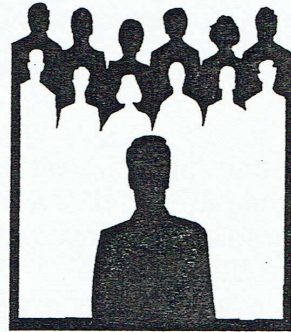


COMPANY THEATRE  
presents

**MURDER  
IN  
COMPANY**



Directed by Ruth Segrove

8pm FRI MAY 22nd to SAT MAY 30th

or 2pm SUNDAY MAY 24th

St Michaels Hall, Belmont  
Ph 445 6939

**Murder In Company**

Written by

Philip King and John Boland

**Director's Notes**

As many of you will know, this is our last major production at St Michael's Hall. Very soon we shall be taking up our new home in the Rose Centre, and that will be the beginning of a new era for Company Theatre. There is a lot of sadness in leaving St Michael's Hall, but we are delighted to have the opportunity to stage such an appropriate play as "Murder In Company" before we go.

The scene is a church hall, the cast are members of a small drama club - what could be more perfect than that for us? One of the problems in directing this play was to make the cast members act and not just play themselves! There is however a murder, which we have not yet had at company, and shoals of red herrings.

Whodunnits have always been popular with our audiences, and I hope that you enjoy this one. I also hope that you are kept guessing until the final few moments - that is, after all, what it is all about!

Ruth Segrove

## The Cast

Alan Wilson	<b>John Palmer</b>
Margaret Stephens	<b>Sherry Ede</b>
Ted Smith	<b>Geoff Clews</b>
Philip Stephens	<b>Peter Segrove</b>
Ronnie Meadows	<b>Mark Oswin</b>
Phoebe Kershaw	<b>Catherine Long</b>
Patricia Robins	<b>Moira Coote</b>
Doris Stewart	<b>Nanette Quincey</b>

## The Play

A church hall somewhere in England, 1968

### Act I

The church hall, 7:15 P.M., on a night in February.

### Act II

The church hall, fifteen minutes later.

### Interval

### Act III

The church hall, 7:45 P.M., a fortnight later.

## Production Team

Director	<b>Ruth Segrove</b>
Production Manager	<b>Doug Bourke</b>
Set Designer	<b>Tony Sandy</b>
Lighting Designer	<b>Mark Oswin</b>
Sound Effects	<b>Mark Oswin</b>
Properties	<b>Neil Harrison</b>
Wardrobe Co-Mistresses	<b>Cathie Sandy</b>
	<b>Betty Wrightson</b>
Stage Manager	<b>Wendy Kristensen</b>
Publicity	<b>John Palmer</b>
	<b>Barbara Simpson</b>
Programme Design	<b>Richard Coote</b>
Set Construction	<b>Doug Bourke</b>
	<b>Tony Sandy</b>
Light/Sound Operators	<b>Martin Judge</b>
	<b>Wayne Shepherd</b>
Stage Crew	<b>Sue Connolly</b>
	<b>Neil Harrison</b>
	<b>Barbara Messenger</b>
Prompt	<b>Julia Kaiser</b>
Logo/Poster Design	<b>Sue Connolly</b>
Bookings	<b>Ruth Segrove</b>
Front of House	<b>Ros Clews</b>
Photographer	<b>Peter Segrove</b>

## The Cast

The cast and how they see their character's homicidal desires.

### John Palmer (Alan)

An experienced actor, singer, dancer, film star and international playboy with a vivid imagination.

*"Alan wants to kill Philip basically, as he is the only thing between him and Margaret."*

### Sherry Ede (Margaret)

During the past year at Company she has played Judy (the mistress in Middle Age Spread), Belle (the wicked sister in the Music Hall melodrama) and now Margaret (married, bored and in search of amusement).

*"Margaret hates competition and is tempted to murder Phoebe whose superior acting ability and constant cheerfulness are just a total bore!"*

### Geoff Clews (Smith)

Has made many appearances for Company - this is his first in a rather unpleasant role - we're sure he'll make a great success of it!

*"Smith very badly wants to kill the local vicar, Rev Horace Bottomley, who gave him the caretaker's job."*

### Peter Segrove (Phillip)

Has been around Company for a long time now and modestly admits to a huge and hitherto unrevealed theatrical talent.

*"It would be easier, perhaps, to think of somebody who Philip wouldn't like to murder... keeps a chainsaw in his make-up box!"*

### Mark Oswin (Ronnie)

Mark describes himself as "a theatrical jack-of-all-trades but master of none" - actually he's modest!

*"Ronnie would like to kill Philip who doesn't appreciate his jokes and won't let him direct!"*

### Catherine Long (Phoebe)

Has trodden the boards in the provinces for an unspecified (but significant) number of years and "Lets's leave it at that!".

*"Phoebe wants to kill Doris to keep the colonials in their place!"*

### Moira Coote (Pat)

After several years choreographing school and Junior Company shows, she turned singer/dancer in last year's Music Hall and now actress.

*"Pat would like to kill the sophisticated Margaret in an effort to get rid of the frying fish!"*

### Nanette Quincey (Doris)

Many years on the musical stage - was a musical baby and used to happily fill nappies in G.

*"Doris has no desire to kill anybody: she makes love not war, but enjoys a good struggle."*

## Acknowledgements

Company Theatre thanks

**Rothmans of Pall Mall  
(New Zealand) Ltd**

for supplying the cigarettes

and

**Colin Thompson**

the 'real' Caretaker of St. Michael's.

## New Members

Company Theatre needs more members in all capacities.  
This is a great time to join.

### Phone

Ruth Segrove

**445 6939**

or

Sherry Ede

**445 6939**

Full Membership - \$30.00

Associate Membership - \$10.00

## Committee

President **Neil Burgham**

Vice President **Ruth Segrove**

Secretary **Barbara Simpson**

Treasurer **Peter Segrove**

Committee **Doug Bourke**

**Sherry Ede**

**Wendy Kristensen**

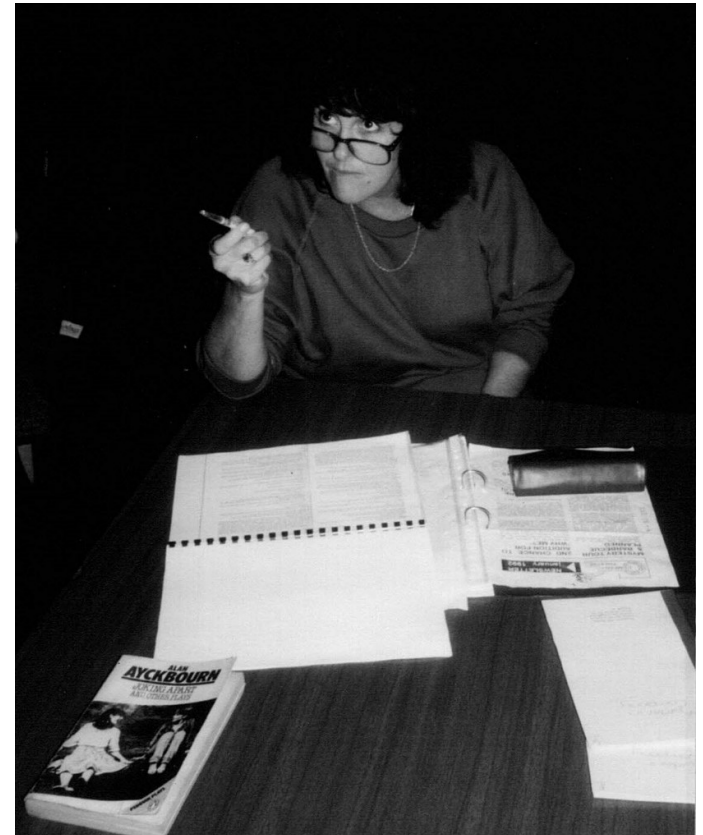
**John Palmer**

**Cathie Sandy**

**Tony Sandy**



*Peter Segrove, Mark Oswin, Geoff Clews, John Palmer  
Catherine Long, Moira Cootte, Nanette Quincey, Sherry Ede*



*Ruth Segrove*



*Geoff Clews, John Palmer*