

Dear Friends,

After a wet winter and early spring, we are hoping for sunny days ahead and a summer of great theatre and Friends events. We hope you enjoyed Shakespeare's Birthday festivities last month, this year we held our annual Toast to Shakespeare in the Upper Circle Bar and we were joined by Ankur Bahl and Tony Gardner from the current *Love's Labour's Lost* company, as well as enjoying a reading from Daniel Evans.

Since our last newsletter, we have had delightful and entertaining speakers at our events: Raymond Coulthard in February and Mathew Baynton in March, both attracting a good number of Friends and guests. It has been particularly pleasing to see some younger people at these meetings – one who began a question to Mathew by saying 'I'm in Year 11' – not something we are used to hearing, but a very good sign of a future generation of Friends!

We'd now like to announce two new events, just one week apart – early booking is advised for both events.

Upcoming Friends Events

In Conversation: Daniel Evans

Stratford Methodist Church
Friday 28 June, 4pm

Many of you will have met Co-Artistic Director Tamara Harvey at our lunch in November which celebrated 40 years of the Friends. We are now delighted to announce that the other half of the Co-Artistic Director duo, Daniel Evans, is to be our guest in June.

Daniel spoke to the Friends in 2003 when he was appearing as a member of the acting Company in *Measure for Measure*, where he played Angelo, and *Cymbeline* in which he played Posthumus. We are thrilled that he has agreed to meet with us this June, the month which marks a year since Daniel and Tamara became Co-Artistic Directors of the RSC.

We're sure many of you will have questions you would like to ask Daniel, and this will be a good opportunity to do that.

Booking opens on Wednesday 15 May and closes on Wednesday 26 June

Tickets £6 Friends/Patrons, £7 Guests, £3 for under 25s



In Conversation: Alison Tanqueray

Stratford Methodist Church
Friday 5 July, 2pm

We know how interested everyone is to know what goes on behind the scenes to bring productions to life, so we hope you will all be fascinated by our July speaker, Alison Tanqueray. Alison is Head of Prop Buying for the RSC so she will be telling us about her work – a first for the Friends to hear about this part of such a vital department.

Please note earlier than usual start time for this event.

Booking opens Wednesday 15 May and closes on Wednesday 3 July

Tickets £6 Friends/Patrons, £7 Guests, £3 for under 25s

**TICKETS FOR THE ABOVE EVENTS CAN BE BOOKED ONLINE OR BY CONTACTING THE RSC BOX OFFICE ON
- 01789 331111**



Coffee Afternoon

Riverside Cafe, Royal Shakespeare Theatre
Tuesday 30 July, 2.30pm – 4pm

Penny and Valerie will once again be in the Riverside Cafe (maybe even outside it if the weather is good) and will be pleased to meet any Friends who turn up for a chat. No need to book – just get yourself a drink and come and sit with us. Please introduce yourself if you are new.

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