



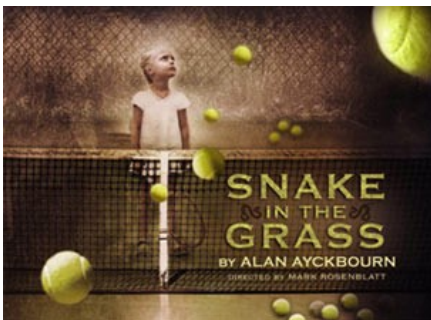
## Meopham Players Newsletter

[www.meophamplayers.co.uk](http://www.meophamplayers.co.uk)

Issue 10

June 2014/15

# 'Snake in the Grass' Auditions



Auditions for the October production will be held immediately after the AGM on 1 July.

Alan Ayckbourn's *Snake in the Grass* is a vivid compassionate study of women; spooky stuff that reveals insights into human nature .

*"This is not a comedy, but is described as a suspense drama about murder, blackmail and haunting"* says Eileen Bush, the Director, *"the casting is three women, all fairly mature, so I do hope there will be a good turnout."*

## Meopham Fete help needed

The MEOPHAM PARISH MID-SUMMER FETE is a fun day celebrating Mid-Summer at Judson's Recreation Ground .

This year the event is being held on 20 June, from noon to 4pm and the Players have taken a stand. An array of publicity material is being produced to drum up support and raise the profile of the society in the local community

Volunteers needed for the stand, if you are able to help, even if not for the whole session, please contact a member of the committee.



## An Evening in Little Grimley

**Terry Fairhead, Award winning Theatre Critic reviews the Players' May production**

It would be very easy for the production team to be discouraged by the turn-out, but they shouldn't be. On no evening did the audience reach fifty but what it lacked in numbers it more than made up for with its enthusiasm; and rightly so because the cast played their parts beautifully.

John Winson, Terri Horton and Tony Fish had all, respectively, played the parts of Gordon, Margaret and Bernard when *Last Tango* had been performed for the Duncan Rand Festival at Medway Little Theatre. This time though we had a new member, Gill Skinner, playing the part of Joyce – a daunting prospect for her as she was also new to acting. That she performed so well along with the rest of the cast was a tribute to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved and in particular to the astute direction of Sylvia Stickings.

# Bijou Tales of Theatre Folk

By Les Peters



Back to the Adelphi again for this one. The show is "Beyond the Rainbow" a musical version of the story of Noah and we are in final rehearsals.

By the finale of course the floods have subsided and it's "cue the doves". These have been housed in the bio box at the back of the upper circle and will be released from there. A tray of seed had been fixed to the back of the piece of scenery to get them to perch there.

But this is the doves first run through and they have either not read the script or listened to the Director, (typical actors). Or of course they are not hungry?

So the doves are released, three of them fly as far as the front of the upper circle and sit on the front rail. The forth flies in a graceful arc to the stage, turns, craps squarely on the bald head of Roy Kinnear and the flies back to roost with

its mates on the circle. Well there is always a critic!

During the run they worked hard in "bigging up their part" and this resulted in the management receiving several claims for dry cleaning from members of the public. They even managed a direct hit on the musical director in the pit one



night. So when people say "never work with children or animals" that includes birds.

I often wonder why we had four birds as Noah only sent one to get his olives. Maybe someone thought that way at least one would make it to the stage each night?

# Little Grimley

A thank you from Sylvie

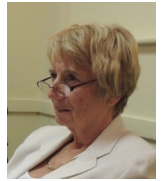
"I was so pleased and proud of my cast in the Little Grimleys production!" says Sylvie Stickings who directed the May production under trying circumstances.

"We had a difficult time getting everyone altogether for rehearsals, several times we had one or another character missing due to work or pre arranged holidays!"

She would also like to thank Rodney who helped out several times and Eileen when she stood in as Director when it became all too much for Sylvie and she tried to do a runner to South Africa!

"Welcome to our newest member, Gill, who has never been on stage before, well done Gill. We look forward to more comic portrayals! John, and Terri were wonderful as always and it was so good that Tony came back to play Bernard as only he can, welcome back Tony." she continued, as she got into her luvvie stride.

"Thanks guys for a happy, happy production! It was a pity that we had such small audiences, it is always disappointing after all the hard work, we must all really try to sell tickets and advertise our group more, it's up to us ALL to keep the flag flying!"



## IN SHORT



### MEOPHAM FETE 2015

The Meopham Fete which will be held on 20 June on Judson's Field. The Committee will be taking a stand to showcase and promote the Meopham Players and would like to hear from willing volunteers to help on the day. If you are able to help, even if it is only for part of the day, please let us know.



### AGM & COMMITTEE 2015/16

The AGM will be held on 1 July at 8pm at the Village Hall. If you haven't already, please consider putting your name forward and help support your society.



### DUNCAN RAND FESTIVAL JULY 2015

Sylvie Stickings is making a plea to the membership for some props for her play. It is dated in the early 1900's and if anyone has any of the following she would very much appreciate the loan of said item! Vintage like saucepans, frying pan dinner plates soup bowls tureens skewers old type wooden chairs, bowls (perhaps enamel) As you would imagine, the action takes place in a kitchen of the landed gentry and any offer of suitable accoutrements would be very welcome! Sylvia has booked rehearsals but she still looking for a prompt, and stage manager.



### GURDWARA VISIT 10 JULY AT 11AM

Chairman John O has agreed 10 July as the date for a visit to the Gurdwara in Gravesend. If you are interested in going please let John know as soon as possible.