



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

a Trivial Comedy for Serious People



by OSCAR WILDE

directed by KAREN WALSH GEOFFREY



2022

DECEMBER 8-10

St. Barnabas Church Hall, Deep River

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**Here's
How.**

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DEEP RIVER

The year is 1895

ACT I

Algernon Moncrieff's Flat
Half-Moon Street, W. London

*There will be a 15 minute intermission;
refreshments are available.*

ACT II

The Garden at the Manor House
Woolton

There will be a brief 10 minute intermission.

ACT III

Drawing-Room at the Manor House
Woolton

LANE - Algernon's manservant.

ALGERNON MONCRIEFF - A charming, idle, decorative bachelor.
Nephew of Lady Bracknell.

JACK WORTHING -

A seemingly responsible young man who leads a double life.

LADY BRACKNELL - Algernon's snobbish, mercenary, and
domineering aunt. Gwendolyn's mother.

GWENDOLYN FAIRFAX -

A model and arbiter of high fashion and society.

MISS PRISM - Cecily's governess.

CECILY CARDEW - Ward of Jack Worthing.

REV. CANON CHASUBLE - Rector on Jack's estate.

MERRIMAN - Butler on Jack's estate.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



DIRECTOR
Karen Walsh Geoffrey

As a director, getting to bring to the stage one of your favourite plays is pure heaven! The renowned Deep River Players provided me the opportunity to direct their first post-pandemic production *The Importance of Being Earnest*, a trivial comedy for serious people by Oscar Wilde.

The play was first performed in London in 1895 and is Wilde's most well known play. A comedic farce satirizing Victorian social obligations and the institution of marriage. What a great way to celebrate the return to live theatre here in Deep River after a long dry spell!

The production features some of Deep River's most talented local actors and a top notch production and design team. Thank you to all our volunteers, sponsors and the community for helping us bring this to the stage. Thank you to my assistant Director, Sherryl Walsh for always being a part of my shows. "Thanks mom."

Now sit back and enjoy the wit and charm of Oscar Wilde's Victorian era.

GIFT BASKETS - CHARCUTERIE - COMMUNITY - MEAT ORDERS - COFFEE - BREAKFASTS - LUNCH - CATERING



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A retired teacher, Sherryl has been involved in Theatre for many years. She taught Drama at the intermediate level and directed many school plays. During this time Sherryl was a member of Lakeside Theatre in Ottawa. On retirement, she was a member of Greeley Players, founder and director of Osgoode Teen Theatre, founder, writer and director of Aging Well Theatre which continued for ten years in Deep River. For the Renfrew County Sexual Assault Centre, Sherryl wrote and directed Stories Around the Patchwork Quilt. In between, she also enjoyed some time to work with her daughter, Karen. What a great retirement!

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Sherryl Walsh



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valu-mart

break a leg!

CAST



SAM BESSEY
as Algernon Moncrieff

Sam's first performance was in *Anything Goes* where a small role evolved into four small roles and a roaring good time! Since then, he's appeared in *Mamma Mia* and *The Sound of Neutrons*. This will be his fourth time on stage with the Deep River Players and his first appearance in a large role.



JADE NAUMAN
as Gwendolyn Fairfax

Jade Nauman is thrilled to be returning to the stage as the Honourable Gwendolyn Fairfax with the Deep River Players in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Raised on the stage with the Deep River Youth Theatre, Mackenzie's Theatre Arts Co., the Deep River Players, and the Deep River Musical Society, Jade is excited to return to local theatre after pursuing Theatre and Performance Studies at York University (BA Theatre Studies, BEd Drama and English, MA Theatre and Performance), and the University of Toronto (Centre for Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies). She would like to thank the incredible cast and crew for a wonderful experience bringing this play to life together, Tony for being her perfect Ernest, Adrian for his support and help running lines, and her late Grandfather L.M Howe for always encouraging a love for the theatre.



ANTHONY LECLAIR
as Jack Worthing

Anthony Leclair is the Founding Creator of Leclair Studios. A writer, musician, photographer, actor and director, Leclair has spent nearly 20 years building a life in the arts, sharing not only his work but the works of many others in order to shine some new light on the world, whether through artistic perspective, escape or detailed commentary. Keep an eye out for upcoming River Run Theatre productions, bringing new, original and challenging works to Deep River and the Valley.



JIM XIANG
as Lane

Jim is an aspiring actor joining the Deep River Players for the second time. He enjoyed playing in *Anything Goes* so much that he came back for more the first chance he got. Let's see if he can serve you an entertaining performance in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

CAST



ALISON McIVOR
as Lady Bracknell

I first performed in a Methodist Church basement when I was five, singing "There's a Hole in my Bucket" with my friend, Helen. Since then, I've performed in a few churches, parks, auditoriums, and theatres in the UK, Austria, and Canada. With the Deep River Players, I acted in *Clothesline*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Snapshots*, *Jake's Women*, *E-motions*, *A Merry Regiment of Women*, and *Mixed Doubles*. With the Deep River Musical Society, I performed in *Les Misérables*, *Macbeth*, and *Evita*. I've also directed *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Oliver!*, and *My Fair Lady*. Alongside the remarkable Kate Guérout, I co-directed *The Wizard of Oz* and produced *Jesus Christ Superstar*. I am grateful to the Deep River Players for inviting me to be part of this hilarious show. It's been a treat working with some dear friends, and sharing the stage with the very talented Jade Nauman and Anthony Leclair, whom I first met when they joined the Deep River Youth Theatre 20 years ago! I hope you enjoy the show.



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AMY CAHOON
as Cecily Cardew



Amy Cahoon is making her debut with the Deep River Players after a long hiatus from the stage. Having come from a family of performers, actors, and musicians, she spent her childhood running around hallways and watching from the wings during her parents' rehearsals and shows. Amy is "earnestly" excited to be part of this show, and glad to have found a practical application for being "unusually tall"!



KRISTEN GLOWA
as Miss Prism

Kristen made her stage debut as Little Miss Muffet in grade 1 and is now a familiar face in Deep River Players' productions. Like most Players, she has worn many hats: she has written, directed (most recently Mamma Mia!), choreographed, and been in almost all backstage roles. A few of her favourite on-stage roles include Olivia in Twelfth Night, Milady in The Three Musketeers, and a cell block girl in Chicago. She has thoroughly enjoyed becoming Miss Prism amongst a fabulous cast and crew.

CAST



ALASTAIR McIVOR
as Merriman

Alastair was introduced to theatre and all its magic by Alison (Lady Bracknell). Together they appeared in the Deep River Musical Society production of *Les Miserables* as the Thenardiers. Alastair played Macbeth under the direction of Jade Nauman (Gwendolyn Fairfax). He co-directed the Players' production of *Romeo and Juliet* with Jade Nauman, in which Romeo was played by Anthony Leclair (Jack Worthing). He appeared as Feste in the Players production of *Twelfth Night*. Alastair's first role on stage was Judas in the Deep River Musical Society's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.



BAILEY WAITE
as Rev. Chasuble

Bailey has been part of the Deep River Players since 2018. She has appeared in *Anything Goes*, *Clothes Line*, *Mama Mia!*, and worked on the production of *The Sound of Neutrons*.

She is thrilled to be back on stage after a brief, pandemic-related hiatus, and is grateful to the cast and crew for making this return so much fun.



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PRODUCER

Sandra Celovsky

FRONT OF HOUSE

Trish Corriveau, Pat Hoelke,
Ethan Bagshaw, Rowan Bagshaw
Marion Thompson, Dale Pennock,
Tracy Echlin, Maeva Liechti,
Natasha Germain, Ahmed Zahlan,
Hanin Zahlan, Hala Zahlan,
Shahed Albakhit, Mariam Albakhit,
Hamzeh Albakhit, Rudi Urbach

BACK OF HOUSE

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Jeremy Whitlock
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Sandra Celovsky, Anne Davies

CREW

COSTUMES

Costume Lead: Lori Gilbert
Assistant: Bailey Waite

SEAMSTRESSES

Jane Barkley, Dale Lade,
Elizabeth Jones, Anne Davies

HAIR & MAKEUP

Lead: Shonna Lynn Boutin
Assistants:
Caileigh MacDonald,
Eva Dancey

STAGE CREW

Stage Manager:
Ike Dimayuga
Stage Crew: Janet Melnyk,
Jessie Rhodes, Troy Wilson

GIANT TIGER



SET DESIGN

Set Design: Pat Playford

Painters: Pat Playford,

John Playford, Tom Monahan,
Theresa Goudreau, Nina Shah,
Esther Stephens, Jenna Zanki,
Logan Barr, Sitara Mistry,
Rhiannon Monckton,
Maeva Liechti, Anne Davies

Set Decorating: Deanne Horton

Seating Design: Kristen Glowa

Lighting and Sound: Molly Zaugg

Lighting and Sound Assistants:

Mitchell Morrison, Patrick Morrison

SET CONSTRUCTION

Lead: Phyllis Heeney

Crew: George Ginn, May Zhang,
Mike Beale, Anne Davies,
Bob Montague, Bob Walker,
Paul Zdrasil, Sam Bessey

PROPS

Props Master: Karen Shewchuk

Props Assistant: Mary Ter Huurne

Props Decorator:

Lyla Shewchuk-Burns



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