

## EDWARD ALBEE'S WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

directed by **Mark Jephcott**

**12 - 19 October NB All performances start at 7.30 pm**

This is a chance to see one of modern theatre's greatest plays, a play that is rarely performed, so please book early to avoid disappointment!

Regarded as a masterpiece of American theatre, WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? is a modern black comedy-drama which centres on the volatile marriage of middle-aged couple: George, an associate professor of History, and his boisterous wife Martha who live on the campus of a small college in New Carthage, New England.

The action takes place in real time in the cosy setting of their cluttered living room as they entertain younger couple, Nick, a new professor of Biology and his wife, Honey, who they have invited round for a nightcap. As the four drink through the early hours, Martha and George engage in a series of verbal and psychological battles in front of Nick and Honey who are at first embarrassed and later enmeshed in the delusional lives their hosts have created for themselves.

The central theme of the play is the need to destroy illusion and face reality without fear and so I think that it is a play for our time - with a powerful message about making friends with the facts and seeing through, or ignoring, 'fake news' to find the truth.

This production will see the welcome return to the Green Room stage of John Keen who plays George, and of Karl Greenwood in the role of Nick, and the introduction of two new actresses to our audience, Lise Banks as Martha and Morgan Wild playing Honey.

So, please join us for 'fun and games' at George and Martha's.

*Mark Jephcott*



### BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS for WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

**PLEASE :** - use the Ticket-Line tel no **01625 540933** for ALL messages for the ticket secretaries - to reserve seats, make returns, or leave any messages and enquiries; messages are picked up daily in the booking period

Answerphone / Ticket-Line / on-line bookings	from Monday 16 September	members and general public
Box Office on four Saturdays	Saturdays from 21 September	11 am till 12 noon
Postal bookings	send in at any time / priority given to members	processed from 16 September

**Please note that the on-line booking facility will close two hours before a performance, and that all reserved tickets must be paid for 30 mins before the show, or such tickets will be deemed available for resale**

## Chairman's news

After what has been described as an apprenticeship in excess of 20 years as your Treasurer, I've finally found a successor (thanks Mark!) and accepted a nomination to be Chairman. I joined the Society in 1983, having seen a recent production of 'She Stoops to Conquer' put on by the GR at Capesthorpe Hall.

While there are many differences between the situation then and now, two things have stayed the same - our standard of performance (invariably high) and the friendly atmosphere in the Society.

One big change, and challenge is that when I joined there were perhaps 8 - 10 men in the Society between the ages of 25 and 40. Today we struggle to cast parts in this age bracket - so if we are to continue to flourish we must attract new, younger members.

Something that identifies us is the Green Room itself (the building) - and now that we have planning permission to extend our storage space and replace 'the shed', we will need to focus on fund-raising.

So the two priorities for the season are simple: 1. Members, and 2. Money - and ideally in that order. If you can help with any aspect please do get in touch.

*Al Fowkes*

## PLAY & STAGE NEWS

Due to problems casting **The Flint Street Nativity**, it has been decided to do **Whisky Galore** in its place. Victor Hassan will still direct and, as it features seven female actors, it should be easier to cast. If anyone is interested in a part in this fun play, please let us know: [pscc@wgrsoc.org.uk](mailto:pscc@wgrsoc.org.uk) or come along to the theatre on August 27th. Scripts will soon be available.

The second audition for **Nell Gwynn** is also on that night - TUESDAY 27 AUGUST at 7:30 in the Green Room. It's a large cast with some super parts. You have probably received an email with details, but if not, contact us: [pscc@wgrsoc.org.uk](mailto:pscc@wgrsoc.org.uk).

We are pleased to be able to tell you that **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?**, **April in Paris** and **Single Spies** all completely cast. Can we thank everyone for attending the auditions.

We are now considering plays for the 2020-2021 season and are open to suggestions of what to read.

*John Chidgey, Chairman*

## 100 Club

The following were lucky winners recently - names were drawn at the AGM:

Marion Norbury won £90.

Patrick Carlisle, Clive Williams, Pat Crewe, Jacque Bilsborough, and Richard Barraclough each won £50.

Please remember to join when you renew your membership subscription.



## YOUTH GROUP

We are delighted to report that a new youth theatre group will be starting on 12 September on Thursday evenings at the Green Room, from 6.30 till 8.30 pm. This class will be for youngsters aged 11 -16, in year 7 or above.

Sessions will be run by Nicola Preston who is a professional drama teacher. She runs the Wilmslow Performing Arts Academy, and delivers classes covering drama workshops, musical theatre and street dance.

Nicola says she is delighted to have the opportunity of being in 'a real theatre' for her class. And if the Thursday evenings are a success she hopes to run a Summer School next August.

More information from Nicola via email: [mail@wgrsoc.org.uk](mailto:mail@wgrsoc.org.uk)

## FILM CLUB

**Victoria and Abdul - Friday 27 September**

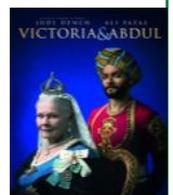
Film at 7.45. Doors open from 7 pm.

This film tells the extraordinary, true story of an unexpected friendship in the later years of Queen Victoria's remarkable rule. Young Abdul Karim arrives from India to participate in Queen Victoria's golden jubilee and is surprised to find favour with the queen herself.

As Victoria questions the constrictions of her long-held position, the two forge an unlikely and devoted alliance that her household and inner circle try to destroy. As their friendship deepens, the queen begins to see a changing world through new eyes. Victoria is played by Academy Award winner Judi Dench, and Abdul Karim by Ali Fazal.

The Film Club team would welcome additional members to help in various ways. If anyone is interested, just let us know on the night.

*Ewan Henderson, Hilary Pinnock and Anne Cichocki*





## DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CHAPEL LANE

A new public defibrillator was officially launched in Wilmslow on Monday, 8 July.

This one is wall-mounted outside the pharmacy on Lindow Parade, Chapel Lane and brings the total number of these life-saving apparatus to a dozen in Wilmslow and the surrounding area.



This initiative started eight years ago when the Wilmslow Town Council had five placed in several key Wilmslow locations. The launch was made possible by local Chapel Lane businesses who funded the project, with support from the Council. Councillor Martin Watkins, Chair of the Wilmslow Town Council, officially unveiled the defibrillator, saying: 'It was a real pleasure to commission another defibrillator, to add to the growing coverage in Wilmslow.'

'Many thanks to the Green Room, the Well Pharmacy and others who worked so hard to get this life-saving piece of equipment in the ever popular Chapel Lane.'

Photo shows: (l-r) Ian Cole, Nicola Klizemko, Vincent Evans, Jane Charlton, and Councillor Martin Watkins.

## RECRUITMENT OFFICER

The Green Room has a significant need to recruit younger members, and the Executive would really like to appoint somebody to co-ordinate this activity. No experience is necessary apart from a strong desire to get actively involved in encouraging people of all ages to join the society, but knowledge of how to get the best out of social media would be a great advantage. If you are interested or know of anyone please contact Al Fowkes or Denise Soussi - mail@wgrsoc.org.uk

## MEMBERS SURVEY RETURNS ... 40 AND COUNTING

Many thanks to all of you who have completed our recently issued survey form. We hope to receive further member survey returns - reminders will be sent out in the newsletter sent to the members.

*Mark Jephcott*

## GREEN ROOM BUILDING PROJECT

As reported at the AGM the Executive Committee have agreed to 'prime pump' the project with £50,000 from the theatre reserves. The Technical Team (Brian Parker, John Lynn and myself) and Project Committee (Lorna Kong, Belinda Coghlan, Al Fowkes, Mark Jephcott and myself) have now met and Brian Parker is now drawing up the Building Regulation plans for submission to Cheshire East Council. Our intention now is to meet any neighbours whose properties are affected by the development.



I have met two companies to get a price to clear the back 'garden' area (photo above for those of you who have never been behind the theatre; clearly there is potential wasted space available there!). The hope is that by this time next year we might have the foundations installed. The Project Committee are now meeting or writing to potential funding organisation to raise the full £190,000. Please let us have any ideas or contacts you might have for funding applications.

*Ian Cole*

## LITTLE THEATRE GUILD

You are invited to visit nearby Nantwich Players for the **2019 LTG Northern Conference** from Friday 25 - Sunday 27 October. As well as workshops, meals and town and theatre tours, you will be able to watch 'Swallow', Stef Smith's dark but sparkling three-hander from the Studio team on Friday evening; and on Saturday night, there is a production of 'Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense'.

Workshops include a talk from a theatrical designer, a session on working from a script, and a keynote presentation from Ray Johnson MBE, long-serving member of Equity.

The delegate fee is £8.50 pp, with accommodation and meal costs extra.

More information from Mike Rogerson:  
mail@wgrsoc.org.uk

# Diary & Notices



Tuesday 27 August	Second audition <b>NELL GWYNN</b>	7.30 at the Green Room
from Tuesday 10 September	<u>Just Sing</u>	5.30 - 6.30 every Tuesday except during play runs
12 - 19 October	<b>WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?</b>	directed by Mark Jephcott <b>7.30 pm start</b>
7 - 14 December	<b>WHISKY GALORE</b>	directed by Victor Hassan 7.45 pm
a note for your diary: Thursday 19 December	<u>Brass Band Concert</u>	7.30 for 8 pm Arrangements re tickets nearer the time
8 - 15 February	<b>APRIL IN PARIS</b>	7.45 pm
28 March - 4 April	<b>SINGLE SPIES</b>	7.45 pm
Friday 5 - Saturday 13 June	<b>NELL GWYNN</b>	7.45 pm

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It is subscription renewal time, and I would like to remind you that it is one form per member, please; you can send forms back to me in the addressed envelope provided.

Full membership is now £35 (or £30 if paid before 31 October); social membership is £15 pa. Please complete the form in full, particularly the interest list, from which our records are updated each season. Social members are invited to offer their services for any of the front of house or non-production activities. The lists of interests is amended this time, to remove Hairdressing and Make-up, but if you are particularly keen on those, tick Wardrobe; and Film Night Help is now added in for anyone interested in organising or helping with the Film Club.

Please also complete all consent boxes as appropriate, so that we can contact you only as you wish, and that you receive your newsletter in the form you require. The Green Room does not now use MailChimp. If there is no membership form with the newsletter, it means that you have paid your subscription already for this season. However, if you are not sure, please contact me by email at [membershipsecretary@wrgsoc.org.uk](mailto:membershipsecretary@wrgsoc.org.uk)

*Ian McBride, Membership Secretary*

Welcome to new full members who have just joined us: Lise Banks, Ann Keepe, Karl Greenwood, Martin Pritchard, and Val Watkinson; and Matthew Kaberry as a student member.

Do you have any items for the newsletter, or comments to make about it? If so, please send any feedback or articles for publication to: [newsletter@wrgsoc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@wrgsoc.org.uk), or post to the theatre, 85 Chapel Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5JH.

The newsletter is edited by Chris Hills for the Wilmslow Green Room - registered Charity Number **1153665**.

The next edition will be published in October.