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Presents

A RED PLAID SHIRT

a comedy about retirement

By Michael G. Wilmot

Directed By
Mark Mooney

Produced By
Lois Turvey & Wendy Marshall

April 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9 at 7:30pm | April 3 at 2:00pm | Tickets \$20

Dinner & Play Ticket \$42
April 9th at 6pm at Knox United Church



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Thank You!

Thisle Theatre would like to thank individuals, groups and businesses that contributed in some way to our production.

Special mention goes to:

PROPS & SET

Aylmer Community Theatre , Don K Campbell,
Kintore Coffee, Salad Bowl Guy,
London Community
Players, Rick Innes

COSTUMES — Bear & Fox Apparel

SPECIAL THANKS

Tavistock Veterinarians, Cooksville Tire
Thank you to all our volunteer ushers and lift operators!

SATURDAY EVENING DINNER AND SHOW

Thank you to Knox United Church
for providing a delicious dinner before the April 9 show

Knox United Church

*Sunday morning services at 10:30 am with nursery and
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From the President...

WELCOME BACK!

On behalf of the Thistle Theatre Board, I would like to thank the Director, Producers and Cast who all worked, and waited, and worked and waited some more to be able to perform this show for you.

With each production, we are once again blessed by the amazing talents of the people in this community who enthusiastically share their skills and talent; from back stage to the front of the house, to on stage, to the Director, Producers, cast and crew. We would like to acknowledge your exceptional contributions and thank you for your undying support year in and year out.

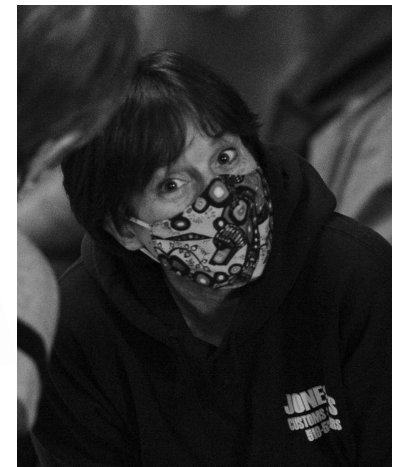
We can not thank you enough for joining us here in our little theatre. If this is your first time, which I hear there are many of you—our most heartfelt welcome. For our returning friends, welcome back, you were dearly and sincerely missed—we are so glad to see you all!

We hope you stopped by our selfie station during your visit today.

If you enjoyed the show, please tell your friends, family and share your experience. Community Theatre needs you!

#ARedPlaidShirt
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Christina Shelly



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Remember Dramarama! Without your theatre here in Embro, there would be no Dramarama. No way to expose, excite and energize young people about theatre, stimulate creativity, encourage involvement. Thistle Theatre sponsors 3 students to be sure all have access to this amazing opportunity, and Dramarama sells out quickly every year. This is your theatre supporting your community.

BUT NOTE! If there are no theatre members, there will be no board. If there is no board of the theatre, there will be no plays. JOIN Thistle Theatre, become a member, it's a small effort with BIG implications. Help build the spirit of YOUR community, offer others opportunities and participate in the fun yourself! We hope you join, and we hope to see you somewhere at a Thistle Theatre event soon, whether it is on-stage or in the audience, they all help!

You can become a Thistle Theatre Member, ask a board member or visit our website or Facebook page for more info.

2021 -Thistle Theatre Board of Directors 2021



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Norm Northmore

Producers' Notes

Welcome to Thistle Theatre! You are sure to enjoy your visit with us as we have a really great performance lined up for you! The talents of this cast and this crew are easy to see. But of course, the loyalty of our patrons is as important as everything else – thank you.

This play has a long and colourful history with Thistle Theatre – beginning with auditions first scheduled in June of 2020. After two more rescheduled performance dates and additional auditions, rehearsals finally started on ZOOM in January. The performance you are watching today was almost 2 years in the making! We are the longest serving show producers in the history of Thistle Theatre and Mark, our Director, deserves a medal for hanging out with us for this long!

We would like to thank the cast and crew, along with the Thistle Theatre Board of Directors, for their patience as we have tried to navigate through the pandemic, restrictions, changes in restrictions, mandates, and more mandates. As well, thanks to the Township of Zorra, and Southwest Public Health for their guidance.

We also send thanks to all of our program advertisers and performance sponsors. Their generous contributions mean we can continue to do what we love – put on a show for you!

Producers

Wendy Marshall and Lois Turvey



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Costumes
MaryAnne Van Oostveen



Photography
Becky Siddall Issenman



Set Décor & Painting
Elaine Northmore



Set Décor & Painting
Emily Walton

MORE ...

- Set Design — Mark Mooney
- Lighting Design – Mark Mooney
- Posters/Brag Cards – Becky Siddall Issenman
- Ticketscene – Doug Turvey
- Lighting – John Hazeleger and Rob Cole
- Set Painting – Anne Walton
- Program Design, and Advertising – Christina Shelly
- Play Advertising – Wendy Marshall & Lois Turvey



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Mark Mooney (Director)

I was contacted by Thistle Theatre to direct their 25th Season Anniversary production: A Red Plaid Shirt by the late London playwright, Michael G. Wil-mot. I was honoured because I love the positive energy of this theatre group; and because I have worked with and respected Mike as an actor and playwright. I particularly love his wickedly warped sense of humour.



Plans were made early in the year to have auditions in June 2020 for the autumn production.

Well... we all know what happened then.

The production team soldiered on, the actors were cast, and re-hearsals started and stalled and restarted as the world tried to deal with this virus. Through it all my producers and the cast and crew members stayed positive, were hopeful, and continued to work.

Now, here's the thing: as we worked on this show, we realized that Mike's wickedly warped sense of humour was gaining new meaning. Whistling while walking through graveyards, thumbing your nose and blowing a raspberry, laughing at monsters and bullies, are the ways we deal with stress: you can cry or you can laugh. I like Mike's choice.

So, here we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of Thistle Theatre two years late – but we **ARE** celebrating the reopening of the theatres.

Now I understand how Shakespeare must have felt.

Mark has been involved with community theatre in Southwestern Ontario since the mid 1980s as an actor, director, and designer (sets and lighting). He has directed productions for London Community Players, Theatre Woodstock, Elgin Theatre Guild (St. Thomas), St. Marys Community Players, and here in Embro. He has adjudicated plays for the Western Ontario Drama League, the Eastern Ontario Drama League, and Region III of the American Association of Community Theatres.

This production began before the pandemic and it has been a pleasure to see it finally through to its conclusion. As always, thank you to my wife Anne.

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Scene Synopsis

ACT ONE

Scene 1 – the living room of Marty and Deb in early autumn

Scene 2 – an hour later

Scene 3 – around 6 pm

Scene 4 – shortly after 8 pm

Scene 5 – a coffee shop the next morning

Scene 6 – a wood working class the next evening

Scene 7 – after class

Scene 8 – a week later

INTERMISSION

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

Regular and accessible washrooms are available on the first floor.

ACT TWO

Scene 1 – a week later

Scene 2 – an hour later

Scene 3 – the next morning

Scene 4 – ten days later

Scene 5 – the next evening



Sound Design
Ed Williams



Prop Head
Phoebe Campbell



Props
Kathy McKay



Props
Cara McKay



Lighting Head
Don Hilborn



Lighting Head
Norm Northmore



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OUR CAST

Marty - Doug Turvey
Deb - Veronica Jackson
Fred - Peter Johnson
Gladys - Jolanda Van Der Eijk



MARTY— Doug is happy to finally be back on stage. You know when you have two years to learn your lines, it's nice to be able to actually say them in front of an audience. What a joy it has been to work with Veronica, Peter and Jolanda. A special thanks to Mark, Lynda and the rest of the crew for all the work in making us look good on stage! And no matter what Madame Co-producer (Lois) says, I am not type-cast for this role!! Thanks to you the audience for coming out. I hope you enjoy the show

DEB —Veronica has appeared in two other Thistle Theatre productions – “My Fair Lady” and “Brigadoon”. She also assisted in Embro behind stage with properties for the play, “The Nerd”. Other theatrical appearances over many years include several roles with Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts, Music Theatre Etobicoke, and Theatre Woodstock. The small cast and crew (in particular Director Mark, Stage Manager Lynda, and Properties Person Phoebe) have made this experience of participating in “A Red Plaid Shirt” a very fun and enjoyable time! Veronica is particularly grateful to all the “unsung theatre heroes” at Thistle who work so tirelessly behind the scenes. The entire crew is to be thanked and applauded for their creativity, diligence and most of all their perseverance over the past months through the strange and changing Covid landscapes.



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PRODUCTION TEAM



Stage Manager
 Lynda Pillon



Assistant Stage Manager
 Geoff Innes



House Manager
 John Turvey



Box Office
 Nancy Cockle



Set Construction
 Don R Campbell



Set Construction
 Clint Dubuque



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The Cockle Family



FRED— Peter is thrilled to be back on stage, and where better than at Thistle Theatre as an incredibly fun character: “Fred”. From hypochondriac to budding Master Carpenter, developing Fred has been an excellent adventure. Under the careful guidance of Director Mark, and great comradery with all cast and crew, Peter’s return to the stage has been a great experience. Thanks for joining our audience, and we hope you enjoy the show!

GLADYS— Jolanda is thrilled to be back on Thistle Theatre’s stage. Her last appearance was in Having Hope at Home and that was her first time in an English play. It made her want to do more! Jolanda started acting at age 16 in Holland. As soon as she emigrated to Canada she became involved in Dutch theater, doing many plays over many years. Thank you to director Mark for this opportunity and thank you as well to our stage manager Lynda. Also thank you Veronica, Doug and Peter. You are all very talented and I loved to perform with you all!



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