



**H**ello dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2019. We are ending a successful year on a very high note and are now gearing up with great excitement for our family pantomime.

## **AGATHA CRUSTY & THE VILLAGE HALL MURDERS**



Our Autumn play was a great success with more deaths than *Midsummer Murders*, performed by a talented cast under the superb direction of Helen Griffin, making her director's debut with great aplomb.

Thank you to everyone who supported this play. We had lovely audiences for every performance, and their feedback was highly positive.

Brenda Gower, our regional NODA representative, provided the following review:

*Midsummer Murders look out! Bodies galore in this well presented play. The village hall committee were being bumped off at regular intervals, a story well told by the whole cast.*

*There was only one set, well designed and constructed by your talented team but the descriptions of the different places where some of the committee had met their end were so well written that one could imagine just where these gruesome happenings occurred. So along comes Agatha Crusty (pronounced Croosty!) who of course eventually brings the killer to justice. Jane Parratt was the ideal Agatha, always well turned out, offering her help to DI Twigg which was generally refused. Ian Parratt played DI Twigg who gave the character all that was needed to make him quite annoying and obviously really inept at his job!*

### **Key Dates**

#### **Dick Whittington**

18<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Box office open 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

#### **Christmas Fair**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
11am-3.30pm

#### **AGM**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at  
8pm

#### **2020 Celebration Supper**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

#### **Coffee Morning**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Andy Napier played the brothers Harry & PC Lockett and Eleanor was played by Charisse Goddard, obviously in awe and probably in love with the Reverent Toby, Adam Riggs playing the Vicar with some obsequiousness which was very well done. Olivia and Oliver (brother and sister) were played by Yvonne Corbishley, Maisie by Sue Talmadge, Isabella by Alison Attwood and Mandy by Rebecca Tanner.



The whole cast were always in character, becoming more scared as Committee members were falling like flies. Then came the denouement and the killer was revealed. It was a really enjoyable evening with lots of laughs and very good acting from all.

So much hard work is always carried out backstage so many congratulations to the Creative Team and, of course to Director Helen Griffin for bringing this delightful play to fruition.



## PANTOMIME 2020

Our 49<sup>th</sup> pantomime is 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, and with the following fantastic cast:

Fairy Bow-Bells	Sue Talmadge	Sarah the Cook	Chris Thompson
Alice Fitzwarren	Nicola Cullen	Queen Rat	Helen Griffin
Idle Jack	Laura Catchpole	Rat-Nap	Alicia Jay
Dick Whittington	Hope-Marie Henderson	Kick-Rat	Cris Haniver
Tommy the Cat	Charlotte Brooks	Cpt, Horatio Fitzwarren	Adam Riggs
Alderman Fitzwarren/The Sultan	Trevor Fuggle		

The box office opens on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. (This is one week later than originally advertised so apologies for any inconvenience.). Put the date in your diary now!

## HANDYMEN AND WOMEN WANTED!

Polegate Drama Group is famed for our fabulous panto sets but they don't build themselves! As always, we welcome all enthusiastic volunteers to help build and paint the scenery. In return, you will receive good-humoured conversation washed down with copious quantities of free tea, coffee and biscuits. Bring your own packed lunch.



We will be working most Sundays between now and the panto, plus some Saturdays and Bank Holidays but, as the centre is sometimes busy with Christmas parties and activities, please check scenery dates via our website.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR



The annual Polegate Community Centre's Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November between 11am and 3.30pm. We will have a stall to promote the panto and welcome hearing from anyone who could help by chatting to people and handing out posters just for an hour or so during the day. Please email us as [admin@polegatedramagroup.com](mailto:admin@polegatedramagroup.com).



## 2020 CELEBRATION SUPPER

To mark the end of our current season, and the start of the new one, we are holding a celebration supper in the new year for members, their families and friends.

It's on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.30pm in the private function room at Pomodoro & Mozzarella in Eastbourne. There's a choice of yummy 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 pay on the night but, to ensure we cater for the right numbers, please secure your place with £5 per head deposit. A good number of members have already booked but there's still space for more so please put the date in your diary and let us know if you're coming by emailing [admin@polegatedramagroup.com](mailto:admin@polegatedramagroup.com). Alison is collecting the £5 deposits, either cash or BACS. Please email [alison.attwood@btinternet.com](mailto:alison.attwood@btinternet.com) for details.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's AGM will be held on Monday 2nd December starting at 8pm. This is an important meeting to talk about the finances and future of our club. And there will be plenty of time after the formal bit to chat about everything that is happening next year. Please come and show your support.



### COFFEE MORNINGS

Our next coffee morning will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Further dates for 2020 will be announced shortly. If you are able to help, please contact Maria Bayne or email [admin@polegatedramagroup.com](mailto:admin@polegatedramagroup.com).

We boost our profits through the coffee mornings including a raffle and tombola. If anyone receives any unwanted Christmas gifts or has other items that would make good raffle prizes, these would be most welcome. Please contact either Maria, Helen Griffin or Sarah Griffin. Many thanks.

Well folks, that's all from me.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

Best wishes,  
Alison

Email: [admin@polegatedramagroup.com](mailto:admin@polegatedramagroup.com)

