

# *Relatively Speaking* by Alan Ayckbourn

Medway Little Theatre, 6th-15th December 2018

During over 33 years' membership of Medway Little Theatre, and having appeared in more productions than I care to remember, this is my first time in the director's chair. It has certainly been an eye-opener! Alan Ayckbourn has always proved very popular with our audiences but his plays are very deceptive in their intricacy which is certainly a challenge for any director and cast.

I am indebted to my fine cast of four very talented actors who, from the word go, have worked so hard not only with the small task of learning lines (!) but also being open to suggestions from me and fellow cast members. Their hard work will be there for all to see on stage this evening.

Similarly I should like to thank all the 'unsung heroes', those ladies and gentlemen whose hard work backstage help bring our productions to life. Without the help and support of my entire team of set-builders, painters, technicians and properties ladies our production would simply not have happened (not forgetting, of course, our wonderful prompt and general 'good egg', Sue!).

I should particularly like to thank Del de Lorme for his ideas and suggestions and, last but not least, my stage manager par excellence, Dawn Jones, for her extraordinary support and help.

Thank you for your continued support of Medway Little Theatre. I wish you a pleasant evening.

Chris Loft, Director

The action of the play takes place during a summer weekend in Ginny's London bedsit and the garden of Sheila and Philip's home in Buckinghamshire during the 1960s.

## **Chris Johnson** (Greg)

This is Chris's tenth show with MLT. Previous shows include: *Boeing-Boeing*, *Noises Off*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Hay Fever*. He has also recently finished a tour of The Blissful Theatre Company's production of *The Tempest* alongside Kate Brookes.

## **Sophie Payne** (Ginny)

Sophie has been performing since a young age. Passing her acting course at MidKent College, she has taken part in shows varying from pantomimes to dramas. After achieving a merit award in our Duncan Rand One Act Play Festival this year she joins us from United Players and is thrilled to be making her debut with us in the role of Ginny.

## **Kate Brookes** (Sheila)

Kate has been a member of MLT for 12 years and has appeared in many plays, mainly comedies involving women carrying trays of food or drink. In her last play at MLT she played Clara in *Hay Fever*, the much put-upon maid of the Bliss family. True to form she is now playing the put-upon wife of the irascible Philip.

## **John Winson** (Philip)

John has been a member of MLT for 14 years in which time he has directed a number of plays including *The Accrington Pals* and appeared in many others such as *Gaslight* and *Nobody's Perfect*. John is also a member of Meopham Players and straight after this production will be appearing in their January pantomime.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Director                | Chris Loft  |
| Assistant Director      | Jess Hayhow   |
| Stage Manager           | Dawn Jones  |
| Properties              | Marji Waterhouse & Margaret Winson                                      |
| Costume                 | Carol Clark & Cast  |
| Prompt                  | Sue Harry   |
| Lights & Sound          | Andrew Coulson & Mic Aldington  |
| Set construction        | Del de Lorme, Luke Taylor, Derek Thompson<br>John Winson & John Farrell |
| Set design and painting | Del de Lorme, Dawn Jones<br>Monika Andrijauskaitė                       |
| Bar manager             | Tony Broome   |
| Front of House & Bar    | MLT members   |
| Box office manager      | Janet Watson  |

### Coming Next

#### *A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED*

by Agatha Christie

24th January – 2nd February 2019

An announcement in the local paper states the time and place when a murder is to occur in Miss Blacklock's Victorian house. The victim is not one of the house's several occupants, but an unexpected and unknown visitor. A classic Christie puzzle of mixed motives and concealed identities follows. Luckily, Miss Marple is on hand to provide the final solution at no uncertain risk to herself.

### Medway Little Theatre Needs You!

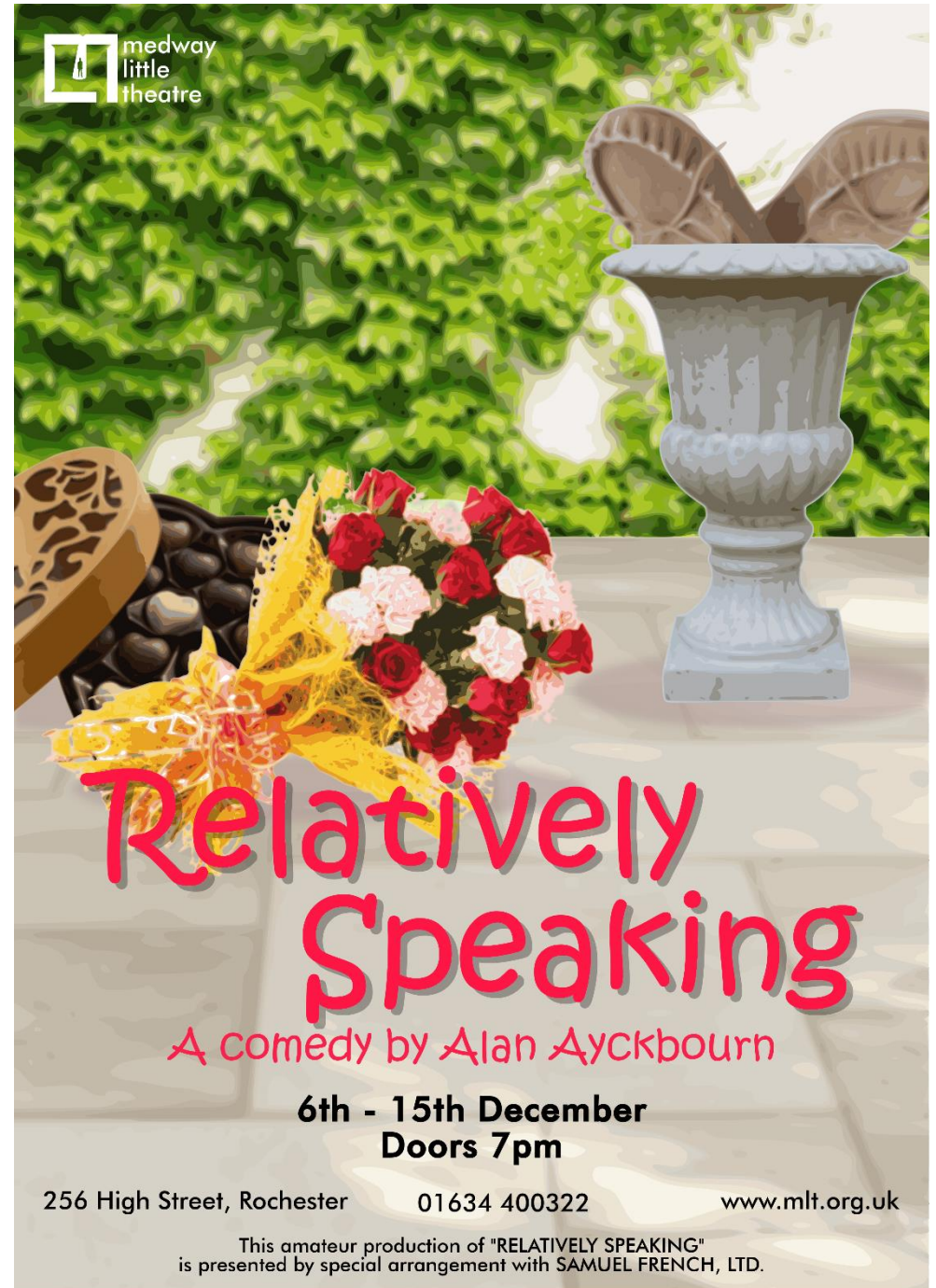
Our theatre produces several shows a year and we always welcome new members, whether they are interested in acting, stage managing, set building, working lights and sound, or any of the dozens of other jobs needed to produce live theatre. If you are interested in moving from seat to stage, please ask our front of house team or bar staff for information on how to join, or just turn up at 8pm to our social nights, held every Tuesday evening in between show runs.

This amateur production of *Relatively Speaking*  
is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Ltd.

Posters and programmes by Reed Printers of Rochester

Photography by Neil Thorne

**Neil Thorne** has been photographing Medway Little Theatre productions for four years and, to mark the theatre's 60th anniversary, a selection of his photos can be seen in the bar area throughout the run of this play.



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[www.mlt.org.uk](http://www.mlt.org.uk)

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is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.