

# AUDITION NOTICE

**MURDERED TO DEATH** by Peter Gordon

**Production Runs 4 – 9 July 2011**

**Directed by Will Harris**

**Auditions held in the Rehearsal Room at the Courtyard Theatre, Chipstead.**

**Monday 7 March at 7.30 pm & Thursday 10 March at 7.30 pm**

**Scripts available from Will Harris. Tel: 020 8395 9978; wjh@blueyonder.co.uk**

The script's blurb reads as follows:

This hilarious spoof of the best of Agatha Christie traditions is set in a country manor house in the 1930s, with an assembled cast of characters guaranteed to delight – Bunting the butler; an English Colonel with the prerequisite stiff upper lip; a shady French art dealer and his moll; the bumbling police inspector and a well-meaning local sleuth who seems to attract murder wherever she goes – they're all here, and all caught up in the side-splitting antics which follow the mysterious death of the house's owner. It soon becomes clear that the murderer isn't finished yet, but will the murderer be unmasked before everyone else has met their doom, or will audiences die laughing first?

The play is a favourite with amateur companies, and it should be a splendid show with which to end the 2010-11 season.

## **Characters and Audition pieces**

**Mildred** Owner of the house. We don't see her beyond Act 1 Scene 1. Late fifties.  
*Pages 1 – 3; 10 – 12; 19 – 22*

**Dorothy** Mildred's niece, to whom she acts as companion and housekeeper. Late twenties. *Pages 1 -3; 22 – 25; 80 – 82*

**Bunting** The butler. Typical of the type, but rather given to sarcastic comments. Appears drunk late in the play. A splendid cameo. Late sixties. *Pages 3 – 5; 19 – 21*

**Colonel Charles Craddock** Tweedy, with 'a blustering and confident manner'. Full of typical expressions such as "old girl" and "dash it all". A hearty, amiable, twerp. Early sixties. *Pages 7 – 10; 30 – 32; 94 – 96*

**Margaret** Craddock's long-suffering wife - a little younger than. *Pages 94 – 98*

**Elizabeth Hartley-Trumpington** 'Attractive, stunningly dressed and speaks with an exaggerated high society accent.' But also speaks gor' blimey. Mid twenties. *Pages 16 – 18; 62 – 63*

**Pierre Marceau** Speaks with a rather exaggerated French accent. But also speaks gor' blimey. Early thirties. *Pages 22 – 25; 61 – 63*

**Joan Maple** The amateur sleuth, competent, more than a match for Inspector Pratt. Sixties. *Pages 28 – 33; 85 – 88*

**Constable Thompkins** The local bobby. Bright, constantly gets under the skin of his superior. Twenties. *Pages 37 – 40; 78 – 80*

**Inspector Pratt** Aptly named. Totally incompetent, rather in the style of Clouseau. Much given to uttering malapropisms. Forties / fifties. *Pages 37 – 40; 80 – 82*