

December 2025

"BLIND EYE" A play by APRIL PHILLIPS

Directed by LINDSEY BISHOP

REHEARSALS – Sunday 11 January to Sunday 15 March

SHOW SEASON – Wednesday 18 March to Saturday 28 March.

"Blind Eye" is a poignant play that captures the lives of Wally and Vera Matthews, an elderly couple whose deep affection for one another defies societal norms. Set in their modest home, the story unfolds through their tender interactions, revealing the profound bond they share despite the escalating challenges of aging. Wally, a retired bricklayer, tenderly cares for Vera, who is blind and beginning to show signs of early dementia. Their tranquil life is turned upside down when Wally is injured during an assault, prompting Alice, a dedicated district nurse, to step in and assist Vera during his recovery.

As the play progresses, it becomes clear that all is not as it appears to be. Wally has always kept their world shielded from the outside, fostering an environment filled with love and care. However, the arrival of the police, following Wally's assault, forces the couple's hidden life into a precarious position. Senior Police Sergeant Patrick Warburton is faced with the moral dilemma of duty versus compassion as he learns about the couple's unconventional circumstances.

Wally's struggle to protect Vera becomes increasingly intense as he navigates his fears of losing her to the outside world and the

repercussions of their choices. Their bond stands as a testament to love's resilience against the pressures of judgment, prompting the audience to reflect on the nature of devotion, the impact of secrets on relationships, and the grey areas of morality. The play leaves viewers to ponder the complexities of human connections and the lengths one will go to, to safeguard those they cherish.



"Blind Eye" by April Phillips. First read through with cast. From left to right: Lindsey Bishop (Director), Andrew Laird (Patrick), Helen Griffin (Alice), Rob Mackintosh (Wally), Kate D'Ath (Vera).

2026 Events

- **Mid year:** *The War of the Worlds* by Howard Koch & Orson Welles. Director: Helen Griffin.
- **November:** *The Dumb Waiter* by Harold Pinter. Director: Chris Scanlan, and *Two Bottles of Relish* by Edward Darby. Director: Rob Blamires.

In this issue:

- Show proposals for next year
- Casting and synopsis for *Blind Eye*
- CHB College awards to our Theatre Team.
- Weekly Wednesday Wenches celebration
- Committee Officers



Senior prize giving, CHB College. Didn't our theatre team do well! Left to right: Juliette, Alexis, Luke, Wal & Max (inset) all received a prize. In addition, Wal & Max were made prefect, and the two girls graduated. Photo by Helen Griffin.

Committee Officers

President / Bar Manager
Secretary / Newsletter
Treasurer

Helen Griffin **
Hilary Blamires
Vacancy arising

Publicity/ Social media team

Oisin Casey Galloway
Lupin Berry
Vacancy

Front of House / Facebook
Ticketing
CHB College Drama
Youth Officer
Set building/maintenance

Donna Te Amo
Jacqui Gilbertson
Chris Scanlan**
Juliette Griffin
Bruce Poole*

Sub-Committees

Set building / Lighting
Set building / Sound

Lindsey Bishop* **
Rob Blamires* **

* Life members

** Production Directors

Volunteer vacancies

Treasurer:

This position would suit someone who would love to be involved in theatre not just as a treasurer but also as part of our theatre team, behind the scenes and/or on stage, if interested. It would suit a part time worker or a retired/semi-retired person with an understanding of Zero accounts (or willing to learn). We give support when you need it. The treasurer role is an important one and has been well organised to ensure successors transition smoothly.

Publicity team members

Interested in promoting our Little Theatre and shows. but not sure how to get involved ?

We have solid links with local advertising, Facebook, and online media. It needs additional people on our team to support each other, willing to maintain these contacts and to bring in their own ideas too. This position would suit someone who loves being involved in theatre not just covering advertising but as an important part of our theatre team with the opportunity of being involved in theatre life, behind the scenes and/or on stage.

Youth Officer—vacant after February

Contact the Secretary if you would like to know more. We will also organise a tour of the theatre and an opportunity to meet some of our members and volunteers. All ages welcome



Celebrating Christmas and the last Weekly Wednesday Wenchies in 2025. Left to right: Eleanor, Yvonne, Elsa, Lupin & Julia. Photo taken by Hilary Blamires

