



Stage Whispers



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Editorial

The Whips are still alive! And with a bit of luck & favourable government sanctions, we are hoping to resume productions as normal. Obviously we missed the Panto due to restrictions but the Autumn production is set to go ahead with the long delayed play, Close to the Wind with rehearsals starting in August with the original cast. So maybe there is light at the end of this very long tunnel! Then dimmed with the intended departure of June & Colin Bailey, Ho Hum! Life & our society must go on!

PLAYREADINGS.... **Zoom** online

Due to the wretched Covid 19 virus the regular monthly playreadings are currently halted, however A few of the regular Whips have been trying an online playreading via Zoom which have proven to be fairly popular. Chris Cathles, Colin & Jack have organised the last few sessions and if you are Interested in taking part we meet online at 8PM every other Thursdays and need your email details to invite you to be included.

Colin is organising the next session on **Thurs 29th April at 8** prompt with an organised online script. Please contact Colin if you wish to be included in the next session

Depending on Boris's statement in May, we might be able to resume playreading from proper scripts in person at somebody's house the next time...watch this space!



Autumn Production.

The Autumn production will be 'Close to the Wind' directed by Jack Griffith, the play we have been trying to do for the last two years! However the original cast have agreed to take part with rehearsals starting every Monday & Thursday starting August 16th in the Canterbury rooms at 7.30 with performances Thurs 7th Oct – Sat 9th Oct. Synopsis..

Gerry believes his twenty-three year marriage is all right, but wife Kate feels differently! Their lives have been a series of distractions - first home, children, second home - but now the children are going, Kate feels useless and wonders if it all hasn't been a mistake! Returning home after a disastrous visit to the theatre, ruined by Gerry's lively mother, Mary, Gerry and Kate attempt to salvage the evening at a local restaurant, but even that ends in a profiterole-throwing fight. Daughter Louise and her boyfriend Julian are key players in this light comedy of marital mishap and mid-life crisis, as are Mary and her beau, Roy. However the end of this amusing and very perceptive play finds Gerry and Kate curled up together on the sofa, for all the world like courting teenagers!

Characters

Gerry....Phill Embury	Kate.....Veronica Keywood
Louise...Kate McIsla	Julian....Mathew Chapman
Mary.....Jan Hudson	Roy.....Tony Thompson

Directed by Jack Griffith Stage Managers Fran King & Ian McFarlane
We need a props and a Costume person ..Volunteers? Tech by Chris
We also need scenery set builders

THE WHIPS
www.horsleyamdram.org

CLOSE to the WIND
written by Richard Everett
directed by Jack Griffith

a comedy of marital mishap and mid-life crisis

Thurs Oct 7-Sat 9th 2021
8PM At West Horsley Village Hall

Book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/horsleyamdram
or visit the box office: Wills & Smerdon Estate Agents tel. 01483 284141

An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French
The Whips is a Registered Charity, no. 206017

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WHIPPETS/WHIPS YOUTH

Unfortunately there is insufficient cast for the Little Mermaid Jr production so Julia is planning for.....

- A Little Mermaid reunion on Saturday 22nd May to show the DVD to previous cast followed by.....
- Three 2 hour workshops on Saturday mornings in June and July to recruit new Whippets youngsters. Use Matilda, Grease and Joseph for content with a view to performing Joseph in March 2022 if all works out. Upper age limit can be raised a year to include those who missed out in 2020. Will need to publicize widely (Fran will look at leaflet drop options, Stuart will liaise with Julia and Hannah on online options).
- Julia is emailing WHIPS Youth prospects to see who might be interested; also looking at possible plays; Stuart is happy to direct.

AUTUMN PRODUCTION

Jack now has the original cast confirmed. Canterbury Rooms and Village Hall are booked for rehearsals and production. Only Tuesday 5th October in production week is unavailable but this does not present a problem.

AGM

Colin has booked the WH Village hall on Thursday 27th May at 7.30.

AOB

Nomads are planning to present their postponed production of God of Carnage from 22nd June with rehearsals starting 17th May.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Since I last wrote at the end of 2020 things have been very quiet for the WHIPS as for everyone else. We have persevered with our on-line play readings every two weeks and my thanks to all who have participated. The sessions have been fun and allowed us to keep in touch with each other as well as identifying a few possible short plays for the future. These sessions will continue until we can meet face to face. Fortunately things are looking up nationally (if not globally) and we can begin to think ahead to our future live productions later in 2021. Your committee have met online a couple of times during recent lock down and are planning for...

- Whippets workshops in June and July in preparation for the March 2022 show with rehearsals starting in September 2021. Unfortunately their wonderful production of Little Mermaid Jr cannot be recreated so there will be a brand new show for next year.
- WHIPS Youth are hoping to re-assemble and create a production for later in the year.
- The WHIPS Autumn production will go ahead in October 2021 with rehearsals commencing in August. This will be Close to the Wind, postponed from Spring 2020 with the same cast and director.

All the above of course in line with Government guidelines and under Covid restrictions appropriate to the venues we use, primarily the West Horsley Village Hall.

Finally our AGM for 2021 will be held at the West Horsley Village Hall on Thursday 27th May at 8.00pm. All are welcome but do let us know if you plan to come so that we can manage the Hall set up. Unfortunately this year we will not have Awards to present and regrettably no refreshments! We continue to look for new Committee members so if you would like to join us please get in touch and I will arrange for you to be nominated. We also welcome all new members with an interest in theatre for both on stage and back stage roles.

If all goes to plan the WHIPS will once again be on stage and I look forward to welcoming you both in the audience and as participants in the productions.

Best Wishes...Colin Bailey...Chairman

AGM

The (real in person!) Whips AGM is to be Thursday 27th May at 7.30 in the Village Hall
We need to revitalise our dramatic society with a new Secretary and Chairman as well as volunteers for the committee. Please contact Colin if interested otherwise our society will fail! Please come along & get involved folks.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

CONTACTS

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The Whips Website		www.horsleyamdram.org



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AGM; Thursday 27th May 8.00pm at the WHVH
Autumn Production: 7th to 9th October at WHVH



AND FINALLY

There are four engineers traveling in a car; a mechanical engineer, a chemical engineer, an electrical engineer, and a computer engineer. The car breaks down.

"Sounds to me as if the pistons have seized. We'll have to strip down the engine before we can get the car working again", says the mechanical engineer.

"Well", says the chemical engineer, "it sounded to me as if the fuel might be contaminated. I think we should clear out the fuel system."

"I thought it might be a grounding problem", says the electrical engineer, "or maybe a faulty plug lead."

They all turn to the computer engineer who has said nothing and say: "Well, what do you think?"

"Ummm perhaps if we close all the windows and we all get out of the car and get back in again?"

This has been a 'get it out swiftly before Boris changes his mind' production

