

ST - THE UNEXPECTED GUEST - THE U OF ORDER - OUT OF ORDER - OUT OF O EN-THE RAILWAY CHILDREN-THE R OOSTER - JEEVES & WOOSTER - JEEV OCKINGS - BLUE STOCKINGS - BLUE S THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE . T RESSURE · PRESSURE · PRESSURE · P RFIELD-DAVID COPPERFIELD - DAVID C

2019–2020 SEASON
THE MILLER CENTRE THEATRE, CATERHAM











Welcome to The Miller Centre Theatre **2019 – 2020 Season**

They say that variety is the spice of life and our 2019/20 season certainly has plenty of that! Comedy, drama, history and mystery.

We start the season in September with our first ever Agatha Christie, **The Unexpected Guest** (many of her books have been adapted for stage, but this is one of the few originally written as a play) — but can you guess whodunnit before Inspector Cadwallader?

We have three comedies across the year, starting with **Out of Order** in October, a farce about an MP who is just trying to have a nice night in a Westminster hotel with his lover from the opposition, without any interruptions from his secretary, the hotel manager, a dead body or anyone else.

If the words "My Daddy! Oh my Daddy!" have ever stirred your heartstrings, then do join us for a wonderful adaptation of the old favourite **The Railway Children** in December. Bring the family for a pre-Christmas theatrical treat.

In 2020 we start with the joyfully daft Jeeves & Wooster in Perfect Nonsense, where a small multi-roling cast will hurtle through a multitude of silly-named characters, from posh toffs to interfering aunts to dastardly criminals in a tale narrated by the charmingly thick Bertie Wooster himself. The perfect antidote to January blues!

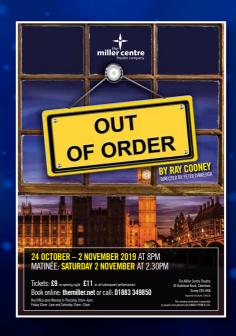
In February we take you back to 1896 and the story of the female Cambridge University students, "the Girton girls" who fought for their right to graduate along with their male peers. **Blue Stockings** balances history with humour in this wonderful play by Jessica Swale.

In March we bring you the debut play of the award-winning playwright, screenwriter and director Martin McDonagh, The Beauty Queen of Leenane, a black comedy which is as sinister as it is funny, and has had several successful runs both in London and on Broadway.

May 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of VE Day, so it seemed a fitting time to stage David Haig's newest play **Pressure**, which dramatises the events running up to D-Day. General Eisenhower has command of every minute detail ahead of the Allied invasion... except for one thing: the weather. But whose forecast should he trust?

Finally we round off the season with Charles Dickens' most autobiographical story, **David Copperfield**. Alastair Cording's imaginative adaptation takes us from David's humble beginnings, through hard times, heartbreak and betrayal, to friendship, vindication and love. We will also be taking this production down to the Minack Theatre in Cornwall (27–31 July 2020).





19 – 28 September 2019 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 28 Sept at 2.30pm

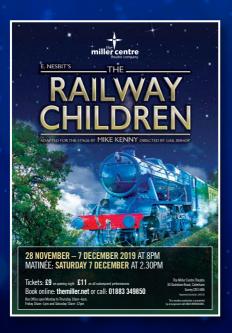
Booking opens: **Members – 10 June 2019** (postal only) **Public – 1 August 2019** (online)

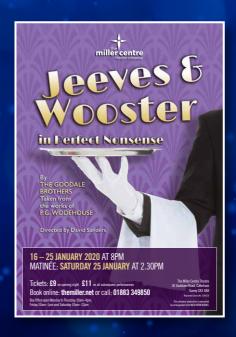
Lost in the fog, a stranger seeks refuge in a nearby house only to find a man shot dead and his wife standing over him with a smoking gun. But the woman's dazed confession is anything but convincing and the unexpected guest decides to help. Remarkably, the police clues point to a man who died two years previously... but as the ghosts of a past wrong begin to emerge, a tangled web of lies reveals family secrets and chilling motives, where the real murderer turns out to be the greatest mystery of all...

24 October – 2 November 2019 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 2 Nov at 2.30pm

Booking opens: Members – 15 July 2019 (postal only) Public – 1 August 2019 (online)

When Richard Willey, a government junior minister, plans to spend the evening with Jane Worthington, one of the opposition's typists, things go disastrously wrong. Add in a persistent hotel manager, a dead body which keeps turning up at inopportune moments, and a troublesome window frame, and you have all the elements of a classic farce.





28 November – 7 December 2019 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 7 Dec at 2.30pm

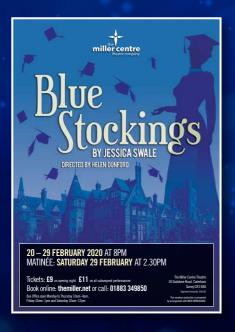
Booking opens: Members – 2 September 2019 Public – 16 September 2019

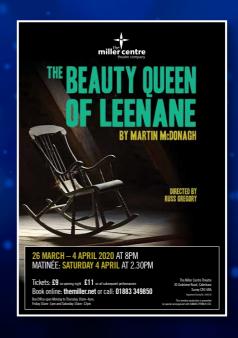
Mike Kenny's imaginative adaptation was first staged at the National Railway Museum in York, and then at London Waterloo. Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis have their affluent Edwardian lives turned upside down when their father is accused of espionage and taken away by police and dwindling finances force the family to move to a rural village in the North of England. After the initial culture shock, they soon befriend the locals. But with little money and nothing to do, the children spend their days waving at trains bound for London to "send their love to Father". When a kindly old gentleman waves back, their fortunes begin to change...

16 – 25 January 2020 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 25 Jan at 2.30pm

Booking opens: Members – 16 September 2019 Public – 30 September 2019

An inventive, fast-paced comedy featuring P.G. Wodehouse's iconic double act. When a country house weekend takes a turn for the worse, Bertie Wooster is unwittingly called on to play matchmaker — reconciling the affections of his host's drippy daughter Madeline Bassett with his newt-fancying acquaintance Gussie Fink-Nottle. If Bertie, ably assisted by the everdependable Jeeves, can't pull off the wedding of the season he'll be forced to abandon his cherished bachelor status and marry the ghastly girl himself! Winner of the 2014 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy.





20 – 29 February 2020 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 29 Feb at 2.30pm

Booking opens: Members – 28 October 2019 Public – 11 November 2019

1896. Girton College, Cambridge, the first college in Britain to admit women. The Girton girls study ferociously and match their male peers grade for grade, yet they are not allowed to graduate. Their male counterparts finish with degrees, while the girls leave with nothing but the stigma of being a 'blue stocking' - a highly educated but unmarriageable woman. Tess Moffat and her fellow first years are determined to win the right to graduate. But little do they anticipate the hurdles in their way: the distractions of love, the cruelty of the class divide, or the strength of the opposition who will do anything to stop them.

26 March – 4 April 2020 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 4 April at 2.30pm

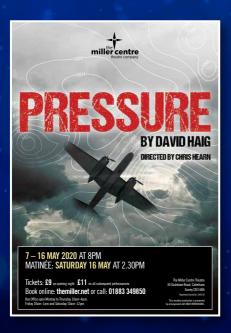
Booking opens:

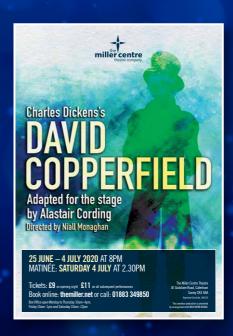
Members — 2 December 2019

Public — 16 December 2019

A darkly humorous play from the award-winning playwright, screenwriter and director, Martin McDonagh (In Bruges and Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri). Set in the mountains of Connemara, County Galway, McDonagh's debut play tells the tale of Maureen Folan, a plain and lonely spinster in her early forties, and Mag her devilishly manipulative ageing mother whose interference in Maureen's first - and potentially last - loving relationship sets in motion a train of events that is as funny as it is unsettling. Maureen might long for the romance that will spirit her away, but if she goes, who will stir the lumps out of Mag's Complan?

Please note: contains strong language and violence.





7 – 16 May 2020 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 16 May at 2.30pm

Booking opens: Members – 20 January 2020 Public – 3 February 2020

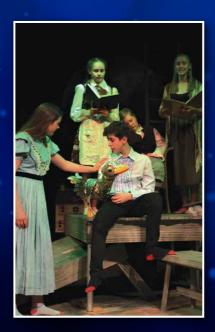
June 1944. Everything is in place for the biggest invasion ever known in Europe — D-Day. But one last crucial factor remains: the weather. American celebrity weatherman Colonel Krick predicts sunshine, while Scotsman Dr James Stagg, Chief Meteorological Officer for the Allied Forces, forecasts a storm. General Eisenhower, Allied Supreme Commander, knows the decision will not only seal the fates of thousands of men, but could win or lose the entire war: so which of these rival experts should he trust? This play has been chosen to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May 2020.

25 June – 4 July 2020 at 8pm Matinée: Saturday 4 July at 2.30pm

Booking opens: Members – 23 March 2020 Public – 6 April 2020

One of Dickens's most autobiographical stories. beautifully dramatised by Alastair Cording while retaining all the drama and humour of the original book. David Copperfield has a happy childhood until his widowed mother remarries the severe Mr Murdstone. When Mrs Copperfield dies, young David must make his way in London and lodges with Mr Wickfield, a lawyer, and befriends his gentle daughter, Agnes. David becomes infatuated with the sweet Dora Spenlow, but as they discover, it takes more than love to make a marriage last. Along the way we meet many of Dickens's marvellous creations: the caring Clara Peggotty, the jolly Micawber family, the sinister Uriah Heep, and David's eccentric aunt, Betsey Trotwood. By the end justice is served, the innocent reprieved, and loving devotion reciprocated and rewarded.





17 – 18 July 2020 7.30pm Friday; 2.30pm & 7.30pm Saturday

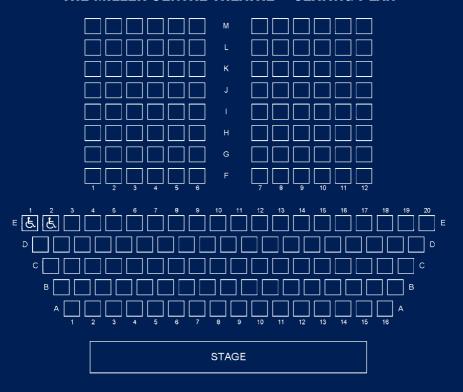
Booking opens: Members – 5 May 2020 Public – 18 May 2020

The Miller Centre Young Players round off the season with a production — under wraps at the present time — that will delight audiences of all ages. Keep an eye on the website and other publicity for details of the Young Players 2020 Production, later on in the season.





THE MILLER CENTRE THEATRE — SEATING PLAN





COMFORTABLE SEATS

RAKED SEATING IN ROWS F-M

AIR CONDITIONED

SURROUND SOUND SYSTEM

LICENSED BAR FOR PRE-THEATRE And interval drinks

ICE CREAMS, TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE DURING THE INTERVAL

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

INDUCTION LOOP SYSTEM

LATE ENTRY TO SHOW

Our performances start promptly at the time published on the ticket. Latecomers may have to wait for a convenient time to enter the auditorium, and for some productions this may be at the Interval. Please aim to arrive at least 15 minutes before the performance time and join other theatregoers for a chat, or have a drink in our fully licensed bar.

AUDITION DATES

THE UNEXPECTED GUEST Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 7 May 2019 **Audition:**

2pm, Saturday 26 May 2019

OUT OF ORDER

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 14 May 2019

Audition: 2pm, Sunday 2 June 2019

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 11 June 2019
Audition:

2pm, Sunday 7 July 2019

JEEVES & WOOSTER

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 18 June 2019

Audition:

2pm, Sunday 14 July 2019

BLUE STOCKINGS

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 10 September 2019 **Audition:**

2pm, Sunday 29 September 2019

THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 15 October 2019

Audition:

2pm, Sunday 3 November 2019

PRESSURE

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 19 November 2019

Audition:

2pm, Sunday 8 December 2019

DAVID COPPERFIELD

Play reading:

8pm, Tuesday 12 November 2019

Audition:

2pm, Sunday 1 December 2019

GET INVOLVED

Putting on a season of ten plays a year takes a lot of effort and a veritable army of dedicated volunteer helpers. We welcome all newcomers.

If you fancy the acting side of things, then please feel free to come to one of the play readings or auditions listed on the left. These are open readings and auditions and so anyone can attend. However, you will be expected to sign up as a member if you do go on to be involved in one of our productions.

If treading the boards is not for you, then rest assured there are plenty of other ways to get involved including set design, building and painting, wardrobe, lighting, sound, props, stage management and front-of-house.

Finally, don't let a lack of experience put you off. We welcome newcomers getting involved and you'll learn as you go (with some initial guidance of course). Email: backstage@millercentretheatre.org













Production photos by: Gail Bishop, Keith Orton, Jan Kool and Chris Myers



FIND US

By car: Parking is available in the side roads around the Miller Centre. On performance nights (plays and films) free parking is available between 7pm and 11pm in the Croudace Homes Group car park in Tupwood Lane (from Godstone Road, turn into Tupwood Lane then first right through the gates).

By rail: We are close to Caterham station on the Southern Caterham branch from East Croydon and Purley. Change at East Croydon or Purley onto a train to Caterham Station.

By bus: Bus routes 400, 407, 409, 509 and 540 all serve Caterham. However all routes except for the 407 usually run to early evening only. Route 407 which runs from Sutton via Croydon and Purley operates until the early hours.

MILLER CENTRE YOUNG PLAYERS

The youth workshop runs children's theatre workshops for juniors and young adults aged between 8–19. To find out more contact Victoria Bovingdon on **07723 014 723** or email vbovingdon@hotmail.com. Their summer 2020 production takes place 17–18 July.

THE MILLER CENTRE COSTUME HIRE

We have a vast range of thousands of costumes for men, women and children to hire. We are open to the public every **Saturday morning 9.30am – 12noon** (returns by 11.30am please). For enquiries during opening hours, please call **01883 343944**.

BOX OFFICE

Call: 01883 349850 or book online: themiller.net

The Miller Centre Box Office is open Monday – Thursday 10am–4pm, Friday 10am–12noon, Saturdays 10am–12noon and every evening during the run of a play. Please note the Box Office is closed during August but booking is still available online.



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