

45th BRITISH ALL WINNERS FESTIVAL OF PLAYS



National Drama Festivals Association

hosted by Woking Drama Association

at RHODA MCGAW THEATRE, WOKING

Sunday 14th - Sat 20th July 2019

Curtain Up: 7pm (Saturday 20th Curtain Up: 6:30pm)

Adjudicator: Jill Colby GoDA

Tickets £10 - Available from Ambassadors Box Office **0844 871 7643**



NDFA CHAIRMAN: Stewart Mison



National Drama Festivals Association

Dear Audience,

A very warm welcome to this year's British All Winners Festival.

Whether you are a member of a competing group or just as importantly a member of the audience, I hope that you enjoy tonight and the Festival overall.

I am very proud that we are back in the fabulous Rhoda McGaw Theatre and my special thanks to ATG, Woking Council and of course the Woking Drama Association for whom, this space is the venue for their annual Woking Drama Festival. I would also ask that you give a warm welcome to Jill Colby GoDA who is this year's adjudicator.

This year is the first to present the "THE DEREK JACOBI PLAYWRITING AWARD" and I am delighted that Sir Derek continues to be the Patron for the NDFA and will present "his" award to the winning author on the Saturday evening.

Now, please sit back and enjoy this evening's entertainment.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stewart Mison', is written below the word 'Best,'.

NDFA OFFICERS:

Chairman - Stewart Mison

Treasurer - Chris Wye

BAWF Coordinator - Lyn Mison

Membership Secretary - Amanda Vaughan

COUNCIL:

Rod Chaytor - Lighthorne Festival

Teresa Hennessy - GoDA Secretary

Michael Lees - Isle of Man Festival

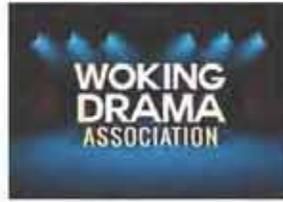
Derek Palmer - Welwyn Festival

Ian Thomas - Elmbridge Festival



National Drama Festivals Association

WDA CHAIR: Amanda Vaughan



I am delighted that once again Woking has been chosen by the NDFA to host the prestigious *British All Winners Festival*. I was lucky enough to be part of the festival when it was last held in Woking 4 years ago and am intrigued and excited to see who will be performing for us this year.

I'm particularly looking forward to Woking based group 'The ActAbles' who will be performing their adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and are this year's winners of the Star Bright Award for the encouragement of inclusive theatre.

As always our special thanks have to go to Woking Borough Council, without their support we would not be able to bring you such an incredibly diverse selection of theatre in one place in one week.

I do hope you enjoy the week as much as I will.

Best Wishes

Amanda

FOR THE FESTIVAL:

Chair: Amanda Vaughan

BAWF Coordinator: Lyn Mison

Stage Management: Shirley Cumming

Lighting: Jonathan Miller, Alexander Lyon & Nigel Tyler

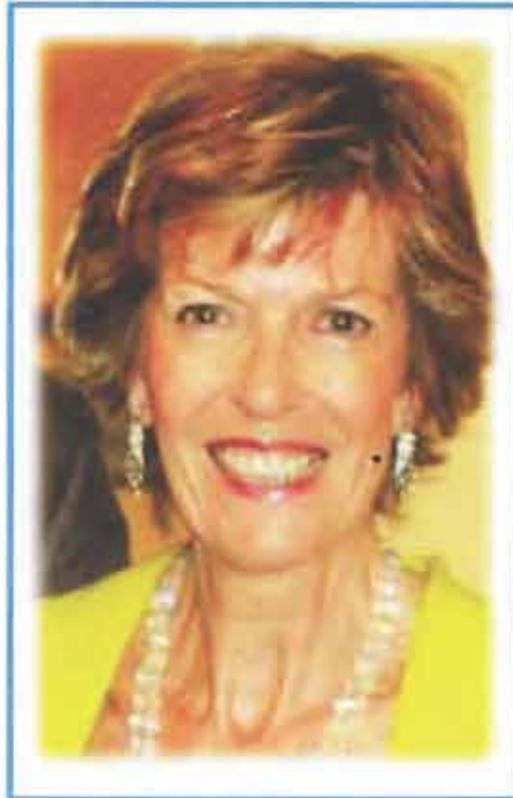
Sound: Phil Pile

Publicity/Programme/Website: Nicole Connell

Front of House: Frankie Godliman & Members of WDA

2019 British All Winners Adjudicator:

Jill Colby L.G.S.M GoDA



Jill has worked in the professional theatre for over 40 years as actor and director, working with several generations, from Vivien Leigh to Richard Griffiths, and from John Gielgud to Howard Davies and Rupert Goold.

Adjudication became a natural progression from her work as a Director which ranges from Greek Tragedy through most of Shakespeare's plays to Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett, the Comedies of Alan Bennett, and Alan Ayckbourn as well as the work of contemporary writers such as Mark Ravenhill, Jez Butterworth and April de Angelis.

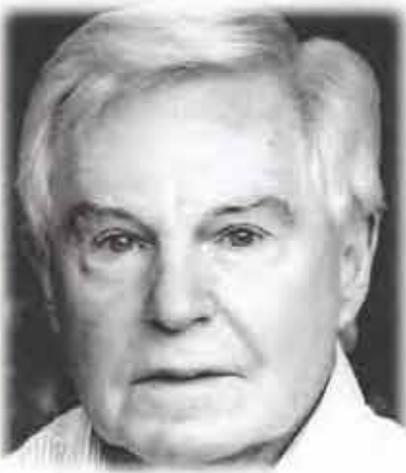
Much of Jill's work has been the training of professional actors, having been Head of Acting at three London drama schools over the years, with numerous successful graduates seen regularly on television, film and in our major theatre companies. Jill has adjudicated at all levels of the All England Theatre Festival, including the English, Scottish and Irish finals.

Since becoming a member of GoDA in 1993 Jill has consistently been involved in the administration of the Guild as a member of Council. She has been vice-chairman, chair of the selection panel, and at present is professional mentor overseeing the mentor scheme for associate members.

A note from NDFA Patron: Sir Derek Jacobi

'I'd like to congratulate all the winners - as well as the runners up - on their magnificent work, enthusiasm, dedication, and originality.

Drama is a joyful essential in our lives, so thank you all very much'



Sir Derek Jacobi New Playwriting Award

Previously known as the George Taylor Award, this prestigious award was initiated in 1979 and is awarded annually to the author of a new one-act play which was performed at an NDFA member festival in a twelve month period between 1st July and 30th June.

The Winner of the award has their play read at the British All Winners Festival the following year, receives a cash prize of £250 and has their play published by Stagescripts.

Over recent years the award has been the springboard for new playwrights to have their work published and in some cases has led to professional commissions and performances.



The NDFA are proud to be partnered with Stagescripts Ltd who have been associated with NDFA for a number of years and sponsor the Derek Jacobi Award and are now working towards developing that relationship to become more closely involved with other aspects of the NDFA and its member organisation's activities.

In addition, NDFA will be opening up new categories of playwriting competitions and Stagescripts will financially support these in the same way as it does for the Derek Jacobi Award. This award is the premiere national award for one act plays in the amateur theatre sector, and this is being expanded to include Full Length and Youth plays.

To submit an original play for the **SIR DEREK JACOBI NEW PLAYWRITING AWARD**, you can find more information by visiting www.ndfa.co.uk

Sunday 14th July

The ActAbles (NON-COMPETITIVE) 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

By William Shakespeare



Cast:

Catriona Gardner
Chris Markham
Lorna Osprey
Rosemary Atkinson
Emeric JeanJean
Hannah McAlister
Chim Siame
Darren Fosh
Max Van Nederveen
Georgina Tilbrook - Holden
Philip Craig
Emily Philipps
Tom Gransden

Crew:

Director - Rachel Hudspith
Assistants - John Patmore
Vai Sasikumar

About: LinkAble is a Woking based charity for children and adults with disabilities. They run a number of day time and evening activities for their service users, including the weekly drama group - The ActAbles! The group has been running for many years now and they always look forward to performing on the Rhoda McGaw stage.

Sunday 14th July

Nantwich Players 'Edgar and Annabel' By Sam Holcroft



Synopsis: A dystopian fable about a group of freedom fighters attempting to stand up to a repressive regime, while being continuously subject to surveillance. The play explores the complex relationship that undercover agents, and actors, have with their allotted roles.

Cast:

Marianne - Bethany Froud
Nick - Colin Johnston
Miller - Chris Fisher
Tara - Elaine Caulfield
Marc - Adam Goode
Anthony - Chris Richards
Claire - Ruth Cummings

Crew:

Directed by - The Studio Team
Stage Manager - Sandie Laughlin
Lighting & Sound - Jeremy Acklam

About: Founded in 1927 as Nantwich Play-Reading Circle and is now a thriving amateur theatre group in the heart of Cheshire with registered charity status. We are now producing eleven plays a year including 6 main stage productions, 4 studio productions and a youth production. Each season we also hold play-readings, Social events and workshops. We contribute to events in the Cheshire area, and take part in many other exciting events to meet and socialise with other like-minded people. Our wonderful 82 seat theatre is a real hub of the community.

Sunday 14th July

Banbury Cross Players

'Contractions'

By Mike Bartlett



Synopsis: A powerful dystopian play that challenges your thinking about individuality and power and questions how far someone will go in order to gain approval and status. How much power and pressure is needed to force conformity and compliance?

Cast:

Manager - Nicola Dixon
Emma - Almira Brion

Crew:

Director - Chrissie Garrett
Asst Director - Liz Riley
Stage manager - June Ronson
Lighting & Sound - Robin Williams
Costumes: Chrissie Garrett
Props - Terry Andrews
Crew: Dave Candy

About: Banbury Cross Players have been the leading amateur drama society in Banbury for the past 75 years. With a strong membership of 75, we provide four full length plays a year performed at The Mill Theatre in Banbury. We also enter Lighthorne Festival and other Festivals each year together with many fringe productions. At the beginning of each year we invite our Gold Card Holders and other societies to a preview of our next season's plays opening with our Festival Play of that year and finishing with a glass of wine. BCP will be celebrating their 75th anniversary with their own Drama Festival in July 2020

Monday 15th July

Hollybush Arts Group

'Bert'

By David Pitt



Synopsis: John sets out on his journey to eternal nothingness, then Michael appears....but who is Michael and who is Bert??

Cast:

John - David Francis
Michael - Jonathan Hipkiss

Crew:

Set Design/Construction - Tim Tolkein
Directed by The Cast

About: Run from The Hollybush pub in Black Country Cradley Heath, where several arts evenings are hosted including a big arts festival, comedy nights, spoken word festival, music evenings, and is also an open mic comedy venue for all. Several top comedians now on TV have started here. Hollybush enter plays into the Worcestershire theatre festival amongst others.

Monday 15th July

The Thursday Night

Project

'Games'

By James Saunders



Synopsis: GAMES is a "modest and gently absurdist" play about freedom, responsibility and choice. This performance arose from a confrontation between a 50 year old news report, the play, the actors and the Director. The play is about the play being put on.

Cast:

Rebecca Hall

Mary Taylor

Alice Thorneycroft

Crispin Ashford

Parv Sains

Crew:

Director - Richard Brimblecombe

Stage Manager - Andrew Schneider

About: The Thursday Night Project is a workshop based theatre group, from South West London.

The Project is run by professional actor Richard Brimblecombe, who provides the group with a wide cross section of experiential learning. They focus on developing skills, broadening horizons and stretching the members to be the best they can be.

Monday 15th July

Mayhem Theatre Company

'Silver Wedding'

By John Bowen



Synopsis: Audrey and Julian appear to be plagued by everyday trivialities, their jobs and their marital problems. It is their Silver Wedding anniversary. Will this special occasion all go to plan?

Cast:

Audrey - Jo Lane

Julian - Richard Lisseter

Crew:

Director & Stage Manager - Linda Evans

Lighting & Sound - Matt Yarwood

About: Mayhem Theatre Company was born in 1999 out of the ashes of our local operatic society – 'too much singing and dancing – let's just do some plays !' As the name suggests we exist with the minimum of organisation – no committee – just a cheque book. We now mostly concentrate on One Act Festivals. Our aim is to have fun!

Tuesday 16th July

A REHEARSED READING

'Accelerated Intimacy'

By Chiara Venturini

**This play is the winner of the
'Sir Derek Jacobi' Award for New
Playwriting.**

Synopsis: This is a dramatic scenario that has been used before – two strangers finding themselves thrown together and what happens next ... but this play takes us into the realms of scientific experimentation when they find a newspaper on the carriage floor detailing an article about Accelerated Intimacy, a study that explores whether intimacy between two strangers can be accelerated by having them ask each other a specific series of personal questions. The 36 questions in the study are broken up into three sets, with each set intended to be more probing than the previous one. This clever play doubly intrigues us as we become eager to know what the next question is, whether our players choose to answer it, and what the consequences of answering are.

Cast:

Him - John Sherringham

Her - Nicole Connell

Tuesday 16th July

**Tiger Theatrical
Productions**

'Jesus, My Boy'

By John Dowie



Synopsis: Meet Joseph, just about the worst carpenter in the area. He first got to know his wife when she returned to complain about a table she had bought from him. It didn't stop him from asking her out and they eventually got married. A pretty unremarkable relationship until Mary announces she is pregnant and that Joseph is not the Father. When the boy grows up it turns out the boy has a remarkable talent with wood, lending further weight to the idea that Joseph may not be the father! The young man has more important things to do than make furniture, however. He must set out on the road to his destiny; an agonising death followed by the most

Cast:

Joseph - Adam Dryer

Actor 1 - Belinda Gee

Crew:

Director - Belinda Gee

Stage Manager - Ian Brown

About: Tiger Theatrical Productions was formed in 2012 as a theatrical society primarily focussed on developing new and existing work over the UK festival circuit. The groups inaugural production '*Just a Straight Man*' won over 20 awards in the 2014/15 season, culminating at a place at the All England one act drama festival finals.

Wednesday 17th July

**The Academy of Speech
and Drama**

**'A Concise and (almost) Precise
History of Theatre'**

By Lucy Ashton



Synopsis: A short comedy that takes you through the entire history of theatre from the Ancient Greeks to present day, with almost 50 characters and all in 30 minutes. The facts are all correct....but there may be some artistic licence in the detail

Cast:

Josh Fowler

George Davey

Nathan Beckwith

Josh Pennell

Kieran Ladbury

Crew:

Director - Sara Aston and Lucy Ashton

Stage Manager - Elaine Elliott

About: The Academy of Speech and Drama is based in Ware, Hertfordshire. We run weekly classes in acting and drama offering our students the opportunity to take LAMDA performance exams and take part in festivals and showcases throughout the year.

Wednesday 17th July

**Studio B Performing Arts
Centre**

'Locked In'

By John Pickett



Synopsis: 'Locked In' is a play about mental health and the human nature when people are pushed to their limits. The play takes place in a nuclear shelter, where we find Jess, Fiona, Freddy and Meg, volunteered by their employer, participating in an experiment and locked away for 3 months. Things begin as expected but as the timer ticks on we realise that one of the participants has been hiding something and they're desperate to keep it that way. There are some complications with the experiment and tensions begin to rise. Everyone wants to escape and make it through the remaining time, ticking away on the wall, but the doors are closed, the shelter is sealed, and the 4 characters are locked in.

Cast:

Jess - Laura Surridge

Freddy - Fifi Wiggett

Fiona - Sophie Atkins

Tina - Jess Young

Georgia - Annie Hulbert

Scientist - Eleanor Davison

Crew:

Director - John Pickett

Assistant Directors & Creative Team -

Luke Pickett & Eleanor Davison

About: Studio B Performing Arts Centre is a Worcestershire based school which opened in 2015. Since then it has been a hub of talent and excitement in Worcester, Bredon and most recently Upton. Drama, Dance, and Musical Theatre are all nurtured at Studio B and the results are clear whether that be in competitive competitions, LAMDA exams, RAD exams or ISTD exams.

Wednesday 17th July

Limitless Academy of Performing Arts

'Teachers'

By John Godber



Synopsis: Join Gail, Salty and their fifth form friends who, through their end of term play, tell the hilarious story of an idealistic new teacher in his perilous first days inside a local comprehensive school.

Cast:

Salty - Harrison Ballard

Gail - Kaitlin Corney

Hobby - Jessica Heppelthwaite

Mr Nixon - Joshua Smyth

Mrs Parry - Louie Walker

Crew:

Director - Peter Heppelthwaite

Stage Manager - Callum Bowden

Assistant Director - Lily Peterkin

Set Design - Peter McNally

Crew - Olivia Houghton &

Jamie Robertson

About: A part-time training facility that caters to all people with classes available for young children to adults. Based in Royston, Hertfordshire with state-of-the-art facilities with three large multi-purpose studios, two drama/private training studios, a TV and Film studio, editing suite, screening room and café. Our talent agency, Limitless Associates, allows our students the opportunity to work professionally whilst training; winning lead roles in Film and Television from as young as eight years old. We encourage individuality and creativity amongst all of our students with every student being treated as professionals, regardless of age.

Thursday 18th July

Rushen Players

'A Cream Cracker Under The Settee'

By Alan Bennett



Synopsis: Doris, an 85 year old widow, has been living in the same small house since she was a newly-wed. Fiercely independent and house-proud, she resists pressure from Zulema, her home help, to go into a retirement home, notably 'Stafford House'. The action is over a period of 12 hours, during which Doris ruminates on her life, after injuring herself whilst dusting.

Cast:

Doris - Pat Clews

Policeman - Ian Galloway

Crew:

Director - Adrienne Sanderson

Stage Manager - Susie Beswick

Lighting & Sound - Ron Beswick

Costumes - Adrienne Sanderson

Props - Adrienne Sanderson &

Susie Beswick



About: Established over seventy years ago, Rushen Players perform 2 full length plays in Spring and Autumn as well as in the One Act Festival. Our "home" is The Erin Arts Centre, a converted Chapel overlooking Port Erin Bay - an intimate theatre space of 126 seats. Our most recent production was "The Birthday Party". This year we entered "Last Train to Nibroc", directed by Susie Beswick, in the Manx Easter Festival (open to British and international teams) at which the two actors both won awards, "Best Young Actress" and "Outstanding Contribution to Theatre."

Thursday 18th July

Back To Front Theatre

'The Hebrew Lesson'

By Wolf Mankowitz



Synopsis: Set in Ireland in 1921 a young revolutionary seeks shelter from an elderly refugee. Separated by their very different backgrounds they are united in their fear of the outside world.

Cast:

Jew - Gary Griffiths

Man - Peter McGrath

Black and Tan 1 - Tom Calder

Black and Tan 2 - Dave Smith

Crew:

Director - Shirley Cumming

Stage Manager - Malcolm Ling

Sound - Michelle Blake

Continuity - Pam Ling

About: Back to Front Theatre is an independent group consisting of talented people from across a number of local drama groups in Surrey. It was first formed in 2014 to produce a play remembering those who lost their lives in World War 1. Since then they have regularly performed at local One Act drama festivals winning many awards. In 2016 their acclaimed production of "Last Train to Nibroc" by Arlene Hutton won the British All Winners Drama Festival.

Friday 19th July

FULL LENGTH PLAY

Mutley & Minques

'The Hound of the Baskervilles'

By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

adapted by Stephen Canny & John Nicholson



Synopsis: Comic adaptation of Conan Doyle's suspense thriller, performed by three actors who play themselves as well as all 18+ characters in the play. Sir Charles Baskerville had been found dead in mysterious circumstances; his heir Sir Henry has arrived from Canada and wishes to live in his ancestral home 'Baskerville Hall' on Dartmoor. But can Sherlock Holmes solve the mystery of Sir Charles' death before Henry suffers the same fate?

Cast:

Watson/Yokel - Imogen Farnworth

Sherlock Holmes/Barrymore/Mrs Barrymore/Stapleton/Cecile/Stapleton/Yokel - Mary Musker

Dr Mortimer/Sir Charles Baskerville/Sir Henry Baskerville/Cabby/Yokel/

Wise Yokel - Tilak Patel

Crew:

Director - Dave Barron

Stage Manager - Charlotte Lane

Lighting - Frank Turnbull

Sound - David Lane

About: Mutley & Minques only began life on 1st March 2019, after friends and Finchley locals Dave Barron, Mary Musker, Tilak Patel and Imogen Farnworth read the script by Steve Canny and John Nicholson and knew it would be both challenging and great fun to take on tour around the UK and brilliantly entertaining for audiences to watch.

Saturday 20th July

Hog The Limelight

'The Perfect Gentleman'

By Sharon Walker (New Play)



Synopsis: The Perfect Gentleman recounts the story of Cyril Walker's experiences in WWI from joining up as a willing volunteer through the horrors of the Somme and Passchendaele to the end in 1918. The play is based on the letters of Lt Cyril Walker, whose Great Grandson John plays Cyril's brother Ron in this production.

Cast:

Ronald Walker - John Walker

Dolly Walker - Rachel Joughin

John Ely Walker - Norman McGregor

Edwards

Maid - Liz Wood

Crew:

Director/Lighting/Sound - Sharon Walker

Stage Manager - Jane McGregor Edwards

Costumes - Jenny Green

Props - Liz Wood

Crew - Rich McGregor Edwards

About: Hog the Limelight are from the Isle of Man and enjoy sharing 'fun' performances across the island.

Saturday 20th July

Geneva English

Drama Society

'Metamorphosis...(or Letting Nature Take It's Course)'

By Gary Bird (New Play)



Synopsis: Gregor Samsa, Franz Kafka's long-suffering arthropod from 'The Metomorphosis', is back in 'Metamorphosis, or Letting Nature Take It's Course', by Gary Bird, as he now seeks to discover what has transformed him into a loathesome insect and what does he do now? How will he get a girlfriend? What will she look like? And who is that strange man inhabiting the edges of his world? And, does he really want to be an insurance salesman?

Cast:

Father - Gary Bird

Mother - Masha Nezansky

Gregor - Gabriel Bird

Greta - Noelle Rensch

Boss/Bug/Doc/Ernestine - Tim Goodyear

Narrator - Lance Newhart

Heckler - Berta Adell

Crew:

Director - Berta Adell

Stage Manager - Richard Brown

Lighting - Tim Hancox

Sound - John Ward

About: The Geneva English Drama Society has been staging highly successful English language theatre in the Geneva region since 1933. It also holds twice monthly play readings, periodical workshops and social events. The society owes its success to the talent and enthusiasm of its volunteer members and offers an opportunity for anyone with an interest in the theatre to use their existing skills, develop new ones, make new friends and importantly have fun!

Saturday 20th July

The Thursday Night Project 'Heads'

By Howard Brenton



Synopsis: HEADS is a short and brutal play about greed and the perfect man.

Deliberately intended for the "poor theatre" - it requires a small cast and minimal set, yet yields maximum theatricality. It was first staged in 1969 and is as relevant today as when it was first written.

Cast:

Megan - Mary Taylor

Brian - Neil Park

Rock - Parv Sains

Grew:

Director - Richard Brimblecombe
Stage Manager - Andrew Schneider

About: The Thursday Night Project is a workshop based theatre group, from South West London. The Project is run by professional actor Richard Brimblecombe, who provides the group with a wide cross section of experiential learning. They focus on developing skills, broadening horizons and stretching the members to be the best they can be. The emphasis is not on performance. However, to put what is learnt to the test, a performance element is inevitable. HEADS is only their second production and they are delighted to have been invited back to Woking.

Join the NDFA

The National Drama Festivals Association (NDFA) is an association of more than 37 Independent Drama Festivals drawn from across the UK running Full length, One Act and Youth Festivals.

Membership of NDFA is open to all Drama Festival Organisations and also to Theatre groups and individuals who are interested in taking part and supporting drama festivals throughout UK.

NDFA was formed in 1964 to encourage and support amateur theatre in all its forms and in particular through the organisation of drama festivals.

Each year, NDFA organise the *British All Winners Festival* where the very best take part in a week-long celebration of theatre. The winners of all NDFA member festivals are eligible to be invited.



National Drama Festivals Association

If you or your organisation want to become NDFA members then you can contact our Membership Secretary for more information:

Amanda Vaughan
Membership Secretary
membership@ndfa.co.uk

The Festival Awards

Full Length plays

Mary Blakeman Trophy - Winning Play plus £500



One Act plays

Irving Trophy - Winning play plus £500

NDFFA Council Trophy - runners-up

Amateur Theatre Trophy - Adjudicators Award

Sydney Fisher Trophy - Backstage Award



Youth One Act plays

(Awarded on Wednesday 17th July)

NDFFA Trophy - Winning play plus £500

Buxton Trophy - most promising youth participation

GADOC Joyce Cook Memorial Award - Audience Appreciation



Award Winners

Full Length Play Awards

Mary Blakeman Trophy
Winning Play

One Act Play Awards

Irving Trophy
Winning Play

Metamorphosis

NDFA Council Trophy
Runners Up

Gains TNP

Amateur Theatre Trophy
Adjudicators Award

BCP

~~Manton~~

Sydney Fisher Trophy
Backstage Award

BCP

Youth One Act Play Awards

NDFA Trophy
Winning Play

Buxton Trophy
Most Promising Youth
Participation

GADOC Joyce Cook Memorial
Award
Audience Appreciation

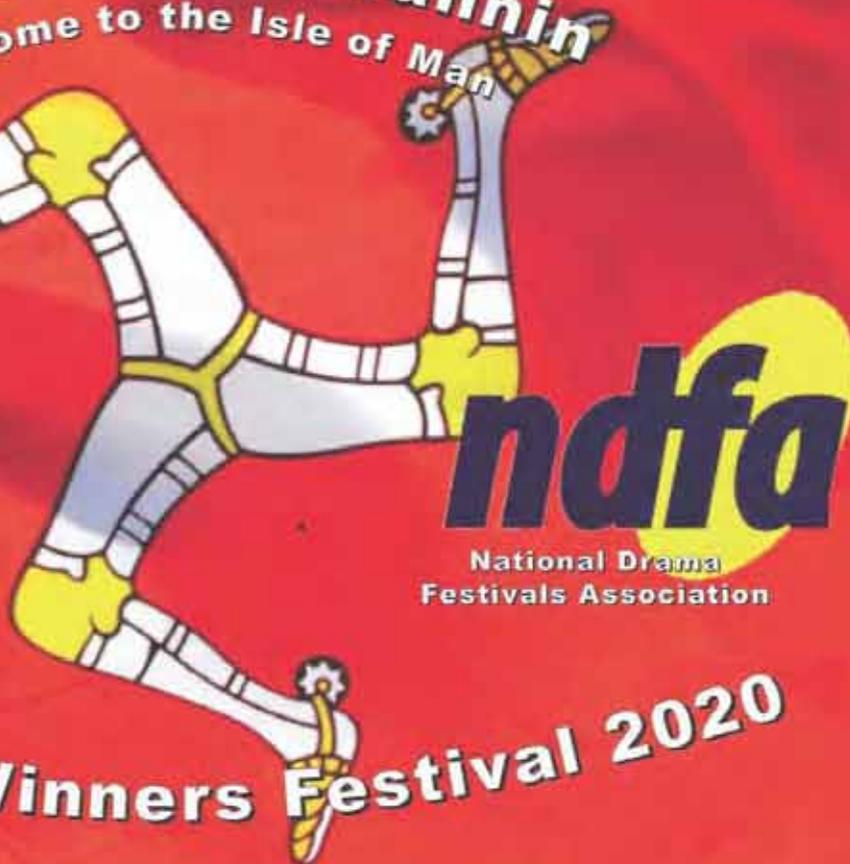
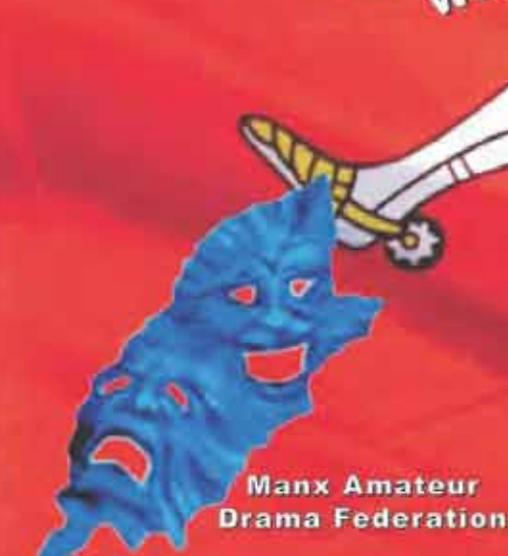
Best Comedy Moment

Gregor

ndfa

National Drama Festivals Association

Cair Vie Ellan Vannin
Welcome to the Isle of Man



British All Winners Festival 2020

46th British All Winners Festival Of Plays

National Drama Festivals Association
-hosted by **Manx Amateur Drama Federation**
at **The Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man**

Saturday 18th July – Friday 24th July 2020

Adjudicator Jan Palmer Sayer GoDA



**ARTS
COUNCIL**

manx radio
the nation's station

Details will be on MADF website
including special packages for staying at our Festival headquarters
The Empress Hotel, Douglas