recently I directed "Steel Magnolias" at CDS in 2013.*

Producer: Heather Morgan

Favourite Subject: *English Literature*

Have you ever had detention: *I should think not indeed. The very idea that I should be naughty! (I was the one handing out 'lines' to the juniors when I was prefect!).*

What would you tell your younger self: *Ask more questions.*

What would you do differently: *Try not to be such a goody goody!*

Set Design: Wes Henderson Roe

Favourite Subject: *Geography.*

Have you ever had detention: *Only whole class ones. I was too good otherwise!*

What would you tell your younger self: *Make the most of your time - you can't go back.*

What would you do differently: *I would be more demonstrative over subject choices, particularly art, but otherwise very little.*

Last Show: *"Snow White" - I did Set Design.*

Sound: *Harry Jacobs*

Favourite Subject: *English, without the Shelley, Byron and Keats option.*

Have you ever had detention: *Very sadly, no.*

What would you tell your younger self: *It didn't really matter being late once or twice.*

What would you do differently: *Try really hard to understand geometry.*

Last Show: *"La Cage Aux Folles" for Bros at HHP.*

Stage Manager: *Bridget Arnold*

Favourite Subject: *Maths.*

Have you ever had detention: *No, I wasn't naughty.*

What would you tell your younger self: *George Michael is gay!*

What would you do differently: *Be more outgoing and fight back against bullies.*

Last Show: *"The City" in the studio at HHP.*

Wardrobe Design: *Maggie Wrightson*

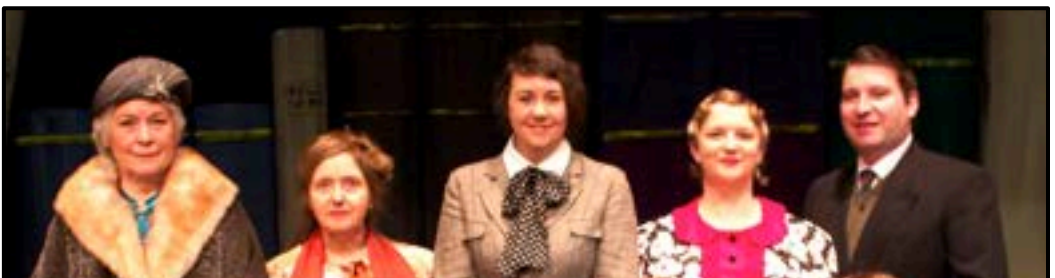
Favourite Subject: *Biology.*

Have you ever had detention: *Yes, Talking too much (surely not!).*

What would you tell your younger self: *Take the risk, there is always another plan.*

What would you do differently: *Too hard to answer.*

Last Show: *Wardrobe for "Arcadia".*



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Teddington Theatre Club acknowledges with grateful thanks the practical and financial support given by local residents, businesses and community groups.



Teddington Theatre Club is affiliated to the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain and to **artsrichmond**.

This production is entered for the **artsrichmond** Swan Awards for Drama and Musicals.

Coming Soon

at Hampton Hill Playhouse

Dinner

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The Olivier-nominated deliciously black comedy

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Coward Studio



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Membership line: 020 8287 2663

Postal bookings are accepted on publication of the booking form.
Telephone enquiries open 2 weeks before each production.
Call: 0845 838 7529 (10am - 8pm)

For up-to-date information on TTC and the Playhouse check our website
www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

Teddington Theatre Club is a Club Theatre open to members and their guests. It is easy to join as an audience member, or as a full performing and technical member.

Each month, details of forthcoming productions are mailed to each member together with Theatre, our club magazine and newsletter.

All are encouraged to help with the Front of House, Bar and Marketing activities of the Club and Playhouse. To find out more please visit our website www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk, call our Membership Secretary on 020 8287 2663 or complete one of the forms you will find in the Foyer.