

Enchanted April is a breath of spring

By **CYNTHIA GAMBLE**
Staff Writer

Despite the shivering temperatures this month, audiences can warm up watching Georgetown Little Theatre's *Enchanted April*. The play opened in Christ the King (CtK) auditorium Friday night to a small crowd.

Enchanted April is a low-key drama set in Britain and Italy, involving the themes of loss and new beginnings immediately after World War One.

Lottie Wilton, who is in a wintery marriage to boring lawyer Mellersh Wilton meets Rose Arnott who is grieving for a lost child and is struggling in her marriage to writer Frederick Arnott. Sick of the relentless cold and rain of Britain, Lottie spots an advertisement for a rental of Italian villa owned by British ton Antony Wilding, and talks Rose into renting it for the month of April. To make it affordable, they find two other women to share expenses: the demanding staid Mrs. Graves and the mysteriously sad Lady Caroline Bramble.

While the first act is set in England, the second opens in the Italian villa, managed by seen-it-all Italian housekeeper Costanza.

First and foremost this a character play and the small cast of eight rises to the challenge. In particular the two main leads, Margaret Brady (Lottie Wilton) and Linda Spence (Rose Arnott), superbly carry the play from beginning to end, easily alternating between whimsy and dramatic intensity.

Michael Halsall (Mellersh Wilton) and

Andrew Finnegan (Frederick Arnott), Susanna Lamy (Caroline Bramble), Carol McCone (Mrs. Graves), Mark Grice (Antony Wilding) and Christiane Goule Banks (Costanza) round out the cast, each developing their characters with skill.

On opening night there were a few stumbles over lines, miscues and timing issues, but neither worrisome nor unexpected with some of the long soliloquies in the Matthew Barber play.

The set design was fantastic with the spareness of the British set contrasting with the lavishness of the Italian set that at first glance brought gasps from the audience. However, the set changes in the first act were far too long, and hopefully will shorten with each performance.

The lighting was good, but failed to adjust in the final speech when the actor's face was in darkness.

The sound was thematic, but at times far too loud for some of the actors' soft voices to carry over in the larger, and largely empty, CtK auditorium.

A note to future audiences: while the CtK auditorium is beautiful and comfortable, its seating is not designed for great theatre viewing. If you find a head or heads blocking you, find another seat. I moved to the empty side wing and from then on had perfect view of the stage. Others followed. This production is subtle and nuanced, and it would be a shame to miss even a part of it, playing head dodge.

Overall this was a good live theatre, and under the direction of Kathryn DeLory, *Enchanted April* is worth the ticket.

The show continues this week.

Continued from pg. 8 Thursday, April 21

Maundy Thursday services:

- at St. Andrew's United Church, 7 p.m. A service to remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. Sermon Series: Bible Characters 101: Part 7 Judas. Communion and Hand washing

- 6:30 p.m. Norval Presbyterian Church.

- 7 p.m. at St. John United Church, 533 Main St., Glen Williams. Info: 905-877-2531, www.stjohnsuc.ca.

- Holy Eucharist with washing of feet and stripping of altar with Gethsemane Vigil to midnight following at St. Alban's Church, 537 Main St., Glen Williams,

Community Calendar

905-877-8323.

- 8 p.m. at Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church, 3097 15 Sideroad, just east of the Guelph Line. Info: 905-854-1055 or www.nassagaweya.com

Limehouse euchre: 7:30 p.m. at the Limehouse Memorial Hall. Sponsored by the Limehouse Memorial Hall Board. All welcome.

For Good Friday and Easter services, see Easter Week Services or Community Calendar, www.independentfreepress.com

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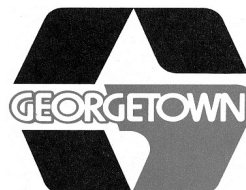
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NOTICE

Georgetown Minor Hockey Association (GMHA)
Annual General Meeting for 2011
The meeting will be held on

Tuesday, May 17th, 7 pm
at the Cedarvale Community Centre

Any proposed amendment to the by-laws by a member must be in writing, signed by a member in good standing and received by the Secretary no later than 12 noon on May 10th, 2011

The following positions are up for re-election:

President
VP of Representative Hockey
Director of Senior Rep
Director of Junior House League
Director of Media & Public Relations
Director of Fundraising
Treasurer

Nomination forms available from all executive members
and on our website www.gmha.on.ca

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