

WALBERSWICK AMATEUR THEATRICAL SOCIETY

Season 2025 – 2026

I would like to start my Report by thanking our wonderful Committee for the work they have done during the WATS season, and out of it!

In order to hold the Play Readings in the Village Hall, there is, of course, a certain amount of preparation: firstly, to book the Hall on the days and at the times required, sometimes having to negotiate dates. This has already been done by, and through Martin. The dates for next season will be:

Monday, October 13th; Monday November 10th; Monday, December 8th,

January 2026 Party on a Saturday, February 9th, Monday, March 9th, Monday April 13th Annual General Meeting. All of this information will come out with our new Programme.

At our AGM we passed a Form around with dates and jobs/help required. Members can offer their help if they would like to Produce a Play, provide/serve Refreshments, or help the set up or clear the Hall at the end of a meeting. Should a member volunteer to Produce a Play, this is done through the Suffolk Libraries, the contact details of which we can advise.

Sadly, numbers of WATS members have decreased over the last year or two; senior age being the major reason. We would like to encourage new members to join us.

Our plays/Drama have been, for our October 2024 meeting, Peter Austin and Rosie Gerrell selected “Checkmate” by Leslie Sands: A Play on Murder. Five members read in this Two Act Play.

In November 2024 selected by Bill and Jill Willison was “Relatively Speaking”, one of our favourite Playwrights, by Alan Ayckbourn. The Cast was four in number.

Monday 9th December 2024 brought us “A Penny for a Song” – a two ACT play, by John Whiting, and chosen by Doris and Clive Brinley-Jones . The Cast was quite large, with 10 Readers, for 14 characters. This was Directed by Clive.

On 20th January 2025 we enjoyed our Annual WATS Party. Our numbers were swelled by invitations to friends. An Entertainment presented was “Three women & Shakespeare’s Will” by Joan Greening, and Directed by Peter Austin. The theme was “Shakespeare” with tables entitled: “Twelfth Night”; “Macbeth”; “The Merchant of Venice”; “King Lear”; and “Comedy of Errors”. Our caterers were our favourite company, led by Sharon and Toby and Les Girls.

On request for our February and March meetings, these were swapped around. However, owing to sickness we had to cancel the February meeting.

In March 2025 Karen Maxwell & Caroline Wright presented “Abigail’s Party; a play by Mike Leigh. The Cast was of six; two gentlemen and four ladies, and was Directed by Caroline Wright.

Our Committee has remained much the same for a year or two. Jill and Bill Willison have been on the committee for a long time, and would possibly like to start to ease off, although will still be very much helpers as they have always been.

We have invited Karen Maxwell to join the Committee, and that will represent a younger strength to WATS. I have agreed with the Committee that I will act for one more year as their Chairman, if this is what is wished, and other members of the Committee remain the same.

It’s always good to see new Members. If anyone has an interest in joining us next season, please get in touch with myself or one of our Committee