



THE GREEN ROOM

WADS Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 28th March, Westerham Hall
The Society's AGM will take place in the Front Meeting Room at Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, London Road, Westerham. Full details on page 2.

Chairperson's Welcome

Dear All

Welcome to our first newsletter of this year. I hope you find this informative.

The next show we have on the calendar is, of course, Agatha Christie's thriller *The Unexpected Guest* directed by Keith Neville. This opens on Wednesday, 3rd May for four nights plus an extra Matinée performance on the Saturday. The online box office is open for members now. Please do come and support this.

The committee are especially pleased that we have had new members joining recently and this is reflected in the members of the cast which is a testament to the new talent joining our society.

Of course these shows cannot even begin to succeed without the help in the background. If you are able to help with backstage – bar, front of house, construction, lighting, sound etc etc, please do come forward. Even distributing the A5 leaflets to the houses in your road would be a massive help. Please just contact Roger Williams on 07799 625065 or willyret@aol.com and we will deliver them to you!

The committee are also putting together the social calendar for this year, so before we finalise this, please come forward if you would like to make any suggestions.

I look forward to seeing you all at our AGM at 7.45pm on Tuesday, 28th March at Westerham Hall

Best wishes,
Karen Williams-Holt
Chairperson

Agatha Christie's

THE UNEXPECTED GUEST

directed by Keith Neville

One of Agatha Christie's finest plays, set in an isolated area of South Wales in 1958. An unexpected guest arrives at a house on a very foggy night to find a dead body in a wheelchair. The victim is Richard Warwick a very unpleasant and heartless man. Responsible for many outrageous deeds but perhaps the most dreadful one being the killing of a six year old boy whilst drunk driving, there are many people you have a reason for seeing him dead. Is it the long suffering wife or her secret lover?

Perhaps it's the young retarded half brother who is repeatedly taunted and mentally abused by Warwick. The sinister valet and male nurse has a hidden agenda whilst the housekeeper and even his own mother have reasons to see him dead. Where does the unexpected guest fit into all this?

This play is set in true Christie style with many twists and turns. Not only a thrilling who-dunnit but the drama also has a psychological twist to it and a complete surprise ending. This play will have you on the edge of your seat and guessing who the culprit might be. There's even touches of humour as you would expect from the pen of the Queen of Crime.

Cast

Ian Caldecourt
Julie Tushingam
Sally Boulton
Paul Bowen
Cheryl Fraser
Alex Martineau
Patrick Michaels
Kevin Onley
Nick Randall
Roger Williams

Westerham Hall

3rd - 6th May

Curtain up each night at 8:00PM

plus a Matinée on

Saturday, 6th May 2:30PM

Tickets are available from our web site www.wads-web.net or **Westerham Library**, London Road at £8.50. There are no booking fees for buying online. A telephone booking service is also available on **0333 666 3366** - please be aware that charges will apply for this service and they can only deal with ticket sales.

Performances will start at 8:00pm each evening, also 2:30pm on Saturday. Doors, and a licensed bar, will be open half an hour before. Patrons are urged to use the town car park shown on the map. There is a short walk to the Hall but ample space and good lighting. The car park is also covered by CCTV security cameras. Parking at the Hall itself is very limited.

WADS CALENDAR

28th March

Annual General Meeting
7:45pm for 8:00pm prompt
Westerham Hall

3rd - 6th May

The Unexpected Guest
8:00pm plus 2:30pm Saturday 6th
Westerham Hall



Contacts

Karen Williams-Holt, Chairperson
chair@wads-web.net

Bev Newbold, Secretary
secretary@wads-web.net

Annick Barbaria, Membership
members@wads-web.net

Mark Mountjoy, Treasurer
treasurer@wads-web.net

AGM

Notice of the Society's Annual General Meeting 2017

Tuesday, 28th March 2017

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting for the Society for the period ended 31st December 2016 will take place on Tuesday 28th March in the Front Meeting Room, Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, Westerham at 7.45pm for 8.00pm prompt. This is a short meeting required by our constitution. The AGM is open to all, though only current paid-up Members over 18 are eligible to vote.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last AGM are available by request from the Hon. Secretary (see contact details below). A few copies will be available at the AGM, they will not be read aloud. The Report of the General Committee and copies of the Accounts will be freely available at the meeting as usual.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

As elected at the 2016 AGM

President Ashton Taylor-Smith

Chairman Karen Williams

Hon. Secretary Beverley Newbold

Hon. Treasurer Mark Mountjoy

Elected Members:

James Atkinson, Annick Barbaria, Marli Bailey, Judy Duffield, Mark de Angeli, Roger Williams

Vice Presidents:

Katherine Calvorcoressi, Daphne Clemens, Mark de Angeli, Sally Pratt, Jeff Adams, Rosemary Pearson

Fellows:

Neville Wells, Shiela James

Nominations for 2017:

Further nominations for membership of the Committee for 2017 should be received by the Secretary, no later than Tuesday, 21st March.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE.

For those who don't pay by standing order, please bring your cheque or cash to the **AGM**.

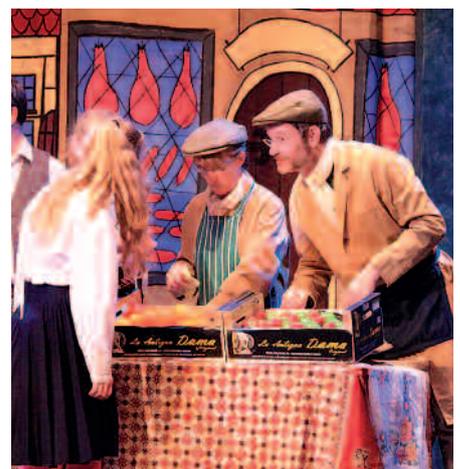
Rates for 2017 remain:

Individual - £11.50

Family - £20

Cheques made payable to **WADS**. If you're not attending the AGM please post your subscription renewal to:

Mark Mountjoy,
Suite 4,
The Pheasantry,
Vicarage Hill,
Westerham
TN16 1FY

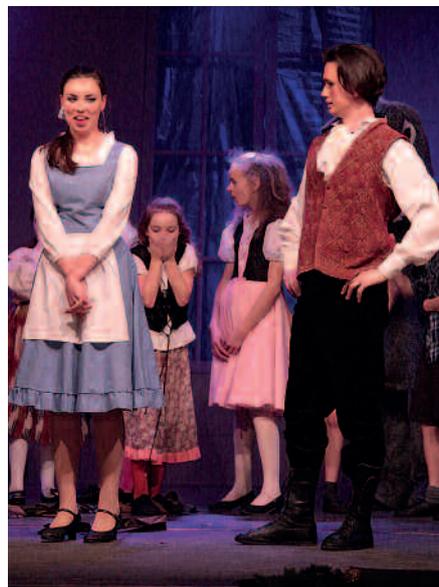
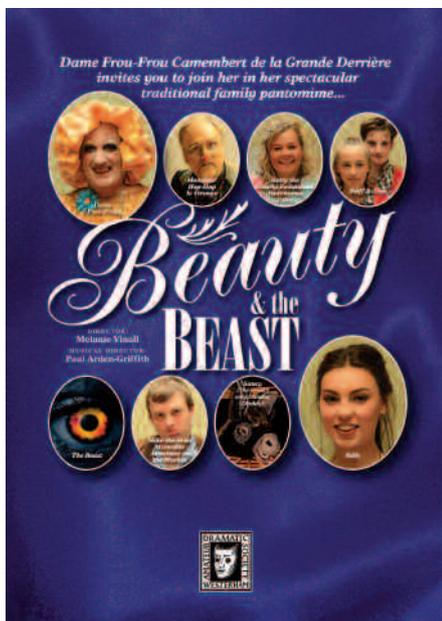


A look back at 2016!

Courtesy of -

DAME FROU-FROU'S PHOTO ALBUM

Darlings! The editor has asked me to dust off my little album of memories of my visit to Westerham last year and submit a few well thumbed photos for this edition (me thinks he's filling in for writer's block again!).



Agatha Christie

Born in 1890, in Torquay, Devon, England, to an American father and English mother, Agatha Christie wrote her first play **Black Coffee**, the only play in which she chose to feature Hercule Poirot, in 1930, having been disappointed by the way her novel **The Murder of Roger Ackroyd** had been adapted into **Alibi** in 1928 by Michael Morton.

She adapted her bestselling novel **And Then There Were None** for stage in 1943, giving it a different ending, followed by, in quick succession, **Appointment with Death** (1945), **Murder on the Nile** (1946) and **The Hollow** (1951). With **The Mousetrap** (1952), **Witness for the Prosecution** (1953), and **Spider's Web** (1954), she became the only female playwright to have three plays running in the West End at the same time.

Later plays include **Towards Zero** (1956) co-adapted with Gerald Verner, **Verdict** (1958) possibly her most unusual play, **Go Back for Murder** (1960), and **Rule of Three** (1962), a series of three one act plays. After a hugely successful career and a wonderful life, Ms. Christie died peacefully on 12 January 1976.



About the Play

One of Agatha Christie's finest plays, set in an isolated cottage in South Wales in 1958. An unexpected guest arrives at a house on a very foggy night to find a dead body in a wheelchair. The victim is Richard Warwick, a very unpleasant and heartless man Responsible for many outrageous deeds but perhaps the most dreadful one being the killing of a six year old boy whilst drunk driving.

Whodunnit? Perhaps it's the young retarded half brother who is repeatedly taunted and mentally abused by Warwick. The sinister

valet and male nurse has a hidden agenda, whilst the housekeeper and even his own Mother have reasons to see him dead. Where does the unexpected guest fit into all this?

This play is set in true Christie style with many twists and turns. Not only a thrilling who-dunnit but the drama also has a psychological twist to it and a complete surprise ending. This play will have you on the edge of your seat and guessing who the culprit might be. There's even touches of humour as you would expect from the pen of the Queen of crime.

New Members.

With the New Year we have attracted a number of new members to WADS, particularly actors. You will see some familiar names in the advertising leaflet for the next show. But four of the cast will be making their debut in Westerham Hall, albeit one of them feet first!. In itself that is very encouraging. WADS has a well-earned, and high reputation for quality shows and plays, and it should be no surprise that we are drawing talent in from outside the parish boundaries.

However, sustaining a good reputation is a constant challenge, and depends crucially on having talented volunteers off the stage as

well as on it. The actors will be the first to admit the vital role played by the production crew and front of house team.

And the list is long. Directors, Producers, lighting, sound, set design, set construction, make up, stage management, book keepers, administration, PR and marketing, bar, Front of House; like a ship, for all the serene calm visible above there are many working furiously unseen below to keep the ship afloat and on course!

For WADS as for many societies there is always a shortage of offstage talent to contribute to productions. The talent is there somewhere, but it is not always available when required. The net result sometimes is that a small

number of people are taking on too much, and in areas towards the boundaries of their skills and experience.

There is only so much one can do with energy alone!! So we are determined to expand the backstage team. And in many areas, previous experience of drama is not essential. We need access to skills associated with PR, marketing, social media, website management, bar management, accountancy. Our Chairman, Karen Williams will be warming to this theme at the AGM on 28 March, so if you feel able and willing to contribute (in any way) please come along to the AGM and have a chat with one of the committee.

