

£2

PROGRAMME

TREASURE ISLAND



WED **25 OCT** – SUN **29 OCT 2023**
teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

The logo for Teddington Theatre Club (ttc) features a stylized red bird or flame icon above the lowercase letters 'ttc' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.



Teddington Theatre Club

TEDDINGTON
THEATRE CLUB

Formed in 1927, Teddington Theatre Club (TTC) 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 was 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 supported 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.

www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

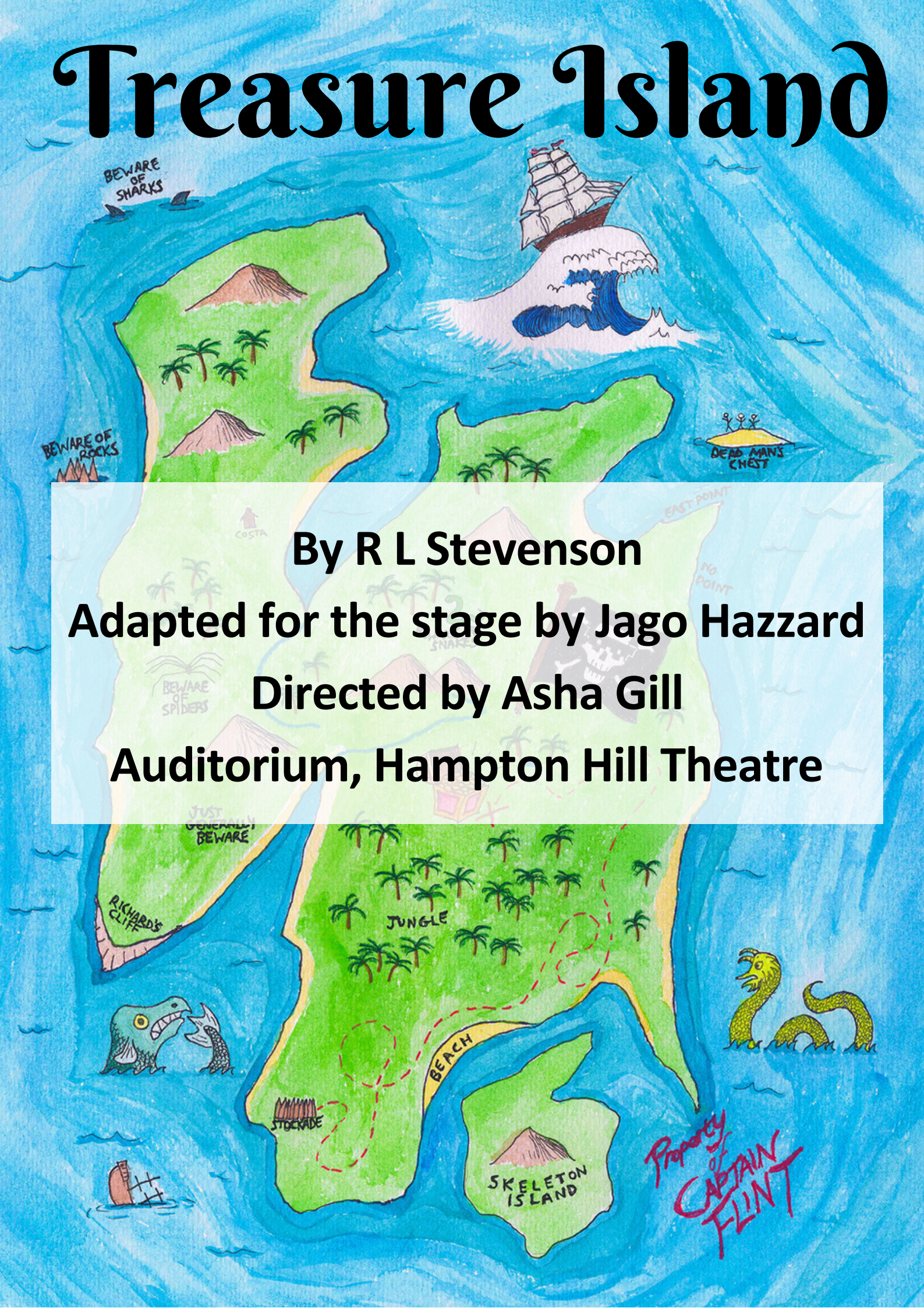
Treasure Island

By R L Stevenson

Adapted for the stage by Jago Hazzard

Directed by Asha Gill

Auditorium, Hampton Hill Theatre



Welcome

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
DANIEL WAIN

Welcome to Hampton Hill Theatre and Teddington Theatre Company's production of *Treasure Island*, or rather Jago Hazzard's laugh-out-loud, panto-esque, lovingly pirated adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic. Thank you for joining us. I do hope that you enjoy the voyage!



My thanks also to director Asha Gill and her innovative and irreverent cast and creative team for bringing Stevenson's iconic adventure story to turbo-charged life, 140 years after its first publication.

As Jago says on page six, Stevenson's book has had an incredible influence on popular culture's perception of pirates. More specifically, it has spawned well over 50 film and TV adaptations of *Treasure Island* and hundreds of stage versions, with famous cinematic *Long John Silver* including Wallace Beery, Orson Welles, Jack Palance, Charlton Heston, Tim Curry and Eddie Izzard: a dastardly if diverse crew, shiver me timbers.

Without doubt, the most renowned (and imitated) interpretation was that of Robert Newton in Walt Disney's first completely live-action film in 1950. Newton was born in Dorset, grew up in Cornwall, and his exaggerated West Country accent is credited, with considerable reason, for popularising the stereotypical 'pirate' voice, yarr! He later starred in the movie *Blackbeard the Pirate* in 1952 and reprised Silver two years later (in the blatantly Hollywood treasure-hunting, non-Stevenson-sourced sequel *Long John Silver*). Newton is now rightly the 'patron saint' of the annual International 'Talk Like a Pirate Day', which falls on 19th September – a date honoured on social media by tonight's cast and crew.

However, R L Stevenson was himself a magpie, gaining inspiration from sources as varied as Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, Walter Scott's *The Pirate* and Edgar Allan Poe's *The Gold-Bug*.



contd/...

Moreover, Israel Hands was a real pirate serving under (and maimed by) Blackbeard, the smuggling 'Benbow Brandy Men' operated out of the real-life Benbow pub in Penzance (even though Stevenson's pub is actually set in Devon), and Silver himself was apparently based on Stevenson's one-legged friend and mentor, the writer William Ernest Henley. Oh, and Dr Livesey was probably based on Joseph Livesey, a famous nineteenth-century temperance advocate: so that teacup's not just a theatrical device.

As for TTC's own continuing creativity, as soon as tonight's half-term treat weighs anchor, we sashay into more 'adult' territory, next month, to penetrate Peter Nichols's provocative exploration of sex, love and infidelity (the appropriately titled *Passion Play*), before delivering our Christmas present: the pastiche-packed, marvellously madcap musical *Spamalot*. So an assorted abundance of theatrical delights to look forward to as we move through autumn to the close of another full-on year. I urge you to book your tickets now.

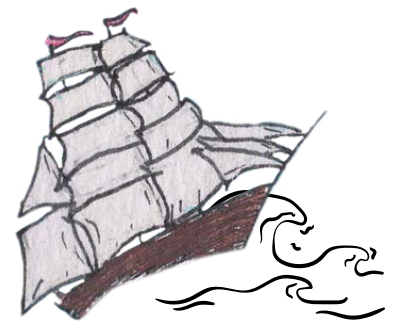
Our endeavours then continue unabated into 2024, with David Haig's *Pressure* and the UK premiere of Stephen Dolginoff's *Panic - A Live Radio Musical*, both playing in January and both directed by winners at this year's Arts Richmond Swan Awards. Then, in March, we put on our dancing shoes for both Richard Harris's hilarious and heart-warming evergreen *Stepping Out* and Anna Jordan's *Pop Music*: a rollercoaster ride of an anti-romantic wedding night.

Would you like to be part of the ongoing fun and frolics? Then we'd love to hear from you! We welcome volunteers to contribute, not just with acting, but stage management, lighting, sound, set, costume, props, production management and front of house. So please go to www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk, follow us on social media (see the back page) or, even better, contact me at artistic@teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk.

I really hope that you enjoy tonight's show & that you return to TTC very soon. And please say thank you to the wonderful volunteers who helm our Front of House & Bar team as you leave.

Daniel Wain, Artistic Director

Synopsis



Set sail for silliness!

In our adaptation of the classic novel, join Jim Hawkins as he negotiates sailing the high seas to find treasure with his pals Squire Trelawney and Dr Livesey along with Captain Smollett and plenty of other mad characters he meets along the way. In this slapstick tomfoolery, Jim is not the only one who knows about the treasure... Long John Silver and his crew will use all their cunning to try and backstab the good guys to keep the booty for themselves.



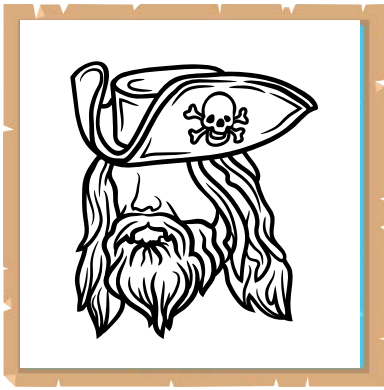
Director's Notes



DIRECTOR
ASHA GILL

This show has been quite the undertaking, and I truly wouldn't have been able to do it without the help of many great people, such as Jago Hazzard of course, Marc Pearce, Macy Carter, Zoe Man, and my absolutely FANTASTIC crew who made working this show a breeze. The cast for being attentive to my ridiculous ideas and bringing their own unique brands of nonsense. My brilliant partner Joe, and the always missed 'Ol Tone' AKA Anthony Eva. And my swell pal Tom.





WRITER
JAGO HAZZARD

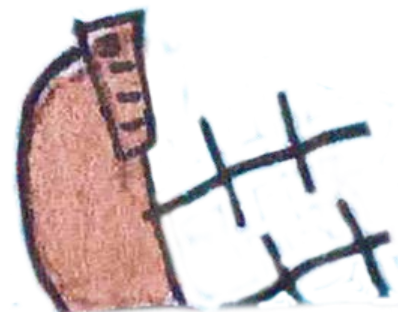
Writer's Notes

Treasure Island (this play) came about because I wanted to write a silly play about pirates and ripping someone else's story off was easier than inventing my own. If you're going to rip a pirate story off, you can't do much better than *Treasure Island*, which between the novel and the various adaptations has given us every pirate trope from buried treasure and parrots to pirates who say "arr." Robert Louis Stevenson hasn't complained yet, so I assume he's cool with it.

This play was originally a much shorter piece called *With Apologies to Treasure Island*, which Asha and I directed in 2013 with Youth Action Theatre, and ever since then we've talked about the idea of staging a longer version. So that's what we have now. The current show is totally revised and somehow even less true to the book, and of course I'm no longer apologising.

But of course, a play is a collaboration - it needs an excellent director at the helm and an excellent cast and crew to make it work, and that's what this show has. I'm really looking forward to seeing what they've made of it, and to claiming credit for their hard work. I hope you enjoy this evening of seafaring silliness and buffoonish buccaneers, by thunder, sa-ha and shiver-me-timbers, etc.

Yr. Friend,
J Hazzard





Cast

Jim Hawkins - Caroline Gudge
Dr Livesey - Theo Byrne
Squire Trelawney - Hugo Allain
Captain Smollett - Matt Dennis
Mrs. Hawkins - Nicola Doble
Long John Silver - Conor Strachan
The Parrot, Blind Pew - Alex Farley
Black Dog - Matt Ludbrook
Isabel Hands - Nicky Shaw
Nell Johnson - Joanna Taylor
Billy Bones - Ruairí O'Keefe
Ben Gunn, Captain Flint - Josh Clarke
Tom Morgan - Dominic Lloyd
One-Eyed Meg - Lara Parker



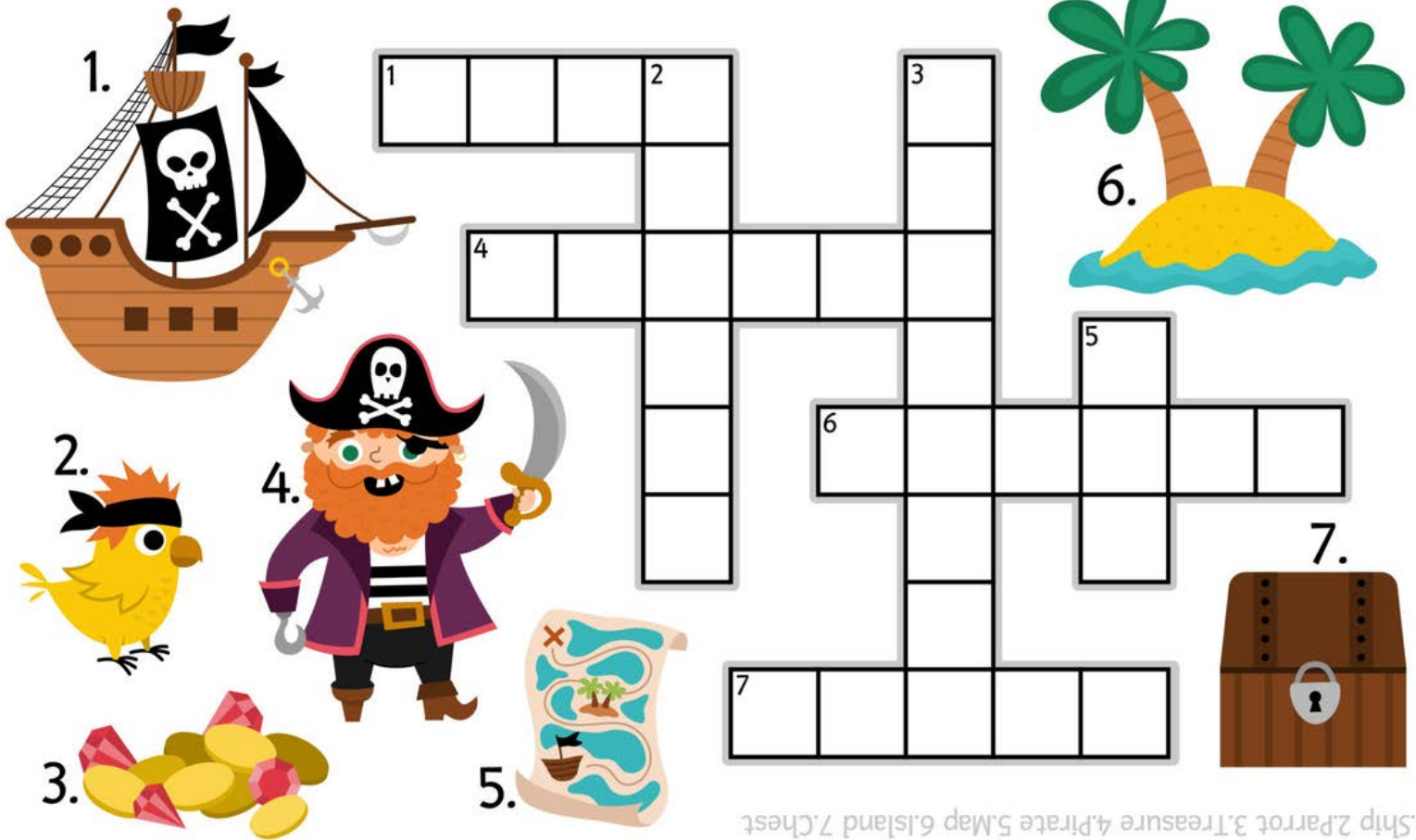
Crew

Director - Asha Gill
Production Manager - Juliette Sexton
Stage Manager - Kathryn Smith
Assistant Stage Manager - Dani Sugden, Karena Barton
Set Design - Fiona Auty
Set Builders - Alan Corbett, Jacqui Grebot, Freya Read,
Dani Sugden, Karena Barton
Props - Jacqui Grebot
Costume Lead - Mags Wrightson
Costume Assistants - Lesley Alexander, Anne Chatterton
Sewing Team - Suzanne Strachan, Margaret Boulton
& members of the TTC Sewing Bee.
Lighting - Rob Arundel
Sound - Josh Bayfield, Zoe Man (Rigging)
Photography - Sarah J Carter
Artistic Link - Steve Taylor

Puzzles



Puzzles



Q: Which Star Wars character do pirates like the most?

A: Aarrrrggh-2-D-2

Q: Where do pirates go to the bathroom?

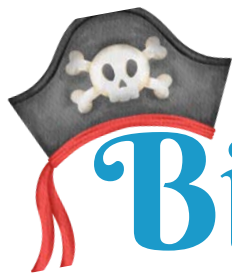
A: The poop-deck!

Q: I have never heard any funny pirate jokes, have you?

A: Neither have ayyyeee

Q: Which subject does a pirate enjoy the most in school?

A: 'Aaarrrrttt'



Biographies

Jim Hawkins – Caroline Gudge

Caroline first ventured into *Treasure Island* with YAT where she played Mrs Hawkins. Ten years later, she is back playing Jim Hawkins! Caroline wants everyone to know that a group of sharks is called a shiver.



Dr Livesey – Theo Byrne

Theo lives in Richmond and currently works as a Teaching Assistant in a primary school. He recently got his degree in Modern Languages and English Lit from the University of Birmingham and is a fresh new face in West London Amateur Theatre. He was in both *Henry V* and *Julius Caesar* with RSS, this is his first show with TTC.



Squire Trelawney - Hugo Allain

Hugo Allain is an aspiring actor and dancer looking to get a foothold in the world of the performing arts. He is very much looking forward to this show, as it will be his first major production outside school, and he does like seeing his name in lights. His character's posh, goofy persona is not that far removed from how he is offstage, but he admits there may be some unconscious inspiration from that evil mastermind and haunter of his nightmares ...Mr Tumble. He has sidelines in photography and being a total useless-trivia-hoarder.



Biographies



Captain Smollett - Matt Dennis

Treasure Island marks Matt's return to the Hampton Hill Theatre stage, following previous appearances in *Loot* and *The Ruling Class*. He recently made his directorial debut for RSS with *Party* in Nov 2022, and has also served as Assistant Director on recent productions including *Pride and Prejudice* also at RSS and *Bull* at TTC. It is Matt's hope that some of Captain Smollett's leadership capabilities rub off on him, as he prepares to direct two shows in 2024 – *Heroes* for RSS and *NSFW* for Teddington Theatre Club.



Mrs Hawkins – Nicola Doble

This is Nicola's fifth show since joining TTC in 2010. Her favourite role to date is Hannah Jarvis in *Arcadia*, a text she still quotes frequently in (maths) lessons. She also performs regularly with Richmond Shakespeare Society, with recent roles including Adriana in *The Comedy of Errors*, Myra Arundel in *Hayfever* and the Bishop of Ely/Dauphin of France in *Henry V*. Any spare time outside teaching and acting she spends at Hampton Court Palace playing tennis.



Long John Silver - Conor Strachan

This is Conor's first production with TTC, but he's no stranger to the Hampton Hill Theatre. In his youth he took to the stage in several YAT productions. Conor and Silver therefore have some history, and he feels good to be back in long johns again. Conor is currently focussed on writing screenplays and in his spare time he enjoys acting and making music. His ultimate goal is to get to the moon, if he can hitch a ride with you, do let him know!

Biographies



The Parrot, Blind Pew – Alex Farley

Alex is excited to be treading the pirate-ship boards again after recently starring as Muddles in *Guardians of the Pantoverse*. He has also directed YAT's production of *Machinal* earlier this year. By day he is a concierge executive for TodayTix and has seen over 15 shows this year!



Black Dog - Matt Ludbrook

In a previous life, Matt played the evil dastard Captain Hook. Unfortunately he doesn't believe in reincarnation but this time round he is trying to be a nicer, more sensitive pirate. His last role as the well travelled Colonel Pickering in TTC's *Pygmalion* should at least help with the sea faring part.

Isabel Hands – Nicky Shaw

Nicky learned to fly as the lead in *Peter Pan – The Musical* with Concorde Players and has hardly been out of boys clothing since, playing various 'simple Simon' and comedy roles in shows over the last ten years. She joined TTC in 2018 as Nell in *The Matchgirls* and has stayed for pantomimes such as *King Arthur in Space* where she played the loveable Lance. This however, is her first play as a pirate!



Biographies



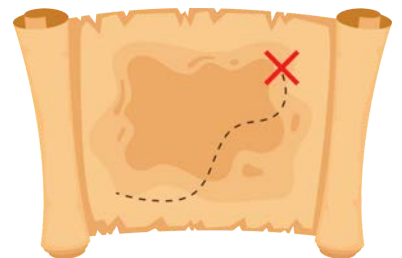
Nell Johnson - Joanna Taylor

Jo has previously been in two TTC shows - *Guardians of the Pantoverse* and *Teechers*. She has also recently joined the marketing team and is excited to continue her TTC endeavours in *Treasure Island* in a slightly more evil role than ever before...!



Billy Bones – Ruairí O’Keefe

Twickenham’s only drag king actor Ruairí O’Keefe is proud to be making his stage debut at Hampton Hill Theatre playing the Pirate and old yarn spinner Billy Bones! Ruairí exploded from the imagination of one Lis Barlow during the pandemic while taking part in Andro and Eve’s lottery funded cabaret college run by infamous Drag King royalty, LoUis CYfer. When not making videos for Instagram or practising his best hip thrusts, dancing in his pants and aviators to B*Witched in his bedroom, Ruairí’s past performances on the stage have included playing Shakespearean fools, Touchstone, Puck and Feste for the Richmond Shakespeare Society.



Captain Flint / Ben Gunn – Josh Clarke

Josh has been heavily involved in theatre and performance from an early age and has no plans on stopping any time soon! He graduated from the University of Reading with a degree in Film & Theatre Studies. He joined YAT in 2013 and has been involved in many productions both at Hampton Hill and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Josh joined TTC in 2017 for a production of Noel Coward’s *Still Life* and his most recent on stage credits include - Tony in *Abigail’s Party*, Salty in *Teechers* and Prince Charming in last December’s *Guardians of the Pantoverse*. Josh is also a keen director, directing the Swan Award winning *Pornography* in 2019, *Bull* earlier this year and YATs 2023 Edinburgh Fringe Production of *The School For Scandal* in August.



Biographies

Tom Morgan - Dominic Lloyd

Dominic made his TTC debut last year. Since then, he has played a few parts in several productions including a thug, a copper, a scheming politician and cor blimey, a dustman! Dom loves playing comic roles, and has longed to play a pirate since childhood, when he used to play the now discontinued board game 'Buccaneer'!



One-Eyed-Meg – Lara Parker

Lara has been a member of TTC for a while now - in her time she has been in three shows involving boats, played a character called 'Meg' twice and won a Swan award for being an over enthusiastic school girl - all in the name of entertaining others. When not treading the boards, Lara is a mum and a children's nurse and an avid animal lover. Her favourite colour is purple and otters make her go "squee".





Raise our Roof

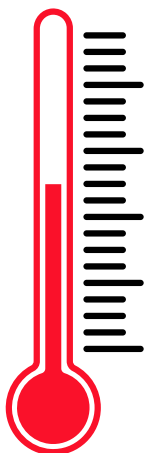
TTC's wonderful Hampton Hill Theatre is beginning to show its age and needs much more than just a lick of paint to keep it ship-shape. So we're busy with a long-term programme of restoration and repair plus a fundraising campaign to pay for it, if only we had found a treasure chest up in the attic! And while we're delighted that a brand-new roof now keeps us dry while an upgrade to our fire protection system keeps us safe, there is still so much to do – not least, replacing our obsolete boiler with green and energy-efficient heating.

So we're asking for your help to keep our lovely home open and thriving.

To donate, visit our website at hamptonhilltheatre.org.uk/donate

If you've a fundraising idea you'd like to share or want to help out with our fundraising campaign in any way, contact Nigel Cole:
nigelc@teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

£150,000 TARGET



£67,800.00

Raised to date



SCAN ME!

Thank you.

Coming soon!



PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols

Falling in love is easy, but being faithful is the hardest thing of all

TUE 21 NOV - SAT 25 NOV 2023
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Teddington Theatre Club Presents

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT
A new musical ripped off from the motion picture MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail

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#fundraiser

an audience with

SUN, 10TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 6PM
LIVE ON OUR MAIN STAGE

Rula Lenska

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HAMPTON HILL THEATRE



MOVIE SEASON

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Encanto Sing Along	Thu 28 Dec	4.00pm	£5.00
Rocketman Sing Along	Thu 28 Dec	7.00pm	£12.50
Singin' in the Rain	Fri 29 Dec	4.00pm	£5.00
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BOOK YOUR TICKETS



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Tue 21 Nov - Thur 23 & Sat 25 Nov

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

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





