

# NOISES OFF

THE SPORADIC JOURNAL OF  
THE SILSOE DRAMA CLUB

**September 2025**

Welcome to the new incarnation of Silsoe Drama Club's newsletter!

Those of you with longer memories might recognise the distinctive artwork (above) of Mark Hedley, who designed our original header, oooh several years ago...!

Well it seemed rude not to reuse such an iconic brand, so here we go with the all new Noises Off, which we will try to publish on a (more or less) regular basis, to keep you up to date with all the fun.

Whether you are a full and active member or just want to keep up with what the club is doing, we hope that you will find something to interest you here. There will also be a regular taster version in Silsoe News, where folk can also join our mailing list to get the full newsletter. And if all that isn't enough, you can also read all issues on our website! Hurrah!

#### **Cover Picture:**

**One of our amazing Young Actors (juniors) in their recent summer production of 'Alice in Wonderland'.  
More pictures inside!**



#### **IN THIS ISSUE...**

- A look back at our very busy and successful Summer Festival
- News of our exciting next show, 'Witness For The Prosecution'
- A peek into the future with our programme for 2026
- Committee Musings; a brief rundown of what your committee are up to!



# Summer Drama Festival 2025



It was a VERY busy June and July for Silsoe Drama Club, with no less than three shows over four weekends.

We kicked off on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June with a charming and stylish piece by our Young Actors Junior Group, **'Alice in Wonderland'**. Workshop leader Charlie Abrahamson worked wonders with a very small group who all showed their acting talents and how they have



learned in their sessions this year to work as an ensemble. It must have been quite daunting for them to perform to a nearly full village hall but they pulled it off in style! Well done Charlie and the girls.



On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June the Young Actors Senior Group wowed us all with **'Echoes'**, a play that had been written by two of the group members, Martha and Yvie, and devised by the whole group with guidance and support from Charlie Abrahamson. Using physical theatre techniques, this spooky tale traced the fortunes of a group of sceptical young people in a haunted house, and created an atmosphere that was really chilling! We are very proud of these young people, most of whom have been in our young actors group since they were nine, and that group dynamic certainly shows.



July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> brought us to our adult group production, and a duo of one act plays directed by Jules Sparrey.

**'The Day the Internet Died'** was a hilarious set of sketches about how people fail to cope without their phones and internet. The same cast then gave us **'And Then There Was One'**,

a wacky spoof murder mystery set on a remote island where it seems that everybody is being bumped off! It was fast paced and bonkers, and the cast had great fun in both plays! In the interval the audience tucked into to a BBQ supper, to round off a fun summer evening.



### **Committee Notes: Here a few things that the committee has been discussing recently...**

**Future Programme;** As it has been necessary to put off Witness for the Prosecution until Spring 26, we have decided that the show after that should be in the autumn, as summer shows are so hard to mount (this summer being a case in point!) and two shows per year seems to be a sensible future plan, with hall bookings made much further ahead. A suggestion was put forward to attempt 'Noises Off' by Michael Frayn but it is a hard show and will depend on excellent set builders!

**Village Hall:** The club has agreed to contribute towards the cost of new main tabs, which will be the property of the VH.

**Youth Drama:** From autumn 25 Charlie will run one group, with a wider age range.

**Tech Matters:** We are very short of behind the scenes folk; set builders, lighting and sound, stage management etc. This puts a lot of pressure on Jules Sparrey and John Holt. We agreed to try harder to recruit.

Coming next from Silsoe Drama Club...

# Witness for the Prosecution

By Agatha Christie

A well renowned whodunnit with parts for male and female actors of all ages



Due to difficulties with hall availability, this show which was originally scheduled for this autumn will now be produced in March 2026.

**NEW DATES!**

**Show Dates: Fri 6 and Sat 7 March 2026**

**Audition Date: Thurs 23 October at 7.45 in Silsoe Village Hall**

(NB Those who have already auditioned need not do so again)

For more information about the show,  
just email Rachel at [rachel\\_hickey@live.co.uk](mailto:rachel_hickey@live.co.uk)

## Autumn 2026...

We are planning to mount a production of the ingenious farce 'Noises Off' by Michael Frayn, show dates 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November '26. As some members find Sunday rehearsals difficult we plan to limit these to the final few weeks of rehearsal, and extend our Thursdays rehearsals over a longer period. Auditions are planned for May '26 with line rehearsals only over the summer. This is a challenging play with a lot of fast paced action and a VERY complicated set! If we can pull it off, it should be great fun and, like the play itself, the production will rely as much on the backstage crew as the actors!

Contact the Director Angela Ayres at [angelaayres2468@gmail.com](mailto:angelaayres2468@gmail.com) for further info

**NODA**  
For every stage

This is your newsletter!  
If you have any contributions or queries,  
email Angela at [silsoedramaclub@gmail.com](mailto:silsoedramaclub@gmail.com)

  
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