

Elora Community Theatre

JANUARY 2019



The Dining Room
by A.R. Gurney
Directed by Julie Wheeler-Bryant

**Feb. 8-10 &
Feb. 15-17, 2019**
Shows: Fri. & Sat. 8pm · Sat & Sun. 2pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE
presented by

Tickets:
call 519-787-1981
or visit us online:
www.fergusgrandtheatre.ca

Elora
COMMUNITY
THEATRE

Elora Community Theatre
www.eloracommunitytheatre.com
Presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service Inc., New York
Photo by Bill Longshaw

(The Dining Room will be adjudicated Feb. 9th matinee performance as an 'out of festival' WODL entry. Short public adjudication will follow the matinee. Audience invited to stay if you wish!)

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Message from the Director, Julie Wheeler Bryant
The Dining Room

As I write this director's message, we have two weeks to go before move-in. Yes, only two weeks left after cast and stage management have been actively at work since middle of October and much intensive work done by crew working on set, costumes, props and set pieces in the last month! It's a very comforting and reassuring feeling for a director to know that everything is progressing wonderfully well thanks to all the effort put into it by those involved. I never fail to be amazed as a director at how people pull together as a team, cooperating and supporting each other and bottom line caring so much about the production. And such talent and expertise...so very evident whether you are looking at the beautiful set materializing before our very eyes every time we arrive at the workshop or how the actors somehow bring a scene at least one step up during every rehearsal...and all this with the help of a faithful stage management crew. Just right costumes are continually emerging that define the 47 characters in the play and those characters are using just the right props to help bring the scenes alive for the audience amidst some beautifully (borrowed-thanks to COUNTRY ANTIQUES, ELMIRA) appropriate set pieces. Please come and see the results of all our efforts!

Julie



Actors from left Dianne Thompson, Susan Williams, director Julie Wheeler Bryant...in background actor Paul Elliott and stage manager Gary Seibert



Actors Nancy Baker, Shari Roberts, Lindsey Quinn, Dave Beynon watch Jennifer Cornish, play polisher, as she provides instruction on how to do the very best characterization.



Preparing for The Dining Room final scene by actors Dianne Thompson (from left) and Liz Poulton



From left, actors Shayne Monaghan and Nancy Baker with actor Paul Elliott in background and director Julie Wheeler Bryant in foreground



And 'discoveries' behind the scenes too as Andy Wasylycia entertains fellow actors from left Dianne Thompson, Linda Smith Earle and Liz Poulton



Andy Wasylycia (actor) in one of the more serious moments with Gary Bryant and Dianne Thompson (actors) in the background preparing for the next scene as scenes really visually do overlap on stage before your very eyes!



From left, Julie Wheeler Bryant (director) discusses scenes at rehearsal with Gary Bryant and Shari Roberts (actors) with Gary Seibert (stage manager) in the background



Gary Seibert, Julie Wheeler Bryant and Jennifer Cornish work together on a scene at the weekend play polishing



Actors (Andy Wash, Linda Earle Smith, Acey Kaspar watch 'in the wings' as fellow actor Liz Poulton the host in the scene, prepares the dining room table



Actor Dave Beynon, seemingly with great glee prepares his bow tie for his child role in one of the scenes called The Birthday Party...in background Julie Wheeler Bryant, Acey Kaspar and Linda Earle Smith and Susan Williams seem to be doing some background preparation



And lastly some of our happy cast and crew at play polishing: Gary Seibert, Jennifer Cornish, Lindsey Quinn, Julie Wheeler Bryant



Thank you so much Monika Lassner and Bryan Hayter for the candid photos!



Many thanks to Bill Longshaw for the poster photography and individual cast and crew pictures which you will see displayed in the lobby at The Fergus Grand when you attend the show!

PRESENTING



Cast of The Dining Room

Acey Kaspar
Shari Roberts
Dianne Thompson
Nancy Baker
Susan Williams
Andy Wasylycia
Shayne Monaghan
Lindsey Quinn
Dave Beynon
Dian Borek
Linda Smith Earle
Paul Elliott
Mark Holloran
Liz Poulton
Gary Bryant

Crew of The Dining Room

Director: Julie wheeler bryant
Stage manager: gary Seibert
Assistant Stage Managers: Monika Lassner and Barbara lee
Producers: Gary Bryant, Deb Stanson
Technical director: David Tanner
Set designer: Robert Banning
Set Construction and Finishing: Robert Banning, Maggie Parent, Lawrence Lee
Set Pieces and Properties Manager: Mary Anne Neville
Costume Coordinator: Mary Anne Neville

Promotion team: Deb Stanson, Bryan Hayter, Marilyn Abraham, Barb Lee, Maggie Parent, Julie Wheeler Bryant, Gary Bryant, Deb Dalziel, Cast and Crew
Photographer Poster and Front of House Pictures: Bill Longshaw
Programme Coordinators: Deb Stanson, Gary Bryant
Play Polisher: Jennifer Cornish
Poster Designers: Julie Wheeler Bryant, Lisa Thatcher R & R Printers in Fergus

Get your tickets now and don't miss seeing *The Dining Room* at the Fergus Grand Theatre February 8-17th, 2019.



SHORT HANDED

by Michael Grant
Directed by Jim Monaghan
& Kimberley Young

MAY 3 - 5 & MAY 10 - 12, 2019
Friday 8:00 pm,
Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

In Shorthanded, a comedy about lost dreams and second chances, eight hockey players band together for game seven of the old-timer's hockey championship. The middle-aged men are looking for a shot at redemption, and to reverse the curse of a game-seven loss they incurred as Junior B players that has left the town without a hockey title ever since.

*Winner of Playwrights Guild of Canada's
new comedy award 2012!*



Report from directors Jim Monaghan and Kimberley Young.....

The cast of our May show "Shorthanded" - Joe Brenner - Robb Judd - Bart Penwarden - Dan Kelley - Chris Ogy Thom - Dale Langdon - Rod Saunders - Ray Kavanagh will be getting together this Saturday to do a first read through with the help of the playwright himself Mike Grant. Our first official rehearsal will be at the ECT space on Sunday February 3rd.

If you haven't heard yet this hilarious play goes on the Fergus Grand Theatre stage the first two weekends in May. Come out and watch this funny and touching play about a small town local men's hockey team....you will laugh hard and cry!!

Also every seat purchased gives you one entry into a draw for some nice prizes including the Grand prize of a pair of tickets for a 2019-2020 regular season Toronto Maple Leaf game valued over \$400. Hope to see see you there in May when the puck drops!!

Announcing Casting!



CAST FOR SHORT HANDED

Joe Brenner
Rob Judd
Dan Kelley
Bart Penwarden
Dale Langdon
Rod Saunders
Ray Kavanaugh
Chris Ogy Thom

Come out and support our theatre version of the Elora Rocks on stage the first two weekends in May. It is a hilarious and touching award winning play written by Elmira's Mike Grant about a local Men's Senior team looking for redemption while maintaining a life long friendship for one another.



Synopsis of play: Eight men on a small town local Senior A Men's hockey team play in a winner take all championship game. Due to unforeseen circumstances they must play with only seven skaters and a goalie. They are out to redeem a loss in the championship game many years ago when they played Junior Hockey. The town had not had a championship since that fateful day so the citizens are all at arena to support their team for this match. This is a comedy with a touching ending.

Setting of play: The play takes place in the dressing room of a local town hockey rink



**Western Ontario Drama League
Waterloo-Wellington WODL Representative:**

Bev Dietrich

What is WODL?

The Western Ontario Drama League was established by D. Park Jamieson in 1932 to unite community theatre groups in Western Ontario. It covers an area from Burlington west to Sarnia and Welland, and north to Tobermory. It is comprised of 30 theatre companies from across the South-Western Ontario region.

Don't delay! You can book your Festival tickets and make your hotel reservations now!

Tickets

On sale now through the Guelph Little Theatre Box Office

Phone: 519-821-0270

Online: <https://thelittleboxoffice.com/guelphlittletheatre>

Individual Shows: \$25.00 each

Five Show Series: \$110.00

Awards Banquet: \$55.00 per person

Hotel Information

Holiday Inn - Guelph Hotel & Conference Centre

601 Scottsdale Drive Guelph

WODL Rates: \$112.99 to \$132.99

Full hot breakfast included for up to two people

Each additional guest, an extra charge of \$10.00 which includes breakfast

How to book: Phone: 519-836-0231

Online: **CLICK HERE**

Important: *Quote Group Code: **WDL*** when making your reservations online or by phone

For up to date information on Festival 2019, visit www.wodlfestival.ca, or follow on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

2019 Line up of Festival Entries

Date Company In/Out of

Festival

Play/Playwright

January 27, 2019 Guelph Little Theatre IN The Beauty Queen of Leenane
M. McDonagh

February 1, 2019 Theatre Sarnia IN Girls Like That
E. Placey

February 2, 2019 K-W Little Theatre IN Sister Cities
C. Freedman

February 3, 2019 London Community
Players

OUT The Nerd
L. Shue

February 7, 2019 Theatre Kent OUT Barefoot In The Park
N. Simon

February 8, 2019 Ghost Light Players
(Windsor)

IN Drowning Girls
B. Graham & D. Vlaskalic

February 9, 2019 Elora Community
Theatre

OUT Dining Room
A. Gurney

February 9, 2019 Theatre Burlington OUT Strangers Amongst Us
A. Bushkowsky

February 10, 2019 Theatre Woodstock IN On Golden Pond
E. Thompson

February 14, 2019 Alymer Community
Players

OUT Dating By The Book
U. Meyer

February 15, 2019 Paris Performers IN Bare Bear Bones
M. Grant

February 16, 2019 Theatre Tillsonburg OUT The Ladies Foursome
N. Foster

February 17, 2019 Guelph Little Theatre
Trevor Smith Diggins

announces the Pre-Festival
Awards and the Festival
Finalists

WESTERN ONTARIO DRAMA FESTIVAL 2019



If you would like to help with the festival, contact: Chris Grose
Festival 2019 Co-Chair & Volunteer Co-ordinator
519-575-1071
chris@huskyfarm.ca

One way ECT will be helping out is to provide a lunch to one of the selected groups who are entered 'in festival' during the WODL March Break week. We serve the lunch to them on their busy set up day. It's a long day for them and their show will be performed that night. If you would like to help us out, please contact Deb Stanson debstanson@gmail.com, me jwheelerb@cogeco.ca or any board member. We'd love for you to be involved and to hear from you.



Missed an ECT Newsletter?

You can also check our website eloracommunitytheatre.com to access any past newsletters.





Message from Maggie Parent

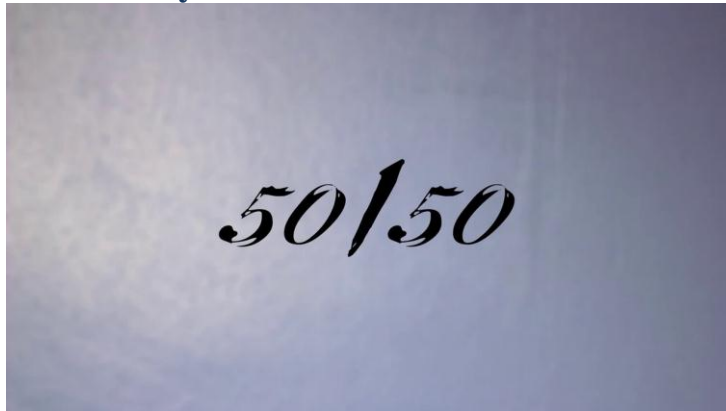
The Dining Room, the second show our the 2018-19 season, starts Friday night Feb. 8th at 8 pm and runs for a total of 8 shows over the next two weekends.



We Need Your Help!

To help raise funds, we run a 50/50 Draw. We do this at every one of the scheduled performances for the full run of the show.

For those unfamiliar with how the 50/50 draw works, we have volunteers show up about an hour before show time and sell numbered tickets to patrons as they arrive for a predetermined fee in the lobby. 3 for \$5.00 and 10 for \$10.00



At intermission, the monies collected from the ticket sales are totalled then split in half. A ticket is then drawn from all the ones sold and the winner walks away with half the pot. To keep the government happy, we record the winners name and phone number for our records.

There will a board member at each performance so any questions or concerns can be directed to them.

We need TWO people per show if possible.

So if you can help out by taking a turn at selling tickets before the show and at the start of intermission, please email Maggie Parent at maggie66@rogers.com. The schedule will also be posted on the ECT facebook page.

Be sure to include the date and time that you are able to help out. I need your response before the Friday of each weekend.



Many thanks! Maggie Parent

Please arrive 1 hour prior to show time to get organised.

Friday Feb.8th 8pm (arrival at 7pm).....

Saturday Feb.9th 2pm (arrival at 1pm).....

Saturday Feb. 9th 8pm (arrival at 7pm).....

Sunday Feb.10th 2pm (arrival at 1pm).....

Friday Feb. 15th 8pm (arrival at 7pm).....

Saturday Feb. 16th 2pm (arrival at 1pm).....

Saturday Feb. 16th 8pm (arrival 7pm).....

Sunday Feb. 17th 2pm (arrival 1pm).....



ELORA COMMUNITY THEATRE presents The Dining Room starting Feb. 8-17 See times above in the poster. Reduced prices for groups of 10 or more, seniors, students. Call Box Office Fergus Grand Theatre 519 787 1981 or visit fergusgrandtheatre.ca for tickets.

Visit us online for more behind the scenes info and the famous ‘countdown to opening night’! The Dining Room is a Western Ontario Drama League Festival entry (out of festival entry) and an adjudication will take place right after the Feb. 9th matinee, first of all a short public adjudication for those audience members who wish to stay, followed by a private adjudication for cast and crew. We are pleased to welcome Trevor Smith Diggins, our WODL adjudicator.

The Elora Community Theatre is pleased to announce that it will be co-hosting the Spring Rain Saturday May 4, 2019 park portion of the Spring Rain Weekend - in Belwood, Ontario.

Spring Rain Weekend is a weekend celebration of all things Irish. 2019 will be its 5th year! And it draws a 500+ person audience from such far flung places as Sudbury to Ottawa, to Montreal, to Kingstons, to Windsor and Sarnia and Niagara Falls and even

further from Springfield Ill, Dayton Ohio, Rochester Michigan and Buffalo, New York. And of course also from places nearby i.e. Fergus, Elora, Belwood, Orangeville, KW, Hamilton, Barrie, etc.

We are looking for someone who would be interested - on behalf of the Elora Community Theatre group - to select, audition, rehearse, direct and run a short one act play to be performed 3 times throughout the day in the park in Belwood on Sat May 5th, 2019 (ie 10:30 am, 12:30 pm, 2 pm - or some such times as this). Pass the hat / busking style of revenue collection.

Only mandate for the play is that it has to be written by someone who is Irish, or be about an Irish or Irish-Canadian theme.

Deb Stanson has some production suggestions for the potential director to consider .. but ultimately the decision of the play selection and the direction is the responsibility of the director - whomever that will be.

If you would be interested - please contact Deb Stanson (debstanson@gmail.com) and/or Marilyn Abraham (mmhjir@hotmail.com) before February 20, 2019.

ELMIRA COMMUNITY THEATRE presents The Gentleman Clothier Feb. 1-16
Call 1-800-265-8977

GUELPH LITTLE THEATRE presents The Beauty Queen of Leenane Jan. 24-Feb. 3
Call 519 821 270

ELORA ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS:

1. Sunday, Jan 27, 2-4 pm: Art Talk is Sonia Day - 'How to start and finish writing a book' in the Community Room at the Fergus Library
2. Sunday, Feb 24, 2-4pm: Save the Date: EAC Art Talk with Mike Hintermeister.
Fergus Library

PUPPETS ELORA opening of A Peak Behind the Curtain at the Wellington County Museum & Archives. Jan 19, 2 pm..Exhibition continues to March 31st

*Remember to get your tickets for ECT's next show, **The Dining Room!** Stay warm and enjoy the remaining days of January ...And I will be back with the ECT News in **FEBRUARY.***

Please email me if you'd like to submit ECT
info for future newsletters.

Julie Wheeler Bryant

jwheelerb@cogeco.ca

Happy
New Year!

Thanks, as always, to Adrian and Laura Baker, who make sure you receive this and who faithfully get it posted on our ECT website. Because of this you can always check back and see former ECT Newsletters.



