



President ~ Sir Derek Jacobi

## Newsletter—August 2024

**Hello Marlborough members and friends**—it's summer and the Marlborough was happy to welcome the warmer days with our annual afternoon tea in June. Now we begin to look forward to the Autumn production, plus we have a date for our annual quiz and are even looking ahead to 2025— read on for all the latest news...

### **REVIEW: Annual afternoon tea and launch of the Cass Cup**

On 22 June, over 20 Club members and friends came to the Shenfield Parish Hall for a delicious tea provided by Sue Grandison and Brenda Le-Surf. This year we **launched the new Janet Cass Memorial Cup**. Janet was a longstanding member of the Club who passed away in 2022 and to honour her memory, the committee decided to create a cup in her name to be awarded to any member of the Club who has provided outstanding service to the Marlborough during the preceding year. We were lucky to have one of Janet's sons, Philip, join us all the way from Bristol to present the Cup to the first recipient, which he was delighted to do, stating how much the MDC, and the good friends made there, had meant to his Mum. Chairman Bill Wells announced that for this inaugural year, the recipient was chosen by members of the committee, but that in subsequent years all members will be able to vote. He continued that this year's winner was a talented actress as well as helping run the Club, and confirmed Juliette Bird as 2024's winner. Delighted to accept the award, Juliette mentioned that it was only after meeting Janet whilst they were acting at a local tudor event for school children that she heard about the MDC which she then joined in 2013. Juliette said she was glad Janet had taken her under her wing and to have become a member, as she has also made super friends. She thanked the Club for the honour.



**Janet Cass**

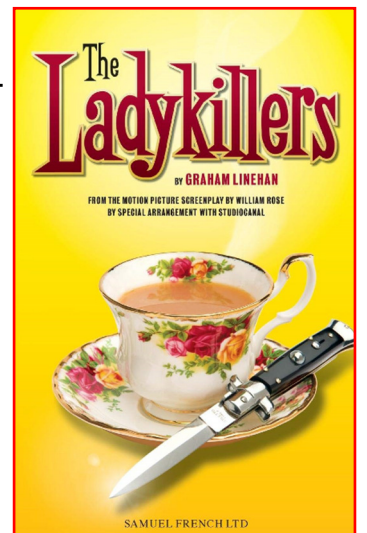


**Philip Cass presents the cup to Juliette** Photo by Steve Bearpark

### **AUDITION NOTICE! The Ladykillers**

Excitingly, the committee has agreed to produce this classic Ealing Comedy adapted by Graham Linehan, as next year's Spring production, on **10-12 April 2025**. You may remember we had hoped to perform this play a few years ago but the pandemic happened. Bill Wells, the club chairman, has agreed to direct and will be holding a new audition with all parts open for casting. Bill will be hosting the **audition on 10 September, 7:30pm** at his home in Hutton. (Rehearsals will begin in January, Monday and Wednesday evenings.) Please contact Bill on 07749 598834 or [chairman@marlboroughdramaticclub.uk](mailto:chairman@marlboroughdramaticclub.uk) to confirm attendance and for location details.

*Copy of the script*



**For more information on any of our updates—visit [marlboroughdramaticclub.uk](http://marlboroughdramaticclub.uk)  
Turn over for news about the next QUIZ and the AUTUMN 2024 PRODUCTION!**



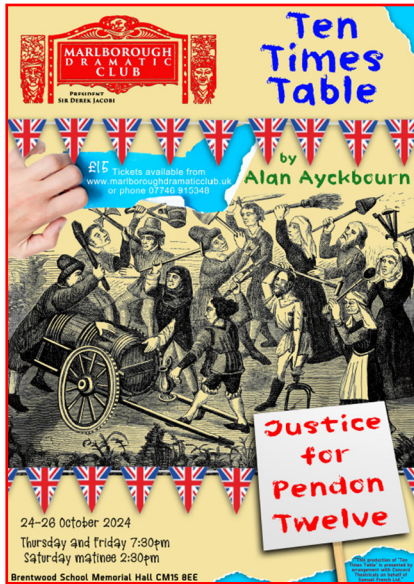
## **BOOK NOW** for our annual **QUIZ** evening **21 September 2024**

A yearly tradition now, with the erudite and knowledgeable Reg Wheeler as quiz-master, we are happy to announce the next Quiz evening which will be held in **Shenfield Parish Hall's main room (CM15 8LB)**, starting **7 for 7:30pm**. Tickets are **£10** and there will be a raffle with all proceeds going to fund our shows. Please **bring your own drinks and nibbles**. To book a table (please, maximum of eight per table), phone Harry on **07746 915348**. Please **book by 14 September**.

## **AUTUMN PRODUCTION:**

### **TEN TIMES TABLE, 24-26 October**

Rehearsals will begin at the end of August as we get ready to produce Alan Ayckbourn's 'Ten Times Table' - directed by Graham Poulteney. Check the website for



the latest show, cast and crew news and check back there in September when ticket booking will open. Paul Sparrowham has once again kindly designed this fabulous flyer for the show (better seen online). Note—our Thursday and Friday **evening performances will now be starting at 7:30pm**.

### **A couple of welcomes!**

The Club is delighted to welcome dear **Keith and Jean Morgan** back as members of the Club and we hope to see them both at Ten Times Table.

**Karol Patten** has agreed to re-join the committee this summer and she is a very welcome member who is hitting the ground running!



### **The Barn: UPDATE**

The committee regularly visit the barn and earlier this year saw that major work was needed to keep it weather proof for all the scenery, props and costumes that we store there. Landlord Lord Petre arranged for the **roof to be replaced** and we are happy with the result. We plan a 'Clean & Tidy' day there at the **end of August**—any members who wish to help please call Harry on 07746 915348. We also will be clearing a space to house the new shed... see article to the left...

### **In memory of our dear member Pat Staley**

In our last newsletter we sadly announced the passing of Pat. Her family kindly asked for donations in her memory to the MDC which raised a staggering **£1250!** We have talked to the family and agreed to use some to purchase a **new shed** for the barn in which to safely store our **costumes**. More news in due course!

### **Contact us:**

**Either, [Secretary@marlboroughdramaticclub.uk](mailto:Secretary@marlboroughdramaticclub.uk) / 07746 915348**

**Or, Juliette Bird, 07759 078995 (Newsletter)**

**Visit our website: [www.marlboroughdramaticclub.uk](http://www.marlboroughdramaticclub.uk)**

**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 above.