

Sorry we've been out of touch!

We all know about Covid-19 and the many effects it has had on our lives. For the last few months, the Marlborough team have been hunkering down to weather the storm and that has meant little news on the drama club front. However, we do have some updates for you now, in preparation for a hoped-for revival of theatrical entertainment in 2021. Most of all, we do hope that you and your families and friends have kept well and safe in these tumultuous times.

Photos by Debbie Nash,
Centre Stage Imaging



Joan Scott

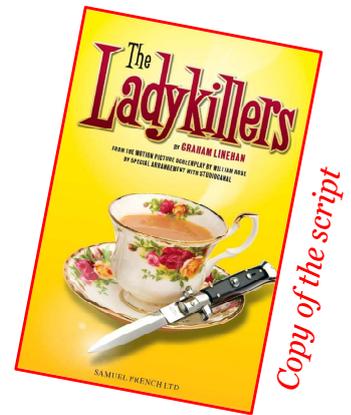
SAD NEWS: Joan Scott has passed away

We are very sad to report the death of our Vice President JOAN SCOTT on 19 April 2020. Joan was a loyal and long standing member of the club, and was involved in many aspects of the group's activities, from acting in many of our productions over the years to working on make-up, wigs and costumes for our shows. She was also our NODA representative, as well as designing and printing the flyers and tickets for all our events. Along with her husband Roy, she maintained the club

membership records and they produced the information for our AGM, including the club's annual accounts. She is sorely missed by friends and members. If you wish to send condolences, please contact the club secretary who will pass them to her family.

REMINDER: Autumn 2020 production of 'The Ladykillers' postponed

We made the decision earlier in the Spring, in conjunction with Brentwood School and because of Covid-19, to cancel our Autumn showing of 'The Ladykillers' by Graham Linehan. We now *hope* to perform this play in 2021 at the School and we will be in touch again once we can confirm the performance dates.



Copy of the script

Photo by Kevin Wright



Now more of the club's costumes can be stored securely and drily within the barn, thanks to the new shed

Back to the Barn! The Ladykillers set and a new costume shed.

Once lockdown eased, a few committee members ventured back to the barn where the Marlborough stores its scenery, props and costumes. It also doubles as a workshop where set design and scenery building can take place. Making use of the good weather of late, club members decided to restart building scenery and sets for the Ladykillers, aiming to be ready with plenty of time to spare before the production. Also, the new shed for storing costumes, donated by Janet Cass (see newsletter Feb-2020), has now been erected within the barn and filled with clothes!

Please carry on reading for news about your membership fees!



Membership fees - waived

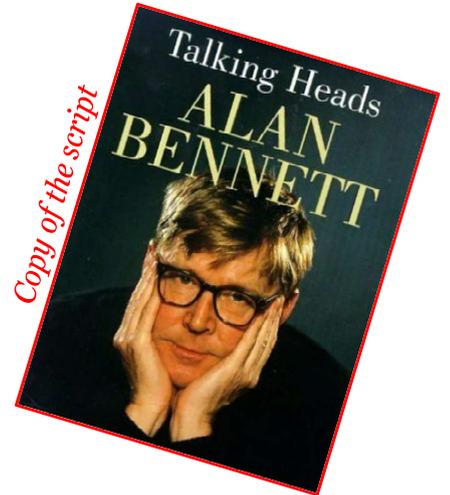
The club's committee are very much aware that we have been unable to perform any plays in 2020. We remind you that fees due in September 2020 have been waived, and we will contact you in 2021 regarding fees due then.

Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' – on TV and reprised live in person

This spring, the Marlborough had planned to put on a production of Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' monologues, but we had to cancel because of Covid-19. But, you may have seen these on the BBC recently, filmed with new actors including Jodie Comer, Sarah Lancashire, Lucian Msamati and Martin Freeman. You are able to catch-up with these 30 minute pieces on BBC iPlayer on your smart TV, computer or handheld device for the next 10 months and we would recommend a watch! **Excitingly**, some of these actors are reprising their roles live on stage at the Bridge Theatre in London (south of Tower Bridge) from 7 September to 31 October in socially distanced performances.



Cast of the BBC's 2020 production of 'Talking Heads'



Government advice about attending the theatre

The official government advice can be found by following this link online: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/performing-arts> - Section 5. As of 8 August, it became mandatory to wear a face mask in theatres, and socially distanced performances are now possible at indoor theatres as of 15 August.

See our Facebook page @marlboroughdrama for information on the #Lightinred campaign to raise awareness of the plight of the events industry because of Covid-19.

Contacting you: If you received this newsletter by post and would prefer to receive it by email (or vice versa), or would prefer not to receive it at all – please let us know using the contact details below.

Contact us:

Secretary@marlboroughdramaticclub.uk

- **Harry Morrison 01277 205417 (General enquiries)**
- **Juliette Bird 07759 078995 (Newsletter)**

Visit our website: www.marlboroughdramaticclub.uk