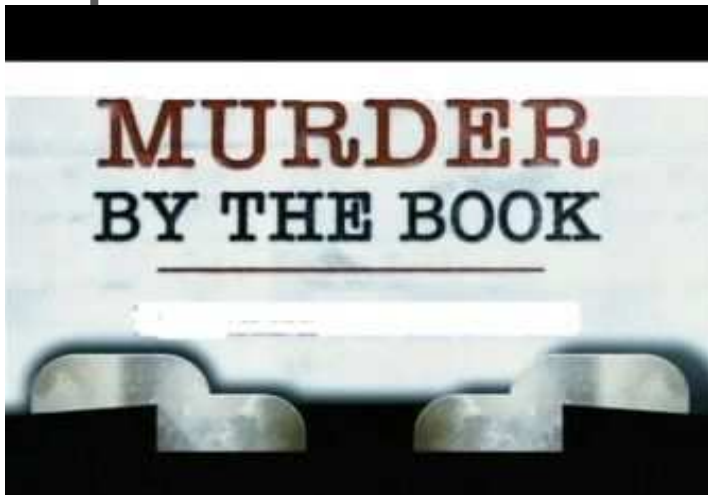


# THE WORTHY PLAYERS

AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY



**JUBILEE HALL KINGS WORTHY**

14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015

7-30 pm

# ‘Murder by The Book’

By Duncan Greenwood & Robert King

## A word from the directors

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**Clare Nicholas**



**Peter Wooldridge**

Peter - Back in the spring of 2010 I took to the stage for the first time in my life appearing in the Worthy Players production of ‘Allo ‘Allo. I had never previously thought of doing something like that. 5 years on I find myself in a similar position as for the first time in my life I am directing a play. Whether my first appearance as a director is also my last will, I guess, be in the hands of you, the audience. If your response to this production is favourable then maybe I will be inspired to direct again. The opposite is, of course, unthinkable. Luckily I have not been alone in my directorial debut as I have been more than ably supported by my co-director Clare, whose input has been invaluable, and who equally has never directed before. My thanks must go to the cast for their patience, support and co-operation and to all the others who have helped with set building, front of house, lighting, costumes props and stage management etc. I must also thank our prompt, Alison Woolford, who has not only been prompting but has also read in for people on holiday, which is one of the problems of doing a summer play. Also our Chairman, Nick Kearns and Doug Mackie have kindly stepped in to read in for various parts at various points in time. Finally, a big thank you to all of

you who have come along to watch. Hopefully, you will not be disappointed with what you are about to see.

Clare - I have been a part of the Worthy Players for more than ten years now and always kept clear of the thought of directing. It wasn't until Peter, a fellow directing novice, suggested clubbing together to direct a play as the group were short of directors. Suddenly, the thought of directing for the first time didn't seem quite so daunting when you're not in it alone. Full credit to Peter for finding a fantastic play, and between us, we hope that we have put together a well cast and well directed play that you will thoroughly enjoy. I know I speak for both of us when I say I have enjoyed my first stint as a director, and may even consider doing it again! Thanks to everyone who has been involved and supported us along the way, we are very grateful.

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Directors — Clare Nicholas and Peter Woolldridge

Gaffer and best boy – David Woolford

Set construction — Members of the group

Stage Management — Treive Nicholas

Costume and Wardrobe — Shirley Lovell and Alison Woolford

Lighting and Sound — Richard Aldous

Prompt — Alison Woolford

Box Office — Janine Blackmore and Richard Aldous

Programme, Posters and Fliers — David & Alison Woolford

Front of House Manager — Nick Kearns

Bar Manager — Barbara Kearns

# **The setting for ‘Murder by the Book’**

The action takes place in the drawing room of Selwyn Piper’s flat

## **The Action of ‘Murder by the Book’**

### **Act 1**

Early evening on a bright autumn day

**There will be an interval of 20 minutes after Act 1 during which the bar will be open and coffee and biscuits will also be on sale from the kitchen. Why not order your drinks beforehand? The Raffle will be drawn during the interval.**

### **Act 2, Scene 1 and scene 2**

The action continues -

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## **Welcome and thanks to all our patrons**

Thank you to all of you, our patrons, for coming to see our play.

Thanks also to all the following for their assistance – Wessex Windows for providing overflow car parking; The Worthys Community Website and to The Parish Magazine for help with publicity; ADH Printing, Kings Worthy for printing our programme; The Jubilee Hall Committee and Secretary for their help in accommodating our needs; The Theatre Art School for their help in moving Friday night classes; And last but not least, all those other members of the group and friends not yet mentioned for helping out backstage or front of house.

For more information about the Worthy Players, please visit our website at **[www.theworthyplayers.co.uk](http://www.theworthyplayers.co.uk)**

# The Cast of 'Murder by the Book'

**Christine Scott**



**Janine Blackmore**

Janine has been a member of The Worthy Players for more years than she cares to think about. This marks the first time in a while that she has taken on a larger part, rather than her usual cameo appearance.

**Imogen Piper**



**Kirsty Turner**

Another show, another hard done-by wife to play! Or is she? At least she is slightly more glamorous than Mrs Lovett! Kirsty has been with the very Worthy Players for 5 years now and looking forward to many more....

**Peter Fletcher**



**Michael Heseldin**

Has been a member of the Worthy Players for almost 21 years – last seen as Widow Twanky in the pantomime in December. In a change of pace, this time he is playing a know-it-all smart-\*\*\*\*!

**Selwyn Piper**



**David Woolford**

This is David's largest role in recent years. David's latest credits include: - Compere in 'Worthys Got Talent' 2013, Producing Aladdin 2014, co-starring with Eric in the TV programme South Today, playing 'The Sherriff' in The Mayor's music hall' and Rueben in 'The Militants'

**John Douglas**



**Tim Ellwood**

This is Tim's fourth show with the Worthy Players and he's enjoying every minute of it. After playing Sweeney Todd in the last show he is now looking forward to playing someone who is not as mad as a bicycle (or is he?). You can make up your own mind.

1973	Dick Whittington	1987	The Chalk Garden.	1999	Business of Murder.
1974	Double Bill. Mother Goose.		Music Hall. Do Not Disturb.		Educating Rita. The Last Of The Red Hot Lovers.
1975	Swithun. Puss In Boots.		Babes In The Magic Wood.		Music Hall.
1976	2 One Act Plays. Bonaventure. St George and the Dragon. A Worthy Tale.	1988	Something To Hide. Music Hall. There Goes The Bride. Pinocchio.	2000	Cinderella and the Football Boots. 2001 Outside Edge. Black Comedy/Red Letter Day. Dick Whittington.
1977	2 One Act Plays. Murder at Key Cottage. Jack and the Beanstalk.	1989	Blithe Spirit. Music Hall. 3 One Act Plays. Jack and The Beanstalk.	2002	Play On. Visiting Hour. Aladdin.
1978	FlatSpin. 20's Revue. Deadly Record. Sleeping Beauty.	1990	The Other Fellow's Oats. Music Hall. Pardon Me Prime Minister.	2003	Bedroom Farce. Lettice & Lovage. Robin Hood.
1979	Ladies In Retirement. Sailor Beware. 3 One Act Plays. Pantomania.	1991	Sinbad The Sailor. Confusions. Music Hall.	2004	It's Those Worthies Again. Laying The Ghost. Beauty And The Beast.
1980	When We Are Married. Music Hall. Suddenly At Home. Hickory Dickory Dock.	1992	Breeze Block Park. Robinson Crusoe. 84 Charing Cross Road. Music Hall.	2005	Party Piece. Stage School (y). Present Laughter. A Christmas Carol.
1981	Nothing Legal/Black Comedy. Music Hall. The Edge of Darkness. Mother Goose's Golden Christmas.	1993	The Secretary Bird. The Wizard of Oz. When We Are Married. Farndale Ave-Murder Mystery. Music Hall.	2006	The Darling Buds of May. A Murder is Announced. Snow White. Confusions.
1982	Rose. Music Hall. Don't Just Lie There Say Something. Dangerous Corner.	1994	A Month Of Sundays. Farndale Ave-S.S. We Found Love. Music Hall. Humpty Dumpty.	2007	Youth III (y). Kindly Keep It Covered. King Arthur & The Nuts. The Importance of Being Ernest.
1983	Revue, We'll Meet Again. Move Over Mrs Markham. Aladdin.	1995	One For The Road. Living Together. Falling Off A Log. Music Hall.	2008	A Bolt From The Blue. Jack & The Beanstalk. Holiday Snap. Robinson Crusoe.
1984	Rock-A-Bye Sailor. Music Hall. Not Now Darling. A Right Christmas Caper.	1996	Murder In Company. Local Affairs. Panto Trek. Gaslight.	2009	'Allo 'Allo. Once Upon A Time. Suddenly At Home. Music Hall.
1985	End of the Honeymoon. Music Hall. Key for Two. Cinderella.	1997	Mixed Doubles. Relatively Speaking. Music Hall.	2010	Allo 'Allo. Once Upon A Time. Suddenly At Home. Music Hall.
1986	Table Manners. A Tomb With A View. Music Hall. Dick Whittington.	1998	Farndale Ave- Haunted. Breath Of Spring. Music Hall.	2011	How The Other Half Loves. The Snow Queen. Murdered To Death. Old Mother Hubbard. The Militants. Aladdin.
				2012	Todd the Barber.
				2013	
				2014	
				2015	

**Our pantomime this year will be Robin Hood.**

**Performance Dates: 4th/5th and 11th/12th December.**

Murder by the Book is a Nero Wolfe detective novel by Rex Stout published in 1951 by the Viking Press, and collected in the omnibus volume Royal Flush (1965). Inspector Cramer takes the unprecedented step of approaching Nero Wolfe for his help on a stalled murder investigation. Leonard Dykes, a clerk for a small law partnership, has been found dead in the East River with no leads other than a list of names in his pocket. While initially unable to help, a month later Wolfe is approached by the father News of the murder travelled fast (â€œThis is really too horrid!â€ Queen Victoria wrote in her diary) and set off panic among the well-to-do: that an inoffensive, elderly widower could be murdered in bed seemed evidence of an â€œunfortunate spirit of insubordinationâ€ in a London destabilised by immigrants, criminal gangs and an increasingly vocal working class. While police searched for the culprit, contemporary authors came under fire for writing â€œNewgate novelsâ€ that glamorised crime and violence, with one novelist, William Harrison Ainsworth, singled out.Â But Jack Sheppard was a novel heâ€™d read. And several other criminals brought to trial for petty offences claimed that reading the book, or seeing the play, had corrupted them.