



Theatre Woodstock presents...

A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas

COMEDY BY PAT COOK

Director - Lenore Butcher ~ Producer - Dave Butcher

Evenings 7:30pm

Dec 1, 2

7, 8, 9, 2023

Matinees 2pm

Dec 3 & 10, 2023



WHERE TO FIND US

ONLINE

theatrewoodstock.com

BY PHONE

Box Office (519) 537-2582

IN PERSON

22 Reeve St. Woodstock, Ont
located in the historic Market Centre Building
right behind city hall

Mon & Tues 1pm-5pm

Saturday 9am-5pm

plus 2hrs before each show

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Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas

Both of my parents came from big families – Dad was one of five and Mom was one of six. I'm a veteran of large family Christmas gatherings, and the one in this show ticks all the boxes: in-law problems, unexpected guests, the local neighbourhood busybody "just dropping by" and the fruitcake conundrum. So much fruitcake!

Poor Judith just wants to have a good old-fashioned big family Christmas – she just hasn't bargained for all the ensuing chaos. Her sisters are teasing her, her brothers-in-law aren't co-operating and her daughter just wants to skip the holidays and go skiing. Well-meaning Hayden, her husband, isn't being helpful. And it gets worse when her nieces and her parents and parents-in-law join the fray.

I hope you enjoy your visit with Judith, Hayden and the rest of the family. I'm sure you'll see at least one person you know represented in this funny, energetic and dedicated cast. My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to each and every one of them, and to our tireless crew working behind the scenes to keep it all together.

Very special thanks to my Stage Manager Chloé who always answers my "I'm about to do something silly, do you want in?" with an immediate "Yes!" Chloé is the other half of my Venn diagram of the perfect show.

My other special thanks to my Producer David – also known as the better half of "David and Lenore". He's my problem solver, my sounding board and when everything else is falling down, he is my rock.

Finally, thank you for coming to the show. Thank you for choosing live theatre and being part of this vital, thriving community. Hoping you experience the absolute best things this festive season has to offer.

LENORE BUTCHER



STAFF

BOX OFFICE: Taffy Weir

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS: Sarah Hodgkinson

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CONTACT THEATRE WOODSTOCK

WEBSITE: www.theatrewoodstock.com

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NEW HOURS: Monday & Tuesday 1pm-5pm | Saturday 9am-5pm

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CAST

Hayden	JOHN HAMMOND
Judith	MONIQUE NISBET
Phoebe	VAL SHOEMAKER
Beth	KAREN TRICK
Cliff	RICK KLEIN
Max	DESMOND NANASSY
Carla	NIKKI SLOAN
Blair	RUBY WIJNKER
Lainey	ABBY ALLEN
Jack	MARK STARRATT
Arlene	VIOLET MOON
Tom	GREG VISSER
Marjorie	ANN DAVIES-SUTHERLAND
Mildred	VANESSA PAGE

SPECIAL THANKS

The cast and crew of A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude and special thanks to the following:

Oxford Movers

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CREW

Director	LENORE BUTCHER
Producer	DAVID BUTCHER
Stage Manager	CHLOÉ MCGREGOR
Assistant Stage Managers	REBECCA MACNEIL, JANNY HUGHES
Set Design	SALLY JOHNSTON
Props Coordinator	MARIA ST. LAURENT
Lighting Design	ROB COLES
Lighting Operator	LILY WIJNKER
Sound Designers	ROB MCLAUGHLIN, CHLOÉ MCGREGOR
Sound Operator	RUTHIE RENEE
Musical Interludes	KAREN TRICK
Microphone Technicians	MARSHALL BEDARD, TRINITY HILSDEN
Costume Design	MARYLOU REYNOLDS
Hair & Makeup Design	AUDREY KELLESTINE
Hair & Makeup Technicians	HOLLY VANGORP, BRITTANY COOK, ONOFUE ALABI, EMMA JASNICH, KYLA MALCOLM, GRAY BOAK, HEIDI SMITH-MCCORMICK
Set Builders	SALLY JOHNSTON, DAVID BUTCHER, JASON CARLISLE, DESMOND NANASSY, KAREN TRICK, NIKKI SLOAN, JOHN HAMMOND, VAL SHOEMAKER, VIOLET MOON, ANN DAVIES-SUTHERLAND, CORBAIN DAVIES
Lobby Display	ALISON VINK, MARIA ST. LAURENT, DAVE BUTCHER, LENORE BUTCHER
Photography	TED MCLAUGHLIN
Program	ROB MCLAUGHLIN, SUSAN ROBINSON, ANDREA DEBOER
Poster	ROB MCLAUGHLIN

SETTING

TIME: Christmastime, the present

PLACE: The living room of Hayden and Judith Stewart

SCENES

Act 1:

Scene 1 – About a week before Christmas

Scene 2 – Later that afternoon

Scene 3 – Two days later

Scene 4 – Later that day

Scene 5 – Two days later

Scene 6 – Later that night


Scene 7 – A few days later

Act 2:


Scene 1 – The morning of the party

Scene 2 – Three hours later

Scene 3 – A few hours later



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CAST



JOHN HAMMOND (Hayden) is enjoying his run as “Hayden” in *A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas*. Last seen on stage in last season’s *Guys in a Garage*, he has acted, stage managed and directed many shows for TW. He hopes you all enjoy this bit of Christmas chaos.



MONIQUE NISBET (Judith) is excited to return to Theatre Woodstock. You will have seen her in last year’s *The Dining Room*. She wants to thank director, Lenore Butcher for the opportunity to play “Judith”, and send much love and appreciation to her family.



VAL SHOEMAKER (Phoebe) besides being the co founder and president of her high school drama club, Val hasn’t been acting very long. She played “Candy” in Embro Dinner Theatre’s version of *Suburban Standoff*. Val is enthusiastic to join Theatre Woodstock for their production of *A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas*. She would like to thank the cast and crew for their dedication, and for welcoming her to Theatre Woodstock.



KAREN TRICK (Beth) is making her Theatre Woodstock stage debut. Previously Karen played “Mrs. Spencer” in *Anne of Green Gables* with Westminster Players. Karen has been the music director for other plays including *Wizard of Oz* and *Beauty and the Beast* as well as accompanying on the piano. Karen has also helped coordinate children’s dance scenes in *Wizard of Oz*. Karen lives in Woodstock with her husband and two sons. Karen is excited to be part of this cast and to finally have two sisters.



RICK KLEIN (Cliff) is delighted to be part of Theatre Woodstock’s Christmas play. You may have seen him in the *Festival of One Act Plays* as “Chip Dougal” or “Julian Robertson”. Rick gratefully acknowledges his wife, Kristin, for her support and encouragement.

CAST



DESMOND NANASSY (Max) is thrilled to make a return to the TW stage under the direction of Lenore Butcher. Recent stage credits include: *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Jekyll & Hyde the Musical*, *Mary Poppins*, *A Few Good Men* (with Playful Fox), *Festival of One Acts Plays* (actor and director), and *The Dining Room* (Theatre Woodstock). Upcoming credits include: *Festival of One Act Plays 3* (director) and *Anne of Green Gables the Musical* (Playful Fox). Thanks to the cast and crew for another round of creating fond memories.



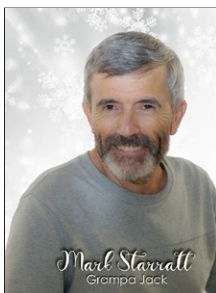
NIKKI SLOAN (Carla) - this is Nikki's first full length play with Theatre Woodstock since 1988's *Melville Boys*. This past year, Nikki acted in *The Festival of One Act Plays* productions - *All By Myself* and *Belle's of the West End*, both requiring British accents. She's happy to use her regular, yet somewhat louder voice, this time around!



RUBY WIJNKER (Blair) is excited to be a part of her first Theatre Woodstock show! She is a grade 8 student at Notre Dame in Woodstock. Ruby is a STAGES kid and no stranger to the stage. She has appeared in several shows including: *Dear Edwina Jr.* (Edwina) and *Mary Poppins* (Jane). You can see her next in the upcoming STAGES show, *Matilda the Musical Jr.*



ABBY ALLEN (Lainey) is thrilled to be playing the role of Lainey this year in *A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas*. Most recently, Abby was in the Stages show *Bestest Bedtime (As Told By Our Grandpa, He's Silly)*. Other credits include *A Christmas Carol* (ITOPA), and many Stages shows. Like *Junie B. Jones*, *Dear Edwina*, and *Seussical*. She would like to thank, her amazing cast and crew for being incredible to work with. Abby would also like to thank her parents for driving her to rehearsal and being very supportive.



MARK STARRATT (Jack) this is Mark's 4th production with Theatre Woodstock and he is having a fantastic experience! He has performed 16 stage shows on 8 stages in S. Ontario in addition to work on screen. Mark would like to thank Jill, Dylan, Emily, Michaela, Ron and Buddy for their support and the cast, crew and volunteers for their hard work. Enjoy the show!

CAST



VIOLET MOON (Arlene) Violet's interest in acting started as a young girl where she would gather her sister and friends and direct them to sit, stand, talk or sing, and produce her own little plays. She still carries that passion and enthusiasm when it comes to the theatre. Many years ago, she started with a senior's acting group and has gone on to write, direct and produce her own plays in the community. She is very excited to be on Theatre Woodstock's stage again, especially with the awesome ensemble of actors, director, producer, and crew. The audience will be sure to enjoy this play and have a few good laughs!



GREG VISSER (Tom) this is Greg's first performance with Theatre Woodstock and he's loving the whole process. Previously, he performed with Kingdom Things Theatre and has always loved getting on stage. Having lived and worked in Woodstock for nearly 30 years, he has come to call this little city, home! Although his performance accolades are not long, he is certainly enjoying sharing the stage with such wonderful people and an appreciative audience. Break a leg all.



ANN DAVIES-SUTHERLAND (Marjorie) is elated to be a part of this talented group of actors as she plays "Grandma Marjorie" in *A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas*. This being her first time on stage, but hopefully not the last, she is delighted to share these wonderfully funny and chaotic moments with you.

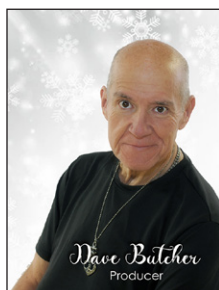


VANESSA PAGE (Mildred) is thrilled to be participating in another performance directed by the talented Lenore Butcher, where she has enjoyed breathing life into "Mildred". Vanessa is reunited with some old friends and glad to be performing with some new ones also. She is no stranger to Theatre Woodstock; Christmas 2022 she played multiple parts in *The Dining Room* and previously played "Donna" in *Sitting Pretty* and "Ida" in *See How They Run*. Vanessa has also graced the stage in Ingersoll, St. Marys and Kitchener.

CREW



LENORE BUTCHER (Director) is thrilled to be directing her third solo show for Theatre Woodstock. Most recently, she directed the Christmas 2022 play *The Dining Room*. She also directed the *Theatre Woodstock Virtual Play Festival* (Spring, 2022). Other previous directing credits are *Closed for the Holidays* (2019) and *Every Christmas Story Ever Told... And Then Some* (co-director, 2018). Prior stage-managing credits included *Dickens of a Christmas*, *Bare Bear Bones*, *Songs for a New World* and *Mrs. Parliament's Night Out* (among many others!). She sends her heartfelt thanks to the amazing cast and crew of this production and love to her family.



DAVID BUTCHER (Producer) sees the cast and production staff saying they are excited, delighted, thrilled and elated to be a part of this production. Well, David is proud to have had a hand in putting a production together, that people are so ecstatic over. And working with the dynamic duo of Lenore and Chloe. Although David is still quite new at this Producer gig, he is no newbie of the theatre. Since his stage debut, in 2001, in the *Odd Couple*, David has been seen in *Diary of Ann Frank*, *Office Hours, 1949*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and many others. David wishes to thank the cast and crew, of this show, for making his experience a labour of love. Enjoy!



CHLOÉ MCGREGOR (Stage Manager) is glad to have had the opportunity to be a part of this production and to work with this team. Chloé's most recent work at Theatre Woodstock includes stage managing *The Dining Room* and Stage's Senior Company production of *Urinetown*. She was most recently seen on stage as "Lieutenant Brannigan" in TW's production of *Guys and Dolls*. She is looking forward to many more projects to come at Theatre Woodstock, including appearing in *Cinderella* and stage managing the upcoming Senior Stages production of *Something Rotten*.



Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts
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Presents

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from the classic tale by Jean Webster
Directed by: Lilyane Moyer
Produced by: Ian Moyer

December 8, 9, 10*,
14, 15, 16*, 17*

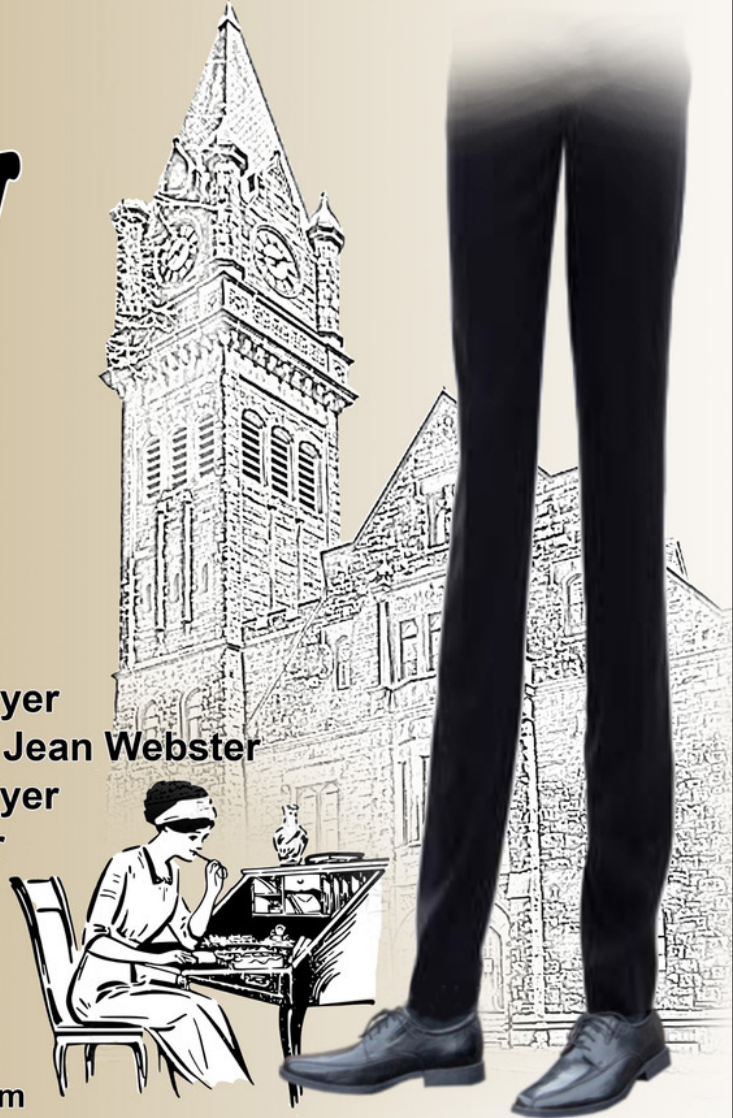
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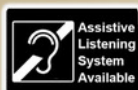
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PLAN B

By Robert Scott
Directed by Kim DiLello



Fidelity FARCE

By Gary Diamond
Directed by Desmond Nanassy

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A Good Old-Fashioned Family Christmas



When your parents' marriage seems to be in trouble, what's an adult daughter to do? With the help of her well-meaning but inept husband Hayden, Judith decides to set things right by holding a Christmas party and

inviting her parents. Add in her sisters, their husbands, a pair of bickering nieces, a nosy neighbour and the unexpected arrival of her college age daughter and her in-laws, and Judith has her hands full as she tries to create the perfect Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas from the ensuing chaos.

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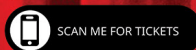
better life. With the help of her Fairy Godmother, Ella is transformed into an elegant young lady who attends a ball, and falls in love with a Prince. But she must open the eyes of Prince Topher to the injustice in his kingdom. Cinderella is a timeless tale where anything is possible and dreams really do come true.

Festival of One Act Plays



This season, the Festival of One-Act Plays will be presenting three new shows all complete with "glorious bits of nonsense".

Plan B by Robert Scott
Changing Rooms by Jackie Carreira
Fidelity Farce by Gary Diamond



Something Rotten!



Set in the 1590s, brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star known as "The Bard." When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of

theatre involves singing, dancing and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. But amidst the scandalous excitement of opening night, the Bottom Brothers realize that reaching the top means being true to thine own self, and all that jazz.