

Dear Friends,

In Stratford we are looking forward to the new plays starting in September, *Henry V* and *Hecuba*, and *Love for Love* in October. These plays will be enhanced for you by the events below.

In 2016 we can also look forward to celebrating Shakespeare's continuing legacy in the 400th anniversary of his death. Following the greatly enjoyed day with Jane Austen in Hampshire, we aim to do four literary and artistic houses in the south: Virginia Woolf, Vanessa Bell, Kipling and Vita Sackville West, ticket to include coach travel from Stratford, overnight accommodation and a commemorative dinner with speaker. We are planning this event for April 15-16. Booking details will be in the December newsletter.

The dog walk continues in Stratford on the third Wednesday of the month, meet outside the Butterfly farm at 10am, with or without your dog. It's gentle walking, and coffee at the end!

All good wishes
Coreen Turner

RSC Friends Coordinator | new email address: coreenturner@btinternet.com | 01789 268775

A note from Penny Kirkwood, Stratford Organiser:

I would like to say how very touched I was to receive a surprise gift at our recent meeting with Henry Goodman, marking my 20 years as Organiser of Friends' events in Stratford. Thanks to all concerned and to Henry for his kind words on the work of the Friends.

Forthcoming Friends' Events

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



Alex Hassell
Friday 9 October, 4pm
Holy Trinity Parish Centre

Over the past few years, Alex Hassell has appeared in several RSC productions but this is the first time we will have him as our guest. After a memorable Prince Hal, Alex now returns in the title role in *Henry V* before going on to be part of the *King & Country* season at the Barbican. We are very grateful that he has agreed to be our guest at a time when he will be rehearsing *Henry IV Parts I & II* during the day and playing *Henry V* in the evening. As well as other acting credits, Alex is a Founding Artistic Director of the Factory Theatre so this promises to be a very interesting event.

Booking opens on Thursday 24 September and closes at 4pm on Wednesday 7 October
Tickets: £6 Friends/£7 Guests (one per Friend)/£2.50 under 18s and RSC Key Members



Selina Cadell
Friday 6 November, 4pm
Holy Trinity Parish Centre

Selina Cadell has had an extensive acting career on stage and screen, appearing in many very popular television series, notably as Mrs Tishell, the pharmacist hopelessly in love with the character played by Martin Clunes in *Doc Martin*. We are thrilled that she will be making her RSC directorial debut with Congreve's *Love for Love* in the Swan Theatre this season and delighted that she has agreed to speak to us.

Tickets: £6 Friends/£7 Guests (one per Friend)/£2.50 under 18s and RSC Key Members. Booking opens on Thursday 24 September and closes at 4pm on Wednesday 4 November



Christmas Tea Party
Saturday 12 December, 5pm
Upper Circle Bar, RSC

At the beginning of July we were asked when our tea party would take place as the RSC wanted to make sure the Christmas trees would be up in time for it - a kind thought which led to making arrangements, ordering mince pies in the heat of summer!

Please join us again this year for a delicious afternoon tea to which all members of the Acting Company will be invited. A great time to chat with other Friends and guests and there will, of course, be a raffle to boost the funds which we are able to use to help the Company.

Tickets: £11 Friends/£13 Guests (one per Friend)
Booking opens on Thursday 24 September closes at 5pm on Monday 7 December

Coming up...

There is an event planned for November in **Newcastle-upon-Tyne**, a visit from the **RSC Costume Department**. Details for this event are still being finalised, but will be shared by email nearer the time. If you do not receive RSC Friends emails, please visit www.rsc.org.uk/myrsc, log in and update your Contact Preferences.

To book for any of the above events please call your Members' Ticket Hotline or **01789 403493**, book online at **www.rsc.org.uk/friends** or book in person at the Box Office.

After the booking closing dates, it is sometimes possible to buy tickets on the door in cash.
Please contact your local organiser for details.

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Stratford Organiser | **Valerie Thompson** | 01789 204381 | valerie.thompson123@btinternet.com
Newcastle Organiser | **Yvonne Richardson** | 0191 4880947 | ym.richardson@btinternet.com