Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman

The first of the Marreau plays introduced Hemlock with his assistant Gwendolyn and his friend Simpson. Not long after arriving at Lady Eustace's for a shooting weekend, Lady Eustace is felled by a shot "up the nose". Marreau, exercising his little 'red' cells in an attempt to solve the case, gets somewhat confused about just about everything - including his own nationality. Meanwhile the murderer strikes again dispatching the amiable Teddy in a most gruesome fashion involving a sharpened croquet mallet. Everyone is suspect, but Marreau is on the scent, believing bicarbonate of soda to be "an important clue". Fortunately, Gwendolyn realises that not only does bicarb have absolutely nothing to do with it, what is far more important is the true identity of one of the household - none other than Little Jimmy, the illegitimate child of Lady Jane and Doctor Protheroe! In a dramatic unmasking, Daisy the maid is revealed to be none other than the little bastard himself. "She should never have killed my hamster, Old bag!"

Marreau and the Curse of Cardiff

The police have given up trying to solve the mystery of "The Curse of Cardiff". Every year on the anniversary of the opening of an Egyptian tomb, one member of the team meets an unusual death - and what is more the method by which they die has been prophecised in a tablet of stone found in the tomb. This is the fifth anniversary and according to the prophecy, all but one of the remaining members of the team will die in the morning! Marreau decides it is time to prove that he has the greatest detective mind in the world.

Will Gwendolyn be her usual efficient self and help Marreau to solve the case? Perhaps not, she seems to be more interested in getting friendly with one of the guests. Will Marreau cope? Will the case be solved? Is Gwendolyn in love?

Find out next year!

FRAYED KNOT THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS



TRING Crystal Rooms Wednesday 29 April MARSWORTH Village Hall Thursday 30 April DAGNAL Village Hall Friday 1 May WILSTONE Village Hall Saturday 2 May

All Performances & OOpm • Doors Open 7.30pm Tickets (3 in advance, (3.50 at the door

BOX Offict: lel: t/b (0525) 370013 (Day); Cheddington (0296) 666033 (fyes)

The Cast

Hemlock Marreau

The famous continental detective

Gwendolyn Bayne

His secretary

Colin Bryer Jenny Booth

Simpson

His friend

Graham Double

Viscount Alexander

Son of the Marquess

Richard Uttley

Lady Theresa

Daughter of the Marquess

Vi Malcolm

Captain Ranulph

Her husband

Nigel Froment

The Countess

A wealthy guest

Regina Dobbs

Havelock

The butler

Peter Cherry

Mrs. Johnson

Maria Cook

Parkhurst

Rose

The footman

The maid

George Bird

Doctor Protheroe

.

Kathryn Mills

Doctor Protneroe

The family doctor

John Ross / Bob Theaker *

Inspector Farmer

A policeman

Rob Farrow

 $\ensuremath{^*}$ John will play this part on Wed & Thu, and Bob will play it on Fri & Sat.

Written & Directed by

Rob Farrow

Publicity

Colin Bryer

Lighting

Jason Potter

Costumes

Tring Costume Hire

Costume organiser

Jenny Booth

Set decoration

Vi Malcolm

Thanks to C.A.D.S. & Kerr Hill for loan of set and props

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Marreau and the African Moon

ACT | Scene 1 The lounge of The Marquess of Penge's country house, morning.

ACT I Scene 2 ditto a little later

ACT | Scene 3 ditto a little later

ACT II Scene 1 ditto later still

ACT II Scene 2 ditto yet later still

ACT II Scene 3 Guess where even later!

There will be an interval of fifteen minutes between Act I and Act II

Author's Note

I hope you enjoy this evening's performance, the second in the Marreau sequence. Whilst this play is a sequel to 'Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman', don't worry if you didn't see that one, you'll soon work out what's going on, though hopefully not whodunnit too quickly

On the back of this programme is a brief resume' of what happened in 'Chocolate Policeman' and a preview of the next in the sequence 'Marreau and the Curse of Cardiff' I hope, if you enjoy this play, that we'll see you next year for the new one. But before that, watch out for Frayed Knot's production of 'Moby Dick' to be performed just before Christmas; it won't be quite like the one that's on in the West End at the moment!

I would like to thank all those who have helped make this show possible, particularly Colin for his hard work on publicity ... especially as the latest sport seems to be pulling our posters down as fast as we can put them up!

Thank-you for coming to see this show, and supporting local amateur theatre, a lot of effort goes into producing these shows and our main reward is a happy audience!

P.S. Sorry if we made you jump - again !!!

R.H.F.