

FLASHBACK!

The 1980 Dunham Thespians production of "Murder Deferred".

Pictured below is Tim Harrison as Clancy, and Sylvia Rose (a different one!) as Leila Markham. Also in the cast were Brenda Clare, Jim Carr, Moiré Hawksford, Paul Bailey and Jennie Lake.

The play was produced, of course, by Esmé Duckworth, lighting and effects were done by Mike Duckworth, and props were courtesy of Gina Hutchinson.



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For any information relating to the society, please contact:

Martin Clare – 07789 171 337

info@dunhamthespians.org.uk

www.dunhamthespians.org.uk

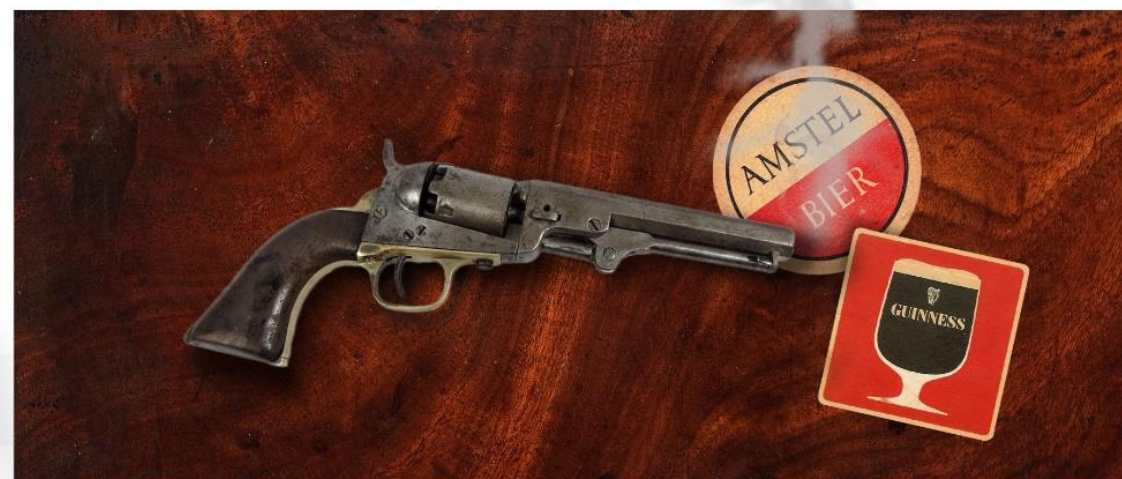
the Dunham Thespians present...



The Dunham Thespians

MURDER *deferred*

a thriller by Stuart Ready
directed by Bill Craig



22nd - 25th April 2015

Dunham Massey Village Hall
7.45pm curtain

A few words from the Director

It seems a long time since our last production, the farce *Bedside Manners*, back in November. That went really well and played to very good audiences. Early in 2015 we began looking at options for our next outing. As on several occasions in recent years we have been constrained by availability of both cast and support. Lots of people around but they were not all able to commit to the whole of the week of the production. Of the five members who were cast in *Bedside Manners* only Rachael Gallagher was available again. Martin Clare, Richard Hankinson, Sally-Marianne Hatton and Chris Matthews will be around most nights during this week. They have most decidedly not been 'dropped' and can be expected to appear again soon. As any Manager worth his salt will say – 'We have a squad with strength in depth and have drawn on this'.

Having selected *Murder Deferred* we had options on an all women cast, as the play was written, or a 6-1 or 5-2 split offered as alternatives by the Author. We took the middle option. The play is set in the landlady's sitting room/office behind a pub where there is little respite for the tenant – she is rarely off-stage and rarely out of the conversation. We are particularly grateful to Louise for taking on the role of Mrs Markham and to Rachael and Laura who also carry major parts. We always have fun as well as moments of doubt during the rehearsal period, but hope to maintain the standards of recent shows.

As usual there will be a raffle, with tickets drawn during one of the two intervals, to help our fund-raising. Members of the company will be around before and after the performance and during the intervals. We welcome any opportunity to talk to anyone who is thinking of, just possibly, acting or directing or set-building, or taking on any of the other roles within the group. All we look for is enthusiasm. Any ideas for future productions are also welcomed. In recent years we have done farces, comedies, murder mysteries, thrillers, dramas, 'whodunnits', even the occasional classic (Coward, Wilde) and, a good time back, Shakespeare. Without an influx of new very young talent we cannot do a children's show but anything else is possible. Tell us what you would like.

My thanks go to all who have contributed in preparation and to you, our audience, for your support. There would not be much point in playing to an empty house.

Bill Craig

CAST

Leila Markham	<i>Louise Burgess</i>
Ruth Cousins	<i>Laura Kinsella</i>
Minnie Akers	<i>Rachael Gallagher</i>
Beryl Fountain	<i>Sylvia Rose</i>
Mrs Boulders	<i>Joan Jones</i>
Mick Clancy	<i>Bill Craig</i>
Trudi Bauer	<i>Becky Buckley</i>

The action takes place in Leila Markham's sitting-room in "The Hay Wain", an inn in a Dorset village.

ACT I

SCENE 1	Friday evening
SCENE 2	Saturday morning

ACT II

SCENE 1	Saturday evening
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ACT III

SCENE 1	Sunday morning
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CREW

Director	<i>Bill Craig</i>
Lighting & Sound	<i>Martin Clare</i>
Prompts	<i>Martin Clare, Sally-Marianne Hatton</i>
Stage Building	<i>Lindsay Park, Trevor Wells, Bill Craig, Chris Matthews, Jim Park</i>
Tickets	<i>Martin Clare</i>
Props	<i>Richard Hankinson</i>
Raffle & Refreshments	<i>Elizabeth Craig</i>
Design & Artwork	<i>Martin Clare</i>
Front of House	<i>Chris Matthews</i>
Bar	<i>Chris Matthews, Elizabeth Craig</i>