



If you have any suggestions or comments for ECCO, then please send them to Janet at ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com.

The next ECCO will come out in November 2012



Auditions:
Calendar Girls

Congratulations!

Dandy in the Underworld

Important Letter to Members

Move Over Mrs Markham

NT Live Performance Dates

Planning Meeting

Playreadings

Presumption

Season Launch – Postponed

Swan Theatre Company

Web Help Needed

Important Letter from the Chair:

What a fantastic season we had! ***Families Aren't Just For Christmas, Two, Separate Tables*** and ***A Dog's Life***. Four completely different styles of show, but with several things in common: all were of excellent quality, great entertainment and audiences loved them.

The BUTT Awards reflected this, with nominations and awards a-plenty. Particular congratulations to Diana Morton-Hooper Deeks on her Lifetime Achievement Award. This doesn't mean that Diana is now slowing down, we can look forward to her directing again for the ECC next year.

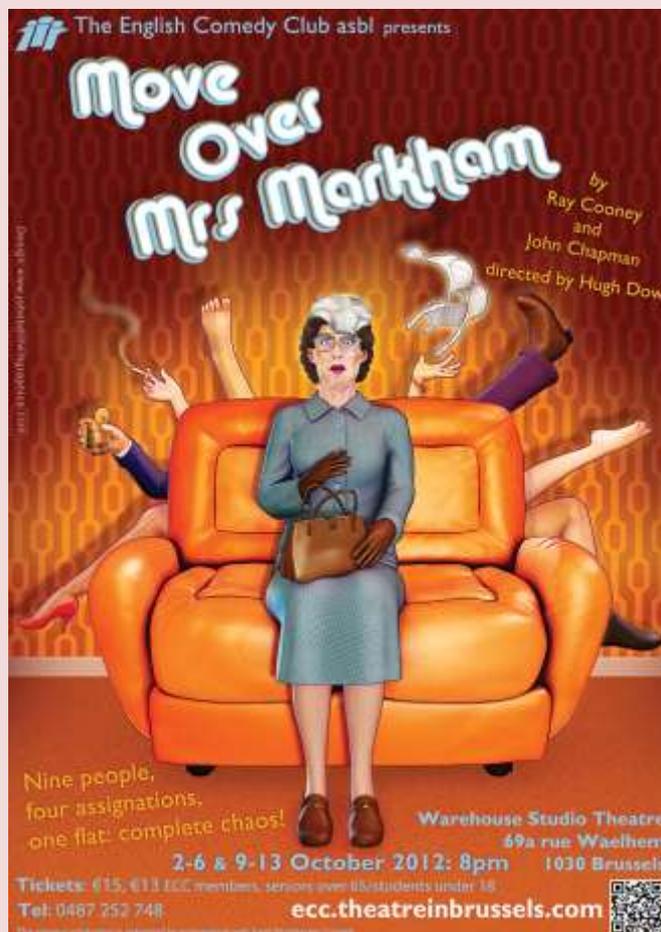
Next up we have the Hugh Dow directed farce ***Move Over Mrs Markham*** to enjoy. Philip Deeks has already been hard at work on the set, rehearsals are underway, and I, for one, am very much looking forward to it!

Sue Botterell, Chair

chair@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com



Sue at this year's BUTT Awards



Move Over Mrs Markham

By Ray Cooney and John Chapman

2-6 & 9-13 October
8pm

The Warehouse Studio Theatre

BOX OFFICE OPEN!

Tickets are €15 each, available from the ECC Website



Presumption

Directed by Malinda Coleman

4-8 December 2012

The Warehouse Studio Theatre - 8.15pm

To be performed by
Tania Rabesandratana and Ioannis Ampazis

Rehearsals for *Presumption* will begin in September. In the meantime, the production needs to assemble quite a lot of furniture for the set, especially a **small sofa, a coffee table preferably on wheels, and a desk with at least one drawer**. These will furnish the apartment of a trendy, 30-something couple, and so will have to be more contemporary than what we have in the Warehouse. Anyone willing to lend stuff will be warmly thanked!

SEASON LAUNCH – THEATRE IN BRUSSELS OPEN DAY **POSTPONED**

Co-Organiser Lilian Eilers writes: Just when our plans for the launch of the 2012-13 Season were in full swing, it was discovered that Sunday 16 September is a car free day in Brussels ... and so we had to look for another date. As none of the other weekends in September were ideal for all the groups involved, it was decided to postpone the party until next September. We've already picked a tentative date (Sunday 15 September 2013) and have been able to book the entire Warehouse complex.

So make a note of this date and put it in your 2013 diaries!



Swan Theatre Company

Presents

DANDY IN THE UNDERWORLD

By Tim Fountain

Based on the cult book
Dandy in the Underworld by Sebastian Horsley

***"I have invested ninety per cent of my money on prostitutes,
the rest on class A drugs, the remains I squandered"***

19-20 October 2012

The Warehouse Studio Theatre

The hilarious and insane story of one of Soho's most colourful real-life characters, the painter and dandy Sebastian Horsley.

***"The most deviant but original self-seeking,
self-destructive, soul since Dorian Gray"***

With a childhood surrounded by alcoholism and petty cruelties, an adolescence of rebellion and punkish anarchy and an adulthood peppered with heroin addiction, voluntary crucifixion, failed suicide and a penchant for sex with prostitutes, Sebastian Horsley's life was always destined to become a work of art.

European Premiere

Tickets available soon from
www.ecc.theatreinbrussels.com





CALENDAR GIRLS

By Tim Firth
Directed by Janet Middleton

The Studio Theatre
Palais des Beaux-Arts

12-16 March 2013, 8pm with Matinee 16 March

AUDITIONS

Sunday 9 September – 2pm
Tuesday & Thursday, 11 & 13 September – 8pm
Back Room – The Warehouse
Rue Waelhem 73, Schaerbeek

For further information, or if you cannot make these dates, please contact Janet at calendar-girls@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com

Calendar Girls is based on the true story of a remarkable group of women who decided to raise £500 to replace the sofa in the visitors' room of the cancer ward of their local hospital. In fact, to date, they have raised over £3 million for Leukaemia Research, and many other charities have benefited from following their lead.

This play is humorous and moving. It requires six actresses who are 'comfortable in their skins' as, while the nudity is not full frontal and not seen by the audience, they will be only partially dressed on stage at one brief point. Other roles are also available.

In keeping with the ethos of these wonderful ladies, the ECC has agreed to give €2 from each ticket sale to a local cancer charity in Belgium: *Fondation Contre le Cancer* (www.cancer.be)

As well as six 'Calendar Girls' there are other fun and interesting roles available – for men as well as women! **Contact Janet for a full cast list.**

Are you in with the IT crowd?

WANTED – WEB EDITOR

Must have GSOH.
Should love ECC, or
be related to someone who does. Must be
good with pets, especially mice.

Suits experienced Keyboard Jockey or
keen amateur aged 4 to 94.

Interested? Email us now!

ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com



ECC Committee 2012

Sue Botterell	Chair
Martin Blackwell	Treasurer
Mark Prescott	Secretary
Andy Ing	Feats
Conrad Toft	Website
Iona Hamilton	
Janet Middleton	Ecco
Lyn Wainwright	Membership (Temp)
Rachel Cuff	
Rory Harvey-Kelly	
Sara Hammerton	Publicity

In the last edition of Ecco the lead item was a very important message from our Chair about a proposed change to the membership rules. I felt it was worth re-producing this month.

THE DATE OF THE AGM WILL BE CIRCULATED SHORTLY

Dear Members,

I am writing to you on behalf of the ECC Committee, who would like to amend part of the Club's statutes, and will put this proposal forward at our next AGM.

We feel that paid membership is no longer in keeping with the way the club operates and we will propose free membership for the English Comedy Club.

In the past membership fees were used for the payment of paper flyers and for the postage of those flyers to our homes.

Membership also gives €2 discount per show; we have 3 shows a year, so there is in fact a loss for members here.

Perhaps the central thing to membership is that a member is part of a theatre community, and the payment identifies you as an integral member of the club.

Now we suggest that payment should be dropped, and membership be available to all who are interested in the ECC. We now contact people via Twitter, Facebook, e-mail, websites ... membership can no longer be defined as a loyal group of people, but a larger, ever-changing pool of people.

We touch people via computer networks, not by flyers through the post. So, we want to open up membership, embrace those who have an interest in us, hence the desire to abolish membership fees.

Susan Botterell

Chair, English Comedy Club



Congratulations!

We are delighted to share the happy news of the birth of Grace to ECC members Iona and Jake ... many congratulations to the very happy new family (pictured left).

Congratulations also go to Roisin and Kevin on the arrival of Toby.

What are you doing in 2014?

The ECC is delighted that we have our 2012/13 and 2013/14 seasons fully planned, but this doesn't mean that we aren't still looking ahead!

We are planning a 2014/15 Planning Meeting sometime in the early autumn – so if you have a play you'd like to produce/direct, then will be your chance to put it forward. New directors always warmly welcome!

More details to follow soon!

Monthly Playreadings

5th September & 3rd October

The ECC is extremely grateful to Mary and Barbara for their generous hospitality, allowing us to enjoy an evening informally reading some favourite plays.

We are also grateful to the members who make suggestions about which plays we should read and who organise us to take turns at reading.

Every Month I write: "If you have a play you think we would enjoy, please do suggest it! You don't need to be the 'Leader' for the evening, but if you'd like to, well, that would be just great too! Mary is happy to receive your suggestions!" Well, I'm delighted to announce that **Tim Myers** has taken up the challenge and will lead us in September.

After September **By Jimmie Chinn**

After September is set in a school for young ladies as they return for the new school year in September 1964. As the ancient school literally crumbles around them and forces the staff to reassess the way they live, the world outside is also changing and threatening their way of life.

Tim is very pleased to be presenting this play, which has 10 lovely roles for women but only one for a man! Gentlemen, please do not be put off! Come along and enjoy this play, which explores a rapidly changing time in our history, even if you do not get to read quite as much as you are used to!

We will meet chez Barbara Blackwell
rue Louis Hymans 20, Ixelles 1050

We meet at 7.45 for an 8pm start!

Please ring Mary for further information and to let her know if you are going to come along or email ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com

(If ringing you are most likely to catch Mary between 8-10, am or pm)

Why do we need to let Mary know? Partly so that our hostess can ensure that there are enough chairs out for us all and re-arrange their furniture, and partly in case it is necessary to make a last minute change of venue.

Contributions to interval drinks and nibbles always welcome!

Other Forthcoming Events...

For more information and auditions see www.theatreinbrussels.com

American Theatre Company *Arsenic and Old Lace*

23-27 October

ETCetera

An Evening With Strindberg

6-10 November

Irish Theatre Group

A Dublin Bloom

13-17 November

**Brussels Shakespeare
Society**

Richard II

27 November – 1 December

BLOC

Beauty & The Beast

29 November – 2 December

Click on the name of the theatre group above to go directly to their website



The following screening dates have been announced by NT Live:
6 September: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night*
11 October: *The Last of the Haussmans*
1 November: *Timon of Athens*

Kinepolis has confirmed that they will continue participating in the screenings. Book now and support this wonderful facility!

<http://kinepolis.be/fr/theatre-au-cinema>

If you hear of any productions coming up in English in Brussels or Belgium, why not share with your ECC friends? Send details to Janet for inclusion in the next ECCO:

ecco@ecc.theatreinbrussels.com