

WIMBORNE
DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

The Ladykillers

BY **GRAHAM LINEHAN**

FROM THE MOTION PICTURE SCREENPLAY BY WILLIAM ROSE BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH STUDIOCANAL
AND BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH FIERY ANGEL LTD, LONDON



18 - 21 FEBRUARY 2015

**TIVOLI THEATRE
WIMBORNE**

The Director

Welcome to our production of *The Ladykillers* which I hope will provide you with a great evening's or afternoon's entertainment and lots of laughs. As many of you will know this play is based upon the 1955 Ealing studios black comedy which starred Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers and Herbert Lom and has been adapted for the stage by Graham Linehan into a hugely successful West End production.

Graham Linehan, in an interview for *The Guardian*, speaking of how he adapted the 1950s William Rose film, simply said he

used the dynamite principle. "In adapting – often but not always – you must plant dynamite around the ground floor of the original. After the detonation, you keep what's still standing and bid farewell to the rest. If the dynamite did more damage than expected, I hope Rose and his wife would understand. I believe their film is still there - both in the sense that its spirit haunts our version, and in the fact that their original will forever rank as one of Britain's great cinematic achievements."

I hope that you feel our production embodies the spirit of the original film and the Graham Linehan adaptation and above all will give you lots of laughs.

It is difficult to show the different rooms in a house without needing to change the set which would interrupt the flow of the play. The West End theatre overcame this by having a revolving set, a luxury which we do not have, so I am indebted to my set designer and builder Colin Pile for his imaginative design and construction of this multi-level set, which has taken many hours of hard work, helped by other members and friends of the company, mentioned elsewhere in the programme. Thanks also to all the Tivoli technical staff who as always have been exceedingly helpful.

To set the scene, the play takes place in a ramshackle old house next to King's Cross railway station, with the main line running in front of the house and the goods line to the side. Access is via a footpath over the railway line. The house is occupied by an elderly widow living in reduced circumstances with her diseased parrot... Enjoy

David Pile - Director



The Gang

NAME: Professor Marcus

AGE: 50

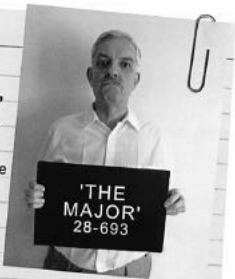
Known to have masterminded a string of daring robberies and cut throat escapades. Has evaded police custody since 1945. A confidence trickster of incredible intellect. His current whereabouts are unknown.



NAME: Major Courtney

AGE: 58

Prisoner of war in Germany, 1940-45. Master of disguise, even in situations with no real need for a disguise. One of Britain's finest conmen. Can be approached freely, especially on his frequent night-time visits to King's Cross.



NAME: Harry Robinson

AGE: 33

A spiv, well-known in the East End as a black market racketeer. We are keen to talk to him about a number of cases involving the illegal trade of prescription drugs and other medical supplies.



NAME: One-Round

AGE: 45

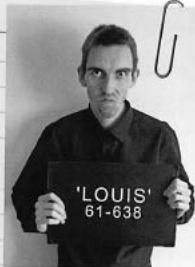
Promising career as a heavyweight boxer reached ignominious end when caught in a match-fixing scandal. Real name unknown, even to himself. Provides muscle to various gangs in North London.



NAME: Louis Harvey

AGE: 41

Romanian thug. Rose to prominence in the East End's underworld in a series of robberies remarkable for their brutality. Should only be approached when dead. And even then with extreme caution.



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C.R.O. Number	4437268
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POLICE

MALE

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10

8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27

Aliases in which charged

HARVEY

Christian names

Louis

Aliases

RIGHT HAND

1 - R. Thumb	2 - R. Fore Finger	3 - R. Middle Finger	4 - R. Ring Finger	5 - R. Little Finger															
F	E	F	G	F	G	D	E	F	G										
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47

Impressions to be so taken that the flexure of the last joint shall be immediately above the line marked "Fold". If the impression of any digit be defective a second print may be taken in the vacant space above it.

When a finger is missing or so injured that the impression cannot be obtained, or is deformed and yields a bad print, the fact should be noted in the appropriate space provided.

The "rolled" and "plain" impressions are to be obtained first, then prisoner should sign his name, and lastly a rolled impression of the right fore finger is to be taken on the back of the form. If that finger is missing or injured, the impression of another finger should be taken and the form amended accordingly.

The Cast

in order of appearance

Sergeant Macdonald	ALAN DESTER
Mrs Louisa Wilberforce	SHEILA DOVE
Professor Marcus	RICHARD NEAL
Major Courtney	SIMON JACKSON
Harry Robinson	SAM MOULTON
One-Round	TONY PARKINSON
Louis Harvey	JOHN SIVEWRIGHT
Mrs Jane Tromleyton	TRISH MARSDEN
Mrs Wilberforce's Guests	JUDY GARRETT HEATHER SEATON VERENA SMITH-MAURER LIZZIE PETERS CAROLE COURTENAY-COLES

with

CAROL BRUTON as the voice of General Gordon

JOHN BRUTON as the Radio Announcer

The action of the play takes place in Mrs Wilberforce's home in King's Cross, London, over five days in 1956.
Running time approximately 2 hours 30 minutes including a 20-minute interval

Produced by Wimborne Drama Productions at the Tivoli Theatre,
18th -21st February 2015, in memory of Lynda Bellingham (1948-2014),
a Patron of Wimborne Drama Productions for more than 25 years.

The Ladykillers

BY GRAHAM LINEHAN

FROM THE MOTION PICTURE SCREENPLAY BY WILLIAM ROSE
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH STUDIOCANAL AND BY
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH FIERY ANGEL LTD, LONDON

ORIGINAL WEST END PRODUCTION:

GIELGUD THEATRE, LONDON

OFFICIAL OPENING NIGHT: 7TH DECEMBER 2011

PRESENTED BY EDWARD SNAPE FOR FIERY ANGEL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH STAGE ENTERTAINMENT UK,
FIERY DRAGONS, LIVERPOOL EVERYMAN & PLAYHOUSE,
OLYMPUS THEATRICALS, STUDIOCANAL &
JASON HAIGH-ELLERY

The Creative Team

Director	DAVID PILE
Company Stage Manager	PHYLLIS SPENCER
Tivoli Production Manager	KYLE BEST
Assistant Stage Manager/ Wardrobe Mistress	TRACEY NICHOLLS
ASMs	MOIRA HAWEY, CALUM HEARNE CLAIRE HUTTON, VAL MANTLE & CHRISSIE NEAL
Set Design / Sound Design	COLIN PILE
Set Construction	COLIN PILE, DAVID PILE & TRISH PILE assisted by CHRIS DURHAM, MARK ELLEN, SIMON JACKSON & other members of the company
Costume Design & Production	BSP WARDROBE
Lighting	KIERAN HENSHAW-RAY

Production Acknowledgements

CPS Audio Visual Services Christchurch for hire of LED lighting

LLS Events for hire of scaffolding

Shepperton Studios for breakaway glass

Carol Bruton & Sheila Dove for loan of props

We are also grateful to the following organisations for their assistance:

Daisy Graphic, Forest FM, Gullivers Bookshop, A.E. Jolliffe & Son,
Royal British Legion Wimborne and Wimborne Tourist Information
Centre

The Ladies

NAME: Mrs Wilberforce

AGE: 73

Eccentric widow living alone with her pet parrot.

Fantasist, often confused, prone to wasting police time with wild accusations against her neighbours and tall stories about Nazis living in North London.



NAME: The Guests

AGE: 70+

Very excitable and impressionable ladies. Enjoy gossiping, drinking tea and being fooled by 'art'. Take it in turns to host cultural events in their own homes, always at tea time.



The Police

NAME: Sgt Macdonald

AGE: 54

Long serving policeman, based at the King's Cross station for his entire career. Easy going with members of the public and a pushover to the criminal fraternity. Looking forward to his imminent retirement, which he will spend tending to his vegetables.



The Writers



GRAHAM LINEHAN is a BAFTA-winning Irish comedy writer and director, as well as an actor and comedian. He created the TV series *Father Ted*, *The IT Crowd* and *Black Books*, and wrote for *Alas Smith and Jones*, *Harry Enfield and Chums*, and *The Fast Show*. He has directed *Little Britain* and *Count Arthur Strong*. His stage adaptation of *The Ladykillers* debuted at The Liverpool Playhouse in November 2011

before moving to The Gielgud Theatre, London starring Peter Capaldi and Ben Miller, where it broke box-office records and received rave reviews.

WILLIAM ROSE was born in the States but settled in England after the war having been stationed here. He wrote seventeen screenplays, including *Genevieve* (1953), *The Ladykillers* (1955), *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* (1962) and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* (1967) for which he won an Oscar. The plot for *The Ladykillers* came to him in a dream. He woke his wife Tania, gabbled the story to her, and immediately fell asleep again. She, thankfully for him and all of us, flew from their bed and typed the whole thing out before it had a chance to go cold. The next morning, she told the story to her husband, and he listened amazed, as if hearing it for the first time.



The Actors

ALAN DESTER regularly appears for BLTC and West Moors Drama Society. His favourite role was Walter Bryce in *Natural Causes* for BLTC. For WDP he has appeared in *Cash On Delivery*, *Spider's Web* and *And Then There Were None*.

SHEILA DOVE has appeared many times for Broadstone Players, but this is her first appearance for WDP. Her favourite roles have been in *Private Lives*, *The Day After The Fair*, *Ghost Writer*, *Plaza Suite*, award-winning *The Memory of Water* and *Entertaining Angels*.

SIMON JACKSON has been with WDP for more than 30 years. His most recent roles include Mr Jenkins in *Cash On Delivery*, General Mackenzie in *And Then There Were None* and Andrew Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night*. His favourite role was Carnoustie Bligh in *Sailor Beware*.

SAM MOULTON played Thomas More in *A Man For All Seasons* and Garry Essendine in *Present Laughter*. He has also appeared in two of our open air productions at Deans Court, *Twelfth Night* and *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*, and will direct this summer's play, *Pride & Prejudice*.

RICHARD NEAL has acted and directed for WDP for more than 20 years. His recent roles include Mr Birling in *An Inspector Calls* and Captain Lombard in *And Then There Were None*, and he directed our two recent Noël Coward plays, *Hay Fever* and *Present Laughter*.

TONY PARKINSON played Morris Dixon in WDP's *Present Laughter* and also appeared in *Hay Fever*, *Enchanted April*, *The Unexpected Guest* and *Hound of the Baskervilles*. One of his favourite roles was Father Mullarkey in *Once a Catholic*.

JOHN SIVEWRIGHT played Thomas Cromwell in *A Man For All Seasons*, Gerald Croft in *An Inspector Calls* and Podgers in *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*, and directed *Cash On Delivery*. John has also acted and directed for All Saints Dramatic Society and BLTC.

TRISH MARSDEN is making her stage debut this week; hopefully it will be the first of many appearances. **JUDY GARRETT** has appeared in many WDP plays over the past decade including *Present Laughter*, *Twelfth Night* and *Enchanted April*. **HEATHER SEATON** appeared in *Cash On Delivery* and *Present Laughter*. **VERENA SMITH-MAURER** appeared in *A Man For All Seasons* and *An Inspector Calls*. **LIZZIE PETERS** has been a regular behind the scenes for WDP over the past three years. **CAROLE COURTNEY-COLES** returns to the Tivoli stage after a gap of 12 years having appeared in *On The Razzle*. **CAROL BRUTON** has worked on a number of WDP productions in recent years, and **JOHN BRUTON** has appeared in *A Man For All Seasons*, *Twelfth Night*, *Witness For The Prosecution* and was 'The Voice' in *And Then There Were None*.

Wimborne Drama Productions

PRIDE & PREJUDICE

Dramatised from Jane Austen's
classic novel by Helen Jerome

OPEN AIR PRODUCTION
IN THE GROUNDS OF
DEANS COURT

25th - 27th June at 7.30pm
28th June at 5pm

See back cover for more info



In celebration of the 125th
anniversary of the birth of
AGATHA CHRISTIE

we return to the Tivoli Theatre
on October 14th -17th with
one of her classic thrillers -
title to be announced soon.
Keep checking social media
for details

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H signifies honorary



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PRIDE & PREJUDICE



Dramatised from Jane Austen's classic novel by Helen Jerome

**OPEN AIR PRODUCTION IN THE GROUNDS
OF DEANS COURT WIMBORNE**

**THUR 25, FRI 26 &
SAT 27 JUNE 2015 at 7.30pm
SUN 28 JUNE 2015 at 5pm**

**Tickets £12 from
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www.TivoliWimborne.co.uk

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DRAMA PRODUCTIONS**

Grounds open for picnics 90 minutes before performance starts. Free parking.
Licensed bar. Bring your own chairs or rugs. Ts&Cs at www.wimboredrama.co.uk