

INSPECTOR DRAKE'S LAST CASE

Westhoughton Methodist Amateur Dramatic Society will be presenting the whodunit spoof, **INSPECTOR DRAKE'S LAST CASE** by David Tristram on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th May 2016.

Wealthy Mrs Gagarin has been shot in the grounds of the extensive mansion situated in a remote part of the English countryside, where she lived with her son, Victor Gagarin. Scotland Yard's finest detective, Inspector Drake, is on the case within the hour, helped by his inept assistant, Sergeant Plod. As well as Victor Gagarin, everyone else in the house is a potential suspect; Miss Duck (Mrs Gagarin's fashion business partner), Mr Butler (a guest), Mr Guest (the decrepit butler), Mr Cook (the gardener) and Mrs Gardner (the cook). Inspector Drake ruthlessly interrogates them all, despite his total inability to remember anyone's name.

Aided by Sgt Plod's best efforts, various clues and motives slowly emerge. Suspicion inevitably falls on Mr Guest (the butler), probably because "it's always the butler who did it!". But what about Mr and Mrs Chemist, the nearest neighbours? Who is Mary Ship? And what happened to Sydney Shofer, the Gagarin's previous butler, who mysteriously disappeared a few weeks earlier?

What is the significance of the low-hanging warming pan? Why has the grandfather clock stopped at 10:03? What is hidden in the mysterious depths of the coal cellar? Will Inspector Drake's lie detector identify the murderer? No goldfish, bananas or dead rats were harmed in this production.

The plot twists and turns until eventually Inspector Drake is able to reveal the identity of who shot Mrs Gagarin. But as Sgt Plod says, "don't believe everything you see, don't always expect a murderer to tell the truth and make sure you know who's who". Has Inspector Drake got it right? Or will this prove to be Inspector Drake's Last Case?

Directed by Bill Greenhalgh

"INSPECTOR DRAKE'S LAST CASE" is not suitable for children under the age of nine.

Performance dates are Friday 13th and Saturday 14th May 2016.

Tickets are £5 for Adults and £4.50 for OAPs and Concessions including refreshments.

Tickets can be booked by phoning 01942 812435 or by sending an eMail to: wmads@f2s.com, or are available from the Church Hall between 11 am to 12 noon on Saturday mornings.

Curtain Up is 7.30pm prompt.

This amateur production of "Inspector Drake's Last Case" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD

All performances will be held at the Westhoughton Methodist Church Hall, Wigan Road, Westhoughton BL5 3RQ