

Suspicion, deceit in the hallways of Mousetrap

By SANDY CAMPBELL
Herald Staff

The cast of Georgetown Little Theatre's *The Mousetrap* captured the opening night audience and let them go home perhaps a little more suspicious. The dark characters of Agatha Christie's murder mystery classic led the almost capacity crowd through the grim corridors of deceit, to a surprise finish.

The players and the script do a good job of hiding the ultimate solution. If you were to keep a list of reasons why you felt each character was responsible, all lists would be about the same length.

The play is set, fittingly, in an English country home, Monkswell Manor. The manor is converted into a guest house by a young couple, Mollie and Giles Ralston (played by Jacky Willows and John Day), who inherited it.

The great hall of the manor, where most of the activity takes place, is pleasingly convincing. Wood paneling, a high doorway and a large window looking out on a winter scene are details you would expect at an English country home.

Georgetown Little Theatre did a good job collecting post war period furniture for the hall.

There were many nice details that add to the authenticity, such as seams up the back of the ladies' stockings. Special effects were also handled nicely. Music, lighting, falling snow and sound effects were always right on time. The set and special effects added to the tension expected when eight people are snowbound, and one of them is a murderer.

And the play does get tense, very

tense. Fortunately there are characters like Mr. Paravicini who break that tension with some comic relief. Frank McKie plays Mr. Paravicini, the unexpected visitor. As the loud, romantic, wealthy and macabre Italian, Frank McKie received the best response from the audience.

Mr. McKie is convincing, as the sarcastic Italian with the eerie laugh and flair for the dramatic. He is undoubtedly the strongest character in the play.

Rod Cook is also strong as Christopher Wren (the young, temperamental, architect). Like Mr. Paravicini, Christopher Wren provides a good deal of comic relief. Rod Cook is capable of being bold, brash and bubbly, but loses his skill of convincing the audience when the party demands we pity him.

Other strong performances include those given by David Clifton as Major Metcalf, Jackie Willows as Mollie Ralston and Stacy Arcuri as Miss Caswell.

John Day as Giles Ralston, the inn keeper, and Sheli Scott as Mrs. Boyle, a retired judge, give wonderful performances at times, but do have their weaknesses. One wonders about an inn keeper who is uncomfortable with small talk and a retired judge with a whining voice who shows little diplomacy in her tone.

The success of the play depends more than any other character on Detective Sergeant Trotter played by Don Macrea. He is the sleuth who guides the play. He is the antagonist who suspects everyone. Don Macrea proves to be strong enough to hold the murder mystery together until



Two of Monkswell Manor's guests conspire by the fireplace in the famous Agatha Christie play *The Mousetrap*. Stacy Arcuri (Miss Caswell) and Rod Cook (Christopher Wren) are among the suspects for a murder at the guest house. (Herald photo)

promised to keep 'em. The performance stayed close to the script and the time it was written and this reason more than any other made it a success. The play continues at the John Elliott Theatre tonight through Saturday.

Halton Hills Arts Council

A need to understand for the arts to grow

By GRETCHEN DAY
Herald Special

It was obvious ten minutes into the meeting of General Committee last month that the Halton Hills Arts Council would not achieve its goal to have an Arts Policy committee organized under the auspices of the Town of Halton Hills.

Despite the fact that the reasons and explanations were made very clear in presentations by Wendy Buykes, Ralph Ursel and Barry Page of the Arts Council, confusion and worry on the part of the Town Council prevailed as to what an arts policy was, why it was needed, what financing might be incurred, why the Town Council should spearhead it, and indeed, what the 'Arts' are anyway!

Only two councillors seemed to understand the need for such a town committee and policy. It was very disappointing. One wonders if this had been a sports policy whether there would have been the same confusion and the same misunderstandings.

If the 'Arts' are to grow with the Town of Halton Hills, the entire council must make a conscious effort to understand what the Arts are all about. The Arts community is not just a small nucleus of people who sing, act or paint. The Arts community is anyone in this town who enjoys any or all of the following:

- listening to music of all kinds from barbershop, to country and western, to Rogers and Hammerstein to rock, to opera,
- watching shows on the stage, at a movie or on television
- looking at paintings, photographs, exhibitions
- reading the newspaper, a magazine or a book

- dancing to a square dance, a Highland fling or Springsteen
- clapping to a fiddler, a dance band, a choir
- learning from artistic creations and writings about our historical past
- watching a ballerina twirl, a skater dance or a gymnast leap.

In other words, the arts community is everyone, regardless of age, creed or colour. There are no exceptions! The Arts in all its multiple forms are a record of every community's past, present and future. It is the responsibility of every councillor and, for that matter, every citizen to see that the Arts are nurtured and encouraged to grow as a whole with the community.

As the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres states, "Parliamentarians who have had little or no contact with the arts must begin to understand that art is not something only for the educated, affluent elite. They must feel themselves at ease walking into a theatre or an art gallery or we shall achieve little in the next decade. We cannot win a war with government; we can encourage it to understand and love the arts as we do."

SAME DAY TAX RETURNS
101 Guelph St., Georgetown
877-2217

For Shutterbugs

Photoart judges select 78 of the best

This year's juried exhibition of photographs at the gallery of the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre attracted 37 Halton Hills photographers who submitted 189 photographs.

The jury, consisting of Carm Griffin of Islington, Peter Jones of Georgetown, and Paul Savoie of Brampton, selected 78 photographs from 33 photographers for the exhibition at the Centre.

The names of the photographers are: Frank T. Anthony, Richard A. Armstrong, David Bianchi, June E. Campbell, Jacqueline Carlo, Ellen Crawford, Gretchen Hamilton Day, Andrew Delroy, Carole Fuller, Cassie Gairdner, Lorne Geddes, Rena Ghose, Tom Gibson, Myles Gilson, Sylvia Jones, John B. Kent, Harold Mann, Robert A. McNaughton, Valerie McNaughton, David Michie, Neil Mercer, Nancy Murphy, Peter Philpott, Maureen Plucinsky, Erika Sommer, Heinz Sommer, P. Stanley, C. Tatton,

Graham Tyler, Colin Vernon, Elaine Wassermann, John Weir, John Whitton.

Photoart '86 will open March 12 and continue to April 12, 1986.

The opening will be from 7-9 p.m. on March 12. Refreshments will be served. At 8 p.m. Mrs. Geraldine Miller will officially open the exhibition and announce the prize winners.

The administration of the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre invites everybody interested in photography to this opening of the 5th juried photoart exhibition in Georgetown.

The members of the jury will be present and several of their photographs will be displayed in the showcase in the lobby of the Cultural Centre.

EVITA IS COMING

Opti-Mrs

can spot dance

The Georgetown Opti-Mrs. club hosted a Valentines Dance Feb. 15 at The Optimist Hall.

Opti-Mrs. members and their guests enjoyed a spaghetti dinner at 7:30 p.m. Dancing to the music of disc jockey, Optimist Andy Bell, followed the meal.

Spot dance and Door prizes were donated by The Chateau Restaurant, J.V. Clothing, Georgetown Fabrics and The Home Hardware. Chateau Restaurant provided wine bottles to decorate tables and Burger King loaned giant red balloons for the hall. The Opti-Mrs. club wishes to thank these merchants for their support.

Cub banquet

The annual parent and son banquet for 1st Hornby, 1st Ashgrove and 1st Scotch Block was held last Thursday at the Pinecrest United Church hall. Beavers and scouts were also in attendance. Awards were handed out by cubmaster Roy Frost. A special award was given to Vic Auger for his many years as a cub leader at Scotch Block. He resigned last June.

UNIQUE... cards • gifts • & things hard to find.

Bachet

98-B MAIN ST., GEORGETOWN
873-1300

DENTURE THERAPY CLINIC

18 CHURCH STREET, GEORGETOWN
ACROSS FROM LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTRE

A.W. TRENTON
877-2359

GEORGETOWN SPA & FITNESS CENTRE

"Exclusively Yours"

LADIES'

\$ 85

MEN'S

\$ 55

You Get 3 Months of:

- Indoor Heated Pool
- Sauna
- Whirlpool
- Equipment Room and Weights
- Personal Programs
- Gift Certificates
- Exercise Classes (Men's - Ladies')
- Co-Ed Exercise Classes - Sundays
- Family Day Sundays

AND MORE!

ENTRANCE OFF JAMES ST.

George St. James St. (No 73 Hwy) Guelph St. Main St. Walsby St. Municipal Parking

GEORGETOWN 877-1924

VISA

Associate Tax Consultants

INCOME TAX RETURNS DONE

Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

101 GUELPH ST., GEORGETOWN
877-2217

SPECIAL OFFER!

WHEN WE DO YOUR INCOME TAX RETURN WE GUARANTEE DELIVERY TO TAXATION DATA CANADA THE NEXT DAY, BY COURIER, AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.

CHECK OUT TRIO'S LOW LOW PRICES

HILLS BROTHER COFFEE 1 LB. BRICK 2.99 EA.	PEPSI or DIET PEPSI 2 LITRE Non-Returnable 1.69 EA.
KLEENEX FACIAL TISSUE 200's 79¢ LIMIT 2 PER CUSTOMER	PAMPERS LARGE SIZE 8.59 EA. LIMIT 2 PER CUSTOMER
FINESSE SHAMPOO or CONDITIONER 400 ml 2.49 EA.	HI-DRI PAPER TOWELS 2 ROLLS 89¢ EA.
CHEER LAUNDRY DETERGENT 6 litre 3.99 EA.	DELSEY 4 ROLLS 1.49 EA.

CREST PUMP ONLY 79¢ With Coupon. \$1.44 WITHOUT COUPON

Save 65¢
This coupon is worth .65¢ off the retail price of one 100mL pump dispenser of Crest toothpaste purchased at **TRIO MARTS**

coupon valid only at TRIO IS A TRIAL OFFER coupon expires March 5/86

65¢ Limit one coupon per purchase

TRIO MARTS
THE LITTLE STORE THAT GIVES YOU MORE

2 LOCATIONS IN GEORGETOWN
MOORE PARK PLAZA
128 Main St. North
HALTON HILLS PLAZA
235 Guelph St. (Hwy. 7)

WHOLE SUPPLIES LAST SALE ENDS MARCH 5/86