



POLEGATE DRAMA GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019 – Issue 164

Hello dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to our Summer 2019 newsletter. The year has got off to a great start and we are now looking forward to a fantastic second half. Read on!



OUTSIDE EDGE

In May, our audiences were bowled over by a delightful comedy as the cast of 'Outside Edge' took to the wicket.

This was a very happy production, everything went well and we are hopeful of a small profit. Once again, audience numbers were disappointing. This is a difficult problem for amateur and professional theatre groups alike as, rather than enjoying the thrill of live theatre, folk prefer to stay at home and watch TV. Who are these people?! We have a good membership and, now more than ever, we need your support. Thank you to everyone – friends and members – who did turn out to join us on our cricket pitch. We hope you enjoyed it.

Brenda Gower, our NODA regional rep, did. Here is her review:

What an ideal play to put on at this time of year when the cricket season is in full swing! I have to admit that it has always been one of my favourites, probably because it has such a wealth of characters. These characters were all very well portrayed in this production which took place in a set designed by your talented team which ticked all the boxes.

How anyone could actually live with Ian Parratt's character Roger I do not know! Ian gave him all the bossiness and complete obliviousness desired with Jane Parratt as Miriam (Mim) putting up with him most of the time except when Dorking was mentioned! Excellent characterisations from both.

Key Dates

Murder Mysteries

Friday & Saturday 2nd & 3rd August.

Box office opens 2nd July.

Autumn Production

31st October-2nd November
Play readings and auditions
20th, 22nd, 27th & 29th August

Dick Whittington

18th-26th January 2020

Play reading 18th June

Auditions 6th, 8th, 13th & 15th August

Coffee Mornings

24th August, 7th September
& 9th November 2019

2020 Celebration Supper

Sunday 2nd February



Bob was married (not happily!) to Ginnie (who was only interested in getting a sun tan!) with Geoff Shorman and Sarah Hole giving these parts all that was necessary to bring them to life. Trevor Fuggle played Dennis who was definitely a bit of a lad but who also had his problems. Again, excellent performances from these three.

Then we come to Andy Napier and Alison Attwood as Kevin and his wife Maggie. Maggie dearly loved her little Kev, often literally smothering him in her fur coat, worn to keep away the draughts! Kevin was always getting upset so it gave her plenty of scope for mothering him. She had to do this as the sad thing was that she could not have children. Another pairing playing so well together.

The last pairing was Stephen Edwards as Alex and Helen Griffin as Sharon, although you could hardly call it a pairing as Alex did his very best to ignore poor Sharon. He had only just met her and really wasn't bothered about her at all – he was much more interested in his car. Not a large part for Sharon but Helen made her come alive with her extreme shyness and awkwardness. Well done to both.

Well, the cricket match continued with everyone's problems being aired but not necessarily overcome until the very end when, with Roger & Miriam left on stage and Dorking having been explained and Miriam about to leave Roger, it then started to rain so Miriam went to put the kettle on and we guess the pair would be back to normal!

I have mentioned the lovely set and that, together with all that goes on backstage mean so much to a production so all, whether on or off stage are to be congratulated with special thanks going to Director Jim Dobell.

MURDER MYSTERIES

Back by popular demand, we will once again be performing two suspense-filled Murder Mystery plays on consecutive nights, Friday and Saturday 2nd and 3rd August.

Our Friday night performance is 'Who Killed the Farmer', directed by Alison Attwood with the following cast:

Agnes Dalrimple	Sarah Jane Hole	Lottie Belcher	Yvonne Corbishley
Amos Ramsbottom	Peter Clarke	Burt Lard	Ian Parratt
Constance Ramsbottom	Charisse Goddard	Mabel Nippitt	Jane Parratt
Thomas Ramsbottom	Clive Elrick		



On Saturday night, we will be performing 'Who Killed the Caretaker', directed by Cris Haniver with the following cast:

Narrator	Maria Bayne	William Knott	Jim Dobell
Inspector Swann	Denise Rose	Shirley Knott	Kathy Long
Sergeant Cygnet	Rebecca Tanner	Clarissa Apprehension	Sue Talmadge
Jasper Ricketts	Gavin Bayne	Rosemary Gardener	Mandy Edwards
Trunk Scaffold	Trevor Fuggle	Bob	Geoff Shorman

Tickets are £8 for one night or £15 for both and the box office opens on Tuesday 2nd July. You can book a whole table or share a table with other members of our audience – a great way to make new friends! You are also welcome to bring your own food and drink so why not make it a party!

These are always popular evenings so please make a date in your diaries now.

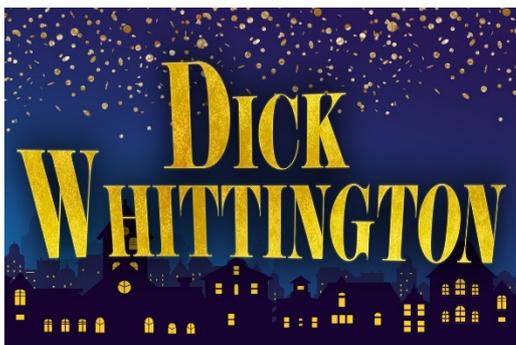
AUTUMN PRODUCTION

Our Autumn play will be on stage 31st October to 2nd November 2019. At the time of going to press, we don't yet know which play we are doing, but it will be directed by Helen Griffin.



This is Helen's debut directing a full-length play so please do come and show your support.

Play readings and auditions will be held on 20th, 22nd, 27th and 29th August. All welcome!



PANTOMIME 2020

Our 49th pantomime will be the action-packed, fun-filled favourite '**Dick Whittington**', the panto paved with gold!

We welcome Charisse Goddard as our director, working closely with Sue Wood our choreographer and Marc Charlton our musical director.

We will be on stage from 18th to 26th January, which is one week later than usual.

The script read-through will be on 18th June and auditions will take place on 6th, 8th, 13th and 15th August. All welcome.

COFFEE MORNINGS

We have dates in the diary for the following Saturday coffee mornings: 24th August, 7th September and 9th November. If you are able to help with any of these dates, please contact Maria Bayne or email admin@polegatecramagroup.com.



We have taken on several more coffee mornings this year, which has put rather a strain on prizes for the tombola and raffles. If anyone has any unwanted gifts or other items they could donate to the drama group, these would be most welcome. Please contact either Maria, Helen Griffin or Sarah Griffin. Many thanks.

COMMUNITY CENTRE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY



We were delighted to take part in Polegate Community Centre's 50th Anniversary, which proved to be a very special weekend for all concerned.

Polegate Drama Group took to the stage (where else?!) with a collection of clothes and props, and we had great fun helping to dress up children, their mums and dads, even our MP Maria Caulfield (who looked magnificent in a regal cloak, in Tory blue of course!).

Special thanks to Helen Griffin who organised our contribution to the celebrations.



2020 CELEBRATION SUPPER

I am sitting at my computer on a wet day in June and we don't seem to have had summer yet, but here I am thinking about Christmas! Or not?!

We are taking a break from our usual festive celebrations as, with panto rehearsals in full swing, people having other Christmas events to attend, and good venues getting booked up, the Group's Christmas Dinner has become more difficult to organise.

So, for a change, we will have a celebration supper in the new year, once people have recovered from the panto. We are going to Pomodoro & Mozzarella in Eastbourne where we have booked the private function room for Sunday 2nd February at 6.30pm. There's a good choice of meals from the restaurant's menu at a fantastic price of £12.50 for two courses or £15 for three courses, including service (plus drinks).

You can pay on the night but, to ensure we cater for the right numbers and don't face problems with cancellations, we are asking people to secure their place with £5 per head deposit, paid to Alison.

This event is open to all group members, their families and friends. We hope members will turn out in force to make this a lovely supper party and get our 2020 season off to a flying start.

There's plenty of time but please put the date in your diary and, when you can, let us know if you're coming by emailing admin@polegatedramagroup.com.

That's all from me. I wish you a very happy summer full on sunshine, laughter and amazing murder mysteries! I will be back with another newsletter in the autumn. As always, if anyone has any contributions, they would be most welcome.

I hope to see you soon.

Best wishes,
Alison

Email: admin@polegatedramagroup.com

