



President ~ Sir Derek Jacobi

Newsletter - December 2019

Season's Greetings!

Firstly, we wish all our members the compliments of the season, be that Christmas, Hanukkah, or any other festival you may celebrate.



Bedroom Farce cast and crew



Andrew Chesney as 'Trevor'



Jackie Parry as 'Susannah'

Photos by Debbie Nash, Centre Stage Imaging

Review: 'Bedroom Farce'

It was lovely to see club members at our production of Alan Ayckbourn's comedy back in October. The club was also pleased to welcome some cast members, debuting with the club, including Colin, Louise and Charlii Richardson and Andrew Chesney, as well as some fabulous familiar faces returning to the Brentwood School Memorial Hall stage. The production was masterfully directed by Graham Poultney. Our fantastic crew built our intricate set (including three double beds!), sourced costumes, wigs and make-up, ensured props were in the right places backstage and lit the stage with finely tuned precision including wiring up three ringing telephones and doorbells! Over the three shows we entertained a total of 150 people. Please visit www.marlboroughdramaticclub.uk for more photos and news from behind the scenes, plus our NODA review.

115th Anniversary Dinner, with Carole Boyd

On the 29 November, the Marlborough held a formal dinner to celebrate the 115th anniversary of the club's foundation. Carole Boyd, best known as 'Lynda Snell' in BBC Radio 4's 'The Archers', gave the after dinner speech, regaling us with tales of meeting her Archers' character's fan club as well as when she delighted a young fan by telephoning him as her 'Postman Pat' character Miss Hubbard. A delicious celebration cake, made by Brenda Le-Surf, was cut by long-standing member and Vice-President Janet Cass. Thank you to members of the committee for arranging this jubilant occasion. Please check our Facebook group (Marlborough Dramatic Club) for more photos from the event.



Above: Janet Cass



Carole Boyd with master of ceremonies Reg Wheeler

Right: Harry Morrison (secretary) and Sue Grandison (Chairwoman) welcome guests.



Photos by Juliette Bird

Please carry on reading for news on what's coming up in 2020!



Membership fees

Thank you for paying your subscription fees over the last couple of months. If you know anyone who may be interested in joining, please ask them to contact us. We now offer a service to pay via internet banking and we encourage you to use this method where possible please. If writing a cheque as payment, please make it out to 'Marlborough Dramatic Club' in full.



Audition Notice: Spring Production (16-18 April 2020)

We are still finalising what play(s ? ☺) we will be performing in April, checking on licence fees and director availability. Once this has been completed, an audition notice will be circulated. This will now be in early 2020. If you have any friends or family keen to tread the boards, then please ask them to contact us and we will add them to the distribution list.

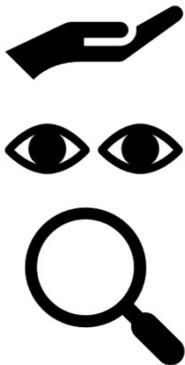
Brentwood Arts Council: Grant awarded

This Autumn, the Club committee made a request to the Brentwood Arts Council to receive funding to help with the costs of staging the production of 'Bedroom Farce' and were awarded £100, which was gratefully received.



Begging bowl – for 'The Barn'

When building sets, our backstage crew are often looking for the perfect period-appropriate items to ensure our stage set is an accurate representation of the time in which the production is set. In fact, Marlborough productions are often praised for our attention to detail by the NODA representatives in their reviews. We are preparing for our future potential productions and are on the lookout for an **old-fashioned top-line grill and cooker unit** and a **Butler sink**. If you have one or both of these, that the Marlborough can either have or borrow, then please get in touch. Thank you!



NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) award nomination!

We recently heard that the Marlborough's production of 'Yes Prime Minister' (Spring 2019) has been nominated for the award of 'Best Drama' in the NODA East region! The Gala Awards ceremony will be held on 8 March 2020.



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:

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Visit our website: www.marlboroughdramaticclub.uk