



Stoke-on-Trent
Repertory
Theatre

£1

The Graduate

A PLAY ADAPTED BY **Terry Johnson**

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY **Charles Webb**

AND THE MOTION PICTURE SCREENPLAY BY
Calder Willingham & Buck Henry

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH **StudioCanal**

22nd to 27th June 2009

at 7.30pm

Saturday matinee 2.30pm

Welcome

Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre is supported and run by volunteers who regularly give up their time and without whom we could not deliver the standard of production and customer service which our patrons have come to expect. Some of these people you will encounter tonight, others fulfil a less visible, but, no less, vital role.

Backstage Crew, Front-of-House, Bar and Coffee Bar, Members, Friends, Young Rep and all other helpers - we are deeply indebted to everyone involved - **Thank You.**

Some information which you may find helpful:

The Bar is open from 6.45 until 11.00pm on performance evenings and drinking-up time is 20 minutes afterwards.

Coffee, tea and confectionery are available in the foyer from 6.45.

All interval refreshments may be ordered before the performance to avoid queuing later.

The car park is open from 6.30. until 11.00pm on performance evenings; overspill parking is available in the Staffordshire University car park further along Leek Road.

Neither the Rep nor Staffordshire University can accept responsibility for damage to, or loss of vehicles.

Please note that smoking is not allowed in any part of the theatre building.

We hope that you enjoy your evening with us.



PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOBILE PHONES ARE SWITCHED OFF DURING THE PERFORMANCE.

Booking Information

Our box office is open from the Monday preceding each Rep production through until the last night of the show from 5.00 to 8.00pm.

Tel: 01782 209784

Book tickets during opening hours from Music Mania, 4/5/ Piccadilly Arcade, Hanley.

Tel: 01782 206000

Why not join our free MAILING LIST ?

Simply complete a mailing list form, available in the bar and leave in the box situated at the Box Office.

www.stokerep.org.uk

Find out 'What's On' and 'What's News' by visiting the Rep's website.

Information about current and forthcoming productions, shows, concerts and activities is available at the click of a mouse.

Join our emailing list by registering at **howard.goodall@stokerep.org.uk**

Thank You

As always, we are indebted to the St John Ambulance Brigade, whose members voluntarily attend all our performances.

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Spotlight

Lucy Bryan:

Who am I? An ambitious jobs worth? Little Red Riding Hood? A fundamental Christian? A psychotic cake poisoner? A spirited dreamer? Well, you could say I'm all of them. They are a few of the parts I've played over the years.

Like many children, my first taste of the theatre started with an appearance as Mary in the school Nativity Play (a part I believe I got because I informed the teacher that I had a doll who would like to play the Baby Jesus!) and yearly trips to the local pantomime. It was nurtured in various school plays (the highlight being an opportunity to perform a monologue written by my Grandmother about her experiences in Swynnerton's Munitions Factory during the War, as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of VE Day.), the New Vic Youth Theatre, and dancing shows with Jill Clewes Dance Studios.

These experiences have helped to foster a life long passion for the stage. The opportunity to be someone else, even for just a short time, is irresistible and the adrenaline you feel on stage ever more addictive.

I joined the Newcastle Players at the age of sixteen and through them gained experience in all aspects of theatre production: prompting, properties, costume, front of house etc. Of course, I have also taken parts with them, most recently as Liz in *Billy Liar* and Annelle in *Steel Magnolias*.

In August 2008, I attended the NODA Summer School on the Acting Skills course. This was an intense and exhilarating week spent studying The Method, the Meisner Technique and Alexander Technique. We also studied scenes from *Blood Wedding* by Federico García Lorca and *The Three Sisters* by Chekhov, enabling us to apply everything we'd learnt over the week to the text.

I joined the Rep nearly two years ago and last year took part in my first production – as the ruthless Jean in *Separate Tables*. I can also be found behind the bar or in the box office.

I hope you enjoy tonight's performance of *The Graduate*. The Rep is a wonderful and welcoming theatre that has seen some astonishing performances over the years and this will, no doubt, continue for many years to come.

The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Mr Braddock:	Craig Wood
Benjamin: (his son)	Oliver Davies
Mr Robinson: (Elaine's father)	Kevin Wyse
Mrs Braddock: (Benjamin's mother)	Kim Parkes
Mrs Robinson: (Elaine's mother)	Elaine Sawyer
Hotel clerk:	Richard Morrey
Elaine:	Ella Sawyer
Stripper:	Stephanie Byatt
Psychiatrist:	Chris Salisbury
Priest:	Richard Morrey
Additional parts played by members of the cast.	

**The play is set in California
in 1963**

**There will be a twenty minute interval
between Act One and Act Two**

**Thank you to
Stoke on Trent College
for the loan of rehearsal facilities.**

Synopsis of Scenes

Act 1

- SCENE 1: Benjamin's bedroom. Evening
SCENE 2: The same. Early morning eight days later.
SCENE 3: Reception of the Taft Hotel.
SCENE 4: Room 515 the Taft Hotel.
SCENE 5: The same.
SCENE 6: The Club Renaissance.
SCENE 7: The Robinsons' living room.
SCENE 8: The same. Later.
SCENE 9: The Braddocks' front lawn.

Act 2

- SCENE 1: Attic room. Berkeley Boarding House.
SCENE 2: The same. Morning.
SCENE 3: A psychiatrist's study
SCENE 4: The vestry. First Presbyterian Church.
SCENE 5: A hotel room somewhere in Nevada

The Crew

Director:	Charles Bartholomew
Assistant Director:	Jane Feeney
Stage Director:	Richard Masters
Set Designer:	Rob Pointon
Set Graphics painted by:	Rob Pointon
Stage Manager:	Jamie Wood
Construction Manager:	Bill Hancock
Set construction:	Mike Adams, John Beeston, Bill Hancock, Peter Logan, Richard Masters, Jamie Wood
Flying Mechanism Operator:	Peter Logan
Lighting Design & Operation:	Malcolm Rushton
Sound Design & Operation:	Paul Jones
Movement Choreographer:	Emily Bower
Set Dressing & Props:	Margo Bloor, Emma Kirk
Costumes:	Jo Brindley
Programme Design:	Janet Smith
Company Photographer:	Peter Croft

KEN LOWE

Ken's death on Sunday, May 17th 2009 marked the end of a period of outstanding service to the theatre, which began in the 1950s on his return to the district following university and national service and which continued throughout his career as Head of English at Longton High School, Senior Tutor and later Vice-Principal at Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College and Headmaster of Trentham High School.

During this time, he became a central and crucial figure in the Rep's artistic development and future planning because he had both the talent and the overall vision to realise the full potential which the theatre offers both to its members and the wider North Staffordshire community. Because commitment, meticulous attention to detail and flair characterised everything he undertook for the Rep, he was not only elected to Life Membership but he will also be remembered as a major figure in its history. The scope of his achievements indicates the validity of this judgement.

As an actor, he tackled leading roles with a combination of creativity, imagination and discipline and his preparation was a model of thoroughness. He had a firm belief that players owed writers the courtesy of learning the words that they wrote and not a sketchy approximation thereof. He was equally comfortable as Hamlet or Othello but had the range to be equally successful as Willy Mossop in *Hobson's Choice*, Badger in *The Wind in the Willows*, a homicidal maniac in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, the ultimate hypocrite in *Tartuffe* or the sadly inadequate Major in *Separate Tables*.

The qualities which made him an accomplished actor transferred effortlessly to his work as a director, where he had the knack of making classical writing for the theatre easily accessible to both audiences and players through the clarity of his interpretation and his own feeling for the power and joy of language. Large scale and cast productions saw him revelling in the challenge posed to all involved, typified by *Don Carlos* and *Much Ado* – his last productions for the Rep.

The less publicised aspects of his work for the theatre were equally vital to its successful operation. Many members are blissfully unaware of the hours he dedicated to committee work, planning, correspondence, dealing with outside agencies. He also featured on the bar rota and as a member of the box office team in recent years and ill health was not allowed to deter him from attending meetings of the Theatre Council and the Players' Executive Committee.

We honour his memory, give grateful thanks for all that he has accomplished for the Rep and adapt a Shakespearian line to read:

"This was our Ken – when comes such another?"

At the moment, that question is answered by a line from Hamlet - "The rest is silence."

Peter Dutton

Artist in the Gallery

Rachel Grant:

Rachel is a textile artist whose practice explores the link between heritage and identity.

In this, her most recent collection of mixed media artworks, she examines the charm of aged buildings, often described as being full of 'character'.

Rachel's distinctive style involves the layering of paint, collage, machine stitch and print onto stretched canvas. These multiple layers evoke a sense of history and hint at the stories that lay quietly within the walls of the depicted homes.

The Rep would like to thank Rachel for the loan of her work.

Gordon Toon, Exhibition Manager



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or e-mail: howardandmareethorpe@googlemail.com

www.alsagercommunitytheatre.org.uk

Do you know a local group who needs to raise money?

If so, then the Rep may be able to help.

For many years now the Rep has operated a Fundraising Night Scheme whereby local charities and groups (large and very, very small) have been able to link in their fundraising with a night out at the Rep.

We are currently working on our Fundraising Night programme for next season, so if you would like to find out more about how we can help you to raise money, please contact our **Front of House Director, Nick Bailey** by either writing to him: **c / o**
The Box Office,

Stoke Rep, Leek Rd., Stoke-on-Trent, ST 2TR,
or call him on tel no 07812414625

Stoke on Trent Repertory Theatre

The Young Rep

presents

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Deciding to take a short cut through Dragonscar Woods, George is ambushed by Le Moo, a bandit with delusions of grandeur and an inept gang of followers. Recovering from the attack, but now minus the tax money, George is befriended by young Spud and baby dragon, Dave. Leaving Dave safe in the woods, George and Spud travel on to Bigg City where they discover that the citizens are being squeezed by high taxes to fund the sumptuous lifestyle of their corrupt leader, Baroness Bertha. Having tried every trick in the tax-book, Bertha hits on a new way to extort even more money from her subjects - Dragon Tax, which is when everyone's problems *really* start, because you know how it is with dragons, they're all cute and fluffy when they're little, but then they grow - and grow!!!

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