

# B.O.D.



Start of BODS

2017

Quiz Night

May 2022



Burford Garden Centre

December 2022

A Christmas Carol



May 2022

BODS re-started



September 2022

Prebendal Performance



March 2023

Quiz Night

Goodnight Mr Tom

May 2023



June 2023

Blue



September 2023

Husbands Supplied



December 2023

Pocket Panto



January 2024

A Lad in Boots



July 2024

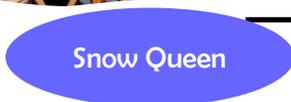
Background Artists/



On Location

January 2025

Snow Queen



September 2024

Blood Brothers



# B.O.D.S!



## Blood Brothers Play Version



Written by Willy Russell  
Directed by Alfie Arnold  
20-21st September 2024

# Director's Notes

A few months ago as a part of my Gold Trinity Arts Award I was tasked with creating a production in which I had a leadership role and although directing a play seemed an ambitious task it was something I've always wanted to try!

Blood Brothers was a play I discovered during my GCSE drama course and having spent 2 years writing about it and watching it in theatres, you'd think I'd be sick of it! But it's such a dynamic and emotional story, that every director has a different take on. I've loved creating my own version of this classic tale, discovering the characters in totally different ways, this cast have all brought something unique to this story, making it a real joy to direct them as their characters emerged.

This show wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of everyone involved. I really appreciate the effort that everyone has put in to make this show happen and want to thank BODS for allowing me to have this opportunity.

I've had so much fun creating this show and I really hope you enjoy it!

## Alfie Arnold

B.O.D.S strives to provide a high standard of entertainment to the people of the Wychwoods and beyond involving members of the community of all ages and experiences. It is important to our committee to keep membership costs down to make this group accessible to as many people that want to join as possible. However, it costs a lot of money to create a show like this one and money is short. Any donations would be greatly appreciated to help us keep bringing the entertainment. Please sit back and enjoy our Show!



I have hugely enjoyed being part of this and exploring the character of Jennifer Lyons. I thought from the beginning that one of the most interesting features of the play is that Mrs Lyons is not a straightforward baddie. She has suffered from infertility, she does not have the support from her husband to adopt a child, and she grasps at a chance to create the family she has always dreamed of. She then has to live with the consequences, keeping a terrible secret from her son and her husband, and living in fear of the truth coming out. We see her wrestle with her beliefs about nature vs nurture, change her views on superstitions and over the years lose her grip on reality as mental illness sets in. She is a fascinating, complex character and I have found it so interesting to think about how best to bring her to the stage. We have had a great time as a cast and crew rehearsing this show; it has been amazing to see so many extraordinary and varied talents come together. It has also been a privilege to work with Alfie in his first, but I'm sure not his last, outing as a Director. I am very much looking forward to being able to say 'I knew him when...!' **Kate Bull**

Yes, it's me again, still here. They can't get rid of the old ham that easily! The days of playing the romantic lead may be long gone, but whilst there's still a part for an old has-been, I'll be there. Seriously though, it has been a great experience to play alongside such a talented group of young whipper-snappers, if only to prove that there is still life in the old dog yet!

## Mark Jessey



I have been with BODS for 18 months and enjoyed being in various productions, but being in Blood Brothers for Alfie's first move into directing has been a great honour. I also enjoyed working with this fantastic young cast.

## Kevin Cheeseman

I have always loved going to the theatre and often thought it would be fun to be part of the show in some small way. So despite having no acting experience, in January 2023 I joined BODS and a few months later found myself on stage for the first time since school! I have now been in several BODS productions, had a lot of fun, learnt a lot, and can't wait to be a small part of Blood Brothers. **Lyn Newbold**



# From The Cast...



This is my first ever show being part of BODS or any small drama group. I have always said I am a massive fan of blood brothers and to take part and be involved is very exciting. I have been part of Stagecoach for 8 years now and am even working there as a drama teacher for the younger students. This production has been a massive task and I know you're all going to love it. Enjoy the show! **Oli Coles**

I first went into acting when I was 9 years old by joining The Chipping Norton Theatre for a period of six years. During this time at the Theatre, I performed in the theatre itself many times and performed open air Shakespeare in Stratford-Upon-Avon for the Shakespeare festival. More recently I have passed two LAMDA acting grades. I became a member of Wychwood BODS in 2018, and have been a devoted member of the BODS ever since. **Will Gofton**



I have always loved everything about the theatre. I have previously worked backstage with OxOps on shows such as Calendar Girls and Evita. In April I was onstage crew for the CHAOS production of Evita, where I met Mandy and Alfie who introduced me to BODS. I am very happy to be supporting Alfie's directing debut with Blood Brothers. **Hannah Elphick**

Well here I am again, this is my fifth show since joining BODS in April 2022 and my fourth part wearing an apron! Playing Mrs Johnstone in Blood Brothers is my most challenging role yet but when Alfie asked me to consider it I couldn't say no. I hope I do her justice and you enjoy our production as much as we will enjoy performing it for you.

**Kate Hunter**



# B.O.D.S!



BODS was founded and run by Mandy in 2017 As a group for teenagers but struggled to continue through the Covid lockdown period. In early 2022 Mandy decided to re-start and open up the group to adults as well as teenagers. This initially started just with weekly sessions for learning and fun but has now developed into a multi-level, committee-run group with those who attend the weekly sessions and those who want to be involved with the bigger shows such as this one...or you can do both!

Our first stage production 'A Christmas Carol' won 3 awards including 'Best Show' in the ODN Winter Drama Festival 2023.

We would love to get some new members and everyone is very welcome so please get in contact if this interests you. We also hold social events.

Look out for our next production; 'The Snow Queen' Panto January 2025!

**Contact Chair: Mandyrae Jessey Wychwoodbods@hotmail.com**

**Or visit our Facebook page 'Branching Out Drama Society'**



**@Branching Out Drama Society**



Take a look at our new website: [Wychwoodbods.co.uk](http://Wychwoodbods.co.uk)

# Cast

Eddie.....	Will Gofton
Mickey.....	Oli Coles
The Mother.....	Kate Hunter
Mrs Lyons.....	Kate Bull
Linda.....	Amy HD
Narrator.....	Mark Jessey
Milkman/Doctor.....	Kevin Cheeseman
Policewoman.....	Lyn Newbold
Chorus.....	Scarlett Wilson, Hannah Elphick, Max Geary, Sam Roberts

# Production Crew

Director.....	Alfie Arnold
Producer.....	Jane Bright
Set design.....	Alfie Arnold, Jane Bright
Set build.....	Neil Arnold
Stage Manager.....	Jane Bright
Crew.....	Sue Mellerick, Kirsty Plant
Sound.....	Anthony Gofton
Live Piano.....	Ollie Bellars
Lighting.....	Tony Mellerick
Costumes.....	Jane Bright
Props.....	Jane Bright
Photography.....	Evie Arnold
FOH.....	Alfie Arnold, Mandyrae Jessey
Bar.....	Calvin & Fiona Hutt, Neil Arnold
Poster & Programme.....	Kirsty Plant
Box Office.....	Elizabeth-Rae Large, Evie Arnold, Luke Sargent

# Scenes

**Act 1** - Shoes Upon the Table

**Act 2** - The Pact (Age 7)

**Interval**

**Act 3** - Growing up (Age 14)

**Act 4** - A Terrific Summer (Age 17)

**Act 5** - A Debt is a Debt and Must be Paid

