

Lockerbie Drama Club

President's Report

August 2018

Although this has been, in some ways, a fairly quiet year, the club has put on two productions. In November we put on "Lucky Sods" by John Godber - a play about a couple of serial lottery winners. This was something of a departure for the club as it had no fixed set and fairly ripe vocabulary - even after we toned it down a bit. These were not easy lines to learn, but we got there and it received a good review in the paper. The audiences too seemed to enjoy it. In May we followed this with "Natural Causes" by Eric Chappell - a comedy centred around assisted dying. Although this may not seem fertile ground for farce it was very funny. The audiences were a little disappointing, though. Both were ably directed by Betty Wilson who displayed the kind of patience and dogged persistence required to pick up mercury with tweezers.

This year has been unusual in that, to my recollection, there have been no visiting groups. It's hard to say why that should be. One would like to think that it is not because audiences for such groups have sometimes been very small. Though that is a possibility.

Work is needing done on the theatre and the Committee is currently in the process of seeking financial help in carrying these out. The windows, especially, are in need of some tender loving care. We also need to decorate. There have also been the usual ongoing repairs.

In the last fortnight we were sad to hear of the death of Neil McDonnell. Those of us who can remember him in good health recall his broad sense of humour and his commitment and hard work in whatever role he undertook. He was, for a time, Treasurer of the club and frequently stage-managed shows. One of my abiding memories of Neil is of him in the dressing room talking very loudly into a walkie-talkie to try and contact the lighting box. "Robin! Are you receiving me?". Our thoughts are with Liz - herself a former President and active member of the club - and their family.

That is, I think, all I want to say about the last year. It is my intention - definitely this year - to step down as President. I would just like, therefore, to put on my record my thanks and appreciation for the members of the Committee who have worked so hard this year, and over the six years I have been President. They have made my job much much easier than it could have been. They have put up with my lapses of memory and they have kept me right.

I wish all the best to my successor and hope we can look forward to another successful year next year.



Andrew A Morton. President