

EASTON GARDEN PLAYERS PRESENT

MURDERED *Death*

DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY
ANNA MCGOWAN

FRIDAY 4TH, SATURDAY 5TH & SUNDAY 6TH JULY 2025
AT WINCROFT, EASTON

IN AID OF
ST MARY'S CHURCH FABRIC FUND

CAST (*in order of appearance*)

<i>Mildred</i>	Naomi Ellis
<i>Dorothy</i>	Maddy Woosnam
<i>Bunting</i>	Hilary Castle
<i>Colonel Charles Craddock</i>	Steve Percy
<i>Margaret Craddock</i>	Denise Rosewell
<i>Elizabeth Hartley-Trumpington</i>	Catherine Kennedy
<i>Pierre Marceau</i>	Iain Macleod
<i>Joan Maple</i>	Kathy May-Miller
<i>Constable Thomkins</i>	Helena Martin
<i>Inspector Pratt</i>	Ian May-Miller

BRILLIANTLY ASSISTED BY

James Woosnam, Alex Percy, Kevin Rosewell, Terry McGowan,
Jill Croft, Chris Ellis, Judy Bishop, Chris Knight, Ken Greene,
Theo & Judith Mezger, Helena Martin, Ian May-Miller
& others too numerous to mention who have helped make this
event such a success!

THE ACTION OF THE PLAY TAKES PLACE IN THE LOUNGE OF A COUNTRY MANOR HOUSE IN THE 1930'S

ACT 1

Scene One: Late afternoon, Autumn

Scene Two: The following morning

TWENTY MINUTE INTERVAL

ACT 2

Scene One: Two hours later

Scene Two: One hour later

PLAYWRIGHT - PETER GORDON

With around 2,000 professional and amateur productions world-wide, Peter is one of the UK's most popular playwrights. To date, he has written thirteen comedies, a psychological thriller and a one act comedy. Eleven of these have been published and are available for performance through the play catalogue of Josef Weinberger Plays.

The 'Inspector Pratt' trilogy - spoofs of the Agatha Christie genre of whodunnits - have been described as "deliciously wicked" and "hilarious and very clever". Collectively, 'Murdered to Death', 'Secondary Cause of Death' and 'Death by Fatal Murder' have had over 1,300 professional and amateur tours/productions in the UK and overseas.

THE EASTON GARDEN PLAYERS

Easton Garden Players (formerly the Southwood Players) was established in 2009 and born out of a desire to raise funds for local charities, specifically the local MS Society and the Itchen Valley Churches.

It began with two acting mad families, a professional actor and a wish by Lavinia to play Madame Arcati 'just one more time'!

Now Lavinia has hung up her coat and the venue has moved from Southwood to Wincroft, the company believes it's time for change and we're delighted to introduce ourselves as the Easton Garden Players in 2025.

Naomi Ellis - *Mildred*. Naomi has had small roles with the Southwood Players previously, often involving sherry, and men that wouldn't do what she wanted! So when the part of Mildred came up, Naomi was the natural choice. She's honoured to be joining the Easton Garden Players after a few gap years.

Maddy Woosnam - *Dorothy*. After a run as certifiable Susannah in Bedroom Farce last year, Maddy is thrilled to have been given the challenge of playing dowdy, downtrodden and 'rather plain' Dorothy. But is there more to Dorothy than her fashion sense suggests?

Hilary Castle - *Bunting*. This is Hilary's first involvement with the Easton Garden Players. His extensive experience in theatres and studios from Drury Lane to Hollywood has rarely included acting. A veteran of the Easton Pantomime, Hilary has enjoyed the challenge of playing a butler with two personas, threatening and comical.

Steve Percy - *Colonel Charles Craddock*. A regular member of the troupe, Steve is relishing playing the Colonel, a kindred buffer with a yen for a "pretty young gal", the "odd snifter" and his beloved Bentley. A chap with hidden depths or should that be shallows?

Denise Rosewell - *Margaret Craddock*. Mrs Margaret Craddock, wife of Colonel Craddock, smiles appropriately on an occasional basis and has the ability to shoot a withering look in a timely manner. Denise feels she is well qualified for the role.

Catherine Kennedy - *Elizabeth Hartley-Trumington*. Catherine is delighted to be returning for her second garden appearance, playing the sharp-tongued Elizabeth - but what secrets are hiding behind the cruel wit and 'enormous assets'?

Iain Macleod - *Pierre Marceau*. Iain is enchanté to be swapping his scalpel for a paintbrush and feels right at home as dashing Frenchman Pierre who likes to always be 'in the company of beautiful women.' See if you can spot which part of France his accent comes from...

Kathy May-Miller - *Joan Maple*. Kathy is more usually found performing in musicals in Basingstoke with BAOS and BATS. But she's finding it really very pleasant to play Miss Maple in another garden play alongside this charming cast. Surely this time nothing dreadful will happen while she's around?

Helena Martin - *Constable Thomkins*. Playing a decidedly more 'sophisticated' role this year (and wearing considerably more clothes), Helena is excited to be back in Anna's garden, treading the terrace again!

Ian May-Miller - *Inspector Pratt*. "Inept", "bumbling", "hapless", "posing": why was Ian given the part of Inspector Pratt? No doubt to test his acting skills! Ian, along with his moustache Brian, is delighted to be performing again with this lovely group of people.

Anna McGowan - *Director*. Anna is delighted to be directing her eighth outdoor play. Murdered to Death is the second one to be staged on her terrace and she looks forward to welcoming the audience to her garden in what she hopes will be perfect midsummer weather.

**There will be a retiring collection for St Mary's Church Fabric Fund.
Any donation you can spare would be much appreciated.**

