

# ECT

JUNE 2020  
NEWSLETTER

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## **ECT Board of Directors Announcement!**

### **The Elora Community Theatre finds a new home back in Centre Wellington!**

Through the generosity of the Skyline Community Hub in Fergus, the cast and crew of ECT are excited to be moving all its staging, props and wardrobe back into Centre Wellington and closer to our stage home at the Fergus Grand Theatre.

After 45 years as a local Theatre Company, it is astounding the chattels and gear that is collected over the years,' stated Deb Stanson, President. "We have been blessed with the good nature and generosity of so many organizations over the years and once again the community has rose to the challenge." With the recent pandemic and Covid-19 outbreak, ECT has not been able to present and perform their annual performance series which covers costs and rental for all the Company's stock, rehearsal space and a site for set building. Therefore, a need for a storage facility free of overhead was tantamount to remaining fluid during these trying times.

The Elora Community Theatre is pleased and grateful with the generous offering of 2000 square feet of storage space located at 900 Tower St South in Fergus at the Skyline Community Hub. This will provide a much-needed secure setting for all the Company's possessions. Many thanks as well to Habitat Wellington Dufferin Guelph ([www.habitatwdg.ca](http://www.habitatwdg.ca)) for the use of their cargo truck to expedite the move.

### **We Need Your Help!!!!**

ECT plans on moving into our new storage space so graciously provided by Skyline Community Hub on **Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking for volunteers who can help us with moving all our props, costumes and set pieces. Are you busy that Sunday but still want to help? ECT will be getting a dumpster the week before the move and are looking for volunteers to help organize, sort, and pack up our rehearsal space. Any help would be greatly appreciated! If you are willing and available for either activity, please email Deb Stanson at [debstanson@gmail.com](mailto:debstanson@gmail.com), so we can organize who will be at which locations to ensure everyone's health and safety during this difficult time.



## ECT's Virtual Playhouse – A Midsummer Nights Dream

Elora Community Theatre presented its second online play reading last month; Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Director's Deb Stanson and David Tanner put together an amazing performance full of magical backgrounds and fun costumes, making it the perfect bridge between a play reading and a full theatrical production. The cast consisted of 22 brilliant actors of various ages, all of which had huge smiles come the end of the show. Many comments of encouragement and love were posted live on Youtube including "Everyone is doing amazing! Bravo to the cast and crew for putting this show together! So nice to see some familiar faces! – Emma Michaela" and "ECT will never give up – Jennifer Kennedy". Congratulations to everyone behind the screen and on it who helped make this terrific read-through happen.

What would a performance be without an audience? Many thanks to our amazing community who tune-in each month to our live streams! With over 500 views to-date, it makes all the hard work and technical difficulties worth the effort. If you missed the reading but want to check out the whimsical show, visit our YouTube channel to watch a recording. **Do not forget to tune in the first Sunday of every month to watch more great performances of our upcoming shows.**



## ECT's Virtual Playhouse – Up Next



Did you enjoy last month's A Mid-summer nights dream? Well, directors Deb Stanson and David Tannor are at it again!

### **ECT's Virtual Playhouse is happy to present Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre on Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>!**

Jane Eyre, lives as one of the great triumphs of storytelling and as a moving and unforgettable portrayal of a woman's quest for self-respect. The triumphant story of Jane the Orphan and the brooding domineering Rochester continues as a one of the best loved literary works by Charlotte Bronte. This classic tale is as close as your TV remote.

To participate, all a viewer needs to do, is go to our website and click on the button that says 'ECT's Virtual Playhouse YouTube Channel' or you can Use the link below to see how this heart-wrenching romance of deceit and treachery unfolds. Two clicks and you can be front row with a box of popcorn in the comfort of your own home theatre!

**ECT's Virtual Playhouse YouTube Channel:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoPFZ2sijAEbwS9SIZuY3xw?app=desktop>

# ECT's Virtual Playhouse – Up Next

## Cast of Jane Eyre Play Reading

Jane Eyre (Narrator) . . . . . J. M. Frey  
 Jane (young) . . . . . Brianne Donovan  
 Jane (18 years old) . . . . . Katy Chapman

Mrs. Reed . . . . . Shari Roberts  
 Ghost of Mr. Reed . . . . . Alex Kanarek  
 Bessie (Housemaid) . . . . . Lynne McIntee  
 Mr. Brocklehurst . . . . . John Dibben  
 Miss Temple . . . . . Jessica Kaspar  
 Miss Miller . . . . . Teagan Hiller  
 Helen Burns . . . . . Gray Dibben

Mrs. Fairfax . . . . . Julie Goudie  
 Mr. Edward Rochester . . . . . John Settle  
 Adelle (Ward) . . . . . Addi Butchart  
 Leah (housemaid) . . . . . Mya Leworthy

Grace Poole . . . . . Oriana Abrahamse  
 Lady Ingram . . . . . Nancy Baker  
 Blanche Ingram . . . . . Alexandra Porter  
 Mary Ingram . . . . . Lindsey Quinn  
 Richard Mason . . . . . Acey Kaspar  
 Rev. Wood . . . . . Cory Sanders  
 Bertha Rochester . . . . . Deb Dalziel  
 St. John Rivers . . . . . Hayden Tallon  
 Diana Rivers . . . . . Jennifer Roeder  
 Marie Rivers . . . . . Lindsey Quinn  
 Eliza . . . . . Madeline Dunlop  
 Georgiana . . . . . Amelia Dunlop  
 Narrated Directions . . . . . Alex Kanarek

Director . . . . . Deb Stanson  
 Co-director . . . . . David Tanner

**AUGUST 2, 2020 - 7:30PM**

**2 ONE ACT SHOWS!**

**WHO AM I THIS TIME**

Based on the Story By: Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Adapted By: Christopher Sergel

Director: John Dibben

For more information email:  
[john.dibben2525@gmail.com](mailto:john.dibben2525@gmail.com)

**MY NARRATOR**

By: Norm Foster

Director: Jayne Simpson

For more information email:  
[jayne.youjustneverknow.simpson@gmail.com](mailto:jayne.youjustneverknow.simpson@gmail.com)

**ECT's  
 Play Readings**

*Who Am I  
 This Time?*

story by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.  
 adapted by Christopher Serge

**My  
 Narrator**  
 by Norm Foster

**Two 1 Acts**

**August 2, 2020**

## Lis Pieper Memorial Award – Flo and Connie

Some things just go together...like Bonnie and Clyde, apple pie and ice cream, a wink and a smile, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, love and marriage, Connie Dickinson and Florence Arkell. These two women worked together in community theatre so closely and for so long (since 1975) that you couldn't separate the one from the other. They shared the same vision...to provide great family entertainment through humour and music and at the same time assist a long list of local organizations (at last count, 32), with donations from the Not So Grand Players in excess of \$80 000.

Flo and Connie did it all...they wrote plays (11 that were turned into stage productions by the Not So Grand Players), they also assumed the roles of director, producer, publicity, stage managing, program development, poster design, set design and painting, sales, costumes, singing and dancing in at least 32 productions.

Their original scripts ranged from the nostalgia of wartime, to the sentimentality of Christmas, to the everyday humour of real life...all with a musical theme. Popular story lines usually centred around everyday activities...garage sales, university life, Christmas shopping, bingo players with good luck charms, summer resorts and retirement homes. Christmas plays typically ended with a re-enactment of the Nativity story and the War Plays showed the lighter side of war, while including the reading of In Flanders Fields and ending with a Legion Colour Guard and the singing of O Canada.



## Lis Pieper Memorial Award – Flo and Connie

There were always references to local people and places...The Op Shop, Don McNiven, Elora and Fergus Legions, the News Express, Bill Jenks aka Jingles, the police officer. And so many of the crazy things that happened in the plays were actually based on real life

experiences...the budgie that froze when the space heater stopped working, the green part that was cut off the duck before it was cooked for Christmas dinner (apparently no one noticed), a sleep-walking resident in a nursing home who gathered up all the dentures from other residents' rooms and put them all together in a bag.



Over 30 wonderful years, Connie and Flo's dedication, enthusiasm, talent, energy and vision made the Not So Grand Players a household name, synonymous with fun, laughter, music and local talent. They were instrumental in keeping community theatre alive and well in Centre Wellington and were most deserving recipients of the Elisabeth Pieper Award, 2014.

Connie Dickinson passed away on Oct. 8, 2015 after a brave battle with cancer.

Submitted by Terry Wilson





## Monologue of the Month

This month's monologue comes from Act 1, Scene 3 of Shakespeare's "All's Well that Ends Well". It is a passionate speech where Helena declares her love for a man in the bard's work.

### Helena's Declaration

(Female – Adult)

Then, I confess,  
 Here on my knee, before high heaven and you,  
 That before you, and next unto high heaven,  
 I love your son.  
 My friends were poor, but honest; so's my love:  
 Be not offended; for it hurts not him  
 That he is loved of me: I follow him not  
 By any token of presumptuous suit;  
 Nor would I have him till I do deserve him;  
 Yet never know how that desert should be.  
 I know I love in vain, strive against hope;  
 Yet in this captious and intenable sieve  
 I still pour in the waters of my love  
 And lack not to lose still: thus, Indian-like,  
 Religious in mine error, I adore  
 The sun, that looks upon his worshipper,  
 But knows of him no more. My dearest madam,  
 Let not your hate encounter with my love  
 For loving where you do: but if yourself,  
 Whose aged honour cites a virtuous youth,  
 Did ever in so true a flame of liking  
 Wish chastely and love dearly, that your Dian  
 Was both herself and love: O, then, give pity  
 To her, whose state is such that cannot choose  
 But lend and give where she is sure to lose;  
 That seeks not to find that her search implies,  
 But riddle-like lives sweetly where she dies!



## ECT Puzzle Pages

Here are some more fun puzzles to challenge your brain and brush up on your English literature! With the **reading of Jane Eyre happening on Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**, why not familiarize yourself with the story of this classic romance by completing our crossword puzzle. Having trouble figuring out the answers? Unscramble the next page to find the words used in the crossword puzzle.

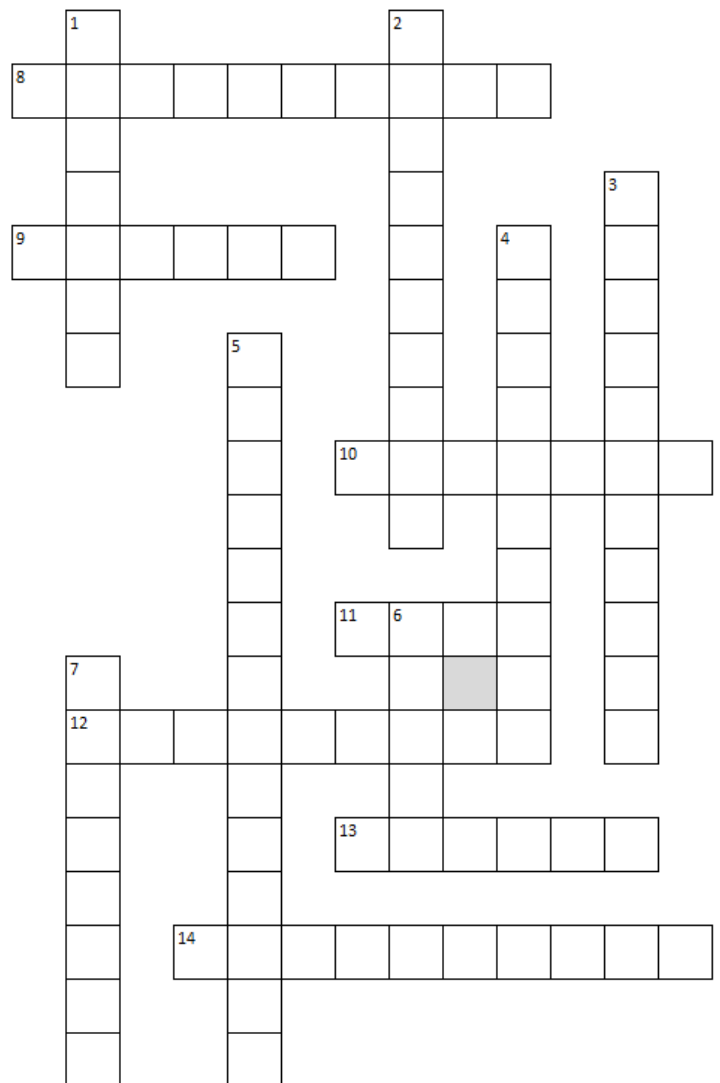
### Down:

- 1 - Where was Jane locked up as a child?
- 2 - Who was the servant Jane feared was a murderer?
- 3 - Who was the man that fell off his horse?
- 4 - Where does Jane get a position as a governess?
- 5 - Who is the director of the school Jane attended as a young girl?
- 6 - Who is Jane Eyre's student as governess?
- 7 - Who treated Jane cruelly?

### Across:

- 8 - Which friend wanted Jane to forgive and forget?
- 9 - What academy does Jane attend as a student?
- 10 - Who did Jane fear Mr. Rochester was going to marry?
- 11 - Who saved Mr. Rochester?
- 12 - Who's presence did Jane feel in the Red Room?
- 13 - Who was Mr. Rochester's actual wife?
- 14 - Who is the kind maid Jane first met while a governess?

### Jane Eyre Crossword



# ECT Puzzle Pages & Solutions

Can you unscramble these Jane Eyre characters and locations used in our crossword puzzle?

\*The Numbers Match the Crossword Clue Numbers\*

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. ERD OROM        | 8. EHNLE NBSUR  |
| 2. EGCRA OLPO      | 9. ODLWOO       |
| 3. MR EROCESTH     | 10. ECBANHL     |
| 4. ETHFORILDN      | 11. EJAN        |
| 5. RM ESBRCRKLHUTO | 12. ECUNL EERD  |
| 6. EAEDL           | 13. EATBRH      |
| 7. UNTA ERED       | 14. RSM AFFXIRA |

## CROSS WORD PUZZLE SOLUTION

