

THE DUNHAM THESPIANS COMMITTEE

Celebrating 90 years of The Dunham Thespians



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Ron Hutchinson

Set Building

Lindsay Park, Ron Hutchinson,
David Davies, John Brooks, Bill Craig

Set Dressing

Carol Davies, David Davies, Lindsay Park,
Olwen Ferrans, John Ferrans

For any information relating to the society, please contact:

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www.dunhamthespians.org.uk

"Noël Coward's BLITHE SPIRIT"



21st-24th November 2012

Dunham Masey Village Hall

7.45pm curtain

www.dunhamthespians.org.uk

"Noël Coward's BLITHE SPIRIT"

CAST (in order of appearance)

Ruth	<i>Laura Kinsella</i>
Edith	<i>Sally-Marianne Hatton</i>
Charles	<i>Martin Clare</i>
Dr. Bradman	<i>Chris Matthews</i>
Mrs. Bradman	<i>Joan Jones</i>
Madame Arcati	<i>Louise Burgess</i>
Elvira	<i>Rachael Gallagher</i>

The action of the play passes in the living room of Charles Condomine's house in Kent

ACT I

- Scene 1 Before dinner on a summer evening
- Scene 2 After dinner

ACT II

- Scene 1 The next morning
- Scene 2 Late the following afternoon
- Scene 3 Early evening. A few days later

ACT III

- Scene 1 After dinner. A few days later
- Scene 2 Several hours later

Notice Board



The Dunham Thespians would like to express our extreme gratitude to the late Mrs Kath Burgess, a local seamstress heavily involved in amateur dramatics. When she passed away she left an assortment of costumes and requested they be donated to local amateur dramatics groups. As such, we received a very generous donation of costumes, some of which have already been put to use in this production!

HATS Theatre Group

"Funny Money" by Ray Cooney

11th-13th April 2013

St Hugh Of Lincoln Church Hall, Glastonbury Rd, Stretford. M32 9PD



A group of us went to see HATS put on a very polished performance of "Gaslight" earlier this year, (another play we're keen to re-visit.) We've also looked at producing "Funny Money" a couple of times, but haven't had the appropriate cast, so we know it's an excellent play. A definite date for your diary.

Red House Farm Meal Deal



Remember, before every play Red House Farm offers a fantastic meal deal, where you can enjoy a two or three course meal before joining us here at the Village Hall for the play. All the food is freshly prepared and home cooked, and the menu changes for each production. Price is currently just £16.95 for a two course meal, and this includes your play ticket! Details are available on the flyers, or by visiting www.redhousefarm.co.uk.

Mailing List

We received a great uptake during the last play to get people on the e-mail mailing list. If you haven't yet signed up, please do so. You can hand in your name and e-mail address to Olwen on the front desk, or signup via the website. We will only send out occasional e-mails specifically relating to our productions; your e-mail address will not be used for any other purpose, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Ever wondered what goes on behind the curtain?

Then why not get involved and see for yourself?

We are always keen to recruit new members.

Being involved in a production is not only fun and a great social activity, it can help with things like overcoming fears of public speaking and improving self-confidence.

Even if you're not sure about getting up on stage, there's always plenty of creative challenges and fun to be had behind the scenes.



If you are interested in joining the society in any capacity, please get in touch. We won't bite!
contact Martin on 0161 941 4801
or email info@dunhamthespians.org.uk

Foreword from the Chairman

In 1921, some local villagers with a keen interest in the dramatic arts produced a play for the entertainment of the village. It was an unmitigated success, and so the following year, on 12th December 1922, a meeting was held in this very hall (Little Heath School as it was then), during which officials were elected for the formation of an amateur dramatic society, with Mr H. Arnold assuming the role of Chairman. A proposal was put forward by Miss D. Pennington, which was seconded by Mr. J. Chantler, for the naming of the society, and the proposal received unanimous approval. The Dunham Thespians was born.

90 years on, and reading through the minutes from the first meeting on that fateful day fills me with a combination of pride, that the society remains such a staple part of the local community, and trepidation, at the weight of responsibility for ensuring its continued survival and prosperity. So many people have contributed so much in the 90 year history that it feels rather humbling to be part of this play in particular.

The society, which had to be temporarily disbanded during the late 50's/early 60's due to the school being no longer suited to stage productions, was re-formed in time to perform a one-act play for the grand opening of The Village Hall (following lengthy alterations to the former school). Then the first major production since reforming took place in May 1965 when a lady called Esmé Duckworth was persuaded to act as producer. The play was extremely enthusiastically received, thanks largely to the slick direction as well as the impressive lighting effects (courtesy of Bill Bromage). And thus, "Blithe Spirit" had etched itself firmly into the history books of The Dunham Thespians.

A little under 50 years on, and here we are again re-visiting Noël Coward's classic other-worldly farce. It really is a beautifully scripted play, but a real challenge of a production, and I only hope we can do it some semblance of justice. We've certainly put the hours in and given it our all!

All productions have their 'low point', but this play above all others came perilously close to the brink. But seeing the way everyone has pulled together and committed so much time and energy to get the show on makes you realise that the society is about far more than just putting on plays. It's about bringing a community together. And long may that continue.

The Dunham Thespians – proud to entertain the village since 1922!

Martin Clare

Noël Coward's "BLITHE SPIRIT" The 1965 Production



"You're a damn fool, Mr Condomine!"



Charles & Elvira, mid-squabble



*The 1965 séance table bears a remarkable similarity to the 2012 one.
Well, if James Bond can re-use his Aston Martin...*

Edith	M. Stention
Ruth	B. Waterhouse
Charles	R. Hutchinson
Dr. Bradman	R. Waterhouse
Mrs. Bradman	G. Tonroe
Madame Arcati	E. Skene
Elvira	P. Harrop

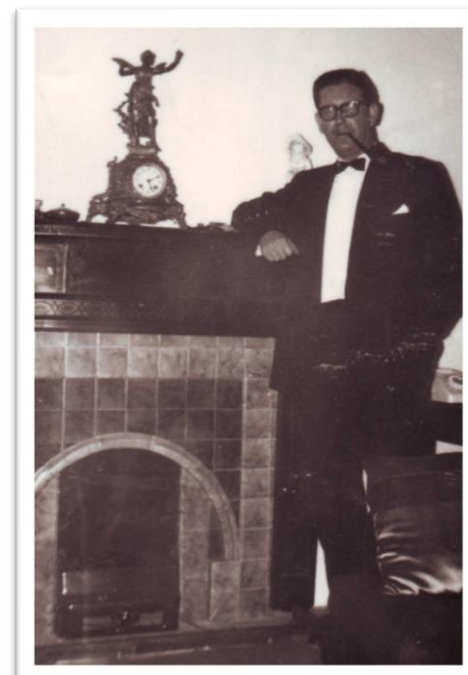
Producer	E. Duckworth
Stage Manager	J. Siddall
Lighting & Effects	W. Bromage
Wardrobe	Mrs. J. Chantler
Make-Up.....	Mrs. J. Siddall



Madame Arcati, sensing the vibrations



Charles, musing



The debonair Dr. Bradman