

Casting announced for the smash-hit comedy 'Run For Your Wife'
written and directed by legendary farceur Ray Cooney



Judy Buxton, Elizabeth Elvin, Jeffrey Holland, Michelle Morris, Delme Thomas, David Warwick and Nick Wilton

Casting is announced for a new production of the classic 1980s British farce 'Run for your Wife', directed by its author, Ray Cooney, at The Mill at Sonning.

'Run for your Wife' will run from 3 October - 23 November, 2019.

John Smith is a happy London taxi driver, working shifts. But he has one little problem. He is married. Twice! He has one wife, Mary, in Wimbledon. And another wife, Barbara, in Streatham. John keeps to a rigorous schedule so that never the twain shall meet. Everyone is blissfully happy - especially John Smith! One day, gallantly intervening in a mugging, he is taken to hospital with concussion. The police become involved. John panics and enlists the help of neighbour Stanley. Bad choice! Stanley is shambolic, disorganised and when it comes to conniving - clueless! The hapless duo embark on a series of wildly implausible explanations. The more they lie, the deeper the hole they dig, and the more the situation all starts to go horribly but riotously wrong.

Nick Wilton (John Smith) has appeared in 11 productions at The Mill at Sonning going back to 2005 and 'Caught in the Net' - also written and directed by Ray Cooney. He last appeared at The Mill in Ray Cooney's 'It Runs in the Family'.

Jeffrey Holland (Stanley) is best known from his TV appearances as comic Spike Dixon in 9 series of 'Hi-De-Hi', as the stuffy footman James Twelvetrees in 4 series of the hugely successful 'You Rang M'Lord?' and as Mr Parkin the stationmaster in 'Oh, Dr. Beeching!'.

The rest of the cast features **Judy Buxton, Elizabeth Elvin, Michelle Morris, Delme Thomas and David Warwick.**

The Set Designer is Jackie Dougan.

Ray Cooney began to act in 1946, appearing in many of the Whitehall farces of Brian Rix throughout the 1950s and 1960s. He has had 17 of his plays performed in the West End. 'Run for Your Wife' opened in 1983 at the Shaftesbury Theatre with Richard Briers and Bernard Cribbins in the lead roles and ran for 9 years in the West End. A South Korean production, retitled 'Liar', has enjoyed an open-ended run in Seoul since 1998, and is considered one of the most successful performances in Korean theatre history. Its sequel, 'Caught in the Net', retitled 'Liar 2' has run in Seoul since 2004.

Set majestically on the banks of the River Thames, The Mill at Sonning Theatre is celebrating more than 30 years of entertainment. Uniquely, as the only dinner theatre in the United Kingdom, it has gained unrivalled praise both nationally and internationally. All tickets include a delicious two-course meal in the restaurant before the show.



The Mill at Sonning prides itself on offering customers a unique Dinner-Theatre experience. Every ticket at The Mill includes a delicious home-cooked pre-show two-course meal.

The riverside restaurant, which overlooks the beautiful river Thames, has recently been refurbished and is now the perfect place to indulge before a show.

The first main course is served buffet style before our friendly team of waiters and waitresses help you to your table and take your dessert and drink orders.

KIERON DANIELS - THE NEW EXECUTIVE CHEF

The Mill at Sonning recently appointed Kieron Daniels as its Executive Chef, who comes with a wealth of national culinary experience at the highest level, working with chefs Paul Gaylor, Raymond Blanc and Ian Donald.

Kieron has refreshed the menu and food options, including his heart-warming take on a Mill favourite beef pie and mouth-watering desserts, all made with the finest locally sourced ingredients.



THE MILL AT SONNING

There has been a mill at Sonning for many centuries. In the Domesday Book of 1086 three mills at 'Sonninges and Berrochescire' are mentioned. In the 1600s the rents for the mill went to the Royal Revenue.

During the Civil War when Cromwell had his headquarters in London and King Charles had his in Oxford, the troops met in the middle - Reading. It was Sonning which supplied the flour for the besieged garrison in the town. The site of the earliest Sonning mill could very well have been in a different place. Wooden buildings had a habit of burning down. The current one dates back to the 18th century but the main parts of the present theatre building are from around 1890. It was owned then by the Witherington family who added the top two storeys and the larger waterwheels for more power to drive the machinery. Around 1898 they put in a steam engine to supplement the water power.

The Phillimore family took over the mill in 1913 but they still traded under the name of C.H. Witherington and Sons Ltd. They remodelled the inside of the mill the following year. Up until 1950 the mill had its own fleet of barges which brought wheat from London right up to its door. In 1962, when the business was taken over by Associated British Foods Ltd., they remodelled yet again and introduced electric engines although the main source of power was still produced by the wheels.

When the mill closed in 1969, it was one of the last flour mills on the Thames driven by wheels. The new port mill at Tilbury had opened and Sonning, being much smaller could not compete economically. Also, one of Sonning's major customers, Huntley and Palmers, stopped making biscuits in Reading.

The mill remained empty until 1977. It was then that Tim and Eileen Richards, who had a great love of theatre, found the derelict building and decided to convert it into The Mill as it is today. Tim invited his brother Frank to join them and the transformation took four years to complete. THE MILL AT SONNING DINNER THEATRE opened on July 22nd 1982.

Sadly Frank Richards died in 1994, Tim Richards in 2002 and Eileen Richards in 2015. Her daughter Sally is now Managing Director of The Mill which continues to go from strength to strength thanks to its ever loyal staff and audience, having produced an abundance of plays and musicals.

In 1984 The Mill at Sonning was given a conservation award by The Times newspaper and The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors for the design, restoration and conversion of the derelict mill into a dinner theatre.

It was named Most Welcoming Theatre by the Theatre Managers Association for the past three years running, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Run for your Wife

written and directed by
Ray Cooney

The Mill at Sonning Theatre

Sonning Eye
Reading
RG4 6TY

Box Office: 0118 969 8000

www.millatsonning.com

3 October 2019 - 23 November, 2019

Evening shows: Tuesday - Saturday
at 8.15pm (dinner from 6.15pm)

Saturday matinees every week
Sunday matinees from 13 October
at 2.15pm
(lunch served from 12.15pm)

All tickets include a 2 course meal
with coffee, programme on your table
and the show

Tickets: from £51.00

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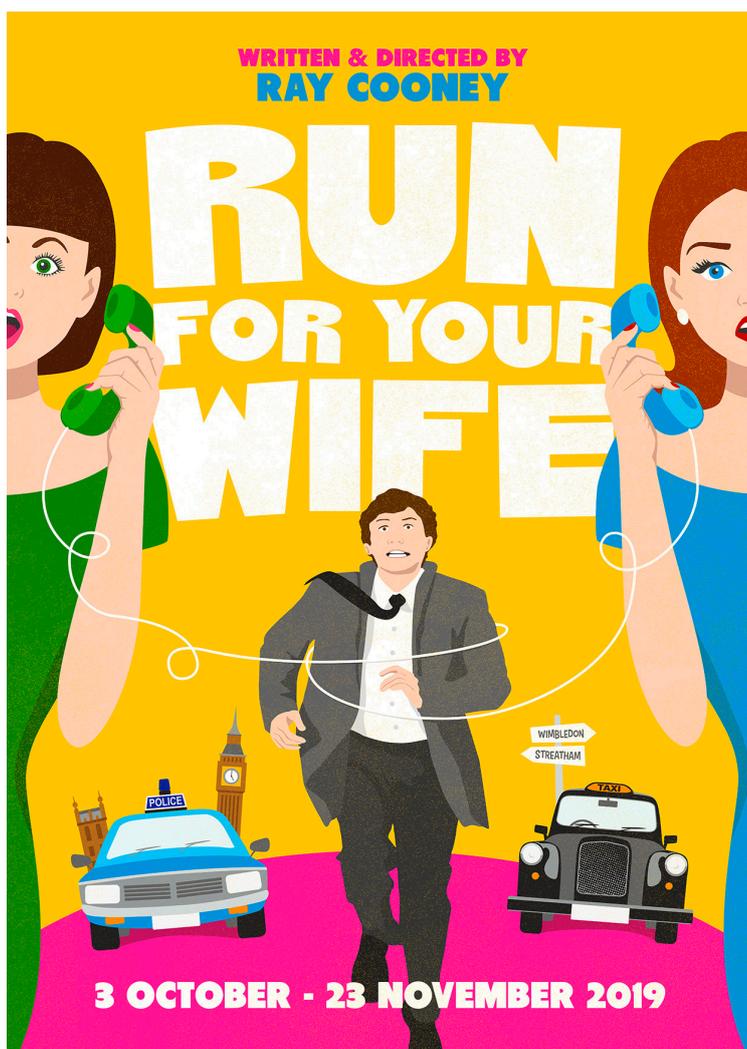
Instagram
[@MillAtSonning](https://www.instagram.com/MillAtSonning)

Getting to The Mill at Sonning

Rail:
The Mill is a 10 minute taxi ride from Reading,
Twyford, Earley and Wargrave stations

Road:
From the M4 Junction 8/9:
Take the A404(M) to the A4, then follow the B478
From the M4 Junction 10:
Take the A329(M) to the A4, then follow the B478
From the A4155: Take the B478

There is ample car parking space available



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**UK'S MOST
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THEATRE**
2016, 2017 & 2018