

## *Shut Up Monty! By Keith Outterside*

### SYNOPSIS

*Frank is at a loss as to how to fill his time now that he has retired. Should he follow Alice's advice and take a lead from Alan? But the thought of taking up bowls fills him with horror. When an antique mask arrives, a gift from his daughter, it brings a thankful diversion but, as he ponders its origins, will the enigmatic stranger, Jean, make all his wishes come true?*

*The action takes place one morning in Frank's study.*

### CAST in order of appearance

Frank, a retired senior Civil Servant  
Alice, Frank's wife  
Alan, Frank's friend  
Jean, an enigmatic stranger  
Jenkins, a police officer  
Thelma, Alan's wife

Brian Arrowsmith  
Jan Bennett  
Dominic Clifford  
Claire Fraser  
Piers Husband  
Jane Burton

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Keith Outterside
Set	Richard Venn assisted by The Company
Lighting	Giles Fletcher
Sound Effects	Nick Raynham
Properties	Jane Burton
Prompt	Debbie Raynham
Bar	Nick and Debbie Raynham
Supper Co-ordinator	Jane Burton and helpers
Front-of-House	'Wenna Fletcher, Jack Bennett, Ian Gilchrist
Publicity and Box Office	Jan Bennett

*Our grateful thanks to Robert Hillary of Hillary Groundworks, Ropley, for providing transport for the set and furniture.*

### Keith Outterside, Director

In recent years Keith has concentrated on directing and writing. In 2018 he directed *Theft* and *Prescription for Murder* for RDS. In 2016 he wrote and directed the comedy *End of the Road* for RDS and, for Holybourne Theatre, he wrote and directed *Imagine Me and You*.

### Brian Arrowsmith (Frank)

At last, a play that showcases the full range of my acting talents - from grumpy to grouchy and unreasonable!

### Jan Bennett (Alice)

Since joining RDS in 2011, this is the only chance Jan has had to show the evil side of a character. It is of some concern that it came so easily - the real challenge was playing the part of the tolerant wife! We hope you enjoy watching this imaginative play as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing it.

### Dominic Clifford (Alan)

Dom has had to brush up on his Latin to fully immerse himself in the part of Alan, and is now rarely seen out of a toga or far from his well thumbed copy of "The Shorter Latin Primer". In fact he has become so enthralled with the ancient world that he's now studying ancient Greek. After all, as Aristotle once said: "Ἡ ζωὴ εἶναι ἓνα ἀγγύρι (αγγούρι), ἡ γυναῖκα εἶναι τὴ (το) ποδήλατο". So fascinating! He would like to point out, however, that he has not been near a bowls club or Waitrose. Research has its limits!

### Claire Fraser (Jean)

Claire always enjoys being involved with RDS productions, and this one has certainly been 'magical'. The rehearsals have been great fun, and our Director, Keith, has yet again been very patient. Thank you for coming to see the play and supporting RDS.

### Piers Husband (Jenkins)

A man of few words; Piers is an actor with an enormous repertoire who simply refuses to be typecast. From playing a Police Detective in our Spring production of 'Who Killed the Vicar' to a Police Inspector in The Oakhanger Players' 2018 production of 'Raising Martha'.

### Jane Burton (Thelma)

Jane is very much enjoying this opportunity to tread the boards albeit in such a small way. It allows outrageous behaviour which in normal life she has to keep contained!!!! Always great fun to be involved with Ropley Dramatic Society.

**OUR NEXT PRODUCTION** will be the comedy "Whodidit" on:  
**Friday and Saturday 13th and 14th March 2020**

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN ROPLEY DRAMATIC SOCIETY?

We are always very happy to welcome new members. We are a very friendly group with no prima donnas! Experience is very welcome but not essential – just enthusiasm and commitment, together with a sense of humour and an interest in theatre.

For more information, come and chat to us after the show, or email: [janbennett42@outlook.com](mailto:janbennett42@outlook.com)

## SOME OF OUR PAST PRODUCTIONS

2001	Haywire
2003	Don't Misunderstand Me! Treasure Island
2004	Don't Blame it on the Boots/Easy Stages Farndale Christmas Carol
2005	Outside Edge Last Tango/Last Panto in Ropley
2006	Role Play Family Planning
2007	Affectionately Yours, Jane Austen Play On!
2008	Neville's Island Robin Hood
2009	Who Shot the Director? (Murder Mystery)
2010	How the Other Half Loves
2011	Party Piece Humphrey Pumphrey Had a Great Fall
2012	April Dawn
2013	Holiday Snap The Last Bread Pudding
2014	Under the Stars Alas, Poor Geoffrey
2015	Forget-Me-Knot Hidden Meanings
2016	The Wooden Pear / The End of the Road Secondary Cause of Death
2017	The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley My Friend Miss Flint
2018	Prescription for Murder Theft
2019	Murder Mystery – Who Killed The Vicar?

# ROPLEY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Presents

## *Shut Up Monty!*

*A new comedy by Keith Outterside*

15th and 16th November 2019

Ropley Parish Hall

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**PLEASE .... SWITCH OFF MOBILE PHONES, etc !!**

*[www.ropleydrama.co.uk](http://www.ropleydrama.co.uk)*