

# FULL HOUSE

APRIL 2017

Hurstpierpoint Players News

## CHAIRMAN'S AD LIB

It is only a matter of weeks since I last wrote to you but Christmas already seems a very long time ago! Our **Spring production** has just closed after slightly disappointing houses which did not do justice to the outstanding effort made by a talented company. (A special mention should go to new member **Caroline Morley** whose debut appearance for us this was.)

Those 'audients' who did attend were highly impressed by the quality of the acting for both **Regina Monologues** and the **Talking Heads**. This was reflected in the new Audience Feedback forms which we introduced with this production and which will now be a permanent feature. By the time you read this the summary data will be available on our website ([www.hurstplayers.org.uk](http://www.hurstplayers.org.uk)). Do, please, take a few moments to review what our visitors think and feel about us – it is a most encouraging start to our drive to monitor and improve the quality of our work.

The **on-line ticketing service** got off to a bit of a shaky start but has already proved itself with just over 63% of all tickets being bought on-line. This is a really good result considering that it is the first time we have offered this facility. Also, our grateful thanks must go to **Richards Estate Agents** for selling the 'off-line' tickets, and

not forgetting **Clifford Dann Estate Agents** for sponsoring the lovely sign boards around the village, and the printing of this newsletter.

For sensible practical reasons we have postponed the **Non-Stop Shakespeare** major event and this will now take place from Thursday 12th through to Sunday 15th October to give us time to get the great many stakeholders on-board. Meanwhile we shall be mounting a number of other fundraising events including a family **Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday 8 April and some great concerts later in the year – more news next time.

The theatrical lighting training session run by Cuckfield Dramatic Society in our theatre on Sunday 2 April went very well. The delegates received a thorough grounding in the (black?) art, from lenses to computer-controlled DMX universes – fascinating stuff delivered by a very knowledgeable tutor. We may look at other collaborative events in the future – watch this space.

Our next production is **Diplomatic Relations** (details elsewhere in this edition) followed by **Hobson's Choice** for the Hurst Festival in September. Information about all these events will be on our website, so please check back regularly if you don't want to miss anything!

*Steve Somers*  
Chairman

## DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Reading/Casting  
Monday April 10th &  
Wednesday April 12th

Performance dates  
27th June - 1st July 2017

Diplomatic Relations, our Summer production, is a typical farce set in the fictional republic of Guaranguay, where to call it a banana republic is to give bananas a bad name.

The action takes place in the office of H.M.G.'s Ambassador. It has the usual mix of illicit affairs, financial malpractice and incompetence. It is directed by Richard Coney ably assisted by Josie Porter for whom this will be her directing debut.

There are nine parts (6 female and 3 male) none of which are too onerous.

All the parts can be of any age except Henry and Kimberley who ideally need to be in their twenties

Richard has some scripts available for those that maybe interested but who are unable to attend either of the audition nights.

**Even if you don't want a part, come along to the reading - there will be wine and nibbles provided with soft drinks for those driving**

## CONTACT DETAILS

Michael Squire (*President*)  
01273 833164  
[fatcat.collegelane@btinternet.com](mailto:fatcat.collegelane@btinternet.com)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hannah Banks  
01273 832787  
[hannah.banks@icloud.com](mailto:hannah.banks@icloud.com)

Richard Coney  
01273 835128  
[coneys@talktalk.net](mailto:coneys@talktalk.net)

Jean Gilbert  
01273 834197  
[gilbert-jean1@sky.com](mailto:gilbert-jean1@sky.com)

Bernie Hecht  
01273 843010  
[berniehecht@hotmail.com](mailto:berniehecht@hotmail.com)

Josie Porter  
01273 832787  
[josie.porter@rookwood.net](mailto:josie.porter@rookwood.net)

Pip Sampson  
01273 833397  
[pip.sampson@googlemail.com](mailto:pip.sampson@googlemail.com)

Ali Somers  
01273 833987  
[a\\_somers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:a_somers@hotmail.co.uk)

Marilyn Somers  
01273 833987  
[marilyn.somers@virgin.net](mailto:marilyn.somers@virgin.net)

Stephen Somers (*Chairman*)  
01273 833987  
[players.tech.steve@btinternet.com](mailto:players.tech.steve@btinternet.com)

Some people are still having problems getting the newsletter by email so, if you have received this please let us know by email: [news@hurstplayers.org.uk](mailto:news@hurstplayers.org.uk)

# GREAT EASTER EGG HUNT

**SATURDAY 8TH APRIL  
STARTING AT THE THEATRE  
AT 2PM**



**ENTRY/CLUE SHEET:  
CHILDREN £2  
ADULTS £3**

**REFRESHMENTS  
PROVIDED**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE THEATRE REFURBISHMENT FUND**

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

This is a 'gentle' reminder that annual membership fees become due on the 1st May.

You will need to renew your membership to qualify for members' discounts on the National Theatre Live screenings and early booking for Hurst Players' shows.

## THEATRE RENOVATION FUND

The fundraising grant applications are well underway but you can help by telling all your friends and relations about everything that will be happening this year. The project, which will cost £146,000, should take three months to complete once work is started early in 2018.

Our theatre is a valuable asset for our community and by doing the planned work we hope to widen its use by more in the village.

We have set up a fundraising website that will also offer everyone the chance to donate - [www.justgiving.com/hurstpierpoint-players](http://www.justgiving.com/hurstpierpoint-players).

People can also donate via their mobile phone by sending a text to **70070** saying **HPNB10 £10** to donate £10, or **HPNB05 £5** to donate £5.

People can also donate directly into our HSBC bank account - Account Name: Hurstpierpoint Players, Sort Code: 40-23-17, Account No: 01252127.

**So spread the word and lets keep these donations mounting!**

## Non-Stop Shakespeare

In 1998 Hurstpierpoint Players mounted the first Non-Stop Shakespeare and it proved to be a great fund-raiser.

We are doing it again this year and we need everyone to pull out all the stops to make it another resounding success.

The idea is to read all of the Bard's 37 plays, non-stop for twenty-four hours a day from 7.30 pm on Thursday 12th October until we finish, sometime on Sunday the 15th. We will need lots and lots of participants, so the readings will be open to everyone - individuals or groups.

The public will be invited to come and watch or take part if they want to so if you know of group who would like to read a specific play or someone who is heavily into Shakespeare - let them know about it.

The details are being worked out at the moment, so if you want to book a specific time to read or a play to get involved with send an email to:

[shakespeare@hurstplayers.org.uk](mailto:shakespeare@hurstplayers.org.uk)

and someone will get back to you with more details.

## Dates for your Diary



**April 6th**  
National Theatre Live  
**Twelfth Night**  
Starts 7 pm  
Doors open 6.30 pm



**April 10th & April 12th**  
Reading/Casting  
**DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**  
with wine & nibbles  
Starts 8 pm



**June 10th**  
National Theatre Live  
**Peter Pan**  
Starts 3 pm  
Doors open 2.30 pm



**June 22nd**  
National Theatre Live  
**SALOME**  
Starts 7 pm  
Doors open 6.30 pm



**June 27th - July 1st**  
**DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**  
Starts 8 pm



**July 1st**  
**St Lawrence Fair**



More information and tickets for National Theatre Live screenings from [www.hurstfilms.com](http://www.hurstfilms.com)



More information and tickets for Hurstpierpoint Players Shows from [www.hurstplayers.org.uk](http://www.hurstplayers.org.uk)

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