

WIMBORNE  
DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

# REHEARSAL FOR MURDER

Adapted for the stage by  
**D.D. Brooke**



**19 - 21 OCTOBER 2023**  
**TIVOLI THEATRE WIMBORNE**

# Director's notes

WELCOME! We are delighted that you are here to enjoy our production of *Rehearsal For Murder* at the beautiful Tivoli Theatre.

Wimborne Drama Productions is so proud to be able to perform in this stunning venue and it is wonderful to produce a play which makes the theatre itself a star of the show.

I need to make a confession to you...I haven't always been a fan of the murder mystery genre! I blame it on Miss Marple and Poirot who together managed to curtail my childhood enjoyment of Sundays

throughout the '80s. I had to behave myself and keep quiet so that the grown-ups could watch the TV murder mystery drama of the evening. Hopelessly bored, I resented Miss Marple and Poirot for taking over the evening's entertainment. They were bad enough, but Columbo really took the biscuit – that scruffy bloke who never seemed to know what was going on but managed to solve the crime regardless. "What is the big deal?" my younger self would often ask.

Little did I know that I would end up directing a play adapted from a teleplay produced in the '80s – one which I would have loathed, since it was written by the same writers of *Columbo* and *Murder, She Wrote* (I did at least like the theme tune to that one). Thankfully as I have matured so have my tastes and much to my childhood self's disgust, I now LOVE a good murder mystery – and *Rehearsal For Murder* is exactly that. Tightly plotted with fun and interesting characters and, joy of joys, set in the slightly spooky setting of an empty theatre.

Theatre-making is very much a collective endeavour, and I am hugely indebted to the talented team of people I am privileged to call friends, both on stage and behind the scenes. I would like to express particular thanks to Sali Pike, our assistant director and my right-hand woman, to Nick Clark, our superb visuals and sound designer and to Melody Utley, who is making her stage management debut. I couldn't have asked for a more committed team. A big "Thank You" too to Kyle Best at the Tivoli, who has been incredibly supportive and helpful.

Finally, my heart-felt thanks to you - all you wonderful people out there in the dark – the ones who make all our efforts worthwhile. Now, sit back, relax and see if you can work out "whodunnit"!



Tracey Nicholls, Director

# Levinson and Link: partners in crime

RICHARD LEVINSON AND WILLIAM LINK were one of America's most successful television writing and producing partnerships whose work included *Columbo* and *Murder, She Wrote*.

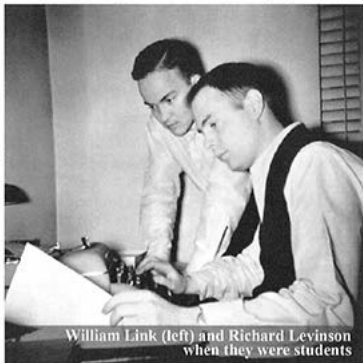
Stylistically, the two were quite different. While Levinson chain smoked and typed with two fingers, Link paced the room wringing his hands. According to one colleague, they tossed around ideas like "a typical, happily married bickering couple".

But whatever their differences, this professional odd couple gave to the world two of the greatest TV characters - an obsequious, ruffled little detective called Columbo and an incisive, unfailingly poised author and sleuth named Jessica Fletcher.

Their 43 year-long friendship began in 1946, on their first day of junior high school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

They bonded over their shared passion for magic tricks, puzzles and murder mysteries. Before long, they began writing together - radio shows, short stories, a musical, a novel - just for fun.

They both went on to study economics at the University of



William Link (left) and Richard Levinson  
when they were students

Pennsylvania where they founded a satirical magazine, wrote and sold a short story to *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* (it won best new short story of 1953), and penned several of the university's musicals. One, about Sherlock Holmes, went on to open at a major Philadelphia theatre.

After graduating, they signed up to a theatrical agency, but then both got called up to the US army. Link served four years. Levinson, who joined a few months after his buddy, only served six months due to changes in national service laws. Link wrote at night while stationed all over Europe, mailing his scripts to Levinson for revision and additions.

After Link's discharge in 1959, the duo struggled for a few months, selling short stories to *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*.

Then Hollywood came calling and they got a contract with Four Star Television, gaining valuable experience, before a writers' strike barred them from working. So they headed to New York where they soon found that writing for live shows, for some strange reason, did not break Writers' Guild regulations. Opportunity appeared in the form of the *Chevy Mystery Show*. They had an idea for a story called *Enough Rope* that they thought would be ideal for the Chevy show. It concerned a psychiatrist who thinks he has committed the perfect murder.

Until, that is, he runs into a cop named Columbo. The year was 1960.

Soon after Levinson and Link transformed *Enough Rope* into a stage play called *Prescription: Murder*, which became a touring hit. This more or less catapulted the duo back to Hollywood, this time with a seven-year contract at Universal to develop movies for television — working with the likes of Stephen Spielberg and Sydney Pollack.

In 1968, NBC asked the duo to write another TV movie and they decided to revive *Prescription: Murder*, offering the role of Columbo to Bing Crosby. Crosby opted instead to spend his remaining years playing golf, so the writer-producers turned to an up-and-coming New York actor and old acquaintance named Peter Falk. *Prescription: Murder* was a hit and NBC promptly commissioned six new shows.

The next few years brought more episodes of *Columbo* ("the only non-violent cop show in the history of the medium," said Link) and a series of ground-breaking films: *My Sweet Charlie* (1970) — a tale of inter-racial romance that earned them a writing Emmy; *That Certain Summer* (1972), starring Hal Holbrook and Martin Sheen as gay lovers; *The Execution of*

*Private Slovic* (1974), the story of the only American since the Civil War to be executed for desertion, starring Martin Sheen; and *The Gun* (1974), a chronicle of an American handgun, from manufacture to its one use — killing a child.

They also collaborated on two feature films: *The Hindenburg* (1975) and *Rollercoaster* (1977).

Other TV credits in the '60s and '70s included *Ellery Queen*, *Mannix* and *McCloud*.

In 1982 they wrote *Rehearsal For Murder* for CBS. It starred Robert Preston, Lynn Redgrave and Jeff Goldblum, and won a 1983 Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America.

In 1983 they wrote the Broadway show *Merlin*, featuring the magician Doug Henning.



Lynn Redgrave and Robert Preston

In 1984, they created, with Peter Fisher, their final masterpiece, *Murder, She Wrote*, for CBS. After Jean Stapleton turned down the role of Jessica Fletcher, they sent the script to Angela Lansbury, who was about to start work on a sitcom. One look at the script, and her plans changed. She said: "I really like this — it's sort of an American Miss Marple, with no violence. The woman solves the crime; she's not bailed out by men. I love this and I'm going to do it." The show ran until 1996.

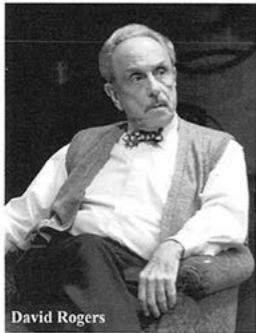
Richard Levinson died in 1987, aged 52.

After the death of his partner, William Link continued his writing and producing career. He produced the first two series of the revived *Columbo* in 1989-90 (the show continued until 2003). In 1991, in tribute to Levinson, he wrote the script for the 1991 TV film *The Boys*, starring James Woods and John Lithgow. He was a frequent contributor to *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* and *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*. In 2010, he published *The Columbo Collection*, a book featuring a dozen original short stories about Lieutenant Columbo. He died in 2020, aged 87.

# David Rogers

THIS stage adaptation of Levinson and Link's TV play *Rehearsal For Murder* was written in 1983 by David Rogers under the pseudonym D.D. Brooke.

David Rogers, born in 1928, was an American playwright and author. He is best known for the Tony-nominated musical *Charlie and Algernon* based on *Flowers for Algernon*, Daniel Keyes's novel about a man born with an unusually low IQ who is temporarily transformed into a genius. Five of his other plays and musicals have been produced on Broadway.



David Rogers

Rogers began his career in entertainment as a child actor on the radio programme *Rainbow House*. He made his Broadway debut in 1945 at age 17 in *As You Like It*. During the same year, he was published for the first time in *Gourmet Magazine*. Rogers continued to work in New York until 1950, when he was drafted into the US Army to fight in the Korean War. Upon his return, the GI Bill allowed him to study at the American Theatre Wing. He wrote

and contributed to revues including *The Ziegfeld Follies* and *Young At Heart*. Soon, Rogers began writing plays and musicals including *The Hobbit*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Tom Jones*, *Here and Now*, *Soft Soap*, *The Dream on Royal Street*, *Charlie and Algernon*, *JOY!*, *May the Farce Be With You*, *Never Mind What Happened*, and *How Did It End*. He was also commissioned to write the opera *The Hero* which earned him the Prix D'Italia. In addition, Rogers wrote several novels, including *Somewhere There's Music* and *The Great American Alimony Escape*, which have been published in several languages.

Rogers returned to acting in the 1980s, performing in the Broadway productions of *Broadway*, *Doubles*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

During the later years of his life, Rogers dedicated himself to helping emerging writers and actors. He died in 2013 at the age of 85.

# 1980s: TV at its best?

TELEVISION in the 1980s: no streaming, no internet TV, no catch-up services, and at the start of the decade only three channels (Channel 4 came along in November 1982). No wonder some of the iconic TV programmes in the 1980s were watched by tens of millions of viewers. We look back at some unforgettable moments in TV history.

## Happy Christmas, Ange

30 million of us tuned in to BBC One on Christmas Day 1986 to watch Dirty Den serve a gobsmacked Angie with divorce papers in *EastEnders*. The landlady's disbelieving face



as Den hands her the papers, declaring with a sinister smirk "Happy Christmas, Ange", is an iconic moment in soap history.

## The wedding of Charles and Di

The royal wedding of the Prince of Wales (now King Charles) and his 20-year-old bride Lady Diana Spencer in July 1981 attracted an audience of 28 million in the UK and was watched by a staggering 750 million globally.

## Hilda Ogden's last Christmas

Hilda Ogden, the original gossip girl, known for her sharp tongue and trademark headscarf and curlers, was a much-loved character. Hilda resided on *Coronation Street* for 23 years, so it was no surprise that her final scenes on Christmas Day 1987 were viewed by a whopping 26 million fans.

## Live Aid rocks the world

The multi-venue rock music concert organised by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure to raise funds for Ethiopia famine relief was one of the largest-scale satellite link-ups and television broadcasts of all time with an estimated 400 million viewers, across 60 countries, watching the live broadcast in July 1985.

## Who shot JR?

In November 1980, the nation held its breath as we waited to find out who was behind the murder attempt against arch-villain J.R. Ewing, played by Larry Hagman, in *Dallas*. 21 million of us in the UK tuned in to learn it was Kristin, J.R.'s sister-in-law and mistress who shot him in a fit of anger.

## Scott and Charlene tie the knot

Another wedding, this one fictitious although many hoped it was for real – Scott and Charlene, played by Jason Donovan and Kylie Minogue, got married in *Neighbours*, watched by some 20 million people in the UK when it was broadcast in November 1988. There wasn't a dry eye in the house when Charlene walked down the aisle to Angry Anderson's power ballad *Suddenly*.

## Ice cool Bolero

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean achieved sporting and artistic perfection at the 1984 Winter Olympics when they ice danced to Ravel's *Bolero*. More than 20 million of us were transfixed as they were awarded perfect scores and won gold.





## Cheap and cheerful telly from Terry

One of the most popular game shows of the 1980s was *Blankety Blank*, first broadcast in 1979, hosted by Terry Wogan. At its peak it was watched by 19 million viewers. With Wogan's wand-like microphone and his self-deprecating wit sparring with the guests and playing on the cheap nature of *Blankety Blank* – the grand prize on the first episode was a fridge freezer – a durable British hit was born, still going strong today. Les Dawson took over as host in 1984, until 1990.

## Del Boy falls through the bar



Del Boy and Trigger are eyeing up a pair of attractive young ladies in a wine bar. "Play it nice and cool, son. Nice and cool", says Del Boy before leaning back and falling through the open bar hatch. One of the funniest moments in one of the funniest ever sitcoms, this episode of *Only Fools and Horses* was watched by an audience of 14 million in 1989.



**Rob Cording-Cook and Rosie Nye**



**James Bourner, Michelle Barter and David Beddard-Banks**



Rob Cording-Cook , James Bourner and Lindsay McGowan



Colin Pile , James Bourner and David Beddard-Banks

# REHEARSAL FOR MURDER

Adapted for the stage by D.D. Brooke

From the TV play by Richard Levinson & William Link

## The Cast in order of appearance

Alex Dennison	ROB CORDING-COOK
Ernie	RUSS GUILLAUME
Sally Bean	ROSIE NYE
Loretta/Police Officer/ Ms Santoro	SUZANNE VINEY
Monica Welles	TRACIE BILLINGTON-BEARDSLEY
Lloyd Andrews	COLIN PILE
Bella Lamb	MICHELLE BARTER
Karen Daniels	LINDSAY MCGOWAN
Leo Gibbs	JAMES BOURNER
David Mathews	DAVID BEDDARD-BANKS
Police Officer	CALUM HEARNE
Man in Auditorium 1	ANDY GILL
Man in Auditorium 2	RICHARD SCOTSON

## Setting

The play is set on Broadway in New York, in the early 1980s  
Running time approximately 2 hours 30 minutes, including interval

Produced by Wimborne Drama Productions at the Tivoli Theatre, 19-21 October 2023. This amateur production is produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois, USA. The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings or streams of this production is strictly prohibited, a violation of United Kingdom Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and an actionable offence.

## The Creative Team

Director	TRACEY NICHOLLS
Assistant Director	SALI PIKE
Stage Manager	MELODY UTLEY
Visuals and Sound	NICK CLARK
Props/Armourer/ASM	DEE HAWES
ASMs	CALUM HEARNE
	RICHARD SCOTSON
Book Cover	JUDY GARRETT
Costume Supervisor	HEATHER BIRCHENOUGH
Publicity & Programme	RICHARD NEAL
<i>For the Tivoli Theatre:</i>	
Technical & Production Manager	KYLE BEST
Assistant Stage Manager	CHANDLER WHITELOCK

## Production Acknowledgements

Hierarchy Costumes for the hire of costumes  
CPS for the hire of the projector  
Scenery Solutions for the hire of scenery cloth  
History In The Making for the hire of weapons  
"Madison Avenue Gallery" artworks reproduced by kind permission of Rachel Dittrich [rdittrichart.com](http://rdittrichart.com)

This production would not have been possible without the generous help and support of Beacroft College, Daisy Graphic, Forest FM, Gullivers Bookshop, Radio Wimborne, Royal Air Forces Association Wimborne, Stour and Avon Magazine, Tivoli Theatre and Viewpoint



Calum Hearne



David Beddard-Banks

# Meet the cast

## Michelle Barter (Bella Lamb)

**Last role:** Elinor Dashwood in *Sense and Sensibility* in the summer of 2022 at Deans Court.  
**Favourite plays you've appeared in:** I love the outdoor plays. As well as *Sense and Sensibility*, I've done *Much Ado About Nothing* in 2017 and *She Stoops To Conquer* (2019).  
**Other highlights:** I really enjoyed directing *Bedroom Farce* this year for WDP and hope to do more. I have a degree to finish first though!  
**Favourite thriller:** I love *Luther* and have watched it several times. I love a good detective show and *Frost*, *Midsummer Murders*, *Morse* and all the spin-offs are a regular watch, and of course *Columbo* and *Murder, She Wrote!*  
**Favourite thing about the 1980s:** Ah the '80s, when my brother was born.... I wanted a sister but apparently you can't swap them! I think kids TV was way better back then and playing outside until "dinner" was yelled across the green! Being an adult is a trap, don't do it!!

## David Beddard-Banks (David Mathews)

**Last role:** PC Benson, *Towards Zero*, WDP, October 2021.  
**Favourite plays:** *Habeas Corpus* (WDP, October 2016), *An Inspector Calls* (WDP, October 2013), *Run For Your Wife* (BLTC, September 2016).  
**Other highlights:** My proper stage debut, as Judd Fry in *Oklahoma!* with St Luke's Church, Parkstone in 2007, aged 16, was an absolute blast. Playing Javert in *Les Misérables* with St Edward's RC CE VA School at the Tiv the following year was magical.  
**Favourite thriller:** David Suchet as Poirot and Joan Hickson as Miss Marple cannot be beaten. The recent animated movie *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* was the most thrilling cinematic experience I've yet had; artistically jaw-dropping with relentlessly compelling storytelling and action.  
**Favourite thing about the 1980s:** I was born in 1991. Yeah... But by far my favourite things to come out of the 1980s are the movie *Labyrinth* and my sister. In that order? Erm... Pass! It must have been a great decade to produce such gems!

**Tracie Billington-  
Beardsley**

(Monica Welles)

**Last role:** I played Clara Soppitt in *When We Are Married* for WDP here at the Tivoli in February 2022. **Favourite plays:** *Tempest* (Brownsea Open Air Theatre, 2000) - as a tail-coated and bover-booled sprite Ariel; *Anthony and Cleopatra* (Stages Studio, 1998, Poole Lighthouse) - my leading man became my husband; and *Calendar Girls* (Churchill Productions, 2013) - what a hoot, but chilly baring virtually all at The Tivoli! **Other highlights:** If we stick with the '80s, I came second in a disco dance competition at The Academy in Boscombe (now the O2). I was also lucky enough to go to America and study at The Houston High School of Performing Arts. It was wall-to-wall legwarmers just like *Kids from Fame*. **Favourite thriller:** I used to love a *Columbo* and *Ironside* - I'd watch them with my mum. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** I adored the '80s - they took me through my teenage years. I was obsessed with Madonna, Cliff Richard and John Travolta ( I wrote to him suggesting he may like to come and stay with me in Wimborne to get away from the pressures of fame - he didn't!) Such a fabulous decade - *Dallas*,



Rob Cording-Cook



Tracie Billington-Beardsley

*Dynasty*, eclectic music and fashion trends that rocked – power dressing suits, knickerbockers, frilly shirts, leg warmers and sequins - and yes I was known to wear all those items as one ensemble!

## **James Bourner**

(Leo Gibbs)

**Last role:** Hamilton in *Pressure* for WDP, here at the Tiv in May this year. **Favourite plays:** *She Stoops To Conquer* (WDP 2019), *Murder on the Nile* (WDP 2018) and *Relatively Speaking* (BLTC 2022).

**Other highlights:** I've done some supporting artist roles for the BBC.

**Favourite thriller:** I love the Jack Reacher series of books by Lee Child. They are by far my favourite thrillers. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** Being born! I may have only lived through a month and a half of the '80s, but I still love the music that came from that decade.

## **Rob Cording-Cook**

(Alex Dennison)

**Last role:** Andrew Carter in *Pressure*. **Favourite plays:** *Hay Fever*, *The Ghost Train* and most recently *Pressure* have been the most enjoyable productions to be a part of. **Other highlights:** I am looking forward to directing our February production of *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*. **Favourite**

**thriller:** One of my favourite films is *Derailed*, a crime thriller starring Jennifer Aniston and Clive Owen - however I was maybe one of a handful of people who did enjoy it as it didn't do very well commercially. Recently *Hijack* had me gripped. I even had to wait a week between episodes which is a rarity now! **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** If I had to choose one era of music to listen to for the rest of my life, I'd have to pick the '80s. Just so many greats. But being a cheesecake lover myself, my absolute favourite thing to have come out of the '80s has got to be *The Golden Girls*!

## **Andy Gill**

(Man in Auditorium 1)

**Last role:** I played a couple of roles in *Pressure* for WDP in May.

**Favourite plays:** I really enjoyed *Pressure* as it was my first acting experience since school. But I'm loving *Rehearsal For Murder* just as much. **Other highlights:** I received E and F grades for acting in my Drama GCSE and didn't venture onto stage again for almost three decades. Joining WDP in February is the best thing I've done in years and I am so grateful to be part of such a professional, talented and supportive group. **Favourite thriller:** I grew up watching





Andy Gill

*Columbo* and *Murder, She Wrote*, so I love the twists and turns of *Rehearsal For Murder*. But nothing can beat the thrills of *Rear Window*, *Dial M For Murder* or *Strangers on a Train*. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** While I enjoyed parts of the '80s, the '90s was my decade. What a time to be a teenager! Grunge, Britpop, Nu-metal and Alanis Morissette, *Jurassic Park* at the cinema, *Friends* on TV, and football was coming home. There was so much optimism and creativity and everything felt bigger and more important than what came before and since. Except Mr Blobby. We don't mention that.



Russ Guillaume

### **Russ Guillaume** (Ernie)

**Last role:** Hodgson in *Love From A Stranger* with WDP at the Tivoli, October 2022. **Favourite plays:** *A Murder Has Been Arranged*, *The Ghost Train* and *An Inspector Calls*, all for Wimborne Drama Productions. **Other highlights:** Seeing Imelda Staunton in *Gypsy* at The Chichester Festival Theatre 2014. The production was excellent but the pint-sized Imelda has the most incredible stage presence and what a voice. **Favourite thriller:** *The Wages Of Fear*, a French film in 1953, which kept the audience on

the edge of their seats throughout the whole of the film. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** Sorry, but the 1960s was my favourite decade. Life was so much simpler then. No internet, mobile phones and only three TV channels. Little road traffic and always somewhere to park for free. People had time for each other, very little in our lives had to be dealt with immediately.

### **Calum Hearne** (Police Officer)

**Last role:** Servant/ Doctor in *Sense and Sensibility* for WDP in the summer of 2022. **Favourite plays:** *Time of My Life* for Broadstone Players, and *Much Ado About Nothing* for WDP. **Other highlights:** *9 to 5* with Wimborne Musical Theatre, *We Will Rock You* (school production) and *Gosforth's Fete* for Broadstone Players. **Favourite thriller:** The play *Woman in Black*. One of the best stage productions I have ever seen. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** Although not born till the '90s, I absolutely loved the music.

### **Lindsay McGowan** (Karen Daniels)

**Last role:** I played the no-nonsense character of Mavis in *Love From A Stranger* with Wimborne Drama

Productions in October 2022. **Favourite plays:** I particularly enjoyed playing the larger-than-life character of Mrs Palmer in *Sense and Sensibility* at Deans Court with WDP in July 2022. The costumes, the setting, and the experience of participating in an open air production was amazing, even in a heatwave! **Other highlights:** In the world of am dram, the first part I played was a corpse in a musical called *The Hired Man*, after that I was hooked! I learnt performance skills by dancing and singing in the chorus, eventually going on to play various roles including Carrie in *Carousel* and Helen in *Half A Sixpence*. My favourite aspect of performing arts has always been acting and I participated in LAMDA classes and exams as a way of developing skills and building confidence. I've taken several breaks over the years to raise a family, but it's great to have an opportunity to act again and to learn new skills with Wimborne Drama Productions, both on stage and behind the scenes. **Favourite thriller:** I particularly enjoy thrillers, so picking one is hard. I recently enjoyed *The Good Liar* starring Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen. It's a very clever story, but I don't want to give anything away! I also enjoy the Hitchcock classics, such as *Dial M for Murder*. **Favourite thing about**



Lindsay McGowan

**the 1980s:** When I think of the '80s, I think of the fashion, particularly shoulder pads! I also recall my Mum's enjoyment of *Dynasty* and *Dallas*, as well as the unforgettable theme tunes!

**Rosie Nye**  
(Sally Bean)

**Last role:** I played Susannah in *Bedroom Farce* here at the Tivoli in February this year. **Favourite plays:** *Love from a Stranger* will always have a special place in my heart as it was the first show I acted in with Wimborne Drama Productions and my first time performing at the

Tivoli. *Bedroom Farce* was hilarious to be a part of! I loved doing a comedy! **Other highlights:** playing *Gabriel's Oboe* with my orchestra for their 30th anniversary. **Favourite thriller:** *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. The book is impossible to put down. A beautifully intricate cascade of words which entices the reader in and causes them to reflect on their own flaws. As each page turns, the suspense increases, and you are on the edge of your seat, desperate to find out what happens. On a slightly different note, you can't go wrong with



Rosie Nye

Michael Jackson's *Thriller!* **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** I was born in the '90s so the '80s is a bit before my time! However, I do love '80s music (courtesy of my parents who both have amazing tastes in music). I love a bit of Marillion, Heart, Enya, Eurythmics and, one of my all time favourites, All About Eve. Not so sure about some of the fashion choices though!

**Colin Pile**  
(Lloyd Andrews)

**Last role:** I played Nick in *Bedroom Farce* by Alan Ayckbourn here at the Tivoli in February. **Favourite plays:** *Strangers on a Train* in 2019, *The Hollow* (2015) and *Spider's Web* (2013) – all with WDP. **Other highlights:** I was a member of the chorus of *Silhouette Opera*. In October 2012, we performed a charity concert of *Otello* at Blackheath Halls, London. **Favourite thriller:** Stephen King's novel *Desperation*. A battle of good against evil in a backwater desert town wondering how the hero is going to win. **Favourite thing about the 1980s:** One of the most notable things of the



Colin Pile



Michelle Barter



Suzanne Viney



Richard Scotson

1980s was the increased availability of the computer, bringing with it the invention of the CD. The CD brought with it not only music, but the multimedia encyclopaedia and information in an easily accessible format.

### **Richard Scotson (Man in Auditorium 2)**

**Last role:** I played General Tooley Spaatz and Commander Franklin in *Pressure* in May. **Favourite**

**plays:** *Murder on the Nile* as the Bead Seller, *Sense and Sensibility* as Mr. Palmer and *Bedroom Farce*

as Trevor. **Other highlights:**

WDP is a first acting venture for me, but over the years watching *Barnum* with Michael Crawford and the *Goes Wrong* plays have been outstanding. **Favourite**

**thriller:** Anything by Agatha Christie. All film/TV attempts of *Death on the Nile* have been magnificent. *The Death of Roger Ackroyd* is my favourite book of hers. Enjoying Lucy Foley's books at present. The vintage film *Brief Encounter* for its tension, is a classic. **Favourite thing about the**

**1980s:** I was hooked on the music of the '80s. The Smiths, The Style Council, Marillion, Adam Ant and INXS. Still got and play the vinyl from those days. Was a big fan of *Dr. Who* (Pertwee/Tom Baker). Something about the filming and

the cliff hangers that would scare us all. Grew up in south Manchester, but was in Bournemouth by '86, just riding a bike, playing football at the park, collecting football stickers, and drinking too much Im Bru! Good times.

## Suzanne Viney

(Loretta/Police Officer/  
Ms Santoro)

**Last role:** my last acting role was Sandy in *Party Piece* for Broadstone Players in 2017.

**Favourite plays:** Susan in *Mental*, Broadstone Players, 2015; Dee Jobson, *Role Play*, Broadstone Players, 2016; Snout, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Royal Holloway College Drama Society, 1989. **Other highlights:** Directing *Deadly Nightcap* in 2018 and *Forget-Me-Knot* in 2021

(Broadstone Players); co-directing *Bedroom Farce 2023* (Wimborne Drama Productions). **Favourite thriller:** *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier. It's so dark and chilling!

**Favourite thing about the 1980s:** Rubik's cube, Duran Duran, big hair (early 1980s); The Student Union Bar (late 1980s).

# WIMBORNE DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

**President:** Malcolm Angel

## Patrons:

Ron Bignell  
Roger Billings  
Robin Cook (H)  
Susan Cook (H)  
Joanna David (H)  
John Dickson  
George Dodman  
Michael Evans  
Edward Fox (H)  
Mayor of Wimborne (H)  
Carol Neal  
Peter Neal  
Tina Nicholls  
Anthony Oliver (H)  
Christine Oliver  
Al Pike

*H signifies honorary*

Coming soon...

# SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM

BY GUY UNSWORTH  
BASED ON THE TV SERIES  
BY RAYMOND ALLEN

21-24 February 2024

Tivoli Theatre

Directed by Rob Cording-Cook



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**WIMBORNE**  
DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

# SOME MOTHERS DO 'AVE 'EM

BY GUY UNSWORTH  
BASED ON THE TV SERIES  
BY RAYMOND ALLEN

21 - 24 FEBRUARY 2024  
TIVOLI THEATRE  
WIMBORNE



Evenings at 7.30pm. Sat matinee 2pm  
Tickets: Wed evening & Sat matinee £15  
Thu-Sat evenings £17  
Box Office: 01202 885566 [TivoliWimborne.co.uk](http://TivoliWimborne.co.uk) (Booking fees may apply)

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