

Our BLT

A Celebration

Paul Champion



How long have you been involved with BLT?

Since 2003.

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

I had been a member of other amateur theatres in London such as the Tower Theatre, Islington and South London Theatre Centre, so when we moved to Bromley it was only a matter of time before I stumbled across BLT's threshold.

What do you remember about your first visit?

Seeing *The Memory of Water*. I remember being impressed by both the quality of the performances and atmosphere and intimacy of the theatre itself. I also vividly recall asking the Front of House Manager how much commitment acting in a show would involve. "Basically, put the rest of your life on hold for three months" came the reply. How right he was!

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

Just about everything! Actor, director, set-builder, Front of House, BLTins Editor, Reviews Editor and producer of the directors' videos which accompany every production. Strangely, the only thing I haven't done is work behind the Bar, but I daresay I'll get around to it.

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

As an actor and director, every show has had its unforgettable moments, but ones that particularly stick in my memory are the laughs I had directing *Calendar Girls* (when I could get a word in edgeways); the pride of being in such a moving production of *Journey's End*; sitting in the audience as they split their sides at 'Plaza Suite' and the sheer terror of going onstage for the first night of *Allo Allo* without having completed a full dress rehearsal!

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

The people, the shows, the rehearsals, the laughs, the dramas, the sticky carpet in the rehearsal room...everything, really.

What are your hopes for BLT in the future?

To emerge from all this virus nonsense and continue to bring quality theatre to Bromley. With a brand-new renovated theatre to do it in. And, hopefully, no leaks in the roof or a bucket in sight.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

The show must go on. And it will.