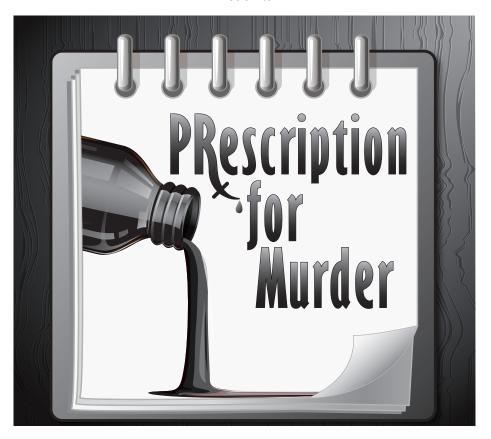


**Presents** 



# Written by Norman Robbins Directed by Geoffrey Davidson

Evenings 7:30 Oct 4-7 & 11-14 Matinees 2:00 Oct 7,8 & 14, 15

Prescription for Murder is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR • NORMAN ROBBINS



The world's most prolific and successful pantomime writer and a playwright who has entertained audiences world-wide with his comedies and thrillers for almost sixty years. Norman was born in Yorkshire in the mid Nineteen Thirties and died peacefully at home on 30th April 2016. He made his first stage appearance aged three in a play starring Todd Slaughter (famous for portrayal of Sweeney Todd), and spent many years in Amdram, acting in plays, pantomimes and musicals. Over around a fifteen year period this added up to

some sixty-odd roles for three dramatic societies, two pantomime societies and three operatic ones, most of which, sadly, no longer exist. Norman worked for the Yorkshire Evening Post before a County Major Award enabled him to study drama in Birmingham.

He made his professional debut in pantomime at the Hippodrome Theatre in 1965. Over the next fifteen years he appeared with many other show business luminaries but continued to write plays and pantomimes in his spare time.

He was seen in several televisions shows, plus a host of Variety programmes, and worked in Summer Season plays around the country. For several years he worked for the legendary Danny La Rue, touring Britain and Canada, then, in 1979, accepted an invitation to teach drama at the prestigious lowa State University as a visiting professor.

As the years went by he was asked for more and more pantomimes and plays and had to cut down on performing to keep pace.

His recent book on the evolution of British Pantomime has been highly praised both here and abroad, was nominated and short listed for two literary awards and continues to sell strongly all over the world. His most recent play "Where there's a will....." broke all box office records for the Tiverton Dramatic Society (who Premiered it Spring 2003) and was published by Kenyon-Dean in 2004

Until his death, he and his family lived in Devon. Norman was married to actress Ailsa Robbins and they have two children. Their son is a zoologist and their daughter an opera singer.

#### THE DIRECTOR'S NOTES



When Richard (a widower) and Barbara first met, they had a whirlwind romance and were married within a month. The rest of their lives would be their "Happily Ever After" ...right? Well, a year into their marriage, things aren't running too smoothly. Barbara has recurring illnesses and Richard has an unusually close friendship with his ex. One day, Eric shows up claiming to have been married to Richard's late wife (which Richard denies), and only makes matters worse. Plus, someone seems to be trying to get Barbara out of the way. A delightful murder mystery that begs the question, "How well can we really know someone?"

### TIME AND SETTING

**Time:** The Present

**Setting:** The action takes place in the living-room of the Forths' detached house in Bere Knighton, North Devon, England.

**Act I:** Scene One Friday afternoon.

Scene Two The following Saturday. Early evening.

**Act II:** Scene One The following Wednesday. Early afternoon.

Scene Two The following Friday morning.

# DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Barbara Forth ...... Wendy Cornock

Dr. Richard Forth..... Bill Taylor

Dorothy Livingstone ...... Joanne McGachie

Mary Haigh . . . . . Elizabeth Whitmarsh

Allan Haigh . . . . . . . . . Malcolm Harvey

Eric Dawson . . . . . . . . . Carl Powell

Julia Moore . . . . . . Vicky Etchells



The marvelous cast of this amusing murder mystery.



## Barbara Forth – Wendy Cornock

Wendy is delighted to be back on stage. She has been involved in Theatre in Victoria for over 20 years appearing on stage at Langham, Theatre Inconnu and many SLPCT productions, most recently as Lily Belle in *The Curious Savage*. Special thanks to Dave, husband and business partner extraordinaire. Enjoy the show and a lovely cup a tea. I'll just put the kettle on.



## RICHARD FORTH - Bill Taylor

Bill is very pleased to be portraying the gruff yet well-meaning Dr. Richard Forth in *Prescription for Murder*. He would like to thank SLPCT for, once again allowing him onto their stage! He would like to thank the amazing cast and crew for all the support he has received from them. Now... On with the mystery!



## **DOROTHY LIVINGSTONE**

#### - Joanne McGachie

Joanne first discovered the stage as a child in Tanzania, followed by many school productions and a degree in Theatre. In Victoria, she enjoyed productions at Langham Court and SLPCT. But when life got busy, acting fell by the wayside—so it's with excitement (and some trepidation!) that she returns to SLPCT after a 30-year absence..



#### Mary Haigh – Elizabeth Whitmarsh

In SLPCT production last Fall of *The Trouble with Cats* Elizabeth played a rather waspish wife, and here she goes again playing another waspish wife... to the same actor cast as her luckless long-suffering husband in both productions. Could this be typecasting for Elizabeth? If so, she needs to expand her horizons



## **ALLan Haigh** – Malcolm Harvey

Malcolm is happy to be back on the SLPCT stage again after appearing in *Curious Savage* and *The Trouble with Cats*. Malcolm has also had roles with Langham Court Theatre and Blue Bridge as well as the occasional role in commercials and small video productions. He hopes you will enjoy the puzzle presented by *Prescription for Murder*.



#### **Eric Dawson** – Carl Powell

Carl has performed in several SLPCT shows since 2017, the last being *The Curious Savage*. Playing with this cast and crew has been both a privilege and a blast! Thank you all for coming. I hope you enjoy your dose of...*Prescription for Murder* 



## Julia Moore – Vicky Etchells

Vicky started her acting career in England, taking her first leading role at the age of 15.

Upon moving to Canada she joined SLPCT where she's enjoyed performing in various productions.

She is thrilled to be playing the role of Julia in this good old 'who dun it' play.



#### Wanna get outta the house? Need some action? Brain stimulation?

How about getting involved with us at St. Luke's Players Community Theatre?

There's always something to do. And we're friendly too! Check us out at https://www.stlukesplayers.org



The beginnings of a set.



These behind the scene folks are actually enjoying themselves!

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director ...... Geoffrey Davidson

Assistant Director . . . . . . . . Geli Bartlett

Producer & Stage Manager... Bronwyn Taylor

Assistant Stage Manager . . . . Claire White

Set Design......Simon Skey

Set Décor.....Linda Troke & De Roger

Lighting Design . . . . . . . . . Max Terpstra

Lighting Set-up Asst. . . . . Leigh Robinson

Lighting Operators . . . . . . . Blake Handley, Walter Hunt,

Carol-Anne Moore

Sound Design..... Mitch Barnes

Sound Tech/Operator . . . . . . Phil Letourneau

Costume Design . . . . . . . Marilyn Rapanos

Costume Assistant . . . . . . . Kathleen Sumilas

Properties ...... Jane Birkbank

Set Construction . . . . . . . Dave Hitchcock

Building Crew ...... Gordon Alexander, Jim Grant, Julie Gray,

Paul Hawkes-Frost, Dave Hitchcock,

Jerry McIntosh, Simon Skey, Bill Tolson Set Painters.....Linda Graham, Janet Grogan, Katy Johnson,

Deb Taylor, Didi Tipping, Linda Troke

Front of House Manager..... Elaine Montgomery

Concession Manager.....Linda Troke

Publicity......Janine Longy

Executive Liaison ..... Sheila McKenzie

Graphic Design by Saltchuck Studios – Beverly van Druten-Blais (posters, programme, lobby presentation, photography, website)



#### **Geoffrey Davidson** – Director

Geoff has a B.A. in Theatre from Dordt College. He has directed such plays at SLPCT as *On Golden Pond, Opening Night,* and last season's *The Unexpected Guest*. Fun Fact: The first play Geoff directed for the SLPCT was *Nightmare* in 2009. Also written by Norman Robbins.

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**



Bronwyn TayLor – Producer & Stage Mgr Bronwyn has been involved with SLPCT in a variety of roles over the years, beginning as a props assistant in 2007. Since then she has stage managed, produced, run Concession/FoH, handled Season Tickets and Memberships, as well as serving two terms as President. Her biggest pleasure throughout has been meeting and working with such wonderful people.



**Claire White** Asst. Stage Manager



**Simon Skey** Set Design



Max Terpstra Lighting Design



Mitch Barnes Sound Design



Marilyn Rapanos Costume Design



Jane Birkbank Properties

We at St. Luke's Players Community Theatre respectfully acknowledge that we work, create and perform on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen Peoples, also known as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

# **PRODUCTION TEAM**



**Linda Troke & De Roger** Set Décor



**Dave Hitchcock** *Set Construction* 

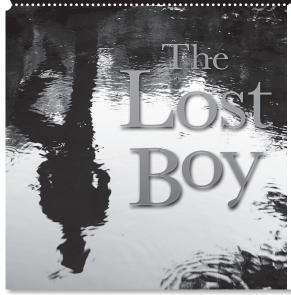


Some of the great crew working away together in fun and fellowship.



The final set is a beautious work of art.

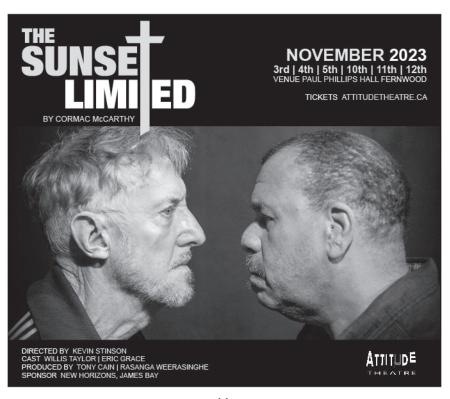
# \*LANGHAM COURT THEATRE\*



A drama by Ronald Gabriel Paolillo

Directed by Merry Hallsor

NOV \* DEC 23



#### HERE'S WHAT'S UP NEXT!

Written by Ben Crocker

Directed by **Heather Lee** 

An awesome Panto that's fun for everyone!



Evenings 7:00 • Dec 15, 16, 20, 21, 22 Matinees 2:00 • Dec 16, 17, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30

# ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS AUDITIONS E

For this fascinating drama



Written by Laura Ollstein

Directed by Janine Longy

Thurs Nov 2•7-9pm or Sat Nov 4 •2-4pm Callbacks Sun Nov 5 • 2-4pm

We encourage all actors experienced and new to the stage.

#### Play runs March 13-24, 2024

Rehearsals are on Mon, Weds and Fri evenings, following a fun Meet & Greet (TBD)

Please email with which audition you plan to attend: Janine Longy floyd.janineb@gmail.com Auditions are cold reading from the script.

Please check the website for details.

Scripts to borrow (after Oct 1, 2023) and return to: Oak Bay Flower Shop, 102 - 2187 Oak Bay Avenue