

Past Productions

The Sleeping Beauty
February 1992

Ways and Means
May 1992

Fishy Business / Hidden Meanings
December 1992

The Boyfriend
May 1993

Cinderella
February 1994

The Patient & Rats
November 1994

Variety Show
June 1995

Boeing Boeing
January 1996

Beauty and the Beast
February 1997

Relatively Speaking
November 1997

Holiday Snap
March 1999

Mother Goose
February 2000

Seasons Greetings
November 2000

Fiddler on the Roof
October 2001

Out of Order
May 2002

Jack and the Beanstalk
February 2003

Home is Where Your Clothes Are
November 2003

Theatre in the Round
June 2004

South Pacific
November 2004

Blithe Spirit
May 2005

Dick Whittington and his Cat
February 2006

Don't Dress For Dinner
November 2006

When We Are Married
May 2007

A 15th Anniversary Review
July 2007

The Ghost Train
November 2007

My Fair Lady
May 2008

Not Now Darling
November 2008

Hay Fever
May 2009

It Runs in the Family
November 2009

A Celebration of Christmas
December 2009
(in aid of The Eve Appeal in memory of Angie Trew)

A Midsummer Night's Dream
June 2010
(Shakespeare-on-the Green)

Deadly Nightcap
November 2010

Oklahoma!
May 2011

See How They Run
November 2011

An Enchanted Journey around the world
February 2012
(poetry and music evening in aid of Queen Victoria Hospital)

Lord Arthur Savile's Crime
February 2012

20th Anniversary Review
December 2012

The Merry Wives of Windsor
June 2013

Make Way For Lucia
November 2013

Carousel
May 2014

There Goes The Bride
November 2014

Fatal Encounter
May 2015

Victorian Christmas Evening
November 2015

Cinderella
February 2016

Radio Play
August 2016

Glorious
November 2016

Sandcastles
June 2017

A Woman of No Importance
November 2017

Calamity Jane
May 2018

Relative Values
November 2018

The Happiest Days of Your Life
May 2019

Comfort and Joy
November 2019

Local Affairs
November 2021

Sound of Music
May 2022

Dracula -The Bloody Truth
November 2022

Witness for the Prosecution
June 2023

Aladdin - a Pantomime
Nov/Dec 2023

Upham Hall
June 2024

Blue Murder at the Blue Parrot
August 2024

The Late Mrs Early
November 2024

present

Plaza Suite by Neil Simon

A hilarious portrait of three couples successively occupying a suite at The Plaza Hotel, New York in 1968

A CAFE THEATRE PRODUCTION

**Wed 11th to Sat 14th June 2025
6.30pm start**

Dunn Village Hall, Rushlake Green, TN21 9QD

PROGRAMME

Charity No: 1184546

This amateur production of "Plaza Suite" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk



Registered Charity No:

Programme design by Quest Graphics
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www.villageplayersrushlakegreen.co.uk

Plaza Suite

These three plays all take place in the same suite at the Plaza Hotel, New York City in 1968.

ACT I VISITOR FROM MAMARONECK

About 4pm in mid- December

ACT II VISITOR FROM HOLLYWOOD

About 3pm on a warm sunny Spring day

Act III VISITOR FROM FOREST HILLS

3pm on a warm Saturday afternoon in Spring

Cast

Cast (in order of appearance)

VISITOR FROM MAMARONECK

Bellhop	Marc Twinn
Karen Nash	Kim Twinn
Sam Nash	Clyde Young
Waiter	Andrew Stredder
Jean McCormack	Jilly Edmeads

VISITOR FROM HOLLYWOOD

Waiter	Andrew Stredder
Jesse Kiplinger	James Donohue
Muriel Tate	Kirsty Coles

VISITOR FROM FOREST HILLS

Norma Hubley	Irene Osprey
Roy Hubley	Paul Cox
Borden Eisler	Marc Twinn
Mimsey Hubley	Jana Smajdova

Production Team

Director	Heather Young
Assistant Director	Ann Walker
Producer	Anita Gunn
Set Design	Graham Stoner, Nicky Stoner
Set Team	Graham Stoner, Jonathan Austin, Ian Charlesworth, Nicky Stoner
Sound	Jonathan Austin
Lighting	Andrew Nairne, Suzanne Toynton
Stage Management, Props	Chris Wickham, Annie Wickham, Suzanne Toynton, Maria Hadlow, Wayne Ewen, Alison Wright
Prompt	Ann Walker
Front of House	Anita Gunn and Team
Publicity	Robert Barker
Catering	Janet Smith
Bar	Pippa Clarke and Team

Director's Notes

Neil Simon (1927-2018) wrote more than 30 plays, many of which he turned into screenplays. He was raised in New York City into a Jewish family and had a difficult childhood. His parents' relationship was volatile, and his father left the family on several occasions. Neil Simon later studied at New York University and at the University of Denver. In the late 1940s and throughout the '50s, he worked as a comedy writer for various television shows and started writing plays in the 1960s. He received more Tony and Oscar nominations combined than any other writer and was awarded The Mark Twain Prize for American Humour in 2006. In 1983, he became the only living playwright to have a Broadway theatre named after him.

The romantic comedy *Plaza Suite* was premiered in 1968 in Connecticut and then opened on Broadway the same year and played until 1970 with 1,099 performances. Although it was a success, it wasn't revived on Broadway until 2022. It then transferred to London's West End in 2024.

The everyday lives and domestic problems of ordinary middle-class people are the focus of Simon's plays, which examine his characters' marital problems and other dilemmas.

Plaza Suite has two film adaptations: one which was released in theatres in 1971, and another made for TV in 1987. In the 1971 film adaptation, Neil Simon adapted his own script into the screenplay, which Arthur Hiller directed. Walter Matthau played all three main male roles but different actresses (Maureen Stapleton, Barbara Harris, and Lee Grant) played the female leads in each Act. In the 2022 production on Broadway and the 2024 production at The Savoy Theatre London, Matthew Broderick and Sarah Jessica Parker played all three couples.

We have decided to have three different couples in our production to include our very talented actors and are pleased to introduce some new faces to this hilarious portrait of three couples successively occupying a suite at The Plaza Hotel, New York City in 1968.

I have very much enjoyed working with our wonderful cast and backstage crew and I would like to thank everyone for all the hard work they have put into this production. We have had great fun rehearsing these plays and I hope you will all agree with a review from the 60s that it remains:

"A wonderfully happy and gratifying evening of sheer entertainment... Richly funny" (New York Post)

Have a fun evening!

Heather Young

The Angie Trew award

Each year at the AGM in October, the Angie Trew Award for "The Most Deserving Actor" is presented to the person who has given an outstanding performance in the preceding 12 months. It doesn't have to be a leading role, but something that has most impressed, amused or entertained our audiences. We have a panel of three regular audience members who make the decision for the Most Deserving Actor and the winner for 2023-2024 was Lizzie Hutcheson for her comedic performances and ability to engage her audience, in "Aladdin" and "Upham Hall". The panel also commended performances by Jilly Edmeads, Kirsty Coles, Isla Mayhew, Izzy Waterhouse and Clyde Young for their performances in Upham Hall.

The Village Players also value our wonderful production teams and the Committee nominate the person who has given "The Most Valuable Input" into productions and the award went to Suzanne Toynton for both Lighting and Ticketing.

Forthcoming events

The next Café Theatre production by The Village Players will be on **19th to 22nd November 2025** when we shall be performing "*It Runs in the Family*" by Ray Cooney at The Dunn Village Hall.

Our thanks

The Village Players wish to thank everyone who has generously assisted with this production with special thanks to:

Robert Barker of Quest Graphics for the design and artwork of our programmes, flyers and posters.

Janet Smith for arranging and preparing the catering for each evening.

Costumes hired from Harveys of Hove and Val Dormady