

LTG National Conference and AGM
Sutton Arts Theatre, Sutton Coldfield
Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 June 2024



Workshops and Keynote Speaker

All delegates will attend each session, so no choice is required.

Ruth Eastwood – Theatres Trust

We are delighted that Theatres Trust Theatres Advisor will speak to us at the Conference. Ruth will explain her role at Theatres Trust and explain to delegates more about the Grant making schemes that Theatres Trust administer. Ruth provides advice on the effective operation of theatres, including fundraising and viability, and manages our capital grant schemes.

Ruth's background is in theatre management. As Chief Executive of Blackpool Grand, the Curve Leicester and the Lighthouse Poole, she has experience of producing, touring and presenting theatre as well as new-build, refurbishment and heritage capital developments.

In addition to her knowledge of theatre buildings and operations, Ruth is a licensed practitioner in Organisational Development and a Chartered Director of the Institute of Directors. She studied English Literature at Sheffield University before co-founding her own professional theatre company, Splash, then working for Hull Truck, the Royal National Theatre, Bradford Theatres and as Head of Arts and Culture for Darlington Borough Council. Ruth joined the Theatres Trust in February 2024.

Going Dark Theatrical Services

Jack and Dave are local to Sutton Arts and have worked closely with them on the production we will see, *Bonnie & Clyde*. They have lit many shows for multiple companies across the West Midlands. In their session they will share their approach on lighting a show from initial design and the benefits of using LED lighting for the stage.

Jack is a freelance technician who works across many theatres and venues in Birmingham. He has a sound knowledge of theatrical sound and lighting including EOS desks and software. Dave is a teacher in a West Midlands Secondary School and has a number of years' experience in designing lighting for youth and dance shows plus many adult amateur dramatic organisations. *Going Dark* has been formed due to the fabulous feedback received from many companies that Jack and Dave have worked on and volunteered for together.

Jonathan Owen – Keynote Speaker

To round off the conference in style, we are very pleased that the actor, director and legendary pantomime dame will address us on the Sunday morning. Jonathan is well-known at Sutton Arts and he wrote the play *Teapots and Superglue* with which Sutton Arts Theatre has just completed a very successful production. His theatrical experience is enormous, here is just the tip of the iceberg! Appearances in the West End include *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *Call Me Madam*; *Singin' in the Rain*; *Ziegfeld*; and *Having A Ball*.

Performances in the provinces include: *Pseudolus in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; Charles Condomine in *Blythe Spirit*; Mrs Swabb in *Habeas Corpus*. Also tours of *Charlie Girl*; *Some Like It Hot*; and *Singin' In The Rain* which also went to Tokyo.

Jonathan's television and radio appearances are extensive and include playing: Terry Barford in *The Archers* for 10 years; Peter Nuttal in the series *Triangle*; and appearances in *Oliver Twist*; *Heartbeat*; *Emmerdale*; and *Coronation Street*.

Jonathan originally trained as a music and drama teacher at Saint Peters College, faculty of education at Birmingham University. He has examined worldwide for Trinity College, London, and adjudicated for the British and international Speech Festival Association.