



1934 - 2025

Newsletter Oct 2025

Clubrooms: 6 - 8 Castle Hill Richmond North Yorkshire DL10 4QP  
[www.richmond-ads.org.uk](http://www.richmond-ads.org.uk)

Autumn 2025 5 - 8 November

## Bleak Expectations

by Mark Evans

Directed by **Scott Fenney**

### RADS Social Events

#### Clubnights

##### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Radio Sketches

Following on from last year's read-through of Radio Comedies, Charles Lambert will be conducting a similar read-through, but this time focusing on Radio Sketch shows - prepare for a highly amusing evening, if last year is anything to go by!

##### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Read-Through of *The Mirror Crack'd*

Lee Bowles and Gregan Davis will host a read-through of our Spring 2026 production, Agatha Christie's *The Mirror Crack'd*, a new adaptation of a Miss Marple mystery by Rachel Wagstaff.

##### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December - RADS Xmas Dinner

This year's seasonal festivities will be held at The Farmer's Arms, Brompton-on-Swale - save the date! Menus, booking instructions and arrangements were sent out on 29<sup>th</sup> September, to be returned by 20<sup>th</sup> October. Please contact Gregan if you have not received these.

### Spring 2026 - The Mirror Crack'd - Auditions

Auditions will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 1930h. Please contact Lee at [lee\\_bowles@hotmail.com](mailto:lee_bowles@hotmail.com) or phone 07447 709253 to arrange an audition date if you can't attend either of these sessions or for an informal chat.

Production dates are Wed 18 - Sat 21 March 2026, rehearsals will initially be Mondays (except for Clubnights) and Wednesdays.

#### CHARACTERS

**Miss Marple** - an elderly spinster and amateur detective. She uses her keen observational skills and understanding of human nature to solve mysteries. Currently house bound with a broken ankle. 60-70 Female.

**Cherry Baker** - Miss Marple's help from Croydon. She was present at the murder of Heather Leigh as a waitress. Mid 20s - late 30s Female.

**Chief Inspector Dermot Craddock** - Family friend of Miss Marple, Often consults her. Assigned to the case of Mrs Leigh's death. Late 30s - late 40s Male.

**Heather Leigh** - New Chair of the local branch of St John Ambulance. Murdered at Mrs Gregg's fete. 30 - 40 Female.

**Cyril Leigh** - Husband of Heather and very devoted to his wife. Often ignored and dismissed by people. Around the same age as Heather. Male

Spring 2026 18 - 21 March

## THE MIRROR CRACK'D

by Agatha Christie

New adaptation by Rachel Wagstaff

Directed by **Lee Bowles & Gregan Davis**

Summer 2026 23 - 25 July  
and 29 July - 1 August

## The Tempest

by William Shakespeare

Directed by **Beki Stevenson**

#### Contd:

**Dolly Bantry** - Friend of Marple, Present at the Fete and witnessed Heather's murder. 60-70. Female

**Marina Gregg\*** - An American actress on her comeback after time out for mental health. She is troubled by her past. Late 30s-40s. Female

**Jason Rudd\*** - Husband of Marina and an American film Director. Very protective of his wife. Late 30s-40s. Male.

**Ella Zielinsky\*** - Marina's American PA. 30s Female.

**Lola Brewster\*** - Marina's co-star. Mid 20s - late 30s Female.

**Giuseppe Renzo** - Marina's butler. 30-40 Male. Italian accent

\*American accent required

Also required for the Production Team - Stage Manager, Set Painter, Prompt, Backstage crew [may be needed to go onstage], Costume, Props & Set dressing

Please contact Lee [details above] if interested / more information concerning any of the above roles.

### Sedgefield 2025

Congratulations to Lee Bowles and the cast and crew of *Anger Management*. Our performance on Wed 10<sup>th</sup> September got some great comments from adjudicator Ben Humphrey GoDA and was awarded the Ray Tate Award for Endeavour. Anthony Monarch was also nominated for Best Supporting Actor. It was great to see an excellent turnout from RADS in the audience to support our entry!



#### Chair's Corner

The nights are drawing in, the blankets are seeing use for the first time in many a month, and you can't move for pumpkin-spice!

Firstly, a big congratulations to the team of *Anger Management* - Sedgefield was a great success and you've continued the RADS tradition of taking home a trophy which I'm sure will be a great source of pride to all of those involved and the society as a whole!

*Bleak Expectations* is continuing in its rehearsals and from all the reports and feedback from the cast and crew it's going to be a fantastic success - make sure you get those tickets bought!

A big thank you to Georgie and everyone who baked, served tables and helped out at the Coffee Morning at the Town Hall, raising £407! The involvement of RADS in community events like this always serves as a reminder that local community spirit and pride is so important in keeping local groups and events going well into the future!

Chloe, our social secretary, has released the third episode of our new podcast - *Backstage at the Clubrooms*, which features Mike Walker talking about Monstrous Regiment, his role as Media Manager and his life so far in the world of theatre! Listen to it here:

[Episode 3 - 'Perks, that's an Order'](#)

We're also looking forward to the NODA Awards this coming weekend where we hope for more recognition of the work RADS has done in the past year, keep your fingers crossed!

Have a wonderful and spooky October, treat yourself to a few extra sweets (the trick-or-treaters can't possibly eat them all!), get your tickets booked for *Bleak Expectations*, and watch some Hammer Horror with Vincent Price strangely bound up in bandages! My horror / thriller film recommendations are: *The Others* (2001), *The Devil Rides Out* (1968), *Rec* (2007), and for those of you less inclined to horror: *Young Frankenstein* (1974).

**Max Walker**

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