

Lambeg|players
PRESENTS

DON'T TELL THE WIFE

a three act
comedy by
Sam Cree

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRODUCER



Ian Bennington
PRODUCER

Following last year's very successful outing with Sam Cree's "Separate Beds", we are doing another of his perennials "Don't Tell the Wife".

As is always the case, being set in the 1960s, today's audiences have to tune in to the somewhat non-pc nature of Sam's writing of that era, so watch out for some extreme orange and green!!!!

As Producer, I would like to thank my brother Paul for all his usual multi-tasking and to his wife Roberta for prompting, reading in numerous parts during rehearsals and for sourcing the props. Thanks also to Alastair Dickson for set build and his wife Fiona for admin throughout rehearsal period.

A big thank you also to my wife Catherine for all her help across so many aspects of our play and to Ellen Hillen for promoting the shows.

It has been a pleasure to work again with so many of our very experienced actors who are Sam Cree stalwarts and also with a couple of new ones who are less "battleworn".

Please sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

LAMBEG PLAYERS ON TOUR

This year we are again going on tour and will perform as follows:

Belfast - Belvoir Players' Theatre

Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd May

Lisburn - Harmony Hill Presbyterian Church Hall

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th June

Portrush - Summer Theatre - Town Hall

Wednesday 26th to Saturday 29th August

THE CAST

Isobel Tate Emily Pentland
Edna Willis Laura Kerr
Bobbie Willis Colin Boyd
Cyril Lindsay Sam Boyd
Georgette Joanne Law
Eric Tweedy Ian Bennington
Basil Charrington Paul Bennington
Hilda Smiley Fiona Dickson

Producer Ian Bennington

Stage Manager Alastair Dickson

Set Build

..... Alastair Dickson
..... Jasper McKinney MBE

Sound & Lighting

..... Catherine Bennington
..... James McAlister

Props Roberta Bennington

Rehearsal Monitor Roberta Bennington

Business Manager Henry Brown

Production Assistants

..... Paul Bennington
..... Fiona Dickson

Marketing Manager Ellen Hillen

THE PLAY

The action of the play takes place in the living room of the home of Bobbie and Edna Willis in Belfast in the 1960s.

Synopsis of the Scenes

ACT ONE

Scene One

A Monday afternoon in May

Scene Two

Later that evening

ACT TWO

Scene One

The following evening

Scene Two

One hour later

ACT THREE

The following evening

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



EMILY PENTLAND – **Isobel Tate**

Emily has featured in many of our pantomimes and plays over the years. Notable roles have included the mighty ward sister in Sam Cree's "Stop It Nurse!", the scheming Stella Morley in "The Mating Season" and Cruella De Brun in the panto "Aladdin". For many of our pantomimes, Emily joined the production team with particular responsibility for choreography, a role we keep trying to lure her back to!

Last year Emily renewed her on stage love affair with Paul as his estranged wife in "Separate Beds". Emily was very proud to see her daughter Megan tramping the boards in BOC's recent production of "Sister Act" in the Grand Opera House.



COLIN BOYD – **Bobbie Willis**

Colin has been with Lambeg Players for over 30 years. His early theatrical performances were on the stage of the Grand Opera House in the Belfast Scout Gang Shows of the 70s and 80s. He has since returned there in appearances with Belfast Operatic Company in "Kiss Me Kate", "Annie Get Your Gun," Disney's Beauty and the Beast", "Titanic", Hello Dolly", "A Christmas Carol" and "Sister Act". Colin has also appeared with Bangor Operatic Society and Lisnagarvey Operatic Society.

He also appeared with Belmont Drama as Jack Worthing in "The Importance of being Earnest" a role that he ranks amongst his favourites. Colin has portrayed many comical characters in Sam Cree plays over the years with Lambeg, some of which he has also directed. Two years ago he reprised the role of Councillor Albert Parker in the classic J B Priestley farce "When We are Married" and last year came over all religious as the hilarious Reverend Matthew Gribble in our production of "Separate Beds".



LAURA KERR – **Edna Willis**

A member of both Belfast Operatic Company and Lambeg Players, Laura has played leading roles in musicals, pantomimes and plays for many years. She also produces pantomimes and does choreography for Lambeg Players. Her numerous stage credits include Aunt Harriet in “Cupid Wore Skirts”, the dual roles of Miss Cherry and Martha in “Stop it Nurse!”, Alice Beane in BOC’s “Titanic the Musical”, Miss Hannigan in “Annie” (a role she has played twice in Dublin’s National Theatre), Annie in “Annie Get Your Gun” and of course, the definitive Dolly Levi in BOC’s “Hello Dolly”.

Last year she was the wicked stepmother in BOC’s “Cinderella” and recently played the Mother Superior in BOC’s “Sister Act”. Not that she’s typecast but she also played the Wicked Witch of the North in The National Theatre, Dublin’s “Wizard of Oz”!

Laura produces Pond Park Primary School’s annual musicals to great acclaim and her Pond Park Choir just won the BBC Radio Ulster Primary School Choir of the Year.



SAM BOYD – **Cyril Lindsay**

Sam is following in the footsteps of his father, Colin, by now appearing in his fifth play with us. This time he is actually his father’s apprentice so fairly appropriate we think!

He took the title role of Wee Willie Winkie in one of our previous pantomimes and judging by his current stature, this was some considerable time ago! Two years ago he played the reporter Fred Dyson in our production of “When we are Married”.

Sam has also played Vince Fontaine in Banbridge High School’s production of the musical ‘Grease’. He is an accomplished rugby player having represented Ulster at youth level and plays regularly for Cooke RFC.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES - continued...



JOANNE LAW – **Georgette**

This is Joanne's 8th time on stage with Lambeg Players having been in many of our pantomimes playing Calamity Jane, Aladdin, Cinderella and one of a comedy duo in last year's "Sleeping Beauty".

Joanne is delighted to be taking on a comedy character role in a play this time round and gets a chance to hone her French accent which she used when she played Michelle in "Allo Allo".

She also played Linda in "Blood Brothers" and Vicki in "The Full Monty". When not rehearsing she teaches speech and drama and hopes to create a new drama coaching programme for young people within Lambeg Players in 2016.



IAN BENNINGTON – **Eric Tweedy**

Ian has been involved with Lambeg Players for more years than he can remember and is also a member of Belfast Operatic. His favourite roles in pantomimes have included Buttons, Mr. Tickles and Wishy Washy. He also enjoyed playing opposite Laura as Edgar Beane in BOC's "Titanic" – three times!

He has also produced several pantomimes and plays including last year's hilarious "Separate Beds" in which he played the very lazy painter and decorator Andy Crawford.

He also enjoyed playing the dim-witted Willie Beattie in "Family Fever", Frank Devlin in "Stop it Nurse!" and the not so macho Ronnie in "Cupid Wore Skirts". In 2013, for the third time he played Herbert Soppitt in "When We Are Married".



PAUL BENNINGTON – **Basil Charrington**

Paul is a well known face in Lambeg productions and has taken part in many plays and pantomimes. He has also produced many of our shows over the years. Paul played the part of the hen pecked Patrick Hall in “Family Fever” making the role his own with a strong Ballymena accent and antics on the stage and also played Grandad Coulter in “Cupid Wore Skirts”.

In our production “Stop it Nurse” he played Sammy McCracken, the obsessive Linfield supporter. In 2013 he played Alderman Joe Helliwell in “When We Are Married” for the third time and the Cruel Abanazer in our panto “Aladdin”. Last year he was the babe magnet in our play “Separate Beds” and made a few cameo appearances in our pantomime “Sleeping Beauty”, one of which was on horseback!



FIONA DICKSON – **Hilda Smiley**

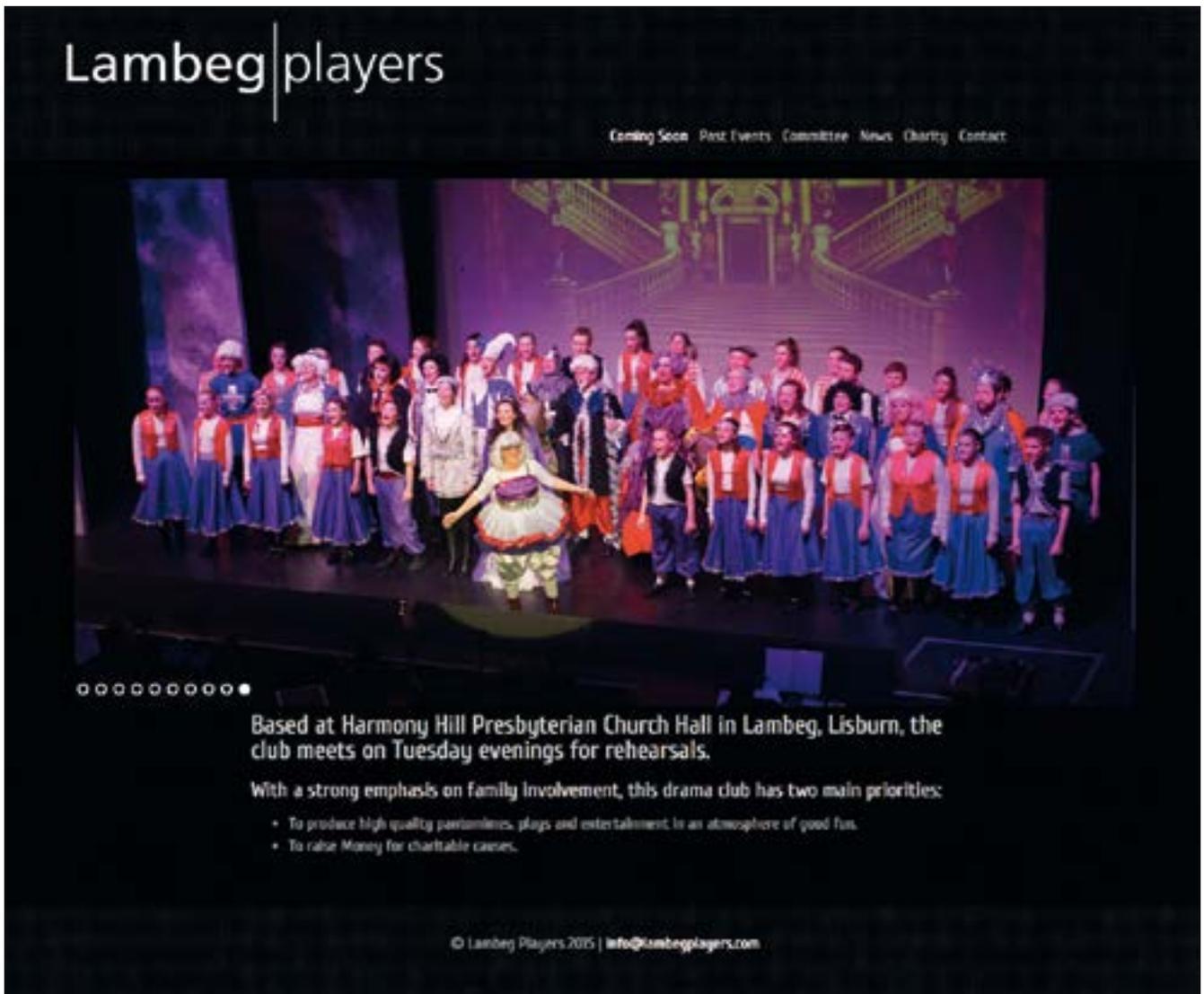
Fiona has been with the Players for many years taking on a variety of roles both on and off stage. Particular highlights include Sally Mitchell in “Second Honeymoon”, Babs in “The Mating Season” and Dolores Maxwell in “Stop It Nurse”. Mother of three daughters, Fiona works in the department of agriculture and in her spare time enjoys running.

In 2013 Fiona played the part of Nancy Holmes in “When We are Married” and in last year’s “Separate Beds” she played the repressed Sarah Rea. Fiona is the main organiser for all aspects of our annual pantomime and so needs February off each year!

As secretary of the group, Fiona is famous for her whimsical Sunday night emails and her authorship of our newsletter “The Greenroom”.

Lambeg Players would like to thank:

Belvoir Players, James McAlister, Geoff Clarke Audio Visual and Part Two Design.



Our next pantomime is **Jack and the Beanstalk** in Lisburn's Lagan Valley Island Theatre Wed. 6th - Sat. 9th January 2016

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WWW.LAMBEGPLAYERS.COM**