



LTG Northern Conference 2019 at Nantwich, Cheshire

July 2019

Dear LTG Rep,

I have great pleasure inviting you and your colleagues to the 2019 Little Theatre Guild Northern Conference to be held at Nantwich Players Theatre from Friday 25th until Sunday 27th October 2019.

We are very proud to be this year's Northern Area 'All England Theatre Festival' winners, so we have chosen "The Art of Theatre Excellence" as our conference theme to share our experiences and lessons learned with you. For the event, we have three workshops; a Main Stage full length production; a Studio 1 Act; key-note speaker Professor Ray Johnson MBE, and plenty of time to chat with colleagues of course. We also have a partners' afternoon programme during Saturday's LTG AGM. All for a delegate fee of £8.50.

Nantwich is known for having one of the highest concentrations of listed buildings in England with particularly good examples of Tudor and Georgian architecture just a short distance from our Theatre, itself built in 1683, for you to explore. Whether you join us just for the Saturday, or for the whole event, we are sure that you will have an enjoyable time.

We'll be presenting 'Swallow', Stef Smith's dark but sparkling three-hander from our Studio team on Friday evening after supper in the theatre, and the 2014 Olivier Comedy Award 'Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense' by the Goodale Brothers from our Main Stage team on Saturday evening, both with 'meet the cast' in the bar until closing time afterwards.

We offer a combination of food options on-site and in the town and we are presenting two workshops, twice, for all to attend on Saturday; Robert Meadows GoDA (adjudicator of the 2019 UK Theatre Festival finals) outlining what adjudicators are trained to look out for; and Jess Curtis (set and costume designer nominated for the 2018 UK Design Award) describing how professional theatre designers get 'from page to stage'. The Sunday morning workshop is led by our own award-winner, Beth Froud, exploring character development and we have guest speaker Graham Dodd with an illustrated theatre & cinema talk as an alternative.

Please return your registration to the address below by the end of September. We look forward to welcoming you to our theatre.

Jeremy Acklam, Chairman Nantwich Players Theatre



LTG Northern Conference 2019 Agenda

“The Art of Theatre Excellence”

- Friday 25th October**
- 6.00pm **Registration & Welcome Drink** at The Players Theatre, Love Lane, Nantwich CW5 5BH (*free car parking from 6pm*)
- 7.30pm **Hot Supper** served at the Theatre (*dietary options available*)
- 8.45pm **‘Swallow’** 1 Act by Nantwich Players Studio team followed by Meet the Cast
- 11.00pm Bar Closes
- Saturday 26th**
- 9.00am **Theatre Tours & Refreshments** (*please arrive before 0915 if parking*)
- 9.45am **Conference Welcome** - Jeremy Acklam, Chairman of Nantwich Players
- 10.00am **Workshops** (*rotation 1, allocated places for all*)
Interval with Refreshments & Home-made cakes
- 11.20am **Workshops** (*rotation 2, allocated places for all*)
- 12.30pm **Buffet Lunch** (*dietary options available*) with Bar service & Tea/Coffee
- 1.45pm **LTG AGM and Open Forum**
For those not attending the AGM, we have a Walking Tour of Nantwich and a Museum Visit arranged
Followed by free time to explore Nantwich
- 5.15pm Meet at the Theatre for 5 minute walk to Dinner
- 5.30pm **Dinner** at Nantwich’s premier Italian Restaurant, Romazzino’s (*dietary options available*)
- 7.45pm **‘Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense’** by Nantwich Players Main Stage team (*20min interval*) followed by Meet the Cast
- 11.00pm Bar Closes
- Sunday 27th**
- 9.15am **Theatre Tours & Refreshments**
- 10.00am **Characterisation Workshop** (*limited to first 16 applicants*)
- 10.00am **Cinemas & Theatres of Nantwich by Graham Dodd**
Interval with Refreshments & Home-made cakes
- 11.30am **Keynote Speaker Professor Ray Johnson MBE**
- 12.15pm **Conference Wrap-Up** (*Refreshments & Home-made cakes*)

For those wishing to stay for lunch, we have a number of local venues.



LTG Northern Conference 2019 Workshops & Speakers

Saturday “Adjudicators...what do they know!”

Robert Meadows GoDA with our artistic director Garth Jones. An opportunity to learn what GoDA adjudicators are trained to look for when adjudicating competitive festivals. Robert has adjudicated over 50 festivals across the UK and beyond. He has worked professionally as a writer and director for many community theatre plays, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and the Arts Council. He is well known to theatre groups in the North West and is well respected for the quality of his adjudications.

Saturday “From page to stage – my basic process as a designer”

Jess Curtis (nominated for the UK Design Award in 2018) trained at the Motley Theatre Design Course and is a set and costume designer for Theatre, Opera and Ballet. Recent work for Hampstead Theatre, The Orange Tree Theatre, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Royal & Derngate, National Theatre, Liverpool Everyman and many more. Jess also designed the Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre (Chester) and for Storyhouse “A Little Night Music”, “The Crucible” and “A Little Shop of Horrors”.

Sunday Morning Workshop and Talk

Working with a script – Devising a scene. Led by Nantwich Players member Bethany Froud we will spend time looking at a script, how we develop characters when you are given only the words to guide you. No stage directions, no setting and no context. This will be done by study, discussion and improvisation. Bethany has been involved in drama and performing arts for over 35 years. An actor, singer, director and choreographer in many productions from large scale musicals to studio productions. Numbers will be limited to 16 and allocated on a first come first served basis.

For those not attending the workshop, Graham Dodd will give an illustrated talk on the cinemas and theatres in Nantwich – you will be surprised at just how many we once had! Graham has given his interesting presentation to many organisations including the local branch of The National Trust.

Sunday Keynote Speaker Professor Ray Johnson MBE

A long service member of Equity, Ray’s many theatre credits include productions in the West End and at major provincial theatres. He has toured solo plays around the UK, was co-producer for Big One Productions and won a Fringe First award at the Edinburgh Festival. In addition, his television appearances include The Royal Variety Performance, he has worked on BBC Radios 2 and 4. He has also produced film sequences for Sadler’s Wells and other professional theatres. He is Emeritus Professor of Film Heritage and Documentary at Staffordshire University, President of the North Staffs Drama Association, Vice-President of the Arnold Bennett Society, Director of the Media Archive for Central England, Director of Staffordshire Film Archive and a Fellow of the Film and Video Institute.



LTG Northern Conference 2019 Map



Nantwich Players Theatre, One Love Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 5BH Registered Charity 510853
Box Office: 01270 600727 Theatre: 01270 624556

www.nantwichplayers.com info@nantwichplayers.com @NantwichPlayers facebook.com/Nantwich.Players



LTG Northern Conference 2019 Accommodation & Travel

Accommodation

Airbnb app/website: There are more than 20 Airbnb locations in Nantwich itself and around 200 within a 5 mile radius.

Crown Hotel – 01270 625283. The hotel has a small free car park for guests - 5 minutes walk.

The Red Cow – 01270 628581. Also has a small car park - 5 minutes walk.

www.bedandbreakfast-directory.co.uk

Premier Inn Nantwich (online booking) – 10 minutes by car.

Premier Inn Crewe West (online booking) – 10 minutes by car.

Travelling

Nantwich has a rail service 7 days per week, to and from Manchester/Shrewsbury, but for most destinations, change at Crewe. Additionally, a number 85 bus or taxi service is available at Crewe. Check National rail/Trainline.

Car parking in Nantwich is free after 6pm and on Sundays, pay and display at other times. The Love Lane all-day car park by the theatre is busy on a Saturday and arriving early will avoid the need to queue. Three electric car charging points are available in the car park. Please note that if you park in the nearby Morrisons store carpark, there is a strict 1.5 hour limit and central Nantwich car parks generally have a 30min to 2 hour limit. If you cannot find a space at Love Lane, the largest car park is 10 minutes walk away at the Swimming Baths, Snow Hill, where spaces are always available.

Lost?

Call us on 01270 624556



LTG Northern Conference 2019 Registration Form

Please return this form to us to the address below, by the end of September 2019

In registering for the event, you agree to the personal data you submit being managed electronically by Nantwich Players for the purposes of the LTG Northern Conference 2019 and for that data to be used by us in order to manage your attendance and to contact you.

Your Name _____

Your Theatre Name _____

Position in Theatre _____

Home Address _____

Contact Phone No. _____

Confirmation Email _____

Please circle your theatre interests Directing; Acting; Properties; Set Building and Design; Lighting; Sound; Stage Management; Theatre Management; Costume; Make-up; FoH; Other :

Any dietary requirements? _____

I would like to attend the Sunday morning Characterisation workshop (please tick, limited to first 16)

BOOKING		Price	Confirm	Total	All-in
Delegate fee	Workshops, 1 Act Play, Full Length Play, AGM, Tours, Talks, Keynote, Tea & Coffee	£8.50	✓	£8.50	£8.50
Friday Supper food option	Hotpot / Dietary alternatives	£8.75		£	£8.75
Saturday Lunch food option	Buffet / Dietary alternatives	£6.50		£	£6.50
Saturday Dinner food option	Italian 2 Course / Dietary alternatives	£17.50		£	£17.50
<i>Please enclose a cheque payable to 'Nantwich Players' for :</i>				£	£41.25

For questions and assistance with registration, please call John Powell on 01606 833645 or email him on john.powell485@btinternet.com . **Please send your registration, marked 'LTG', to Nantwich Players Theatre, One Love Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 5BH**