



Adel Players present

**24th - 27th
JANUARY 2018
at 7:30pm**

**ADEL MEMORIAL HALL
LS16 8DE**

**Tel: 0113 2755585
or www.adel-players.org.uk**

"Love from A Stranger"

by Frank Vosper

based on a story by *Agatha Christie*

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DIRECTORS' NOTES

Dame Agatha Christie, DBE (1890-1976) wrote 66 detective novels and 28 stage plays, as well as publishing 14 short story collections. Most have been adapted for television, radio, video games or comics, and more than 30 feature films have been based on her work. Her stories have been translated into 103 languages, and she's the world's best-selling novelist with approximately 2 billion sales world-wide. That places her book sales second only to those of the Bible, and right alongside Shakespeare!

And Then There Were None is Christie's best-selling novel, with 100 million sales to date, making it the world's best-selling mystery story ever, and one of the best-selling books of all time. Her sleuths Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot are household names. Her stage play *The Mousetrap* opened in the West End in 1952 and is still running; it's shortly to be joined in London by a new production of her courtroom drama *Witness For The Prosecution*. A Kenneth Branagh re-make of the film *Murder On The Orient Express* was released in November 2017 and is currently doing the rounds of cinemas to considerable acclaim.

Small wonder, then, that in 1947 when Adel Players, the then new drama section of Adel War Memorial Association, were looking for a second play to perform (after their first effort, the Ian Hay comedy *Tilly From Bloomsbury*), the members chose this tale by Agatha Christie. It had first appeared under the title *Philomel Cottage* in a short story collection published in 1934, and in 1936 it was dramatized by actor-manager Frank Vosper under a new title *Love From A Stranger*. After a successful London run *Love From A Stranger* was made into a film starring Basil Rathbone and a re-make followed in 1947, the national publicity for which must have helped sell tickets for the Adel performances that same year.

What better way, then, could we choose to mark Adel Players' 70th anniversary than to re-create for you our 21st century audience this scary Agatha Christie psychological thriller? By coincidence the professional theatre has just re-discovered this play too, and a national tour of it begins in February 2018 at the Royal & Derngate theatre in Northampton. Adel Players have beaten the professionals to it!!

Cecily Harrington, a previously impoverished shorthand-typist, wins a large sum of money in a sweepstake. Excited by her new-found wealth, she breaks off her long-standing engagement to her steady but unimaginative fiancé so she can realize her dreams to travel the world. Her plans soon change, though, when she meets charismatic American Bruce Lovell and, after a whirlwind romance, she marries him. But is the charming Bruce all he seems, and why will he allow no-one to go down into the cellar that he uses as a dark room?

Sit tight in your seats, return with us to the spring of 1936 as the newlyweds move into their isolated cottage, and find out!

Bernard and Pat Riley

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CAST AND CREW



CAST

Bruce Lovell
Cecily Lovell
Louise Garrard
Hodgson
Ethel
Dr Gribble
Mavis Wilson
Nigel Lawrence

Robert Colbeck
Jane Gorton
Janet Porter
David Pritchard
Neve Carey
Alan Foale
Anne Davies
Gavin Jones

PRODUCTION TEAM

Directors
Set Design
Set Construction

Artwork
Stage Managers
Sound
Lighting
Costumes
Props

Choreography
Prompt
Box office
Front of house

Pat and Bernard Riley
Adel Players Set Design Team
David Newby, Mike Andrews,
Ron Darby, Viv and Pete Stringer,
David Pritchard, Declan Gallagher
Shell Peart and Beth Duce
Mike Andrews and Ron Darby
Tony Zigmond
Will Andrews and Tony Zigmond
Dianne Newby and Anne Andrews
Anne Mark, Tricia McTough and
Digna Sindin Rodriguez
Dianne Newby
Carol Crossfield
Anne and Mike Andrews
Gaye Walton and Adel Players members

The action takes place in the living-room of newlyweds Bruce and Cecily Lovell's isolated cottage that was once an inn.

ACT ONE

Scene One

A fine morning in late May 1936

Scene Two

A sunny afternoon in early September 1936

ACT TWO

Scene One

Early evening two weeks later

Scene Two

Forty minutes later

NOTICEBOARD

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION IS:

"ACCOLADE" by Emlyn Williams

Our next production is a gripping, timeless play written in 1950 which explores the ripple effect of a public scandal on the private lives of family & friends.

It's New Year's Day and the award winning author and well-respected family man Will Trenting receives the news of his knighthood for services to literature. His publisher is totally unaware that the inspiration for his hard-hitting books is drawn from Will's own experience of leading a dangerous Jekyll & Hyde existence.

Not to be missed!

Book now for our Spring production of *"Accolade" by Emlyn Williams*
Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th April 2018.

REFRESHMENTS

Patrons are welcome to make use of the bar before and after the performance and during the interval. It speeds up service at the bar if as many patrons as possible pre-order interval drinks. If you have not finished your drink by the end of the interval, please ask the bar staff for a plastic container as for safety reasons drinking glasses may not be brought into the hall.

THANKS

Adel Players would like to thank Dragon Timber and Plywood Ltd for their invaluable support of all Adel Players' productions.

WEBSITE

Visit our website at www.adel-players.org.uk where you will find lots of information about our group.

Like us on Facebook and follow us on [Twitter @AdelPlayers](https://twitter.com/AdelPlayers)

Adel Players is a section of Adel War Memorial Association.
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