



# Stage Whispers

May 2018

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## SPRING PRODUCTION

The Whips put on Role Play by Alan Ayckbourn as their Spring Production.

The curtains opened to reveal a London Dockland's flat, where Justin Lazenby (played by Stuart Tomkins) and his girlfriend Julie-Ann (played by Emily Ingold) are busy preparing for a dinner party, where the expected announcement of their engagement is to happen. Stuart gave a very accomplished performance throughout the whole play and his facial

expressions were wonderful to watch especially when his girlfriend suggested they live chastely apart until their wedding day. This is the best acting role I have seen Stuart in. Emily played her role very competently and she is a welcome addition to the Whips. Her entrances were sharp and she demonstrated good acting skills.



Paige, a gangster moll, (played by Anna Price) lived in a flat upstairs and gate-crashed the evening. She played her role very well, showing both a toughness of character as befitted her part, and empathy for seriously disrupting the

evening for Justin. Her lap dance at the dinner party will be remembered in years to come! Micky, her minder, (played by Phil Embury) refuses to leave Paige on her own. As always, the lines delivered for this part were exquisitely judged and wearing dark glasses increased the sinister look for this character.



Later in the play we meet the parents of the dinner party hosts. Dee Jobson (played by Jan Hudson) and her husband Derek (played by Colin Bailey) were from Yorkshire and they played their roles very well maintaining the Northern accent throughout. They were a bigoted couple, wanting what they believed was the best for their



favourite daughter. Lastly Justin's mother Arabella (played by Pat Davis) arrived, very much the worse for wear having stopped at various points en route to the flat for a drink. This was a lovely role which was judged to perfection as it would have been easy to play the character too drunk. Arabella is confused all the time believing Paige is Justin's girlfriend and the dinner party disintegrates into chaos.



All actors were good in their roles. The costumes were well judged. The pace of the play was excellent throughout, although care must be taken to always project voices and not to speak too fast, as lines can be lost in the village hall venue. The play, directed by Jack Griffith, was excellent and all the audience were thoroughly enjoying themselves.





## Still Seeking a Pianist

We are still seeking a pianist to play for us at our next pantomime in January 2019. Performances will be at The West Horsley Village Hall 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January and weekly rehearsals take place in the Horsley area starting in October 2018. Our pantomime has yet to be selected but on past experience involves a lot of lively songs and fun for all participants. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be please contact Colin Bailey at [colinbailey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:colinbailey@hotmail.co.uk) Many thanks.

## CAROL MCGLONE

Four members of the Whips went to Carol's funeral early may on a beautiful but sad day and Peter, Carol's husband Peter sent this letter of thanks:-

*We would like to thank all of you who recently attended Carol's funeral. It was heart-warming to see so many people in the congregation. To know that Carol was popular and well respected by so many is a great comfort to us.*

*There was a wide range of ages and a broad spectrum of people which reflected how sociable she was and the diverse nature of her life and interests.*

*Peaslake is a beautiful spot and the sun shone for us that day. There was much chatter and laughter during the reception and so it felt like a genuine celebration of her life – she would have loved to have seen how many people turned out and she would be disappointed to have missed the occasion! Vanessa and I tried to get to speak to everyone, sorry if we missed you, but we were grateful to hear all the lovely tributes paid to her character. The memory of your kind words and of the day will stay with us for a long time and will help to overcome what lies in the days ahead.*

*Thank you once again,*

*Kind regards*

*Peter, Vanessa and Colin*



## Meerkat Notes Committee meeting

None since last April

## WHIPS 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PLANS

2018 is the WHIPS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. We've come a long way since that first production (Sorcery in the Suburb by Philip Johnson) in Spring 1948 and we plan to celebrate on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018**.

We are developing plans for an evening of entertainment with a catered buffet at the West Horsley Village Hall. There will be musical entertainment from WHIPS of all ages and a one act play.

We will also be staging an exhibition to showcase the WHIPS history of the past 70 years.

All WHIPS members will be invited so save the date. If you have any WHIPS memorabilia such as photos, programmes, posters we would love to have them for the exhibition. If you would like to take part we would also love to have you. If you can help please contact Chairman Colin Bailey on 01483 283372 or [colinbailey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:colinbailey@hotmail.co.uk)

## PLAYREADINGS

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The April playreading will be on THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> May at Barbara Firths house, Rosemount Woodland Drive EH KT245AN Tel 283262 at 8 prompt

The June Playreading will be at Jan Hudsons house 96, Woodland Rd Bookham KT234HH tel 01372457501 on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June

The August 16<sup>th</sup> playreading will be at Soo Tomkin's house 67 Orchard Close, Fetcham KT229JL tel 01372386458

Hopefully the Performing Arts Library will still be operating from somewhere to allow us to borrow playsets!

## WHIPS AGM

About 15 folk attended the AGM on Wed 16<sup>th</sup> May where only one committee member, Tony Thompson retired after about 100 years! and the rest stood for re-election...Awards were given and will be published next month as Colin, who took the photographs is on holiday!...



## CONTACTS

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24<sup>th</sup> May Playreading Barbara Firth's house

14<sup>th</sup> June Playreading at Jan Hudson's house

12 July Playreading TBA Volunteers?

16<sup>th</sup> August Playreading at Soo Tomkins house

13<sup>th</sup> October Whips 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary WHVH

## AND FINALLY

The Irish are always the first ones to come to the aid of their fellow man . . .

Shortly after take-off on an outbound evening Aer Lingus flight from Dublin to Boston, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following painful announcement:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up by our catering service. I don't know how this has happened but we have 103 passengers on board and, unfortunately, we received only 40 dinner meals. I truly apologize for this mistake and inconvenience."

When the muttering of the passengers had died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat will receive free and unlimited drinks for the duration of our 10-hour flight."

Her next announcement came about 2 hours later:

"Ladies and gentlemen, if anyone is hungry, we still have 40 dinners available"



This has been another 'get it out swiftly before the' Playreading comes' production!



