

**KANATA  
THEATRE**

**PRESENTS**

**LIFE WITH  
FATHER**

**by**

**Clarence Day**

**EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL**

**THURS. FRI. & SATURDAY**

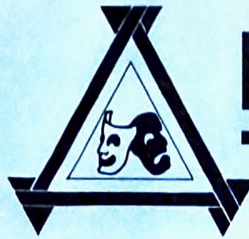
**MAY 15, 16 & 17**

**8.00**pm

**TICKETS \$2**

**Students, senior citizens \$1**

**INFORMATION ... CALL 592:5201**



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DIRECTORS: DEWI AND  
EUFRON WILLIAMS



In rehearsal for Kanata Theatre's forthcoming production of "Life With Father" are (left to right) David Bux, Rosemary Keneford and Andrew Williams. Directed by Eufron and Dewl Williams. "Life With Father" will be performed May 15, 16 & 17 at the Earl of March High School. Curtain time is 8 pm. (Photo by Giselle).



In rehearsal for Kanata Theatre's "Life With Father" are Heather Wall and Pat Carroll. Performance dates are May 15-17... Earl of March high school... Curtain time 8 pm. (Photo by Giselle)



*"Life with Father"*

In rehearsal for "Life with Father" are Ann Dubras, Anne Rombeck, Sinn Williams, and Marianne Wilkinson. 8.00 pm May 15, 16, 17 at Earl of March (Photo by Giselle).



kanata  
theatre

sixth season  
1974 — 1975

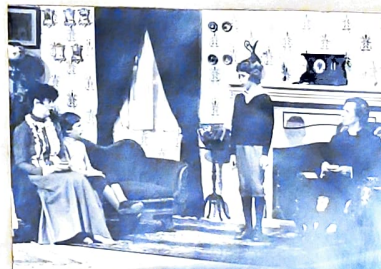
LIFE WITH FATHER



PAT CARROLL  
AS  
"FATHER"



HEATHER WALT      PAT CARROLL



# Life with Father a light, amusing time in Kanata

By Elizabeth Duncan  
Life With Father, the drawing-room comedy that has been a favorite of audiences and amateur theatre groups for more than 40 years, is being presented with finesse by the Kanata Theatre Group.

Nothing can ruin a play faster than a postscript near the Kanata Theatre Group is rather lucky to have young Andrew Williams playing ex-convict Harlan Day.

This follow play, his good while he does it in knickers and boater. Except for a few open-top night club Thursday, the action and dialogue

moved along at the break pace the script requires. First prize for behind-the-scenes creativity goes to Ted Watson for his recreation of the Madison Avenue morning room

where the play takes place. From the wallpaper to the credible breakfast table, set and props are delightful. Women's costumes are colorful and plentiful

Mrs. Day, played by Heather Wall, displayed a rather extensive wardrobe of period dresses designed by Mary Mauger. A good deal of work has gone into this produc-

tion, and it shows. It is by no means a polished piece of theatre, but nor is it pretentious or silly. It's a good evening of light comedy, and that's

exactly what it is meant to be. Life With Father, presented at Earl of March High School in Kanata, winds up tonight at 8 o'clock.

## Kanata Theatre Father knows best but mother gets her way

By Sheila Davis

In Hollywood they say never act with children or animals, but in Kanata Theatre's last presentation of the season, Life with Father, Heather Wall and Pat Carroll more than held their own against the strong competition of four boys and a large chow cat as the clergyman casting his way through visits to the Day household. John Gilliland and Earl McLaughlin played the two doctors.

The Group had obviously put a great deal of hard work and thought into this production which provided most enjoyable family entertainment. The set was extremely well designed and arranged so that the cast was able to move naturally. The scene

changes and technical details were handled very efficiently. Praise should also go to all those concerned with the costumes, the women's gowns were well designed and most attractive.

The Kanata Theatre Group is having some difficulty finding a permanent place to construct their sets and it seems a great pity that this enthusiastic group should suffer simply for the sake of a suitable working place. In these days of polluted entertainment, every encouragement should be given to a group of people prepared to work hard to provide wholesome live entertainment to the community. Let's hope that this problem can soon be solved.



Jonathan Kuhn made a fine job of his first performance with the role of the oldest son, Clarence, and portrayed the agonies of transition into manhood and first love very convincingly.

Peter Williams as John a boy still in the practical unbuttoned state before sexual awakening gave a consistently good performance. David Boss as Whitney and Andrew Williams as Harlan the two younger sons, were natural and believable and worked with the occasion remarkably well.

Although the Group was on much safer ground with this well known play with its good dialogue and constant action, full credit must go to the co-directors, Dewi and Eufon Williams for their excellent handling of the cast. Every detail was well thought out and managed effectively. At times there could have been problems when several of the cast were on stage at one time, but the action and positioning were skillfully handled.

The quality of this production was maintained by a strong supporting cast. Stan Williams gave a good performance as the first of a series of maids driven away by the outbursts of the "head of the household". The other maids were played by Ann Romberk, Marianne Wilkinson and Sally Rose, with Ann Du Bras as the

### Life with father

Who really was the benevolent dictator in Kanata Theatre Group's presentation of "Life with Father"? Certainly Pat Carroll, as Clarence Day Senior, would have had the audience believe he was, but Heather Wall, as his wife Vinnie, controlled the Day household with charm and firmness. Eufon and Dewi Williams directed their excellent cast in a thoroughly audience-pleasing comedy which revolves around the activities of a turn-of-the-century family. Some things haven't changed much - family, religion, politics, young love, death and taxes were as important then as now. But, in International Women's Year, Father's comment to his eldest son, during a person-to-person talk, that "a woman doesn't think at all, they just get stirred up", thankfully seems less relevant and amusing than in Life with Father's time.

Pat Carroll added another outstanding performance to his past successes. His ability to play comedy is a great asset to the Group and it is a pleasure to hear him use his voice so skillfully.

Heather Wall gave an effective performance as the wife who takes her job of getting her husband into heaven seriously. It was a sensitive first performance from Jonathan Kuhn as the eldest son and the three other young men who played the sons. Peter Williams, David Boss and Andrew Williams acted their roles with naturalness and charm. Rosemary Kenneford was delightfully coy as the family's favourite cousin and Linda Hanson played her role as the eldest son's romantic interest nicely.

The smaller roles were well-handled by the rest of the cast, especially Ann Dubras as the maid, Margaret, and Bob Harvey as the saintimonious Reverend Dr Lloyd.

The production staff did an impressive job. Ted Watson designed an interesting period set, the properties supported the mood of the set well and the costumes, designed by Mary Mauger, were attractive and colourful.

This was an excellent finale to the 1974-75 season.

REVIEW 29/5/75



## Good Life With Father

Journal Review  
By ROBYN DORRELL

Kanata Theatre's production of Life With Father is a perfectly delightful event and the play is shown to good advantage. It is being presented in the Earl of March High School, Kanata.

Written by Howard Lindsay and Russel Cross, this popular comedy for a long time held the record for a Broadway run. Based on the humorous sketches by Clarence Day, the centre of which are his mercurial father and cunning mother, the play first appeared in 1929.

The play is actually a fond look back at Day's Victorian parents who are really stereotypes of middle class mothers and fathers of days gone by. Dad believes the way to handle women is to "be firm," while Mum gets her way by crying and thus weakening Dad's resolve.

Judging by the gutturs and cheers from Friday's night's audience, this is still the name of the game in respectable March Township brass-bands.

But even for those unable to identify with this stage mum and dad, the family rows are never boring, and always fun. Would that all family rows were such!

Directed by Dewi and Eufon Williams, Kanata Theatre's cast is first rate. Pat Carroll is appropriately gaily as father, but there's the hint of the penny cat underneath. Heather Wall as his wife Vinnie is downright excellent and captures to perfection that female talent for covering a native smartness with what appears to be dimness, thus not threatening spouse's ego.

There are four children in this family, all boys, and moving they are played - prompt to eldest - by Andrew Williams, David Boss, Peter Williams and Jonathan Kuhn. It's a super quartet with Jonathan Kuhn having the most to do and doing it beautifully.

There are many others in the cast, all good, and they are well dressed by Mary Mauger, well lit by Bill Williams, and play before a fine set designed by Ted Watson that is given admirably detailed attention by the props people.

All in all, Kanata Theatre's Life With Father is a job well done indeed and extremely enjoyable.

OTTAWA JOURNAL 16-5-75







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