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NOVEMBER 2023

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## “BEAUTY AND THE BEAST”

**25th—28th January 2024**

Director: Robert Chesterton and Sarah Truelove  
Choreographer: Victoria Field  
Musical Director: Hatty Phillips  
Producer: James Gallifant

Rehearsals have now been in full swing for our 2024 pantomime “Beauty and the Beast” and it is already shaping up to be a fantastic show.

Tickets are on sale and beginning to sell fast so book now to avoid disappointment.

Tickets are available, as usual, from our box office via the Players website:

[www.rotherfieldplayers.co.uk](http://www.rotherfieldplayers.co.uk)

Don't forget if you're keen to get involved backstage or Front of House please contact one of the production team.



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## “PACK OF LIES”

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16th—18th May 2024

Director: Derek Holland

We’re pleased to announce that Derek will be directing our spring 2024 production of “Pack of Lies” which is an intriguing drama set in the cold war. He has sent us the following background and cast information.

### Pack of Lies

In 1961, Peter and Helen Kroger, two Americans living in a London Suburb, were convicted of spying for the Russian and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. From these true facts, Hugh Whitmore has written a powerfully moving fictional account of the events leading up to their arrest with the action centred on the totally unsuspecting Jackson household – Bob, Barbara and their daughter Julie.

The Jacksons live opposite to the Krogers, believing them to be a convivial Canadian couple and their closest friends. Then a mysterious stranger arrives, announces he (or she) is from MI5 and quietly coerces the Jacksons in allowing their house to be used as a surveillance post.

In the nightmare months that follow, the Jacksons’ decent, happy life is shattered as the truth about their much loved friends is gradually revealed to them and, helpless in an alien, sordid world of deception and treachery, Barbara reaches breaking point with the agonizing realisation that the Krogers have betrayed her and she, in turn, has betrayed the Krogers.

### Cast (Playing Ages)

- Bob and Barbara Jackson, both middle aged (45 – 60)
- Julie Jackson, their daughter (late teenage preferably but could be early twenties – actors always look younger on stage.)
- Peter and Helen Kroger, Both about the same but could be a bit older.
- Stewart /Sheila - MI5 – Age from 35 to 65 ( I don’t see why this part shouldn’t be played by a woman. This is 1961, is it feasible that a woman would be senior in the MI5.
- Thelma and Sally – MI5 Agents assisting the boss.

Further information on audition dates will be provided soon.

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## MEMBERS NEWS

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### Autumn 2024

It’s wonderful that we are already looking towards our spring production next year. However, to maintain the number of productions we do each year we do need to be looking further ahead than this. We are looking for a director for our Autumn production in 2024. If you are keen to direct please contact one of the committee; don’t worry if you’ve not directed before but would like to have a go—the committee will provide a mentor to support you.

Dates for your diary	
Beauty and the Beast	25th—28th January 2024
Pack of Lies	16th—18th May 2024