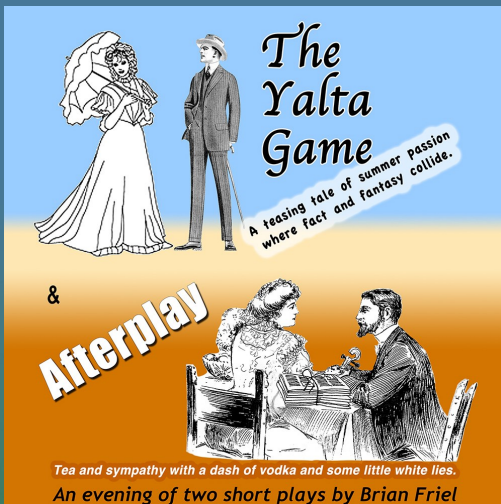


## FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS



15 - 25 September

**Brian Friel Plays**

**Maskers Studio Theatre**

**The Yalta Game:** A teasing tale of summer passion where fact and fantasy collide.

**Afterplay:** Tea and sympathy with a dash of vodka and some little white lies.

BOX OFFICE: via link on our website  
or 0333 666 3366

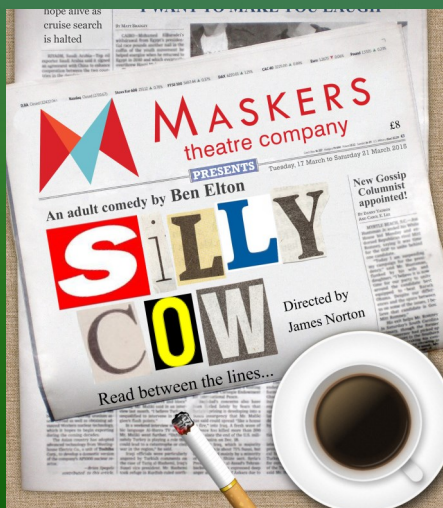
20 - 24 October

**Silly Cow**

**Maskers Studio Theatre**

Lies! Deceit! Murder...? Ben Elton's outrageous comedy Silly Cow is the story of Doris Wallis, the gossipy tabloid critic. Bold, brash and bitchy, trashing people's careers is all in a day's work. She has money, infamy, and her faithful assistant Peggy to help her break into stardom in her own right - what could possibly go wrong?

BOX OFFICE: via link on our website  
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£1

Rudyard Kipling's

**The Jungle Book**

Adapted by Stuart Paterson

Programme

Wednesday 15 to Saturday 25 July 2015

HAMPTWORTH LODGE

Registered Charity no. 900067

maskers.org.uk

## Maskers at Hamptworth Lodge

Welcome to Maskers Theatre Company's open air production of *The Jungle Book*.

This is our eighth year at this beautiful location and we think you'll agree that the Archery Lawn and its terraces are the perfect place in which to perform. We are very grateful to Richard and Charlotte Everett, the owners of Hamptworth Lodge, for allowing us to perform here and for all their help in ensuring that the preparations for this year's show went smoothly.

Maskers Theatre is now in its 47th year and aims to continue to bring award-winning quality theatre to its audiences for many, many years to come. We hope you enjoy the performance and your visit to this lovely house and its gardens and grounds.

We respectfully request that you take all your picnic leftovers and empties home. You may remain to finish your picnics at the end of the play but we ask that you vacate the grounds by 11pm (5.45pm for matinées). Thank you!!

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Details of other Maskers productions are on the back page of this programme - why not come and see us at The Nuffield Theatre or at our very own Studio in Shirley, Southampton? See our website for full details [www.maskers.org.uk](http://www.maskers.org.uk).



*Please take care when moving around the grounds as steps and paths may be uneven and slippery if wet.*

*Provision for smoking has been made in the parkland below the Archery Lawn - please use the sand buckets provided. We ask that you don't smoke in the grounds of the house - thank you!*

## Why not join Maskers?

Maskers are keen to welcome new members with an interest in any aspect of theatre - all things technical, directing, costumes, props, set design and construction, front of house, marketing and of course acting!

Enjoy the challenge of making theatre happen.

To find out more about Maskers Theatre Company, go to

[www.maskers.org.uk](http://www.maskers.org.uk)



# Next year's show will be....

# Robin Hood



in the OPEN AIR  
July 2016

## The Production Crew

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Director</b>                         | Meri Mackney   |
| <b>Production Manager</b>               | Kathryn Salmon   |
| <b>Technical Director</b>               | Jamie McCarthy   |
| <b>Stage Manager</b>                    | Tom Foyle  |
| <b>Deputy Stage Manager</b>             | Robert Osborne   |
| <b>Fight Director</b>                   | Paul Benzing   |
| <b>Set Design</b>                       | Meri Mackney & Andy Burrows  |
| <b>Lighting Design</b>                  | Clive Weeks  |
| <b>Sound</b>                            | Jamie McCarthy   |
| <b>Technical Team</b>                   | David Cowley, Mike Matthias, Nick Lawther, Martyn Welch, Bob Gibson & Nathan Weeks |
| <b>Masks and Props</b>                  | The Cast   |
| <b>Costumes</b>                         | Serena Brown (assisted by Susan Wilson)  |
| <b>Set Construction</b>                 | Andy Burrows & Roger Lockett   |
| <b>Front of House Manager</b>           | Kathryn Salmon   |
| <b>Original Production Image Design</b> | Marie Efthimidias  |

The action takes place deep in the jungle in India and in the neighbouring village

**Please refrain from taking images during the performance as this breaches regulations relating to child actors.**  
*Photos are available to purchase from Clive Weeks at [cwphotos.co.uk](http://cwphotos.co.uk)*

There will be an interval of 20 minutes. Refreshments may be ordered in advance.

Toilet facilities are located in the parkland below the Archery Lawn along with a designated smoking area. Please do not smoke elsewhere in the grounds of the lodge.

## Acknowledgements

Richard and Charlotte Everett (Hamptworth Lodge)      Jane Warren (Snake charm music)  
Emphasis Event Productions (Scaffolded platforms)      Andy Longley (Electrical consultancy)  
Other Criteria, Ilfracombe (Rama the Bull)      Tony Lawther (Set design/construction advice)  
Drumming tracks courtesy of Kevin MacLeod ([incompetech.com](http://incompetech.com)). Licensed under Creative Commons: By Attribution 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)

## For the Company

**Technical Manager** --- Jamie McCarthy; **Marketing Director** --- Sarah Russell; **Marketing Team** --- Angela Stansbridge, Ruth Kibble, Leah Barlow, James Norton, Clive Weeks; **Front of House Director** --- Chris Baker; **Front of House Display** --- Leah Barlow; **Box Office Manager** --- Chris Baker; **Photography** --- Clive Weeks.

## Director's Notes

It is a real pleasure to be directing once more at Hamptworth Lodge and I thank Richard and Charlotte Everett for kindly agreeing to host the show again this year.



What attracted me to directing *The Jungle Book*? Like most people, I thoroughly enjoy Disney's joyful film whose singing animals live a life of ease and comfort. However, this is not quite the story I remembered from my childhood. In Kipling's rather rambling original, the animals live in a tenuous peace, maintained only by strict adherence to the Jungle Law. The wolves hold sway, taught the master words by Baloo the bear, which allow them to control the other animals, and led by the wise and powerful Akela. Only Shere Khan, the spiteful man-eating tiger, lives outside the Law and is prepared to challenge the wolf's authority. There is an ever-present sense of menace and danger which revolves around the human child, Mowgli.

As Mowgli grows towards manhood and independence, it is easy to see the parallel with the quest for self-determination and the need to find where one belongs common to us all as we pass through adolescence. Equally, observing from Kipling's time, we can see parallels with a nation which has been dominated as part of an empire as it strives towards independence and self-government. The way is not easy, beset with clear dangers, power battles and false friends.

Without losing the fun and humour of the original, I wanted to focus more on the jungle of 'tooth and claw' Kipling depicted and was delighted to find this adaptation which follows the original more closely. I wanted to glory in the rich colours and textures of the Indian setting and am very grateful to my designers – costume and set – for helping to bring this about.

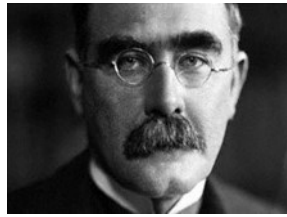
I hope you enjoy the show. We have certainly had a lot of fun developing and rehearsing it. How many rehearsal schedules include a trip to the zoo?

*Meri Mackney*

Meri has been a Masker for more years than she cares to remember as actor, director, and just about anything else which needs doing! Meri directed *Anne Boleyn* at Hamptworth two years ago and previously adapted for the open-air and directed *Pride and Prejudice* for Maskers. She takes enormous pleasure in creating the right atmosphere for a play and helping to bring the characters to life. She is enjoying the challenge of converting a manicured English garden into the Indian jungle!

## Rudyard Kipling

Joseph Rudyard Kipling was born in 1865 in Bombay, India, where his father was Head of Architectural Sculpture at the School of Art. In 1871, Rudyard and his sister, Alice, were brought back to England and left as boarders in Southsea. Rudyard was bullied by his landlady and her son and was deeply unhappy, finding comfort only in visits to his aunt in London. In 1877, their mother visited and, realising how unhappy Rudyard was, she took him from Southsea to board at a school in Westward Ho!, Devon.



At school, Kipling became editor of the school magazine and his parents had a booklet of his poems, *Schoolboy Lyrics*, printed privately.

When he left school, he returned to his parents in India, now in Lahore, and worked as assistant editor on the Civil and Military Gazette. Some of his verses were published in that paper and elsewhere. He continued to write, sometimes in collaboration with his sister and his parents.

By 1886, working as a correspondent of a larger paper, The Pioneer, his collection of comic poems about the English in India sold out immediately and had to be reprinted.

Kipling moved from place to place in India as correspondent for The Pioneer and published a number of works, including his *Railway Series* of short stories. He left India to become the Pioneer's roving correspondent and travelled through Burma, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan and the USA. He returned to London and appointed a literary agent.

By 1890 his writing had become famous and his works were published in English and American editions. However, his emotional life was less secure and he had the first of two nervous breakdowns. He wrote the novel, *The Light that Failed*. He became friends with the American writer and publisher, Wolcott Balestier and would go on to marry his sister, Caroline. They set out to travel the world but were stranded in Japan when their bank failed and they were left with nothing but their travel tickets which they used to get back to Caroline's family in Vermont.

After their first child, Josephine, was born in 1892, Kipling began writing for children and *The Jungle Book* was published in 1894, closely followed by the *Second Jungle Book*. Their second daughter, Elsie, was born and, following a family quarrel, they moved back to England, finally settling in Sussex, where their son, John, was born. Kipling continued to travel but in 1899, on a visit to family in America, all of the children became ill. Josephine died and Kipling nearly died himself.

In the early 1900s, Kipling published his last Indian writing, *Kim*, *The Just So Stories* and *Puck of Pook's Hill* among many other works. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907. *Rewards and Fairies*, the sequel to *Puck of Pook's Hill*, was published in 1910 and contained the poem, *If*, voted the nation's favourite poem in 1995.

His son, John, was killed in his first battle (WWI) in 1915. Kipling continued to publish regularly and to travel but was in constant pain from a gastric ulcer which would not be diagnosed until 1933. He died following a haemorrhage in 1936. His remaining child, Elsie, had married in 1924 but would die childless in 1976, bequeathing the copyrights on his works to The National Trust.

## The Cast

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Mowgli</b>                   | Kristina Wilde                         |
| <b>Shere Khan, The Tiger</b>    | William Baggs                          |
| <b>Bagheera, The Panther</b>    | Marie McDade                           |
| <b>Baloo, The Bear</b>          | Adam Taussik                           |
| <b>Raksha, The Demon Wolf</b>   | Kate Grundy-García                     |
| <b>Akela, The Pack Leader</b>   | Paul Green                             |
| <b>Tabaqui, The Jackal</b>      | Molly McDade                           |
| <b>Puppeteer/Chil, The Kite</b> | Leah Barlow                            |
| <b>Kaa, The Snake</b>           | Ruth Kibble                            |
| <b>Ban, A Monkey</b>            | Jo Iacovou                             |
| <b>Luna, A Monkey</b>           | Jo Fox                                 |
| <b>Taak, A Monkey</b>           | Molly Martinson                        |
| <b>Messua, A Village Woman</b>  | Jill Desborough                        |
| <b>Buldeo, The Chief Hunter</b> | David Jobson                           |
| <b>Chilwa, A Village Woman</b>  | Sue Dashper                            |
| <b>Kamya, A Hunter</b>          | Eric Petterson                         |
| <b>Purun, A Hunter</b>          | Paul Baker                             |
| <b>Tima, A Disgruntled Wolf</b> | Donna Beddall                          |
| <b>Snag, A Disgruntled Wolf</b> | Lydia Rollin                           |
| <b>The Pack</b>                 | Michelle Heffer (Understudy to Mowgli) |
|                                 | Brenda Atkinson                        |
|                                 | Bruce Atkinson                         |
|                                 | Millie Grundy                          |
|                                 | Hope Hamilton                          |
|                                 | Poppy Lane                             |
|                                 | Elizabeth Russell                      |
|                                 | William Russell                        |
|                                 | Enya Ryan                              |
|                                 | Thomas Welch                           |

## The Wolf Pack



## The Cast Continued



**Ban - Jo Iacovou.** Joanna has been a member of Maskers for just over 12 years. She has had varying roles over the years, her favourites being Ruby Birtle in J.B. Priestley's *When we are Married* and Rita in Willy Russel's *Educating Rita*. In 2014 she had a very successful directorial debut with Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* which won two Curtain Call awards. She is keen to direct again but, for now, she's back to monkeying around onstage.



**Kamya - Eric Petterson.** Eric started a late acting career with Maskers in *A Christmas Charivari* in 2012. His straight acting roles included the guard in *Forward to the Right* and Jack in *The Weir*. He also played James in *The 13th Floor* and a manic mass murderer in the latest Christmas offering. In 2015, he toured with Maskers as John of Gaunt in *Richard II*. This is his first open air production, and he is looking forward to it greatly.



**Purun - Paul Baker.** Paul has been in every Maskers show in the open air since 1996, most recently in *The Importance of Being Earnest* here at Hamptworth last year. He is a keen amateur naturalist and is still unsure how he feels about playing the part of someone who hunts animals to kill them...



**Chilwa - Sue Dashper.** Sue has been a member of Maskers for several years now, and the last production she appeared in was *Sitting Pretty* at the Nuffield Theatre. She has also acted in Studio productions including a Curtain Call-nominated performance in *Contractions*. Sue is excited to be performing at Hamptworth for the third time having previously appeared in *Treasure Island* and *Anne Boleyn*.



**Tima - Donna Beddall.** This is Donna's third acting role for Maskers, having played a Lady in Waiting in open air show *Anne Boleyn*, and Sam Craig in October's studio play *Our Town*. Having trained in dance at university, Donna is really looking forward to the challenge and physicality *The Jungle Book* will bring, not to mention the fun, fur and fire along the way!



**Snag - Lydia Rollin.** *The Jungle Book* is Lydia's first production with Maskers. Lydia loves the theatre and – a good few years back – enjoyed performing in shows at school, college, and briefly, the National Youth Theatre. More recently she has been studying at university and working in HR Departments around the country. She is very excited to be joining the Company and to be on the stage again!

## Rehearsing in The Jungle Book



## The Cast



**Mowgli - Kristina Wilde.** This is Kristina's debut with Maskers. A former Brighton resident, Kristina acted in and directed multiple productions with SUDS, Sussex University's drama society. Past roles include Masha in *The Seagull*, Paige in *Dinner*, and Bolingbroke in *Richard II*.



**Understudy - Michelle Heffer.** This is Michelle's third production with Maskers, having previously appeared on stage in *Wuthering Heights* and *Proof*. Michelle is enjoying the variety of shows she has been involved in with Maskers and is particularly excited to take part in her first outdoor production! She is loving being part of *The Jungle Book* and getting to explore the physicality of different animals.



**Shere Khan - William Baggs.** This is not the first time William has played an animal. His first role with Maskers was as Pricklemouse in *Can You Hear the Music*. A forest/jungle theme continued in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* playing Lysander. Although not King of the Jungle, part number three was a monarch: James I in *Anne Boleyn*. Playing the ineffectual Richard II was a great opportunity to roar at his subjects, but let's hope Shere Khan can do better!



**Akela - Paul Green.** Paul has been with Maskers for over three years, but has been acting and directing for over 30. His last outdoor performance was at The Minack Theatre in Cornwall, where he also directed *The 39 Steps* three years ago. His most recent roles include Brendan in *The Weir*, Friar Lawrence in *Romeo and Juliet* and the Italian Waiter in *Betrayal*. Paul is looking forward to playing Akela the Wolf and showing his "inner animal".



**Raksha - Kate Grundy-García.** Kate has been part of Maskers for many years and has previously been seen in *Treasure Island* at Hamptworth playing a bloodthirsty pirate. Kate is loving being part of *The Jungle Book* at Hamptworth and yet again, she is playing Mother Wolf to her own little wolf and real-life daughter, Millie Grundy.



**Baloo - Adam Taussik.** Since Adam was the Chief Weasel in *Wind in the Willows* a few years ago, he has been playing humans for a while, but hard work and dedication (and fortunate casting) has brought him back to the animal kingdom - and perhaps all the hair had something to do with it. When not in furs, he has another life in Student Services at the University of Southampton.



**Bagheera - Marie McDade.** Marie has played a number of parts since she joined Maskers three years ago, but so far all have had just the two legs! After exploring emotional depths in *Richard II* she is going to enjoy exploring the jungle and finding her inner panther...



**Tabaqui - Molly McDade.** Molly is relatively new to acting, having only appeared in a couple of Nuffield Youth Theatre productions before coming to Maskers; appearing in the award-winning production of *Our Town*, where she played the part of Rebecca. While that was a heavily emotional play, she is looking forward to something much more fun and is now ironically discovering her true calling is playing a mangy, rabid jackal sidekick...



**Kaa - Ruth Kibble.** Ruth joined Maskers over 10 years ago as a blind witch in *Macbeth* and is an active member both on and offstage. This will be her fourth production at Hamptworth, having previously wailed sea-shanties in *Treasure Island*, danced a foxtrot in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and lost her head in the title role of *Anne Boleyn*. She hopes to hypnotise and beguile you as Kaa the snake...so keep an eye on any tasty-looking children!



**Buldeo - David Jobson.** David is ecstatic to be back at Hamptworth after playing a lurker in *Anne Boleyn*. He has played General McKenzie in *And Then There Were None*, rivalled the lords in *Richard II*, and fought in *The Three Musketeers* twice in a row (once as Porthos). It makes the warrior Buldeo the perfect role for him.



**Messua - Jill Desborough.** Having enjoyed a long career as an English teacher, Jill has done most of her acting in the classroom! She joined Maskers last summer and has been privileged to work with talented people on two very different shows; *A Christmas Gallimaufry* and *Richard II*. She is delighted to have the opportunity to work on *The Jungle Book*, to learn about the challenges of outdoor productions - and to get messy helping with the mask making!



**Chil/Puppeteer - Leah Barlow.** This is Leah's fifth show with the Maskers over a 12 year membership, playing anything from Queen Anne Boleyn's faithful friend Lady Celia to a singing strumpet, but this is a first for her with puppeteering. Leah is really enjoying this summer show and enjoying the new puppet challenge.



**Luna - Jo Fox.** Jo has been a Masker since 2007. Recently she played the part of Lady Jane Rochford in 2013's open air production of *Anne Boleyn* at Hamptworth Lodge. Following this she played Jodie in *Sitting Pretty* at the Nuffield in January 2014 and Gwendolen in *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Hamptworth in summer last year. She is looking forward to monkeying around this summer and is having lots of fun rehearsing for *The Jungle Book*!



**Taak - Molly Martinson.** This is Molly's third show with Maskers having played Jane Seymour in *Anne Boleyn* and been one of the stage shifting servants in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Offstage, Molly is building a career as a model.