

**THE WORTHY PLAYERS  
PRESENT**

# **Bedroom Farce**

**By Alan Ayckbourn  
Directed by Peter Nouwens**

**AT  
THE JUBILEE HALL, KINGS WORTHY  
ON  
APRIL 4, 5 and 11, 12 - 8:00 p.m.**

# **Bedroom Farce**

By Alan Ayckbourn

## Cast in order of appearance

Ernest	Roy Derrick
Delia	Joy Thompson
Nick	Mike Heseldin
Jan	Wendy Gomm
Malcolm	Nick Kearns
Kate	Sarah Hammond
Trevor	David Woolford
Susannah	Alison Woolford

## The Scenes

The action takes place in three bedrooms.

ACT I	Saturday evening, 7 p.m.
ACT II	A few moments later

Time – the present

There will be a 20 minute interval between acts, when refreshments will be available.

## From the Director

Firstly, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank The Worthy Players for the invitation to direct their first production of 2003. I was completely unknown to them but they put the show in my hands based on my previous experiences as a Director. I hope the result entertains and delights you this evening.

I have a soft spot for Alan Ayckbourn. I directed his delightful and sensitive comedy *Relatively Speaking* for a small company in Sydney in 1987. My first as Director. When I was offered this season I found myself quickly reading many scripts in an effort to find the right play. I found it in *Bedroom Farce*, another delightful and sensitive comedy, again looking at a very human situation and showing us how funny what we do to each other can really be. So, an Ayckbourn is again my first as Director, this time here in England. I hope it isn't my last here.

Peter's credits as a director include, among others, *Noises Off*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Dresser*, *The Hollow* and *Murder by Misadventure* with the Genesian Theatre in Sydney, and his own *Seen The Latest One* for which he won Best Script at a major Australian regional Theatre Festival. Peter and his family moved to England seven years ago and has only now been able to return to the theatre. He says he's working too hard and should have given up the day job.

For more information about The Worthy Players, please either contact our secretary, David Woolford or visit our exciting new website at:

<http://theworthyplayers.users.btopenworld.com>.

You can also email us at [theworthyplayers@talk21.com](mailto:theworthyplayers@talk21.com).

If you would like to be included on our mailing list and receive details of the year's programme in advance, or if you are already on the list but your details have changed, please speak to Gill Walker. We also run an annual booking scheme offering discount tickets.

## The Crew

Director	Peter Nouwens
Stage Manager	Richard Gomm
Prompter	Margaret Woodley
Costume	The Worthy Players
Set Design	Peter Nouwens & Kate Sims
Set Building	Richard Gomm, Peter Woodley & The Worthy Players
Sound	Matthew Aldous & Richard Gomm
Lighting	Richard Aldous
Poster & Programme	Peter Nouwens
Front of House	Gill Walker
Box Office	Gill Walker
Bar Manager	Sarah Hammond



## The Players

### Roy Derrick

A (not so) civil servant working for the MOD at Worthy Down, Roy has been involved in local "Am Dram" for over ten years. This was originally at his home town of Bath. When Roy moved to Winchester he joined The Armstrong Players, based at Worthy Down and was invited to join The Worthy Players in 1999. Roy enjoys all aspects of putting on a show and has been involved from Footlights to the Bar (in a bar steward capacity). Stage managing is a task he particularly enjoys and was most recently undertaken for our productions of *Black Comedy* and *Visiting Hour*. Roy's recent stage appearances have been in *Black Comedy*, *Outside Edge* and *Play On*. As with many personalities involved in Am Dram, Roy also has a passion for the Panto and has roles in *Cinderella* and *Aladdin*, but not yet as the Dame (curses!). Roy says "I find the atmosphere at The Worthy Players enthusiastic and friendly and would encourage anyone to come join us and take their chance to become a star, if only a little twinkling one."

### Joy Thompson

Joy is a founding member of The Worthy Players, having joined the group in 1973 when it was first formed. For dramatic and mysterious reasons, Joy took a break of a few years returned in 2000. Her latest appearances were in *Red Letter Day* and *Visiting Hour* with a cameo appearance in our recent production of *Aladdin*. Joy feels she's in her element as the sensitive and world wise 'Delia' and is looking forward to more performances in the future.

## The Players

### Michael Heseldin

Since 1988, Michael has appeared in some 60 plays, pantomimes, musicals and old time Music Hall performances. His favourite roles include Panto Dames, Rosenzcrantz in *Rosenzcrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, Lucky in *Waiting for Gogot*, ? in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and the Police Sergeant in *Pirates of Penzance*. Michael has been a member of The Worthy Players for eight years and in this production is pleased to be playing a role in his favourite position – lying down!

### Wendy Gomm

Wendy has not been involved with drama for very long. In fact vehemently vowed that she would not go on stage. In 1999 however, when her husband was involved in a W.I. production, at short notice, she was coerced into taking on a role which she had been helping him to rehearse. Within weeks she found herself on stage at the Nuffield Theatre in Southampton taking five parts and a dance number. Having been thrown in at the deep end, she next appeared in a St Cross production of *Move Over Mrs Markham*. Now 'bitten by the bug' she has since appeared with The Worthy Players in two pantomimes, *Outside Edge* (in a bikini), *Play On* (well padded) and *Visiting Hour*.



## The Players

### Sarah Hammond

Sarah's long experience in theatre stems from principal roles in the Winchester Junior Operatic Society and the Hampshire Youth Theatre in the early 80's. In 1988, Sarah joined The Armstrong Players at Worthy Down and appeared as Maggie in *Outside Edge*, Jack in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, Dick in *Dick Whittington* and wife when she married Ian, the company's Stage Manager! Sarah was introduced to The Worthy Players in 1989 to take on the role of principle boy in pantomime and for a while continued with both groups. After achieving her Honours Degree in Drama, Sarah took time out to have her two beautiful children; Abigail and Charlotte. Since rejoining she has appeared as Maggie in *Outside Edge* (again), Violet in *Play On*, Clea in *black Comedy*, Pip in *Falling off a Log* and Ruth in *Living Together*. Sarah has been a member of the Committee since 2000 and is also our registered Children's Matron.

### Nick Kearns

Nick has been involved in amateur dramatics for over 20 years with a number of different groups and in various guises. He joined The Worthy Players in 1992 to fill in a bit part in *When We Are Married*, and since then has appeared in Music Halls, plays including *Local Affairs*, *Mixed Doubles*, *Outside Edge* and *Black Comedy*. Nick's most recent appearance was as the black-bearded baddy 'Abanazar' in *Aladdin*. He is also a long standing member of the Chesil Theatre where appearances include 'Evans' in *Terra Nova* and 'Charlie' in *On Golden Pond*. Nick has appeared in *Bedroom Farce* before. He appeared as 'Nick' with The Armstrong Players in 1988. As 'Malcolm' he agrees that his casting is more appropriately related to his natural DIY skills! He is currently the group's treasurer, so make sure you say something nice to him if you need any money!

## The Players

### David Woolford

Having been a child model, David began acting as a youngster with a local amateur group in Wembley. A brief spell living abroad with his family halted his thespian interests. However, David will be celebrating 20 years with the Worthy Players at Christmas. During this time he has acted, sung, painted, built, stage managed, produced and directed, as well as co-written two pantomimes. Having begun his career with the players in Music Hall, David went on to parts as diverse as Prince Charming in *Cinderella*, Charles Condomine in *Blithe Spirit* and a seventy-year old geriatric in *A Month of Sundays*. Recent performances have included Roger in *Outside Edge* and a variety of roles in *Visiting Hour*. He will always be remembered for his *Galloping Major* at the Theatre Royal, Winchester, where he received a standing ovation and encores, and subsequent mentions on Radio Solent.

### Alison Woolford

Alison began acting at school in Kent, and produced her first play during that time. A move to Hampshire led to meeting and marrying David, and she too will be celebrating 20 years with the players. Her first role as Daphne in *Rock-a-Bye Sailor* was quickly followed by chorus and melodrama in Music Hall. While rehearsing Ruth in *Blithe Spirit* Alison was able to announce the expected arrival of a new member later in the year – Tim is now a fully-fledged member, following in his parents' footsteps. After a short break, Alison resumed her acting and has most recently appeared in such plays as *Outside Edge*, *Play On* and *Visiting Hour*. During her time with the players she has also been involved in scenery building and costume making, directing, and co-writing two pantomimes.



# A long, long time ago

The Worthy Players have been for quite some time. Here's a list of our past productions – maybe you can remember some of them ...

1973	Dick Whittington	1991	Confusions
1974	Double Bill Mother Goose		Music Hall
1975	Swithen Puss in Boots		Breeze Block Park
1976	2 One Act Plays		Robinson Crusoe
	Bonaventure	1992	84 Charing Cross Road
	St George And The Dragon		Music Hall
	Worthy Tale		The Secretary Bird
1977	2 One Act Plays		The Wizard of Oz
	Jack And The Beanstalk	1993	When We Are Married
1978	FlatSpin		Ferndale Av – Murder Mystery
	20's Review		Music Hall
	Deadly Record	1994	A Month of Sundays
	Sleeping Beauty		Ferndale Av – S.S. We Found Love
1979	Ladies in Retirement		Music Hall
	Sailor Beware		Humpty Dumpty
	3 One Act Plays	1995	One For The Road
	Pantomania		Living together
1980	When We Are Married		Falling Off A Log
	Music Hall		Music Hall
	Suddenly At Home	1996	Murder In Company
	Hickory Dickory Dock		Music Hall
1981	Nothing Legal/Black Comedy		Local Affair
	Music Hall		Panto Trek
	The Edge of Darkness	1997	Gaslight
	Mother Goose's golden Christmas		Mixed Doubles
1982	Rose		Relatively Speaking
	Music Hall		Music Hall
	Don't just Lie There, Say Something	1998	Ferndale Av – Haunting
1983	Dangerous Corner		Breath of Spring
	Revue, We'll Meet Again		Music Hall
	Move Over Mrs Markham	1999	Business of Murder
	Aladdin		Educating Rita
1984	Rock-A-Bye Sailor		The Last Of The Red Hot Lovers
	Music Hall		Music Hall
	Not Now Darling	2000	Cinderella And The Football Boot
	A right Christmas Caper	2001	Outside Edge
1985	End of the Honeymoon		Black Comedy/Red Letter Day
	Music Hall		Dick Whittington
	Key For Two	2002	Play On
	Cinderella		Visiting Hour
1986	Table Manners		Aladdin
	A Tomb With a View		
	Music Hall		
	Dick Whittington		
1987	The Chalk Garden		
	Music Hall		
	Do Not Disturb		
	Babies In The Magic Wood		
1988	Something to Hide		
	Music Hall		
	There Goes The Bride		
	Pinocchio		
1989	Blithe Spirit		
	Music Hall		
	3 One Act Plays		
	Jack And The Beanstalk		
1990	The Other Fellow's Oats		
	Music Hall		
	Pardon Me Prime Minister		
	Sinbad The Sailor		

Our next production will be

*Lettice and Lovage*

by Peter Shaffer

on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and  
6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm.