



SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to our newsletter for our 2022 / 2023 season. Following on from our successful come-back production, *FlatSpin*, in April, we have put together what we think is an entertaining duo of plays. We also have news of our recent AGM decisions and some significant changes to announce.

## MOVING TO TWO PLAYS PER YEAR

Our long established routine of three plays per season has had to reduce to two, at least for the near future. Many of you will be disappointed, but this is a reluctant decision that we have managed to hold off in recent years. However, the reduction in membership since the pandemic; the difficulties in recruiting new actors into the demanding pastime of live stage performances - especially males; coupled with the increasing burdens of the sheer hard work and many hours of our spare time that our few members have to undertake, is sadly no longer sustainable.

We have for decades managed to produce three plays back to back, a nine month process of rehearsals and performances that start in August and run continuously until the end of April. As a small group this means that most of us are required as actors or support crew in every play with no break. Without new members to share this load something had to give so for the 2022-2023 season we will perform **two** plays, one in November and the other in May 2023. **Please note the dates - they are both about two weeks later than our traditional timings.**

### **PLAY 1. 2022 November 10, 11, 12**      **THE FINAL TEST by Chris Paling**

*Peter and Ruth have had a long and happy marriage - or so Peter believes. They each have their own interests; he loves cricket, she enjoys travel. But all is not well. as Peter discovers one afternoon when he's dozing in his deckchair listening to the Final Test from the Oval. His wife announces she has sold the house and is moving to the coast. When the new owners move in, they discover much more than they bargained for!*

### **PLAY 2. 2023 May 11, 12, 13**      **PAR FOR THE COURSE by Peter Gordon**

*Captain's Day at The Seven Lakes Golf Club gets off to a bad start when the men's Captain is indisposed. Club Secretary, Simon relishes the chance to take over but is soon thwarted by the arrival of Vice Captain Nick and his girlfriend. Lady Captain and hopeless Barry add to the confusion and as a series of disasters mount, tensions build and things go from bad to worse. Love or loathe golf, it will never seem quite the same again!*

## TICKET PRICE & BOOKING

Our **ticket price** will increase slightly to **£10**. This is in line with many amateur groups and remains great value for money for a night of live theatre with our souvenir programme and - our promised return of the ever popular interval teas/coffees and biscuits!

**Season tickets** are still offered - these are **£20** each and have the advantage of reserving your favourite seat position and preferred performance night for our two plays.

You can also support us by becoming a **Patron** of the group. A **£60** donation will give you **two** tickets for each of the plays with reserved seats for both productions on your preferred evening. Your support and name will be acknowledged in the performance Programme.

Performances start at 7.30pm at Elloughton-cum-Brough Village Hall and seats can be booked by contacting our Ticket Secretary, Steve, on **01482 666908** or via email or our website.

Email      [petuariaplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petuariaplayers@hotmail.co.uk)

Website      [www.petuariaplayers.com](http://www.petuariaplayers.com)

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**MORE NEWS FROM THE PETUARIA PLAYERS...**

## **AUDIENCE SEATING**

Another change we are implementing this year is a slight reduction in seating in the Village Hall. We are creating a little more room for our audiences - increased spacing between chairs and a little more leg room in the flat on the forward rows. The number of seats on all rows will reduce from 12 to 10. This may affect some existing season ticket holders but we will be in touch to update you.

This change results from both the increased caution post-lockdown (which was still obviously a concern at our recent return to the stage in April) and audience feedback regarding the condensed seating in places.

## **WE HAVE A NEW PRESIDENT**

Wendy Elliott has decided to step down from her role as President of our society to focus on family commitments. Wendy, of course, has been a member and a presence on our stage for decades before 'retiring' and then taking the role of President after Mo Spence who had served in that role for 25 years.

So it is now both fitting and a delight that Mo's daughter, Nicci Robinson, has accepted the role. Nicci, who has been a member and performed with us in the past, has been a staunch supporter, attendee and patron of our group along with her husband Paul. So we thank Wendy for her service and now welcome Nicci to the hopefully non-taxing position as President.

## **REHEARSALS ARE UNDER WAY**

We are excited to be rehearsing again for our first production, *The Final Test*. You can follow our progress and get updates and photos and more information about the play by following us on our website. You can even book your tickets via the ticket request page.

[www.petuariplayers.com](http://www.petuariplayers.com)

Simply visit and browse or register your email address on the Home page to receive a periodic email and ensure you never miss an update. You can also follow us on Facebook - simply search for Petuaria Players.

## **SUPPORTING LOCAL AMATEUR THEATRE**

We are always in need of help on performance nights at the back of the hall in providing the refreshments - can you volunteer, even for one night? All help is welcomed.

Would you like to help on our set construction and seating set-up weekends. DIY skills or not all assistance is appreciated.

We are always on the look out for someone keen to operate our sound and lights on performance nights.

And we are always in need of actors, especially to play the male roles and to expand our options for plays we are currently unable to cast. Why not join us as a member? In addition to acting there are roles for back stage, sound and lights, plus we have periodic social outings to a variety of destinations including local theatre, cinema, seasonal dinners and lunches.

**For more information contact our secretary Dianne on 01482 666908**

**or email [petuariplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petuariplayers@hotmail.co.uk)**

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