

• IRIS HARDWICK - A tribute by Stephen Walker •

In November 2020, we were sad to hear that Iris Hardwick had died. An actress of great style and flawless stage-craft, Iris played her first part at Retford Little Theatre in 1951 in *The Romantic Young Lady*. During her early days at RLT, she met an equally enthusiastic young actor who appeared in the programmes as Piers Asche, better known as Peter Hardwick – the man Iris was to marry.



She continued as an active member until her last performance on our stage in *The Anniversary* in 2010 aged 77. She had lost none of her fine and expressive diction, nor any of her unfailing ability to hold the stage and the full attention of the audience. Iris appeared in scores of plays and occasionally used her theatrical know-how to draw strong performances from the actors in her own productions. Among these was a memorable production of *Separate Tables* (1968), a beautifully staged *The Chalk Garden* (1989) and a very successful foray into the world of theatre-in-the-round with a production of *Dangerous Corner* (1991).

In 1972, Iris was part of the cast which introduced Alan Ayckbourn's work to Retford Little Theatre. This was *Relatively Speaking* in which Iris revelled in the part of Sheila, a role she was delighted to be able to play again in 1991. She returned to Ayckbourn in *Table Manners*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Time of my Life* and *Bedroom Farce*.

Iris had a huge range. She could play with equal skill in both Shakespeare and broad farce. Her timing in light comedy was a lesson to all, and she could also pull on the audience's heart strings. In *Night Must Fall*, she played a vulnerable hypochondriac, a role which contrasted hugely with her memorable Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Iris would not be ashamed to be described as "one of the old school". She liked plays to be well written, skilfully constructed and full of strong characterisation.

For Retford Little Theatre and for those of us who had the pleasure of working with her, Iris Hardwick was theatrical gold.

OUR  
81st  
YEAR

NOBODY'S PERFECT  
By Simon Williams  
24th September - 1st October 2021

COMING SOON

LADIES IN LAVENDER

By Shaun McKenna  
Produced by Ian Mather  
19th - 26th Nov 2021 - 7.30pm

LADIES' DAY

By Amanda Whittington  
Produced by Liz Williams  
28th Jan - 4th Feb 2022 - 7.30pm

WIFE AFTER DEATH

By Eric Chappell  
Produced by Keri Duffy  
25th March - 1st April 2022 - 7.30pm

GROPING FOR WORDS

By Sue Townsend  
Produced by Donnamarie Stamp  
20th - 27th May 2022 - 7.30pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

All members are welcome  
Friday 15th July 2022 - 7.30pm



Season 8 Films revised (For paid up Season 8 members)

- TheScreen@rlt.org.uk or Tel. 07504 717931
- Friday 8th Oct 2021 (7.30pm) JUDY (12)
  - Friday 5th Nov 2021 (7.30pm) KNIVES OUT (12)
  - Friday 17th Dec 2021 (7.30pm) HIGH SOCIETY (U)
  - (1956 Vintage special and extra – no charge to Season 8 members. Proposed 'celebration' – dress up for a glass of bubbly!)
  - Friday 11th Feb 2022 (7.30pm) DARK WATERS (12)
  - Friday 4th Mar 2022 (7.30pm) A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD (PG)

SPECIAL EVENTS

TEA DANCE

Dance the afternoon away with Jacqui Brunyee Ballroom, sequence, modern & Latin. With freshly brewed leaf tea & delicious sandwiches & cakes

Organised by Maxine Goldstone

Saturday 16th October 2021 3.00pm - 6.00pm  
LIMITED TICKETS £10.00 EACH

QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz devised and presented by Judith & Stephen Walker

Get your brain buzzing again with the return of this popular event!  
Pit your wits against the other teams to win cash prizes  
Friday 7th January 2022 - 7.30pm



A modern adaptation by Victoria Evans  
Friday 18th & Saturday 19th February 2022

PLAY READINGS

to cast LADIES' DAY  
by Amanda Whittington  
Monday 4th and Thursday 7th October 2021  
at 7.30pm in the Theatre lounge

On stage 28th January to 4th February 2022  
Contact the producer Liz Williams on 07769 218717 for details

For the latest information, activities, castings and special events visit our website, Facebook page or follow us on Twitter.

www.rlt.org.uk  
Retfordlittletheatre  
@RetfordLT

This amateur production of "Nobody's Perfect" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

NOBODY'S PERFECT  
by Simon Williams



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24th Sept - 1st Oct 2021

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If you are interested in volunteering to help with any duties at the theatre, please leave your details by filling in this slip, or by telephone on 01777 702002 or by email: boxoffice@rlt.org.uk

Name .....  
Telephone/Mobile: .....  
Email: .....

Please indicate your preferred method of contact

Please hand this slip to the Duty Manager or send it to us and someone will be in touch. Retford Little Theatre, Wharf Road, Retford, Notts DN22 6EN www.rlt.org.uk

## PRODUCER'S NOTES

First of all may I say welcome back! Having missed seven plays we are delighted to be able to start a new season as normally as possible.

It is our intention to offer you five comedies this season as we all need cheering up. Our vocabulary has been 'enriched' by such terms as track and trace, self-isolation, lockdown and social distancing, but tonight, all we want to hear is laughter.

*Nobody's Perfect* is by Simon Williams who many of you will know better as an actor. Who remembers James Bellamy in *Upstairs, Downstairs?* He has also appeared in *Merlin*, *The Bletchley Circle*, *Spooks* and even *Eastenders*. Others may know his voice, playing Justin Elliott in *The Archers*. He is generally the 'posh' one.

'Oh what a tangled web we weave' is the theme of many comedies and such is the case tonight. The audience laughs as the main character, Lenny, squirms in an increasingly difficult situation. His father and daughter take full advantage of his discomfort as the truth gradually dawns on Harriet. Will there be a happy ending?

My thanks go to the cast for their many hours of rehearsals, to the stage management, technical teams and our set builders for all their hard work. Thank you also to the many volunteers front of house without whom the show would not go on.

We are always looking for new people to come and join us, so please spread the word!

Joan Young

## NOBODY'S PERFECT

The action takes place in the apartment of Leonard Loftus and the office of publishing company, Love Is All Around.

Act 1. Late afternoon.

Interval.

Act 2. An evening two weeks later.

### Cast

In order of appearance

HARRIET - Lesley Harris  
LEONARD - John Mitchell  
DEE DEE - Naomi Earl  
GUS - David Cox

Producer - JOAN YOUNG

### Production team

Stage Manager & Props  
Maxine Goldstone

Assistant Stage Managers  
Derek Green, Bridget Sly

Sound Designer  
David Cox

Sound Operator  
Alex Nicol

Lighting Designers  
Cody McGinty, Stephen Walker

Lighting Operators  
Dean Woolley, Stephen Walker

Construction & Décor  
Philip Cooper, Alan Dunning, Geoff Foulds,  
Ray Johnson, Gavin Johnston,  
Roger Jones, Barrie King,  
Ian Mather, David Smith

Wardrobe  
Maxine Goldstone  
and members of the cast

Acknowledgements - The producer would like to thank D.T. Smith and Daughters (Retford Market Fruit & Veg) for donating the fruit. Sue Johnston and Donna Broadhead for being official chaperones and Megan Hodson for the artwork.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

### REFRESHMENTS

During the interval the Coffee and Licensed Bars will be open in the Theatre Lounge. Ice cream is also available. The Bar will remain open after the performance for drinks (including coffee) but please note that, as a general rule, the bar will close 30 minutes after the final curtain.

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