

Fraged Knot Theatre Co..

Presents ....

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On Association with

Samuel French

Murder Hurder A Chost Storyed By Emlyn Williams

The Court Theatre, Pendley, Tring September 23rd - 26th :7.30 for 8.00 pm

Supported by Dacorum Borough Council via Tring Arts Trust.

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Prices & Opening Times correct at time of publication. Please check before travelling.

## Fraged Knot Theatre Company

## A Murder Has Been Arranged

By Emlyn Williams

#### **Previous Productions**

1991	Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman
1992	Marreau and the African Moon
1993	Marreau and the Curse of Cardiff D.F.C. / Moby Dick: Double Bill
1994	Marreau and the Bloody Carpet Blithe Spirit
1995	Marreau and the Sword of Carthage Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber
1996	Farndale Avenue Macbeth Marreau and the Clouds of Death Party Piece
1997	The Importance of Being Earnest Knightsbridge / Never the Twain / Pastiche: Treble Bill Farndale Avenue Christmas Carol
1998	Arsenic and Old Lace

### A Murder Has Been Arranged

#### The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Miss Groze Meg Lawrence

Cavendish Roy Sane

Mrs. Wragg Lynda Hunt

Jimmy North **Nigel Froment** 

Beatrice Jasper Kate Harvey

Mrs Arthur **Sue Tumelty** 

Sir Charles Jasper Ian Wells

Maurice Mullins Wayne MacLaughlin

"The Woman" **Jackie Farrow** 

> Director Rob Farrow

Stage Manager Colin Hunt

Lighting & Sound **Rob Farrow** 

> Costume Call, Coventry Costumes

Props (sourcing) **Kate Harvey** 

Front-of-House Manager Colin Hunt

Publicity & Programme

**Rob Farrow** 

### A Murder Has Been Arranged

#### **Scenes**

The entire play is on the stage of the St. James's Theatre London. It is Wednesday November 26th 1930

#### Part One

Act I: Twenty to nine in the evening Act II: Nine thirty

An interval of twenty minutes

#### Part Two

Act II continued: ... from the moment we left Act III: Ten thirty

#### **Director's Note**

Directing a Frayed Knot production is always good fun ... but can at times be a little stressful! Particularly if - as in this case - you have not actually had all the members of the cast together in the same place at the same time throughout the entire run of rehearsals! (And, as I write, there is less than a week to go to curtain-up!) However, I am confident that the excellent cast with whom it has been a pleasure to work, will provide you with good entertainment tonight - and hopefully a few frissons!

This is one of Emlyn Williams' lesser known plays - his most famous almost certainly being "Night Must Fall" - and everything about it is firmly rooted in the early 1930s in which it is set - and was indeed written. I hope we manage to transport you back to those pre-war years, when people really did speak and react in a way that seems rather stilted and alien to us now. It's been a pleasant change for me to direct something that I didn't actually write ... I hope you enjoy the products of our labours over the last weeks as the play unfolds before you. Rob Farrow

### A Murder Has Been Arranged

The Cast (in order of appearance)

Meg Lawrence: This is Meg's first outing with Frayed Knot, so I hope the experience has not been too traumatic! Meg has appeared in several productions in the Cheddington area with some of our other members.

Roy Sane: Roy has appeared in lots of shows with various companies, particularly with Vale G&S and Festival Company. He has also been in a number of F.K. shows, including our last production "Arsenic and Old Lace"

Lynda Hunt: As well as several Frayed Knot shows, Lynda is regularly involved with Vale G&S and Festival productions. One of her trickier rôles was as a maimed witch in Farndale ... Macbeth!

**Nigel Froment:** A founder member who has been in a very high percentage of our shows as well as acting with Pendley, Phoenix and Festival companies. His last rôle was as Mortimer in "Arsenic and Old Lace".

Kate Harvey: Kate joined the company just a couple of years ago, but since then has been in "Party Piece", "Three Comedies" and "Farndale Christmas Carol" as well as actively helping out back stage on everything else!

Sue Tumelty: I think Sue will be pleased to being playing a character somewhat nearer her true age - as to date for Frayed Knot she has specialised in dotty old dears, including a formidable Lady Bracknell in "Earnest"

Ian Wells: As a baritone of considerable ability, Ian is probably most well known for his appearances with Vale G&S. Ian has however appeared in several F.K. productions including Marreaus, "Earnest" and "Arsenic"

Wayne MacLaughlin: It is two years since Wayne last acted with F.K..- as Supt. Lewis in the last Marreau ... but he has used this hiatus to get married and have a little son! This is the second Emlyn Williams play in which he has starred, as he was "Danny" in Phoenix' production of "Night Must Fall".

Jackie Farrow: Another Vale G&S regular, Jackie has been in Festival shows and several F.K. productions including three Marreaus, "Three Comedies" and most notably playing a thirteen-year-old boy in "Sweeney Todd"!

### Fraged Knot Theatre Company

Frayed Knot Theatre Company was established in 1991 and has gone from strength to strength ever since. Initially, lacking resources and a known name we had to be modest in our productions, performing to a few dozen people in village halls in Herts, Beds & Bucks.

With the reopening of Pendley Theatre (as the Court Theatre) we decided to take the quite bold move to this larger venue, and happily it paid off. We have been able to increase from one show a year to two and, for the last couple of years, three.

The general trend, with only slight setbacks, has been an increase in audience numbers with every show, and our membership has grown too, particularly attracting members from the Aylesbury area.

We have until now, almost exclusively produced comedies, and have perhaps found a little niche in the busy Arts schedule in the area by doing so, however we decided that it was time for a change ... hence this current offering.

So, now in our eighth year, we have become established as one the foremost companies in the area, with a dynamic approach and flexible attitude and are set to continue for many more years, hopefully gaining in experience and popularity all the time.

Recently our three shows have effectively been such that the Spring show is a well known play, our Autumn show of a new or more adventurous kind and the show near Christmas of something of a seasonal nature. This cocktail seems to have worked well, and may well continue. Our last play, Arsenic and Old Lace of course, fell into the first of the above categories - and was highly successful. I hope that Cl. Murder Has Been Chranged lives up to our growing reputation and that you have a thoroughly enjoyable evening ... and can't wait to come to see our next production .... whatever it is !!!

Rob Farrow, Chairman

#### **Future Productions**

Unfortunately at the time of going to press we have not finalised what our next production will be. However we do have the date!

2nd - 5th December



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