

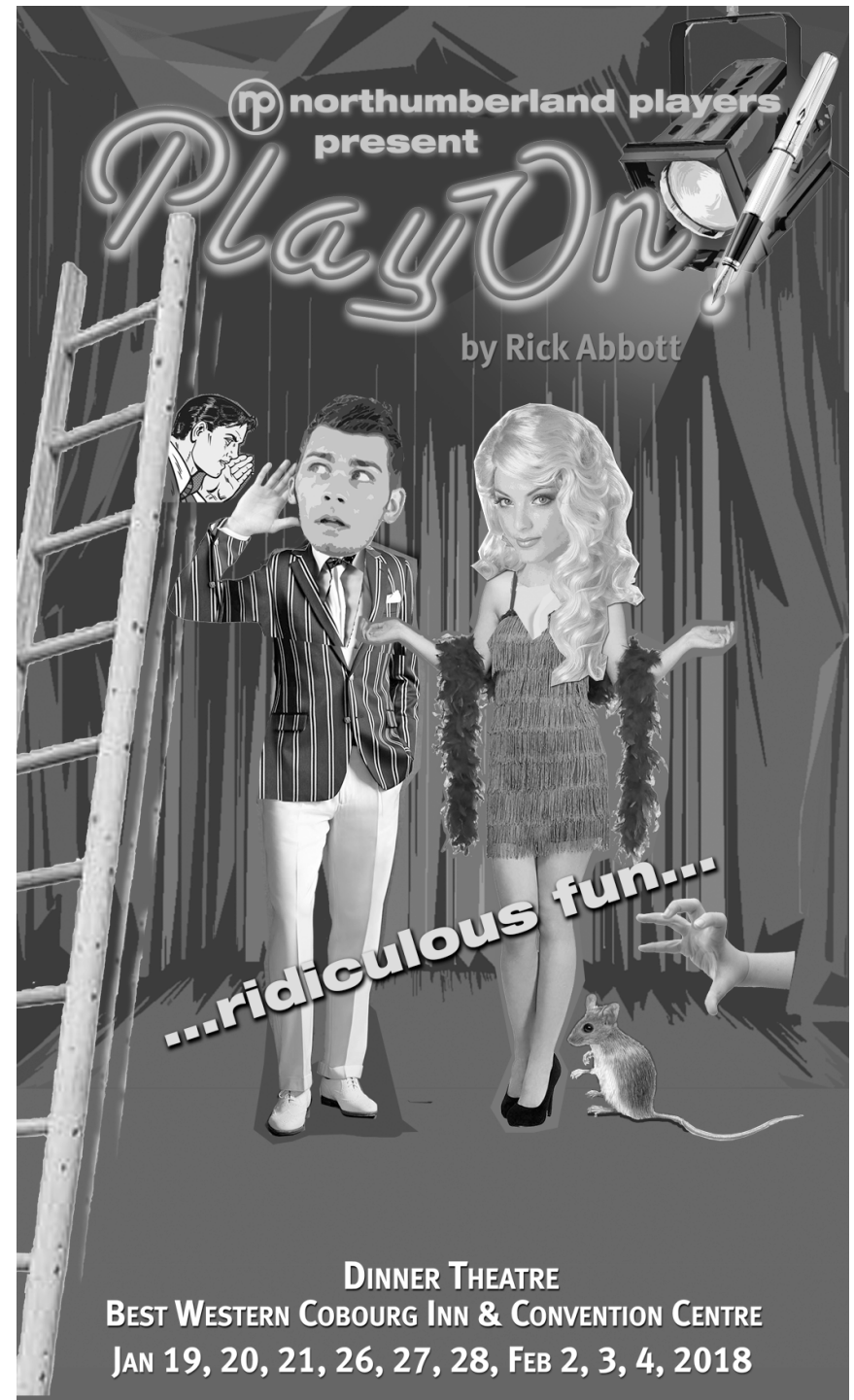
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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Wernfrid Doll  
Downtown Cobourg



This play is not a serious play. It is silly, frivolous, empty of important ideas and a waste of any serious person's time. It should make you laugh. Is there a better reason to do a play? Perhaps, but not tonight. Since it's fun to laugh and we, the cast, have been laughing at rehearsal ever since we started, we believe that you too will laugh. Our poster says, "ridiculous fun," which is a quote that I made up and told the poster-creator to put on the poster. He did. It is. Ridiculous fun, that is. I hope you agree.

You'll see two plays tonight. One is set in 1973 and follows an amateur theater group putting on the murder mystery, "*Murder Most Foul*," by novice playwright Phyllis Montague. The other is the actual "*Murder Most Foul*," set in 1923; Ms. Montague's *tour de force*, written and rewritten and rewritten and again, rewritten, right up to opening night. When opening night arrives, and it will in Act 3 of *Play On!*, no one is ready.

This well-known comedy genre – the play that comes off very badly – has been made famous in the past with titles such as *Noises Off* and the currently popular, *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Our effort tonight is another in a long line of such comedies.

I can say without hesitation that the cast and crew we had on this play is among the very best and most fun I have ever worked with in 32 years of directing for the stage. We had a ball inventing the stupidity you are about to witness and I will be sad to see the final show in our nine-performance run end. But then, I have said that same thing about most of the plays I have been involved in. Enjoy this mindless silliness in the bleak part of mid-winter. You deserve a laugh.

Dave Clark



**northumberland players**

Northumberland Players is live, local and committed to bringing quality theatre to the whole family.

In its 41 years, Northumberland Players, a not-for-profit community theatre, has won numerous Theatre Ontario awards for performance, directing, music and production. Its active youth theatre program includes a major children's production presented every Christmas season and drama camps that run throughout the summer months.

Northumberland Players provides opportunities in all aspects of quality theatre. Over 300 enthusiastic, **un-paid volunteers**, who work as actors, directors, producers, set builders, costume makers, etc., are proof there is passion for live theatre in Northumberland County. By supporting our not-for-profit theatre company, your entertainment dollars stay in the community, creating cultural and economic benefits that ripple throughout our community.

Home for Northumberland Players is the historic **Second Street Firehall** in Cobourg. The **Firehall Theatre** is an intimate venue with comfortable seating that can be arranged in various configurations to present innovative theatre to smaller audiences. **Cobourg Costumes**, on Campbell Street, Cobourg, houses the Players' vast collection of period and contemporary costumes, all of which are available for rentals. Northumberland Players also leases **The Third Space** on Loveshin Road for set storage and construction.

Over 13,000 people attended our productions last year. We hope this year even more will see our shows. We welcome members and volunteers to join us in the excitement of producing quality theatre.

#### **Be a Player - There are many roles!**

- **Members** have a voice in the operation of Northumberland Players. Individual Memberships are \$25. A Family Membership of \$40 includes spouses and, as non-voting members, children and youth.
- **Volunteers** participate in all aspects of community theatre. Artistic, backstage, clerical, construction, production and/or technical roles. If you'd like to volunteer, call 905-372-0577 and sign up online and you will be contacted.

- **Donors and Sponsors** provide financial support.

Visit us at [www.northumberlandplayers.ca](http://www.northumberlandplayers.ca) for more information, to donate and/or sign up.

You can visit the Firehall office at 213 Second Street, Cobourg, or call 905-372-0577. We accept VISA and Master Card. The office is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays.



## Producer's Appreciation

As always, mounting a production is a ton of work for people, onstage and behind the scenes. Yet the process has been great, especially with our ten collegial and delightful actors. From the beginning, way before the first rehearsal, we were blessed with a wonderfully accomplished husband and wife set-design/décor team, plus an amazing and diligent stage-manager who recommended and loves this play (she also conscripted three equally-capable assistant stage-managers). Add to this mix a keen and organized costume lead and an unflappable and detail-oriented building lead. As autumn unfolded our team acquired a tireless, lovely set painter, plus assistants, and several hyper-loyal and super-competent tech people. As producer, I was also lucky to augment my questionable computer and media skills with a tech-savvy aficionado boosting our publicity. Add to this our mother/daughter backstage make-up team and a beloved hair and wig expert with so many, many years of Players experience...And, a whole trove of men and women who helped advise, create and provide (and who also humped a lot of stuff up the stairs and into this ballroom). Oh, and then there's Jack. What an amazing fellow Jack is. We hope this "ridiculous fun" you're about to see is a treat for you tonight; rest assured, the process has been truly fun and enjoyable. Oh, and do you think this program just appears out of thin air? Thanks Maureen.



Mary Elizabeth Clark  
Producer



Dave Clark  
Director



Leslee Argue  
Stage Manager



Kara Besson Assistant  
Stage Manager



Kim Brouwer Assistant  
Stage Manager



Linda Cardie Assistant  
Stage Manager



Ken Brumby  
Media Consultant



Will Ryan  
Set Designer



Jennie Ryan  
Set Dresser



Frank Burns – Set  
Construction Lead



Lee Wakelin  
Lead Painter



Sharon Anderson  
Costume Design

## The Cast (In order of Appearance)

	1973		1923
Anne-Marie Bouthillette . . .	Aggie Manville	. . .	Stage Manager
Greg Curtis . . .	Gerry Dunbar	. . .	Director
Christopher Sharp . . .	Henry Benish	. . .	Lord Dudley
Nicola Joseph . . .	Polly Benish	. . .	Lady Margaret
Megan Gibson . . .	Darla "Smitty" Smith	. . .	Doris, the Maid
Marc Mireault . . .	Saul Watson	. . .	Dr. Rex Forbes
Jeff Caine . . .	Billy Carewe	. . .	Stephen Sellers
Kristy Bird . . .	Violet Imbry	. . .	Diana Lassiter
Rebecca Sumners . . .	Louise Peary	. . .	Technician
Judy Down . . .	Phyllis Montague	. . .	Novice Playwright

## Setting

The stately Dudley library and the Phlegme Theatre

## Intermission

There will be one 15-minute intermission.  
The 50/50 draw will be held at the end of the intermission.

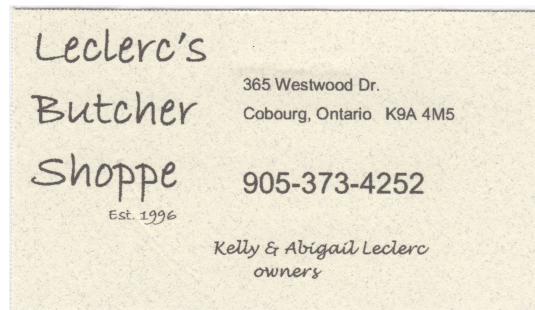
## Acknowledgements

Stevenson's Moving and Cartage  
Millstone Bakery  
Carstead Motor Trends  
Cobourg Costume House Volunteers  
Jim Doubt, Gwen Coleman, David Hoare, Nancy Oliver  
Laura Garton, Jessica Outram, Jack Boyagian, Mary Jo Curtis  
Maureen Holloway, Marley Soutter, Victor Svenningson



## Production Sponsors

We thank our production sponsors and encourage you to support these local businesses:



**Megan Gibson**

Megan is incredibly enthusiastic for her first production with the Northumberland Players since the youth summer program. She is returning to the stage and a script after performing with the Carleton University Improv Association during her university career. Megan would like to thank the whole cast and crew for a warm welcome and their encouragement. Thanks also to family and friends for their constant support during the season.



**Nicola Joseph**

Nicola is delighted to be acting again with the Northumberland Players. She would like to acknowledge the amount of work that all the volunteers have put in to make this production happen. A great thank you for everyone participating including the audience without whom there would be no show. "If music be the food of love, play on".



**Marc Mireault**

After a 14-year hiatus from appearing on stage in a Northumberland Players production, Marc is very happy to be in his first dinner theatre show. The opportunity to work with Dave Clark in particular was something he didn't want to pass up. It's fun to be back playing on stage.



**Christopher Sharp**

Recent acting credits include Wilf in *Quartet*, Cholly in *A 1940's Radio Christmas Carol*, and Robert in *Proof*. Favourite roles include Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*, Count Danilo in *The Merry Widow* and Julian in *42nd Street*. Christopher will be appearing in the upcoming dinner theatre *A Comedy of Tenors* in April.



**Rebecca Sumners**

Rebecca is giddy with excitement to be directed by her high school drama teacher, the guy responsible for igniting her love of theatre and, in the process, giving this once painfully-shy teenaged girl some much needed confidence. So much love and appreciation for Mr. Clark!

Are you interested in seeing your business on this page? See details at [www.northumberlandplayers.ca/get-involved/sponsorship](http://www.northumberlandplayers.ca/get-involved/sponsorship)



### Kristy Bird

Kristy is a performance graduate of the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts at Brock University. Favourite past roles for Kristy include Shelby in The Capitol Theatre's production of **Steel Magnolias**, Catherine in NP's production of **Waiting for the Parade** and Maria in Brock University's production of **Twelfth Night**. Kristy is thrilled to be a part of this dedicated (and zany) team and she hopes that you enjoy the show! DC GHG!



### Anne-Marie Bouthillette

This is Anne-Marie's 10th season with the Players. Favourite past roles include *Gretchen* in the Players' award-winning play **Boeing Boeing!**, *Marta* in last season's production of **Waiting for the Parade**, and Kit-Kat girl *Frenchie* in **Cabaret**. She has also produced, stage managed, and currently sits on the Players' Board of Directors - this lovely crazy bunch of community theatre peeps has truly become her second family!



### Jeff Caine

**Play On!** marks Jeff's second crack at community theatre, previously working with Dave Clark for 2016's **To Shut the Mouths of Lions**. When he's not busy being a poor man's Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, Jeff enjoys spending time with family and friends, listening to podcasts and cheering on the Toronto Blue Jays. He also refutes any claims that **The Last Jedi** is a bad movie.



### Greg Curtis

Greg lives close to downtown Cobourg, with his adored wife Mary Jo, and has for 27 years. He has been involved with the Players since 2000, as an actor and as their graphic designer. Northumberland Players have a rich and inspiring community of talented and generous people. It has attracted so many exceptional talents, and I am blessed to call them friends. Doing **Play On!** has introduced me to a few new ones. I think this is a funny show. You will too.



### Judy Down

Last spring Judy played Dot in the Brighton Barn's production of **Savannah Sipping Society**. Playing Phyllis, an equally quirky character, with this talented cast, director and crew has been enjoyable, with the mutual goal of making the audience laugh. Like Dot and Phyllis, Judy shares a home with her spoiled cat.

## Production Volunteers

Producer	....	Mary Elizabeth Clark
Director	....	Dave Clark
Stage Manager	....	Leslee Argue
Assistant Stage Managers	....	Kara Besson, Kim Brouwer, Linda Cardie
Set Designer	....	Will Ryan
Set Construction Lead	....	Frank Burns
Set Construction Crew	....	David Clark, Gwen Coleman, John Forder, Ken MacDonald, David McTavish, John Matthew, Jean Phillion, Tony Walker
Set Builders	....	Matt Blundell, Jack Boyagian, David Brister, Frank Burns, Dave Clark, Jim Finan, John Forder, Ken MacDonald, John Matthew, Dave McTavish, Bill Moebus, Rick Morrison, Borden Taylor, Michael Vljakov, Tony Walker
Set Dresser	....	Jennie Ryan
Lead Painter	....	Lee Wakelin
Set Painting Crew	....	Leslee Argue, Mary Elizabeth Clark, Laura Garton, Sheila MacDonald, Elaine Rostetter-Saunders
Costume Designer	....	Sharon Anderson
Make-Up	....	Mary Smith, Melissa Thatcher
Hair and Wigs	....	Muriel White
Properties	....	Mary Elizabeth Clark, Jennie Ryan, Leslee Argue
Lighting Design	....	Dave Clark
Lighting Hang	....	Mike Vljakov, Jack Boyagian, David Hoare
Lighting Operators	....	Dave Clark
Sound Designer	....	Marc Mireault
Microphone Technician	....	Jamie Spereman
Sound Set Up	....	Victor Svenningson, Jamie Spereman
Sound Operator	....	Linda Redner-Hunter
Show Photographer	....	Sherwood McLernon
Poster Photography	....	Greg Curtis
Poster Design	....	Greg Curtis
Program Design	....	Maureen Holloway
Freeloaders	....	Sharon Anderson, Robert Bailey, Francine Bélanger, Matt Blundell, Jack Boyagian, Ken Brumby, Lucy Caldwell, Derrick Cunningham, Greg Curtis, Jamie Finan, Ken Forsyth, Jody Forsyth, Laura Garton, Dave Hogan, Fran Martin, Bill Moebus, Stephen Rennicks, Mike Sonosky, Jamie Spereman, Rick Stevenson, Rebecca Sumners



northumberland players

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Anne-Marie Bouthillette

Directed by  
Matt Kowalyk

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