# ello dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to our Autumn 2019 newsletter. We've been having a great year and we looking forward to ending 2019 on an equally high note. Please read on!

#### **MURDER MYSTERIES**



Our Murder Mystery weekend was a fabulous success, with thanks to everyone who took part and of course our lovely audiences.

Cris and Alison directed and were able to give a role to everyone who wanted to take part. It was lovely to see so many new faces treading the Polegate stage.

The murder mysteries are a win-win: good fun for everyone and profitable. After all bills are paid, we expect to have topped up our bank account by over £900, which is a terrific boost.

# **Key Dates**

# Agatha Crusty & the Village Hall Murders

31<sup>st</sup> October-2<sup>nd</sup> November Box office open 24<sup>th</sup> Sept

# Dick Whittington

18<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 Box office open 12<sup>th</sup> Nov

#### **AGM**

2<sup>nd</sup> December at 8pm

# **Coffee Mornings**

9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 & 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

# **2020 Celebration Supper**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

# **AGATHA CRUSTY & THE VILLAGE HALL MURDERS**

Our Autumn play will be on stage from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.

Agatha Crusty (pronounced "Croosty") is a crime novelist. She is also pretty adept at solving crimes.



And when her sister-in-law Alice invites her to spend a few days with her in the village of Chortleby, it is not long before Agatha gets caught up in a series of murders.



With such colourful locals as the Reverend Toby, Eleanor chair of the committee, Harry the caretaker, twins Oliver and Olivia, pub landlady Isabella, Maisie the cleaner and model Mandy, there is no shortage of suspects. Add the incompetent DI Twigg and the laughs pile up faster than the bodies.

The play is packed full of wit and very funny scenes, but do not forget: there are still some mysterious deaths to be solved!

Helen Griffin is making her directing debut with this lovely play, ably supported by the following cast:

Agatha Crusty	Jane Parratt	Reverend Toby	Adam Riggs
DI Twigg	lan Parratt	Olivia/Oliver	Yvonne Corbishley
Alice	Denise Rose	Maisie	Sue Talmadge
Harry/PC Lockett	Andy Napier	Isabella	Alison Attwood
Eleanor	Charisse Goddard	Mandy	Rebecca Tanner

Alison is our stage manager, Rebecca is our prompt, Diane Brooks is in charge of props and Maria Bayne is front of house manager. If anyone would like to get involved helping backstage, with technical or front of house, we shall be delighted to hear from you.

# HANDYMEN AND WOMEN WANTED!

As always, we need a team of willing volunteers to help build and paint our sets.

For the autumn play, we are working on scenery every Sunday from 29<sup>th</sup> September to 27<sup>th</sup> October. We start at 9.30am and finish by early afternoon but, even if you can only stay for a couple of hours, you are most welcome. We need people to help with set construction and painting. Handyman skills are a bonus, but most importantly we need your enthusiasm! In return, you will receive good-humoured conversation washed down with copious quantities of free tea, coffee and biscuits. Bring your own packed lunch.



# **PANTOMIME 2020**

Our 49<sup>th</sup> pantomime will be the action-packed, fun-filled favourite **'Dick Whittington'**, the panto paved with gold!

We welcome Charisse Goddard as our director, working closely with Sue Wood our choreographer

and Marc Charlton our musical director, and with the following fantastic cast:

Fairy Bow-Bells Sue Talmadge Sarah the Cook Chris Thompson
Alice Fitzwarren Nicola Cullen Queen Rat Helen Griffin
Idle Jack Laura Catchpole Rat-Nap Sarah-Jayne Hole
Dick Whittington Hope-Marie Henderson Kick-Rat Cris Haniver

Tommy the Cat Charlotte Brooks Cpt, Horatio Fitzwarren Adam Riggs

Alderman Fitzwarren/The Sultan Trevor Fuggle

The box office opens on 12<sup>th</sup> November. Put the date in your diary now!

# **Annual General Meeting**

This year's AGM will be held on Monday 2nd December starting at 8pm. This is an important meeting to talk about the finances and future of our club. And there will be plenty of time after the formal bit to chat about everything that is happening next year. Please come and show your support.





# **COFFEE MORNINGS**

We are hosting coffee mornings on Saturdays 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. If you are able to help with any of these dates, please contact Maria Bayne or email admin@polegatecramagroup.com.

We have hosted many coffee mornings this year, which has put rather a strain on prizes for the tombola and raffles. If anyone has any unwanted gifts or other items, these would be most welcome. Please contact either Maria, Helen Griffin or Sarah Griffin. Many thanks.



#### **2020 CELEBRATION SUPPER**

We are taking a break from our usual Christmas Dinner and, for a change, we will have a celebration supper in the new year, once people have recovered from the panto.

We are heading to Pomodoro & Mozzarella in Eastbourne where we have booked the private function room for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.30pm. There's a good choice of

meals from the restaurant's menu at a fantastic price of £12.50 for two courses or £15 for three courses, including service (plus drinks).

We pay on the night but, to ensure we cater for the right numbers, we invite you to secure your place with £5 per head deposit.

Please put the date in your diary and let us know if you're coming by emailing <a href="mailto:admin@polegatedramagroup.com">admin@polegatedramagroup.com</a>. Alison is collecting the £5 deposits, either cash or payment by BACS. Please email <a href="mailto:alison.attwood@btinternet.com">alison.attwood@btinternet.com</a> for details.

This event is open to all group members, their families and friends. We hope members will turn out in force to make this a lovely supper party and get our 2020 season off to a flying start.

Well folks, that's all from me this time.

I wish you a very happy autumn full of late sunshine and crisp, dry days. I will be back with another newsletter soon. As always, if anyone has any contributions, they would be most welcome.



Best wishes, Alison

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