



SEASON'S GREETINGS

The staff and Executive Committee of the Drama Association of Wales would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout 2012.



We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2013.



This year our office and library will be closed from 21 December 2012 and will re-open at 9am on Wednesday 2nd January 2013.

A SAD LOSS

The Rhyl Liberty Players are currently mourning the sad loss of their beloved friend and Chairman Dr Anita Swinburne Smith who died recently.

Group member John Williams sent us a few words which can be read in full at our [website](#).

IMPROVE YOUR ASSERTIVENESS

Wednesday 16th January 2013

Start the New Year as you mean to go on with our latest training opportunity [An Introduction to Assertiveness](#). This course will help you develop your assertiveness skills and give you tools and techniques to boost your confidence and build your self-esteem. It will also strengthen your interpersonal skills and enhance your ability to interact with others.

The course will cover:

- Understanding different styles of behavior
- Recognising behavioural responses
- Tackling barriers to assertiveness
- Moving from negative to positive ways of thinking
- Building self-esteem & developing confidence
- Using assertive language
- Developing an assertive behavioural style

Course Facilitator: Jennifer Scott-Reid

Jennifer founded the company, Scott-Reid Solutions Ltd, in 2005 to enable individuals and businesses to do things they've never done before. To give them the new skills and knowledge that will enable them to flourish. Jennifer has extensive experience of training, coaching, human resources and employee relations through a wide range of sectors, and in business on every scale. From organisations such as Virgin, The International Federation of Airline Pilots (IFALPA), Mobile-shop, Sanderson Associates, Bird's Eye, The British Airline Pilots Association (BALPA), KLM, RCM, AXA Insurance, NHS Trusts and the British Medical Association (BMA) to local businesses and GP Practices.

Jennifer is widely respected for her extensive knowledge; insight on a huge range of interpersonal issues; and a commitment to a hands-on personal approach which ensures that clients return time after time. To back up her practical skills she has a wealth of qualifications, including NLP Practitioner.

Cost: Special pre-Christmas rate of **only £95 per person**. The course takes place in Cardiff on 16th January 2013.

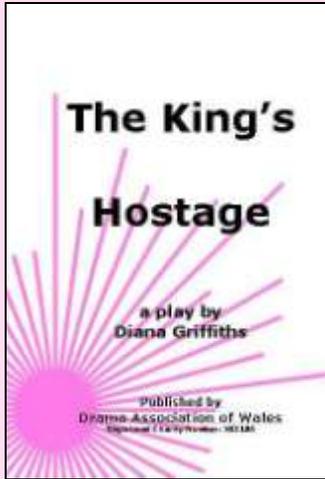
To book contact gary@dramawales.org.uk
Tel: 029 2045 2200.

Scott-Reid
SOLUTIONS LTD



FROM DAW PUBLICATIONS:

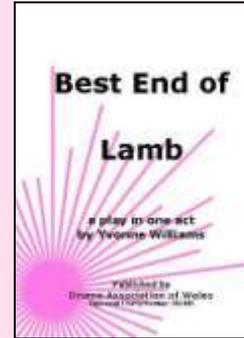
all of these great titles are available for purchase & performance



THE KING'S HOSTAGE
by Diana Griffiths

In 1298 a 16 year old novice at Sempringham Priory, East Anglia known to everyone as 'Wencilian', is about to take Holy Orders. She has lived at the Priory nearly all her life and knows nothing of the world outside. During the war between England and Scotland, the priory admits a group of 'King's hostages' whose families are known to be Scottish sympathisers. Amongst these is Blanche, also 16. It is through Wencilian's subsequent illicit friendship with Blanche that she comes to understand the nature of her own passion for Aleric, the Lay Brother, and discovers the secret of her identity: she is Gwenllian, the only child of Prince Llywelyn ap Gruffydd and Elinor de Montfort. Finally, she must confront the fact that she too is a hostage to King Edward I – and a person of the highest political importance in England and Wales.

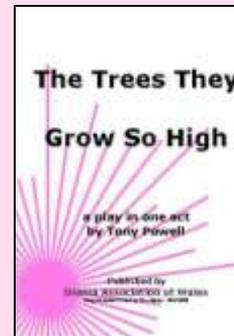
Historic Drama. Cast: M3 F4 £7.00
Performance Fee: £60.00



BEST END OF LAMB by Yvonne Williams

Best End of Lamb is set in a theatre green-room during a performance of Macbeth. It is a delightful comedy involving ghosts, famous tragediennes, the playing of Shakespearean tragedy, infidelity and an unseen actor who can't resist adding Casanova to his list of credits! Brief flashes over the tannoy remind us that off-stage/on-stage the "Scottish Play" is heading for a disastrous finale.

Comedy. Cast: M1 (voice only) F5 £4.50
Performance Fee: £38.00



THE TREES THEY GROW SO HIGH by Tony Powell

The Great War 1914 – 1918. When Stevie and Boy were children, something haunting and terrifying happened at Dead Mans Wood, where the trees they grow so high. But now, their youth in rural England is threatened by an even greater shadow - the outbreak of World War 1. Leaving their mothers and their girlfriends, they go to fight for King and Country; but their patriotic fervour and stirring ambition, soon dissolves into despair and disillusion. In the height of the battle, as the trees are destroyed, the events of the past come back with devastating consequences. In a simple setting, a cast of two men and one woman play numerous characters, who unfold a poignant personal tale of the physical and emotional tragedy of World War I. Winner of the 1997 DAW Playwriting Competition.

Play. Cast: M2 F1 (with doubling) £4.50
Performance Fee: £38.00



ACCESSING THE WORK OF LESSER KNOWN PLAYWRIGHTS

Many amateur groups are keen to access the work of lesser known authors and present plays that will be new to their audiences. But finding this work can often prove difficult. DAW publishes a wide range of plays which are available to browse in our [DAW PUBLICATIONS CATALOGUE](#). However, a number of our members are also playwrights, looking to have their work produced. Here are the details of a couple of our Individual Members who are in this position.

KATIE ABBOTT, LTCL: Katie is a children's playwright, drama teacher and examiner for Trinity Guildhall, who is currently developing her catalogue of plays for young people to perform.

She trained at Arts Educational Schools in Hertfordshire and London; she began working in professional theatre at the age of 17, pursuing an extensive career on the West End stage, film and television. Katie has also always run dance and drama classes and has also developed inclusive Theatre workshops. She has directed several children's productions, and understands the need for contemporary youth theatre scripts which offer equal opportunities for several members of a youth theatre group. This is what has prompted her to develop her writing skills further.

Katie's work includes a dance musical titled *Creatures of Light* and has turned the original idea of this piece into a children's play, *I Do Believe*, for a cast of 20. She was delighted to receive interest and support from David Wood, OBE, for the production, which is now available for performance.

Katie has also written a short 20 minute play for ten children entitled *The Den*, which is shortly to be premiered and she has created a historical journey through the ages of the theatre for a cast of 24 entitled *Stages in Time*. She is currently working on a light-hearted verse play for young children entitled 'Pigglepog'.

If you would like to contact Katie regarding interest in any of her scripts, she is available at Frabbt@aol.com or mobile number 0772 0785119.

GWYNETH HUGHES: Calling all actresses over 35 looking for a leading role in a full-length play! Let us put you in touch with DAW Individual member, Gwyneth Hughes. She has a large choice of plays to offer you, with no age limits, ranging from a cast of six women to a lively one-woman show about a lady serial-killer who disposes of her successive lovers.

In a relatively light and sometimes fantastic manner, her plays deal with contemporary issues affecting ordinary people while putting on stage a variety of characters; from a vindictive ghost demanding a quiet resting place, to a fictional heroine who maliciously steps out of the framework of her novel to raise havoc in the real life of

her author-creator.

Gwyneth Hughes has also written two full-length musical comedies for a mixed cast of six with twenty song scores in each, available with her own lyrics and music.

These entertaining plays of approximately ninety minutes running time have all had script-in-hand readings in Paris where Gwyneth lives, by the Moving Parts Company directed by Stephanie Campion, www.movingparts.org.uk. Several have been professionally produced in the United States, notably in the Theatrical Center at Ashland, Oregon, and in New York City by the Love Creek Productions.

With the slides of a troupe of homemade puppets, she presents some of her one-act plays as audiovisual events. Stories by Gwyneth Hughes have appeared in the New Welsh Review and Cambrensis, and her poetry has been published in The Cardiff Poet and Roundyhouse, as well as in a number of other British magazines.

Born of Welsh parents, she grew up in the cosmopolitan town of Berkeley, California, and has lived in Paris for many years. Her phone number is +33 46288866 and her email address is gwyneth.hughes@wanadoo.fr. She's looking forward to hearing from you.



A CHANCE TO DEBUT CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED FOREIGN PLAYS AND MUSICALS IN THE UK

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International Performing Rights (IPR Ltd) has an impressive roster of foreign plays and musicals of all genres and requirements. We select works which have received much critical acclaim abroad, from some of the world's most exciting contemporary, and award-winning, writers.

Please contact us on +44 20 7189 8359 or email sl@iprltd.co.uk to discuss which works in our catalogue suit your theatre group's interests.



**LIBRARY REVIEWS compiled
by Teresa Hennessy**

FULL LENGTH – SINGLE COPIES

YES, PRIME MINISTER by Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn

The UK is in crisis: debt is spiralling, unemployment is on the rise and the fragile coalition cabinet, led by Prime Minister Jim Hacker, is at breaking point. But salvation may exist in the form of a complex pipeline deal with the oil-rich country of Kumranistan that would entitle the government to a multi-trillion pound loan.

When the Kumranistan Foreign Secretary makes a shocking request of Jim's Private Secretary Bernard Woolley, moral considerations collide with the economic future of the nation. Political machinations, media manipulation and an appeal for divine intervention ensue.

Comedy. Cast: M6 F1

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

UP POMPEII by Miles Tredinnick

As Lurcio attempts to deliver his prologue and begin proceedings, he's quickly caught up in the myriad of sexual liaisons in all quarters of his master's house. Why does Ludicrous not leave for the Senate meeting in Rome? Why does his wife return so quickly from the country? Who will take care of the escaped slave girl, Voluptua, and will Nausius's love poetry improve? Whilst growing chaos ensues, an increasing rumbling is heard in the distance - what could that possibly be? A riot from start to finish.

Comedy. Cast: M6 F5

Publisher: Josef Weinberger Plays

LINGUA FRANCA by Peter Nichols

It's the mid-1950s and "innocent abroad" Steven Flowers has travelled to Florence to teach English in a chaotic language school, Lingua Franca. He is soon adopted by fellow Brit, Peggy, but is more interested in Heidi, a newcomer from Munich. Heidi's deep-seated prejudice against the Jews causes tension with the anti-fascist Italian manager, Gennaro, and Russian Jew Irena. Atheist and pacifist Jestin worships only the art that surrounds him, while Australian Madge struggles when her students begin to speak better French than she does. As Steven tries to make sense of his own life and a Europe at peace after so many years of War, Peggy's unrequited obsession leads to highly dramatic consequences.

Play. Cast: M3 F4

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

HERDING CATS by Lucinda Coxon

Justine has an infuriating new boss; Michael chats to strangers for a living; Saddo is one of them. All three are living a comic fiction in an attempt to avoid the facts. And now Christmas is coming ready or not. Lucinda Coxon's play freeze-frames a generation negotiating intimacy and independence in the twenty-first century.

Dark comedy. Cast: M2 F1

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE by Roy Clarke

In this new stage adaptation of the timeless television series, Foggy, Clegg and Compo are reunited for one last adventure. Foggy has designs on winning the affections of Constance, Nora Batty's niece and the long-suffering fiancée of the hapless Gifford Bewmont. With the help of Clegg, Foggy invites the ladies around for an evening's entertainment but the duo are unaware that a mysterious flasher is stalking the local community. When the flasher is eventually unmasked it turns out his intentions are benign, but not before our heroes are nearly undone by the enveloping madness.

Comedy. Cast: M5 F2

Publisher: Josef Weinberger Plays

FIRST PERSON SHOOTER by Paul Jenkins

Seventeen-year-old student Adrian has a serious habit - playing military shooters on his computer games console. Single mum Maggie wants him to study Classics at uni and stop locking himself in his room 'pwning n00bs'. With the help of computer geek Tom, Maggie deciphers gaming lingo in an attempt to reconnect with Adrian. But when a revolutionary new technology Tom has invented gets picked up by the Ministry of Defence, their lives are rocketed from the virtual to the actual battlefield.

Comedy. Cast: M3 F1

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

ONE ACT – SINGLE COPIES

UMLAUT, PRINCE OF DUSSELDORF by Michael Green

The latest Michael Green's hilarious course acting series, Umlaut, Prince of Dusseldorf imagines a hapless and incompetent theatre company attempting a condensed version of Hamlet. Cue bungled lines, an over-eager smoke machine operator and a severely injured cup bearer. The ghost is determined to ruin all of Umlaut's best speeches while Hildegard, the course acting version of Ophelia, keeps forgetting that she's supposed to be dead. Cast and crew

battle on regardless – surely the audience won't have noticed a thing?

Comedy. Cast: M12 F2-6

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

THE LAST OF THE DUCHESS by Nicholas Wright, based on the book by Caroline Blackwood

1980. *The Sunday Times* plans a fabulous journalistic coup: a photograph by Lord Snowdon of the long-reclusive Duchess of Windsor. Lady Caroline Blackwood, novelist, wit and journalist, is dispatched to Paris to secure it. But no sooner has she entered the Windsor mansion than she finds herself locked in a battle with the Duchess's octogenarian lawyer, Maitre Suzanne Blum.

Historical/ Thriller. One Act. Cast: M2 F5

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

PRINCE OF DENMARK by Michael Lesslie

This prelude to Shakespeare's most famous tragedy imagines Hamlet as a restless teenager frustrated by the limits of his role and furious at his father's warmongering ways. It provides a fascinating back-story to *Hamlet* and a sophisticated insight into the psyche of its hero, making it ideal for all ages. It premiered at the National Theatre in 2010 as part of the NT Discovery Programme.

Play. Cast: M8 F1 (various additional roles for ensemble and Players)

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

TIED UP AT THE OFFICE by Ian Hornby

Julia has been working late at the office with her boss Geoff. Trouble is, the place has been robbed and ransacked and the villains have departed leaving Geoff and Julia tied up. They have little choice other than to wait for the cleaners to arrive in the morning; maybe a game of "I Spy" would pass the time. Or maybe romance is in the air.

Comedy. Cast: M1 F1

Publisher: New Theatre Publications

THE HOUSE KEEPER by Morna Regan

A woman stripped by recession of everything she has ever worked for takes a stand in another woman's living room, only to find she has disturbed a hornet's nest of unimagined proportions. *The House Keeper*, by award-winning playwright Morna Regan, is a darkly humorous psychological thriller, which explores the nature of procession, inheritance and corruption.

Thriller. Cast: M1 F2

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

REMEMBER ME by Ian Hornby

On the day of friend Tony's funeral, Calvin is very bitter. He sees his own life with wife Anne fading away with no meaning. The shallow life of two friends at the funeral only manages to sink him further into the depths, where he

examines before our eyes why life is so meaningless. One of them reflects that he wants to be remembered after he dies, and Calvin points out that nobody is remembered for who they are, only what they did. Anne and Calvin announce to their friends that their marriage is splitting because of an affair with Tony, the recently deceased. This intrigues their friends, but the revelation that it was Calvin who was having the affair and the knowledge that Tony died from AIDS, quickly breaks the final friendship apart, leading to an inevitable yet tragic conclusion.

Drama. Cast: M2 F2

Publisher: New Theatre Publications

MUSICALS

AWAKING BEAUTY by Alan Ayckbourn and Denis King

Ever wondered what else happened to Sleeping Beauty when she finally woke up in the 21st Century? Alan Ayckbourn provides the answer with this alternative seasonal fare in the musical *Awaking Beauty*. The Prince awakens Princess Aurora and the eager, happy young couple are about to embark on their first night of passionate love when ugly, unloved Carabosse, the wicked witch, butts in having taken a fancy to the Prince. But which one will be the *Awaking Beauty*? Love, lust, triplets and the ultimate in makeovers are just some of the milestones our heroes and heroines must pass before they can all live happily ever after.

Musical. Cast: M5 F5

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

BOOKS

SHAKESPEARE'S LOST PLAY: IN SEARCH OF CARDENIO by Gregory Doran

Gregory Doran's much praised production of *Cardenio* for the *Royal Shakespeare Company* marked the combination of years spent searching for a famously 'lost' play co-authored by William Shakespeare. In this book, Doran takes us with him on his quest to unearth every extant clue and then into the rehearsal room as he pieces together a play unseen since its first performance in 1613.

Doran starts in Oxford's Bodleian library, where, amidst the swirls of Jacobean copperplate, he discovers a reference to the play's first performance in the accounts of King James Court at Whitehall. Artfully supplementing what he suspects is an incomplete eighteenth-century remount of the original, Doran arrives at a script which he can comfortably take into the rehearsal room, where further vital elements fall into place.

Publisher: Nick Hern Books