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# Happy Acres

*A Comedy By H Connolly  
Directed By Colin Jones*



[monktonplayers.co.uk](http://monktonplayers.co.uk)

#HappyAcres

*The  
MONKTON  
Players*

# About The Monkton Players

The Monkton Players were originally formed in 1949 and performed in the then Victory Village Hall (built on the site of the current Village Hall car park). The first ever Monkton Players production was the one act play 'The Proposal' by Anton Chekov. The Players were forced to disband in the 1960's. The village was left without a drama group until 1980, when the present Monkton Players were reformed.

Since then we have performed over 60 plays and are still the only village hall group to have performed for a week at the Brewhouse, our successful 10th Anniversary production 'Outside Edge'.

We have 2 productions per year, 1 in March and the other in October. No sooner has the first one finished than the hunt is on for the next. We rehearse Tuesday nights from 8 pm in the Village Hall and, as the first night draws near, we have word rehearsals in the Annexe. When we are not rehearsing, we try and meet socially in the Merry Monk on Tuesdays from 9 pm.

If you would like to join this friendly and enthusiastic group, either backstage or on stage (or both!), we would love to hear from you. Simply e-mail us at [info@monktonplayers.co.uk](mailto:info@monktonplayers.co.uk). It really doesn't matter if you have never been involved in amateur dramatics before as there are plenty of enthusiastic members to guide you through.

Alternatively, if you simply prefer to be an enthusiastic audience member, sign up for our newsletter and get to know about forthcoming productions, with just a hint of backstage gossip.

## Our Past Productions

We have performed over 64 productions during the last 33 years. So many in fact we can't fit them in our programme. You can find the full list by visiting our website at [monktonplayers.co.uk](http://monktonplayers.co.uk). Don't forget to also look at our scrapbooks located at the back of the hall.

# Keep In Touch With Us

We would love for you to stay in touch! Follow us on Facebook and Twitter or sign up to our new mailing list and we will keep you up to date with all our latest productions and news!



Find us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/monktonplayers](https://facebook.com/monktonplayers)

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# Big Thanks To...

## Backstage Gang

For all their hard work with set building, promoting the production, making the teas, and much more!

## Monkton Elm

For sponsoring the programme and allowing us to put up a banner on their site.

## Monkton Heathfield Stores

For selling tickets.

## Taunton Tourist Information Centre

For selling tickets and promoting our production to the local community.

# Scenes

**Setting** The Common Room of Happy Acres Health Farm

**Time** Present Day

**Act 1** Scene 1 - Morning

**Act 2** Scene 1 - Early the next day  
Scene 2 - 3 hours later

# Backstage

Director	Colin Jones
Publicity	Tony Barratt
Set Design	Graham Pinney
Lighting	Colin Moakes & Bob Pettitt
Sound	Tom Norton
Props	Tony Hiscock & Jon Furse
Prompts	Val Bishop & Jayde Coate
Set Building	The Monkton Players 'Gang'
Programme & Posters	Tom Norton & David Butler
Refreshments	'The Other Halves and Co'
Makeup	L'Oréal ('cos we are worth it)
Hair	Vidal Sassoon



# Happy Acres Cast



## **Director - Colin Jones**

I'm the boss this time so I can grumble at the cast about things I usually get grumbled at myself. They say you get what you pay for and considering we don't pay anything I suppose they're not a bad lot really!

## **Mrs Comley - Debbie Arscott**

Debbie has come out from a spell behind the scenes to play Mrs Comely, a woman after her own heart as far as exercise classes and gyms go!



## **Mr Liddle - Graham Pinney**

Graham is proud of the fact that his pen portrait has remained the same for the last 12 years! He's our unsung hero of set building. Our very own Bob the Builder. Joined years ago as a dare and has been pleasing audiences ever since!



## **Mrs Liddle - Ruth Jones**

Ruth has been a member of the Monkton Players for more years than she can remember. She hasn't needed to do much research for the role of nagging wife Norma - it just came naturally!



## **Sam - Tony Barratt**

Apart from wheeling and dealing and a "bit on the side" (all will become clear), Sam is a Jack of all trades but a master of none. Tony has enjoyed playing him, although he wouldn't buy a secondhand car off him.



## **Miss Batty - Cathy Blacklock**

Cathy is attempting yet another "character role" i.e. daft old bat! There is also another opportunity to put that fine singing voice to the test - that is if she doesn't bottle it on the night. The director has obviously taken on board Cathy's comments about costume changes in the last production as there are only 4 this time.

## **Wayne Picker - Tim Hiscock**

It's good to have a part that I can get my weight behind and play a character that gives people a lift. The costume choices were also a huge bonus!



## **Clare Smith - Charlotte Hazelwood**

Clare spends most of her time at Happy Acres one frustrated customer! But all it takes is to get involved in one dodgy plan and Claire's holiday away soon perks up.....unlike Wayne...! This is Charlotte's third play now and she is still enjoying it.



## **Mr Roberts - Tony Hiscock**

A rare appearance for Tony this time. He said that he would either do Props or have a part for this production as juggling both can be a bit frantic at times. So, guess what... Yep, he's doing props and playing sleepy head, Mr Roberts. Who said a man can't multitask?



## **Madame O - Lyn Batt**

This part is well suited to Lyn once again. Madame "O" is just up her street don't you think? Lyn feels that being part of the "The Monkton Players" allows her to release some of her positive energy!

