

# The Worthy Players

Presents



The second in the 'Inspector Pratt' trilogy of spoofs

## Secondary Cause of Death

By Peter Gordon



13th, 14th, 20th and 21st April 2018

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinburger Limited

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



# Secondary Cause of Death

by

Peter Gordon

*'Great to hear that you're having fun with rehearsals and I wish the Worthy Players every success with the production'; Peter Gordon.*

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## Director - Dave Alderson

To be invited to direct any play is a privilege and this was an opportunity I seized with keen anticipation.

Working with a cast of experienced actors, as in this case, makes the task so much easier. Once the lines are in the bag, so to speak, it is a matter of letting the characters emerge and work with each other.

And they do, brilliantly.



Being relatively new to the Worthy Players, I was not familiar with *Inspector Pratt* and the previous production of *Murdered to Death*, so this style of Whodunnit proved more challenging. In fact it took a number of rehearsals before we were fairly sure Who Dun What, but for your sake - in the audience - we're pretty sure we've sorted it all out now.

It's never just the cast on stage, of course who put together an evening's entertainment such as this; just look at the behind-the-scenes-team page to see what a dedicated group is required to make it all happen. Thanks and high praise to them all ! And especial thanks to Nick for his unceasing and generous support.

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## Assistant Director - Nick Kearns

I had the honour of playing Inspector Pratt last time round and I know just how much fun it is on stage.

However, the pleasure has been equally good helping our very accomplished director through the build up of this show and I'm sure you'll enjoy the fruits of our labours. Being Prompt for the first time in many years is an interesting experience for someone well known for his timekeeping!

I hope you have a great evening with us and look forward to seeing you back with the Worthy Players very soon.





# Secondary Cause of Death

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Once upon a time, in *'Murdered to Death'*, we were introduced to the bungling Inspector Pratt, who battled against the odds and his own incompetence to solve the murder of the owner of Bagshot House. Nothing and no-one were quite what they seemed and it soon became clear that the murderer hadn't finished ...

*'Secondary Cause of Death'* is a second, self-contained episode, bringing together Colonel Craddock and the inept Inspector Pratt for a renewed, strained encounter and further baffling events.

\* \* \* \* \*

The action of the play takes place in the library / sitting room of Bagshot House, a country manor, during early spring, 1939.

## ACT ONE

**Scene One:** Early Evening  
Later that evening

**Scene Two:** Later still that same evening  
Fifteen minutes later

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*(Interval of 20 minutes, including Bar and Raffle draw)*

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## ACT TWO

**Scene One:** A short while later  
Later that evening  
Several minutes later

**Scene Two:** The following morning

# The Cast

in order of  
appearance



## Lady Isadora Pollock - *Clare Nicholas*

Cast again in the Inspector Pratt set of comedies and this time I've tried my hand at accents. I love doing comedies and hope you enjoy the play as much as I have enjoyed rehearsing it.

## Count Puchlik of Puszczykowo (Polish Gentleman) - *David Early*

Another triumph for the Mayo/Crabtree School of Accents and Dialects. From faux French to faux Polish, I've got the EU Covered by myself.  
Do enjoy.



## Colonel Charles Craddock (Retired) and Cardew Longfellow (a Thespian) - *Tony Reid*

Tony is new to *The Players* and has been 20 years away from the stage. His debut was an unlikely Basil Fawlty at school in Holland and his last role was in Dario Fo's *'Abducting Diana'* in 1997.

He now lives in St. Mary Bourne with his wife and family.

## Captain Henrietta Woolmer-Cardington (ATS) - *Barbara Kearns*

Barbara's really enjoyed the part of Henrietta. She's always liked dressing up and getting up to larks in the dorm, though not sure she's ever wanted to be a member of Her Majesty's Services.  
Jolly old hockey sticks - Hurrah!







**Cynthia Maple** (Sister of a super sleuth)  
**- Kirsty Turner**

Not remotely typecast this time! I have poor detection skills, rarely wear tweed and am not remotely bossy. (Oh, all right then .... a little bit typecast). Enjoy the Whodunnit!

**Martha Armstrong** (Housekeeper)  
**- Shirley Lovell**

Still treading the boards after 75 years of acting, Shirley's first major role was Toad in a school production of 'Wind in the Willows', but this time she is experiencing a 'first'. Just shows you're never too old to learn. To say more would give the game away!



**Lily Tuthill** (Cook)  
**- Janine Blackmore**

Janine is relishing the role of playing Lily, the Cook, even though, in real life, she can burn water. But is Lily all she seems? It's been fun for Janine to dust off her generic northern accent, although genuine northerners may disagree.

**Inspector Pratt**  
**- Mike Heseldin**

Last seen as Frank N. Stein's monster in 'Pantostein', the role of Inspector Pratt - which I'm very much enjoying - has a few more words, but perhaps even less in the way of brains ...



**Nurse Anne Parsley**  
**- Gina Bird**

Who would have thought donning a nurse's uniform would lead to such fun, frolics and mayhem? You just never know what lies beneath. It's a privilege to again be part of another Worthy Players' Spring production.



# Production Support Team

**Director**  
**Assistant Director**

Dave Alderson  
Nick Kearns

**Set Design**

David Woolford

**Set and Prop Construction**

David Woolford, David Early,  
Martin Pettigrew,  
Mike Heseldin, Nick Kearns,  
Clare Nicholas, Treive Nicholas,  
Dave Alderson, Barbara Kearns.

**Stage Manager**  
**Wardrobe**

Martin Pettigrew  
Shirley Lovell &  
Alison Woolford



Richard Aldous

**Technical Consultant**  
**Posters & Flyers**

Richard Aldous  
Richard Aldous

**Box Office**

Miriam Edmond  
Miriam Edmond

**Front of House Manager**

Nick Kearns

**Bar Manager**

Nick Kearns

**Prompt**

Dave Alderson

**Stunts**



Miriam Edmond

Alison Woolford



## **Stage Manager - Martin Pettigrew**

Martin has been involved in the Worthies for the past 15 years as an actor, director and, having played Butler Bunting in *'Murdered to Death'*, assumes being unseen as back-stage manager is akin to still being in Gaol !



## **Sound and Lighting - David Woolford**

I'm looking forward to operating the sound and lights for the sequel to the play I produced a few years ago and seeing the comedy from a whole different angle.

My thanks must go to our technical guru, Richard, for setting it all up.





## Welcome and thanks to all our patrons

Thank **you**, as always, Our Patrons, for coming to see this our latest production.

And thanks also to all the following for their assistance:

**Wessex Windows** for providing overflow car parking;

**The Hampshire Drama Network** for its support as always and to **The Parish Magazine** for leaflet distribution and

for help with publicity; **ADH Printing** for printing this programme; the **Jubilee Hall Committee and Secretary** for their help in accommodating our needs; **The Winchester Theatre Arts** for their help in moving classes on performance days.

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**The Worthy Players** are always looking for new members to join the group, especially younger members with the pantomime coming up. We put on two or three performances a year at present, all at the Jubilee Hall in KingsWorthy.

Apart from the acting, there are roles to play backstage too; scenery painting, set building, costume making, directing, technical, publicity and Front of House. If you'd like to take part, be sure of a hearty welcome!

Just now, we'd really like to hear from anyone who'd like to work with our Pantomime - **Cinderella** - which is taking place on ....

**December 7th, 8th, 14th and 15th 2018**

*Performances are on Fridays and Saturdays.*

*Rehearsals on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.*

If you'd like to become a member, take an interest or an active part, please speak to any member of the group, or see us at ...

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

or

[www.facebook.com/theworthyplayers](https://www.facebook.com/theworthyplayers)

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## Hold on to those tickets!

### **Cart and Horses Special Offer**

10% off food for ticket holders, including family and friends

No time limit on offer. Does not apply to drinks, though watch out for drinks promotions, including £9.99 for a bottle of Prosecco on Fridays!



Wardrobe dept. in preparation



# Past Performances

- 1973 Dick Whittington
- 1974 Double Bill  
Mother Goose
- 1975 Swithun  
Puss in Boots
- 1976 2 One-act Plays  
Bonaventure  
St George and the Dragon  
A Worthy Tale
- 1977 2 One-act Plays  
Murder at Key Cottage  
Jack and the Beanstalk
- 1978 Flat Spin  
20's Revue  
Deadly Record  
Sleeping Beauty
- 1979 Ladies in Retirement  
Sailor Beware  
3 One-act Plays  
Pantomania
- 1980 When We Are Married  
Music Hall  
Suddenly At Home  
Hickory Dickory Dock
- 1981 Nothing Legal / Black Comedy  
Music Hall  
The Edge of Darkness  
Mother Goose's Golden Christmas
- 1982 Rose  
Music Hall  
Don't Just Lie There, Say Something  
Dangerous Corner
- 1983 Revue, We'll Meet Again  
Move Over Mrs Markham  
Aladdin
- 1984 Rock-A-Bye Sailor  
Music Hall  
Not Now Darling  
A Right Christmas Caper
- 1985 End of the Honeymoon  
Music Hall  
Key for Two
- 1986 Table Manners  
A Tomb With a View  
Music Hall  
Dick Whittington
- 1987 The Chalk Garden  
Music Hall  
Do Not Disturb  
Babes in the Magic Wood
- 1988 Something to Hide  
Music Hall  
There Goes the Bride  
Pinocchio  
The Chalk Garden
- 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
- 1991 Confusions  
Music Hall  
Breeze Block Park  
Robinson Crusoe
- 1992 84 Charing Cross Road  
Music Hall  
The Secretary Bird  
The Wizard of Oz
- 1993 When We Are Married  
Farndale Avenue - Murder Mystery  
Music Hall
- 1994 A Month of Sundays  
Farndale Ave. - S.S. We Found Love  
Music Hall  
Humpty Dumpty
- 1995 One For The Road  
Living Together  
Falling Off A Log  
Music Hall
- 1996 Murder in Company  
Local Affairs  
Panto Trek
- 1997 Gaslight  
Mixed Doubles  
Relatively Speaking  
Music Hall
- 1998 Farndale Avenue - Haunted  
Breath of Spring  
Music Hall
- 1999 Business of Murder  
Educating Rita  
The Last of the Red Hot Lovers  
Music Hall
- 2000 Cinderella and the Football Boots
- 2001 Outside Edge  
Black Comedy / Red Letter Day  
Dick Whittington
- 2002 Play On  
Visiting Hour  
Aladdin
- 2003 Bedroom Farce  
Lettuce & Lovage  
Robin Hood
- 2004 It's Those Worthies Again  
Laying The Ghost  
Beauty And The Beast
- 2005 Party Piece  
Stage School (y)  
Present Laughter  
A Christmas Carol
- 2006 The Darling Buds Of May  
A Murder is Announced  
Snow White
- 2007 Confusions  
Youth III (y)  
Kindly Keep It Covered  
King Arthur & The Nuts
- 2008 The Importance of Being Earnest  
A Bolt From The Blue  
Jack and the Beanstalk
- 2009 Holiday Snap  
Robinson Crusoe
- 2010 'Allo 'Allo  
Once Upon A Time
- 2011 Suddenly At Home  
Music Hall
- 2012 How The Other Half Loves  
The Snow Queen
- 2013 Murdered To Death  
Old Mother Hubbard
- 2014 The Militants  
Aladdin
- 2015 Todd the Barber  
Murder by the Book  
Robin Hood & the Knights of the  
Flat Pack Table
- 2016 Wyrd Sisters  
Mother Goose
- 2017 Comedie Francaise  
Radio Variety Show  
Pantostein