

Audition notice: AFTER THE DANCE by Terence Rattigan

Auditions: Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th May at 7.30pm (just choose one evening to attend), William Morris Rooms, 267 The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1SD

Performances: Tuesday 16th to Saturday 20th August at 7:45pm plus matinee at 3:00pm on the Saturday all at the Studio at New Wimbledon Theatre, SW19 1QG

Rehearsals: must be available for most Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30pm from 1st June, plus some additional rehearsals nearer to production week, including all day on Sunday 14th August and all evening on Monday 15th August.

About the show

Be part of a production full of wonderful characters to bring to life by one of the great playwrights of the last century. Directed by Ben Clare (*Time and the Conways*).

As the world races towards catastrophe, a crowd of Mayfair socialites parties its way to oblivion. At its centre is David, who idles away his sober moments trying to write a book he can't seem to write, until the smart, stunning Helen decides to save him, shattering his marriage to the devoted and brilliant Joan. But with finances about to crash and the world on the brink of global conflict, the drink keeps flowing and the revellers dance on. Both funny and tragic in equal measure, this is a profound dissection of the depths of human emotion.

Terence Rattigan still holds the record of being the only playwright to have notched up more than 1000 performances for two separate plays: *French Without Tears* and *While The Sun Shines*. He is also the writer of *The Deep Blue Sea*, *The Winslow Boy* and *Flare Path*.

Note that the play features alcoholism and an instance of suicide.

Characters (with playing age for guidance)

DAVID SCOTT-FOWLER 38, a bright, talented writer who is stifled by not being able to fulfill his potential, although he and Joan are inseparable, he is beguiled by Helen.

JOAN SCOTT-FOWLER early 30s, smart, sharp, adores her husband David, very aware of his persistent drinking, but loves to party herself. Aware she might be losing him to the wilful Helen.

HELEN BANNER 20, sensible, confident, the generation below David, she is enamoured with David and is desperate to stop him drinking, confident that it will release his potential.

JOHN REID 37, matter of fact, amusing, gluttonous, and living off the goodwill of Joan and David.

PETER SCOTT-FOWLER 21, sincere, well-intentioned, David's younger brother. He's trying to help David by typing up his new book but struggling to keep him focused. He's also seeing Helen but aware she's distracted by David.

GEORGE BANNER 25, decent, timid, a recently qualified doctor, his sister Helen gets him to advise David he should stop drinking.

WILLIAMS 50s/60s, a butler, well-seasoned and used to the opulent lifestyle of the Scott Fowlers, who he's served for years.

JULIA 35, gossipy, pretentious, all over the place, a friend of the family.

CYRIL early 20s, cockney, quiet, quite possibly with Julia for her money.

MOYA mid/late 30s, a party animal, she has just returned from a retreat to recover from drug addiction, but is showing no signs of slowing down.

LAWRENCE mid/late 30s, self-centred, outspoken, with Moya at the party.

ARTHUR mid/late30s, Joan's first love - they almost got married. Unlike the others he's become sensible and running his own business. He has disdain for the way the others behave.

MISS POTTER, around 40, somewhat severe, plain-talking, becomes David's assistant.