



May 8 - May 10 at 8pm

**Moot House Players**  
present



# LIVING



# TOGETHER

by ALAN AYCKBOURN

directed by Jon McNamara

**Programme : Free**

# **LIVING TOGETHER**

## **by Alan Ayckbourn**

### **Cast:**

<b>Norman</b>	<b>Alan Hodgson</b>
<b>Sarah</b>	<b>Angela Hodgson</b>
<b>Tom</b>	<b>Geoff Leeds</b>
<b>Reg</b>	<b>Michael Rees</b>
<b>Ruth</b>	<b>Rosalind Barron</b>
<b>Annie</b>	<b>Ruth Lewis</b>

Director – Jon McNamara

Production Manager & prompter – Anne Farr

Set designed – Jon McNamara

Set built – Geoff Leeds & Alan Hodgson

Lighting and sound designed by Michael Branwell

Lighting and sound operated by  
Dan Powell and Michael Branwell

Props – Angela Hodgson and members of the cast.

The action takes place in the sitting room of a family home.

### **Act 1**

**Scene 1 Saturday 6.30pm**

**Scene 2 Saturday 8pm**

### **Act 2**

**Scene 1 Sunday 9pm**

**Scene 2 Monday 8am**

This year (2014) sees Sir Alan Ayckbourn's seventy-fifth birthday and the celebration of fifty years of the West End staging of his plays. Alan is an Olivier and Tony Award winning playwright who has written 78 plays, many of which have been produced in London's West End, as well as around the world. As an acclaimed director, he has worked extensively in the West End and has also run his own company at the National Theatre. Between 1972 and 2009, he was the Artistic Director of the Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough, where the majority of his work has been premièred.

In 1973, Sir Alan produced a theatrical first (probably) with the "Norman Conquests" (three plays all based on a single weekend of one family) with each play being set in a different area of the family home, namely the dining room, living room and garden. Each play is "independent" of the others while telling the same story from different viewpoints. Of the three plays "Table Manners", "Living Together" and "Round and Round the Garden" - "Living Together" is my favourite - showing the dysfunctional family at its very worst ... indeed there is hardly a moment in the production when their mutual antagonism isn't on display!

As, it seemingly often happens, the youngest daughter, Annie has been stuck at home "looking after Mother" (Unseen - but not forgotten) for years while her elder brother and sister have married and moved away from home. The weekend has been arranged for Annie to go on holiday for a few days and relax while Sarah and Reg (her brother) come and look after Mother. On arrival, Sarah finds that Annie was intending to go away with Brother in Law, Norman (married to older sister, Ruth). Sarah manages, with great ease, to "put a stop" to Annie's weekend away creating tensions and recriminations within the family. Meanwhile, Tom, (Annie's "boyfriend") wanders, in total confusion, through all the mayhem contributing little but extra fuel to the "fires" ...!

One of my real joys in this production is working with much the same team as were with me in earlier Ayckbourn plays at Moot House. However, a special welcome goes to Ruth Lewis (Annie) who has worked her way from backstage assistant to a character part - the first; I hope, of many appearances with the company.

Jon McNamara

## FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

**FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY: May 25th at 7 p.m.**  
**POST MORTEM** by Brian Clark

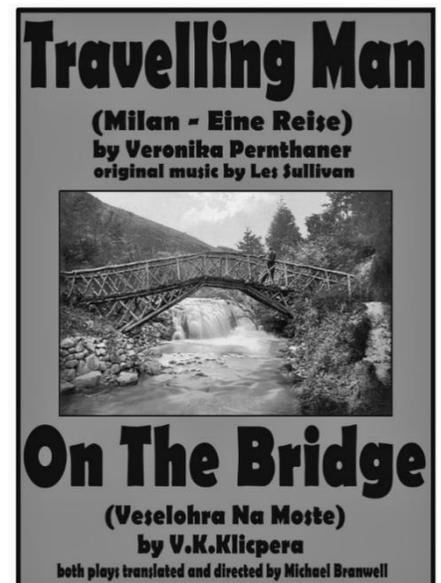


Prior to performing at the Abtenau Festival in Salzburg, Austria, the Players will be presenting this fast-moving and dramatic one act play; Helen Ansty (Kerry Rowland) arrives at the office to find a message from her boss, L. K. Halpin, saying he will not be in. Business and personal crises develop, one after another. As the play moves to its unexpected ending, Helen's ingenuity and personal life are tested to the full. Directed by **Michael Branwell**

**July 10th - 12th**

**TRAVELLING MAN** by Veronika Pernthaner  
*and*  
**ON THE BRIDGE** by Vaclav Kliment Klicpera

*Travelling Man* is a moving, tragic and, at times, very amusing one act play, performed by **John Childs**, with original music by **Les Sullivan**, directed by **Michael Branwell**. *On The Bridge* is a fast moving farce about human relationships, directed by **Henrietta Branwell**. An evening of contrasts and emotional intensity and laughter.



Moot House Players acknowledge, with thanks, the help of their parent organisation

**THE MARK HALL & NETTESWELL  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

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