

Our BLT

A Celebration

Pat Jones



How long have you been involved with BLT?

I joined last century in 1967 and have had a few "gap years".

How did you find out about BLT in the first place?

I "trained" at the Crescent Theatre in Birmingham, and when I moved to Bromley, they told me about BLT. Derek Jacobi, when I told him I was moving to Bromley, said that he had heard of BLT and it was excellent !!!

What do you remember about your first visit?

Cosy, friendly atmosphere. I met Petty Pinchard who was running the theatre- she was a cross between Dame Sybil Thorndike and Dame Maggie Smith !!! One sharp look and you wilted !! I was immediately booked to work on the next show.

What kind of activities are you involved in or have been involved in at BLT?

Anything and everything, though I haven't actually built a set ! Mostly stage managing and props. I also appeared onstage in the olden days. Also organised the first Sunday Nights at BLT. I was on Playgoers Committee and headed the Publicity group for a while. I am also a member of the Board.

Have you had any highlights during your time with BLT that you would like to share?

An hour and a half onstage chatting to Derek Jacobi, whom I have known for 60

years, in the first of our Sunday Nights!!!

Closely followed by a similar time with Anne Reid. My first email from Michael York, our President, after I traced him following a long gap when we had lost touch with him. Winning a Sarnie for Contribution to BLT, and for Lifetime Achievement. Other highlights – every show I have stage managed.

What are you missing most about BLT at the moment – if anything?

The Company, and the excitement of seeing a show develop through from audition, first read through, to first night and the run.

What are your hopes for BLT in the future?

Long trouble free leases, and the funding to redevelop the theatre, keeping the special ambience it has now but with improved access and comfort for everyone. To continue to produce plays at the current high standard.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

A quote from Dame Eileen Atkins in a letter to me on BLT's 75th anniversary – "May you [BLT] thrive as long as there is theatre". And so say all of us. We will be back.

bromley little theatre
outstanding theatre for everyone