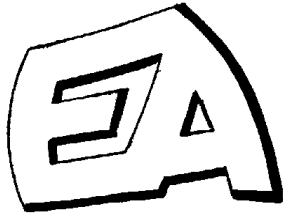


Edward Alderton Theatre

5 Brampton Road | Bexleyheath | Kent | DA7 4EZ



Box Office 020 8301 5584

www.edwardalderton.org

Newsletter: December 2007

Editorial

Thanks to everyone who supported our October comedy, **There Goes the Bride** by Ray Cooney and John Chapman. We had full houses on most nights, with the laughs coming thick and fast. EAT regulars Horry Stapleton, Maureen Hardwen, Michael Martin, Ian Saxton and Linda Gay were joined by newcomers Eileen Warner, Rachel De Silver and Richard Gooderson in this tale of pre-marital chaos, with slick direction by Viv Stapleton. The excellent set was designed by Viv and built by the redoubtable team of John Vinnels, Ron Andrews and Peter Smith.

Horry, Ian, Eileen, Rachel and Richard will be appearing again in **Much Ado About Nothing** next April, directed by Richard Banks.

In December, we will be treated to one of our ever-popular variety shows, this time with a distinctly Yuletide theme. Devised and directed by Wendy Marsh, this will feature a whole host of EAT members in a medley of songs and sketches that should hopefully provide a warm glow of nostalgia to offset those typically glum winter evenings. Running from 1 - 8 December, the **Christmas Variety Show** will be fun for all the family and is already selling extremely well, with both Saturdays now fully booked.

Our first production for 2008 will be the suspenseful thriller **Wait Until Dark** by Frederick Knott, in performance from the 2nd to the 9th of February. Directed by Paul Lay, this is an edge-of-the-seat story concerning smuggled drugs, a missing doll and a blind woman being stalked by a killer. It's guaranteed to be an intense evening's entertainment.

Have a very good Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mark

Mark Campbell
Artistic Director
Edward Alderton Theatre

www.edwardalderton.org

Kentish Times review:

There Goes the Bride

by Ray Cooney and John Chapman

The Edward Alderton Theatre kicked off their 2007-2008 season with the witty farce **There Goes The Bride**, co-written by comedy giants John Chapman and Ray Cooney. Although written more than thirty years ago, this comedy had a fresh, modern feel to it.

The curtains opened to a sumptuous, elegant set, which rightfully received its due recognition from an appreciative audience.

At the beginning of the play Timothy Westerby, who works in advertising, devises an ad campaign for a bra company, based on the 1920s icon of the flapper. When he bumps his head, Westerby fantasises that a cardboard cutout of the flapper girl, Polly Perkins, has magically come to life and is trying energetically to seduce him.

The humour in **There Goes the Bride** is largely based on the other family members not knowing if Westerby is talking to them or himself, as no one else can see or hear the imaginary Polly. The rest of the cast did well not to 'see' and react to this invisible character.

There were several new faces amongst the cast. Rachel De Silva looked ravishing as the blushing bride, becoming increasingly distraught at her father's erratic behaviour. Eileen Warner conveyed all the nervous excitement of the bride's mother developing into panic as her husband becomes increasingly manic. Richard Gooderson blustered as the brusque Australian groom's father.

With the new faces were more familiar actors. Maureen Hardwen was an entertainingly acerbic grandmother; paired with her was Horry Stapleton who was

just right as the hilariously forgetful grandfather. Ian Saxton provided strong support as Timothy's business partner.

Linda Gay was 'spiffing' as Polly, with looks, movement and voice that perfectly conveyed the typical 1920s flapper girl. Michael Martin was tremendous as Timothy Westerby with exaggerated facial expressions and good changes in character.

This was a fun show, with some good acting. It was a shame that prompts spoiled the pace of the action at times, but this was a minor distraction to the thorough enjoyment of the show, which had been well directed by Viv Stapleton.

(c) Richard Banks
Kentish Times | 1 November 2007

Season Booking Form

I would like to book ____ seats for each show of the 2007/8 season:

Production

Christmas Variety Show (1-8 December 2007) _____
Wait Until Dark (2-9 February 2008) _____
Much Ado About Nothing (2-12 April 2008) _____
Justifying War (24-31 May 2008) _____
Abigail's Party (12-19 July 2008) _____

Tickets cost £6.50.

I enclose a cheque for £_____ payable to **Edward Alderton Theatre**. (If you wish to have tickets forwarded to you, please enclose a SAE.)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Please send completed form to **Edward Alderton Theatre, c/o 24 Bristow Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4QA**. Any queries should be referred to the Box Office on **020 8301 5584** (6-8pm, Mon to Fri).

Newsletters will now be emailed to people where possible in order to reduce postal costs. If you would prefer to still receive yours in paper form, please let us know.

