



ST. MARTIN'S PLAYERS PRESENT



a farce by Philip King,
directed and produced by Richard Percival and Sue Adams

I'll Get My Man



at the
Huxtable Hall, St Martin's Church,
Erith Road, Bexleyheath

Friday 19 May 2017, 7:30pm
Saturday 20 May 2017, 2:30pm and 7:30pm

PROGRAMME

50p

WELCOME TO THE SHOW!

In 1991, our newly reformed drama group performed 'See How They Run' as its first play after the first pantomime. In spite of early teething troubles and inexperience, the play remained a favourite of the group; to date, it is the only play we have ever revisited, repeating the production with a new cast for our 10th and 25th anniversaries, adding more elaborate sets, costumes and lighting on each occasion. The play was set in 1943 and was based around an old friend visiting the vicar's wife and an escaped German prisoner, both disguised as vicars, leading to multiple cases of mistaken identity, missing clothing and a plot becoming more and more complex, with hilarious consequences.

Enjoying 'See How They Run', the group has now chosen to perform another Philip King play, set about twenty years later. This one features Arthur Humphrey, the visiting vicar from the other play, the endeavours of his celebrity nephew trying to hide from his female fans, and another visit from a bemused Bishop Of Lax. Once again, similar plot devices have been used, but these are the reasons why all we enjoy a good farce.

Richard Percival, our group's Chairman, directs this play alongside Sue Adams, returning to active service within the group following a break. We also welcome Martin Stone back to the stage (although behind the scenery, as prompt), having recovered from illness shortly after being cast in one of the leading roles in the most recent production of 'See How They Run'. In this production, we welcome a new face, with Mark Foulds appearing in the challenging role of 'Venture Man', and Stewart Bull appears in his first play, having performed in several brief roles in our last pantomime.

Whether this is your first visit to one of our productions, or you have seen them all, we welcome you to the show. We hope you enjoy the performance, and hope to see you again in future.



THE PLAY AND THE WRITER



Yorkshire born Philip King (1904-79) started acting at the age of 16, before turning his hand to writing plays. His first play, 'Without The Prince' was written in 1939, and over the next 35 years, wrote (and co-wrote) over 25 plays, while continuing to appear on-stage, often appearing in his own productions. His most notable work was 'See How They Run', with characters from that play appearing in other plays.

“Peter ‘Venture Man’ Graham, TV series hero, seeks refuge at the country rectory with his mild clerical Uncle Humphrey from all the females who continually chase after him, and in particular from Pixie ‘I’ll Get My Man’ Potter. Humphrey, horrified by the threatened loss of his housekeeper who has been dismissed by his formidable sister, advertises for a wife but absentmindedly omits the important word "marriage." These two occurrences resoundingly shatter the peace of the village. Answers to the ad pour in. The arrival of the dignified Bishop of Lax adds to the confusion. Peter finds the vicarage no refuge from Pixie Potter and even more hectic than the outside world”.

The play comprises two acts; there will be a short interval at the end of Act 1, when refreshments will be available in the small hall.

The action takes place in the lounge hall of the Vicarage
in the small village of Stebbington-Fawley.

Act 1 – Scene 1 - 9am on a bright spring Monday morning

Act 1 – Scene 2 – 10am the following Thursday

Act 2 – Scene 1 – The next morning

Act 2 – Scene 2 – One second later



THE CAST



SIMON WATKINS

as The Reverend Arthur Humphrey

Simon's first production with us was 'Keeping Down With The Joneses', back in 1995. His favourite role is Idle Jack, having played the part in both productions of 'Dick Whittington', with numerous other panto appearances. In our other plays, he often portrays the younger male character (nowadays, he can just about get away with it!)

LINDSEY CLAYTON

as Mrs Carter

Lindsey first appeared on stage with us last year, and has been cast in every production since joining (although sometimes has the short straw of having to 'man up', in roles such as 'Barrymore' the butler in 'Hound Of The Baskervilles', and the Beast in our last panto. She is certainly keen – it's not unusual for her to learn other members' lines as well!



VAL COATES

as Harriette Humphrey

Val joined the group in 2008; memorable roles include a doddery old lady in 'Murder At The New Vicarage', the dignified 'Miss Bourne' who slept on the table through most of 'The Ghost Train', and most recently as 'Lady Agatha Mortimer' in 'Hound Of The Baskervilles'. She is also the only lady in the group to play a panto dame.

CHRISTINE BELSHAM

as Winifred Barrington-Locke

Christine has regularly appeared in the chorus of our pantomimes, and took new steps in January this year – as the front of the horse. Outside of Pantoland, she has appeared as the Vicar in 'Murder At The New Vicarage', the Vicar's wife in our last production of 'See How They Run', and one of the nagging wives in 'Key For Two'.



MARK FOULDS

as Peter 'Venture Man' Graham

We welcome Mark to the St Martin's Players, as he performs in his first production with us. Although relatively new to acting, he has been on stage before: as a percussionist, Mark has performed with various bands and music styles, at venues ranging from Glastonbury to Battersea Power Station.



STEWART BULL

as A Photographer

Having seen a few of our recent productions, Stewart first appeared in three different roles in our last pantomime – a paramedic, a guard and 'Darth Vader'. This is his first role in one of our regular plays, albeit a very brief one. Stewart has also contributed to set building and artwork in the last few productions.

VICTORIA JAMIESON

as Josephine De Brissac

In spite of her age, Vicky is one of the longer serving members of the group appearing in this production. From starting out as 'one of those kids dancing in the panto', she has progressed to a range of different roles, from serving maids, to principal boys, to serving maids, to punks... this time, she isn't a serving maid (maybe next time!)



CHARLOTTE PHILLIPS

as Pixie 'I'll Get My Man' Potter

Charlotte first appeared as Fairy Liquid in our 2004 panto, and has since appeared occasionally over the years, with one appearance as a prince and two as principle girl. Her largest role to date was as 'Norma Leigh', the bossy, short-tempered lady who became the victim in 'Murder Backstage' – the audience happily cheered when her character was gone!

PAUL RENDLE

as The Bishop Of Lax

Paul joined the group in 2008, and has appeared in various roles, from butlers to policemen, and twice appeared at short notice as panto characters with dubious accents. He often performs the role of Stage Manager, where he is known for a number of special effects, and ensuring the efficient running of the stage wings by scaring the cast away.



THE CREW

Prompt MARTIN STONE

Properties STEVE MORLEY

Stage Crew STEVE CORNISH

Wardrobe & Costumes MONICA CANE
JULIE EXELL

Set Construction 'THE SUNDAY CREW'

Sound and Lighting DAVID BATCHELOR
CHRIS SUGGITT

Box Office RICHARD PERCIVAL

Front Of House FRIENDS OF THE PLAYERS

Refreshments ANN BATCHELOR et al

Poster DAVE BARNETT
Programme STEVE MORLEY



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THE SMALL PRINT... Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere in the building. As a courtesy to those on stage and in the audience, please turn off your mobile 'phone and refrain from using flash photography. Fire exits are located at either side of the stage and at the rear of the hall; in the unlikely event of an emergency, please leave the hall by the nearest safe exit and assemble in the car park.
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT CAMERA FLASH EFFECTS WILL BE USED IN THIS PRODUCTION. Thank you.

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

*A MURDER MYSTERY EVENING
...WITH A MEAL*

Written by Claire Jones

Directed by Daryl O'Sullivan and Marion Biram

29-30 September 2017

*Readings and auditions
will take place in June;
check our Facebook page
for times and dates.*

**NEW
MEMBERS
ARE ALWAYS
WELCOME!**

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR RAFFLE



As usual, we will hold a raffle for charity at each performance.

Tickets will be on sale at the rear of the hall before the performance and during the interval.

*The draw will take place during final act,
and the winning numbers will be displayed at the end of the performance.*

Formed in 1953, the Samaritans provide support to anyone experiencing emotional stress, those who are struggling to cope, or contemplating suicide. In addition to face-to-face discussion, their 'listeners' provide emotional support by telephone, text, post and online, and receive over five-million calls for help each year. There are over 200 branches of the Samaritans across the UK and Ireland, with over 21,000 volunteers; the proceeds from our raffle will support the Bexley & Dartford branch.



SAMARITANS

OUR PAST PRODUCTIONS



1991

**Sleeping Beauty
See How They Run!**

1992

**Snow White And The Seven Dwarves
Virtue Triumphant**

1993

**Cinderella
Continental Quilt
Surprise Package**

1994

**Aladdin
Laugh! I Nearly Went To Miami
Post Horn Gallop**

1995

**Babes In The Wood
Keeping Down With The Joneses
Play On!**

1996

**Dick Whittington
When We Are Married
The Roses Of Eyam**

1997

**Jack And The Beanstalk
Pardon Me! Prime Minister
Murder In Company**

1998

**Puss In Boots
Pull The Other One
Blithe Spirit**

1999

**Mother Goose
Bedroom Farce
Pride And Joy
Last Tango In Barnehurst**

2000

**Peter Pan
See How They Run!
My Friend Miss Flint**

2001

**Treasure Island
Shock Tactics
Outside Edge**

2002

**Cinderella
The Murder Room
Running Riot**

2003

**King Arthur
Party Piece
No Time For Fig Leaves**

2004

**The Sleeping Beauty
Kindly Keep It Covered
The End Of The Pier Show**

2005

**Bluebeard
A Murder Is Announced**

2006

**Aladdin
How The Other Half Loves
Noah's Animals**

2007

**The Three Musketeers
Murder Weekend
Out Of Focus**

2008

**Little Red Riding Hood
Murder In Play
Toad Of Toad Hall**

2009

**Jack And The Beanstalk
The Day God Died
Barbecues 'R' Murder
Lady Lollipop
Jekyll And Hyde**

2010

**Dick Whittington
And Then There Were None
Over My Dead Body**

2011

**Snow White
Alice In Wonderland
Murder At The New Vicarage**

2012

**Cinderella
Panic Stations**

2013

**Robin Hood
Crazy Capers, Dodgy Deals
The Ghost Train**

2014

**Mother Goose
Henry The Tudor Dude
Murder Backstage**

2015

**Sleeping Beauty
The Wizard Of Oz
See How They Run!**

2016

**Aladdin
Key For Two
Hound Of The Baskervilles**

2017

Beauty And The Beast