



Dramatic News Dramatic News

www.huntingdondramaclub.org.uk

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In Our 63rd Year

From the Editor

We've packed a lot into this newsletter, so please, sit back and take the time to read through this large edition.

This issue

It includes:

- A reminder of the new committee elected at the recent AGM;
- A note from the director on the Club's Spring production – COMING VERY, VERY SOON – BUY TICKETS NOW;
- A special moment for the Club;
- Plans for 2007; and
- Other activities

The Spring production – teaser photos

As noted in the last newsletter there has been a lot happening in relation to the Spring production. Rather than put it into words I thought I'd provide you with some teasers of the what you might expect to see.



Richard and Anthea



Louise and Hugh



Sven eyeing off the competition



Brian and his girls



Olive and Sven – oh so serious



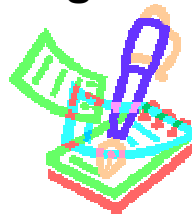
The cast

These photos were taken at a recent rehearsal. For more, come and see the performances on

**29th, 30th and 31st of March – Commemoration Hall –
Huntingdon High Street**

CONTACT DETAILS

<mailto:theeditor@huntingdondramaclub.org.uk>
For details of past, present or future productions:
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A reminder

New committee

You may have read the report on the Club website about the AGM and pancake evening, held on Shrove Tuesday. We were pleased to be able to look back on a very successful year (in which we made a surplus of nearly £1,500), and discuss plans for the next twelve months (see below).

The new committee is as follows:

Chair	Michael Black
Vice-Chair	Carol Wadey
Secretary	Caroline Harbord
Treasurer	Ronald Stevenson
Ordinary Members	John Morgan, Kat Sexton, Mark Lamberth, Pete Welsh, Ann Monk, Richard Meredith, Ray Livermore (Huntingdon Youth Theatre Rep)

We were sorry that Rachael Orchard wasn't able to stand for the committee again, because of the demands of work and family, and we welcome Richard as a valuable new recruit to the committee.

Joking Apart by Alan Ayckbourn –a note from the director

Rehearsals are now entering the final critical stage and all minds are (or should be!) focused on the opening night of Thursday 29th March. On the production front, the backdrop has been painted and parts of the set are already built with most props also having been sourced. We still require help both backstage, make-up and costumes and also with front of house so please contact John Morgan who is co-ordinating all production aspects if you wish to help out. Tickets have been on sale for a week or so now, with many having been pre-booked already.

Please tell all your friends, family, colleagues and indeed enemies about the play as it will be an enjoyable evening for all concerned. Tickets are available from The Card Gallery, Huntingdon High Street, the Commemoration Hall, by phoning Ann on 01480-456634, through the Club's website:- <http://www.huntingdondramaclub.org.uk/>, directly from cast members, or even on the door if you fancy chancing things.....

Mr Ayckbourn's 70th and most recent play "If I Were You" is currently touring the UK – so this is your opportunity to come along and see one of his earlier works and experience the style of writing that has made him the world's most performed living playwright.

Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon 29th -31st March – be there !!

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Club invests in better stage lighting at the Commemoration Hall

The trustees of the Commemoration Hall have decided to raise funds to upgrade the stage lighting, which is likely to cost between £16,000 and £20,000. This will be very useful for the Club, as we won't have to hire so much lighting for our productions.

We've decided to contribute £1,000 towards the investment. This is the sum left to the Club by Jack Hyde, a member from our first production, in 1944, until his death in 2003. He acted in well over 100 plays, ranging from *No sex please, we're British* to *Dr Who and the Empress of Othernow*, by Club member Peter Vials. He also directed several, and was at various times chair and treasurer for a number of years.



*Peter Barton, Gerry Davison and Jack Hyde in
Dr Who and the Empress of Othernow, by Peter Vials, 1994*

Jack also appeared in many Shakespeare at the George productions, and was a trustee of SAG.

We're delighted to put Jack's money to such good and lasting use. A plaque will be fixed in the hall, to commemorate Jack and naming Huntingdon Drama Club as the donor.

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Plans for 2007

Spring production

Rehearsals for *Joking apart* are going well and we'll be performing at the end of this month – 29 to 31 March. Please encourage as many people as possible to come to this rather black comedy by Alan Ayckbourn.

Summer production

For what's probably our first-ever full-length summer production, we've chosen Agatha Christie's ***A murder is announced***, directed by Kelly Mason. This is vintage Christie, with Miss Marple heading a cast of seven women and five men. The read-through will be on Wednesday, 4 April, with rehearsals starting the following week. Performances: 22, 23, 29 and 30 June, in various venues. More details to follow.

Autumn production

This will be Charlotte Brontë's ***Jane Eyre***, adapted by Willis Hall. Directed by Michael Black, the play can be performed by any number of people from 12 upwards. Performance dates: 15-17 November in the Commemoration Hall.

Open day at the Medway Centre, 30 June

Other social events

Killing 2 Bards with the 1 Stone ?

The club is proposing a trip to see a concert entitled "Bits of the Bard" at the Arkenstall Centre in Haddenham on the 6th of May, cost £5 for an evening of words and music celebrating the much acclaimed musings and scribblings of Mr William Shakespeare. More information here:-

<http://www.arkenstallcentre.co.uk/bards.php>

In truth, this is in part a cloak and dagger exercise to check out the suitability of the venue for our Summer production, hence the corny title above..... who dares wins - sorry (Ed.)

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