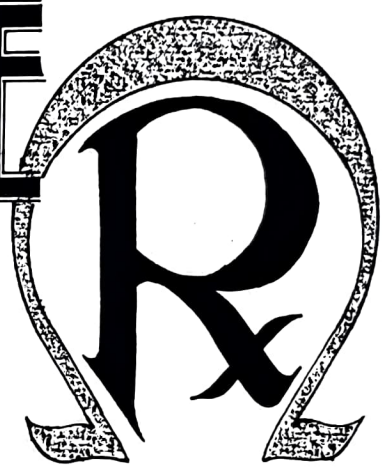
KANATA THEATRE

PRESENTS

GHOST ON TIPTOE



A 'terminal' farce

by Robert Morley & Rosemary Sisson

EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday
May 7 to 11, 1986

8.00pm

All seats reserved $5.00, $4.00

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A GHOST ON TIPTOE

A COMEDY

by Robert Morley & Rosemary Sisson

Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Directed by
DOROTHY BEAK

CAST

(in order of appearance)

BARNSTABLE	Brooke Keneford
HENRY POOLE	Neil Robertson
MRS. BARNSTABLE	Betty Francis
NORA BARNSTABLE	Mary Mauger
SELENA	Rosemary Keneford
ROGER	Bob Lackey
POPPY	Jenefer Haynes
STUBBS	Simon Marwood

The action takes place in the late 1960s in the sitting-room of Cuthbert Barnstable's house in West London.

ACT I

Scene 1 – Autumn. Scene 2 – A month later.

ACT II

Scene 1 – Spring. Scene 2 – A month later.

There will be one intermission during which the bar will be open.

PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR	Dorothy Beak
PRODUCER	Joan McLaughlin
SET DESIGN	Philip Lawless
SET CONSTRUCTION and PAINTING	Tony Francis, Keith Raney, Sally Raney, Martin Haynes, Ann Williams, Geoff Holland, Philip Copple, Philip Lawless
STAGE MANAGER	Anne Holland
STAGE CREW	Ken Hepburn, Mike Kearns
LIGHTING	John Gilliland, Rosemary Scott
SOUND	Tony Beak, Stewart Wheeler
PROPERTIES	Eufron Williams, Dewi Williams Rachel Trimmer, June Marie Northcote
FURNISHINGS	Lesley Cluff, David Adderley
WARDROBE	Pamela Bland, Lorraine Barner
MAKE-UP	Annmarie Copple
CONTINUITY	Gwendy Tolley, Ann Marwood
PROGRAM	Brian McCullough, Bridget Madill
FRONT OF HOUSE	Helen Hunter, Elsie Bryant Brenda Godin
BOX OFFICE	Joan Ritchie, Jim Ritchie
PUBLICITY	Jenefer Haynes
PHOTOGRAPHY	Steve Sweet
BAR	Jim Keneford, Tony Bryant

Paintings by members of Kanata Art Club are on display in the foyer.

Cameras and recording equipment are not allowed in the theatre

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO

DR. and MRS. P.O. RIPLEY

VAN LEEUWEN BOOMKAMP LTD.

DON CAVANAUGH

1986-87

KANATA THEATRE'S EIGHTEENTH SEASON WILL INCLUDE

BEQUEST TO THE NATION
by Sir Terence Rattigan

KEY FOR TWO
by John Chapman and Dave Freeman

WAITING FOR THE PARADE
by John Murrell

WHODUNNIT
by Anthony Shaffer

DON'T MISS IT!



Members of the Kanata Theatre have fun at the rehearsal of their upcoming comedy "Ghost on Tiptoe" running May 7 - 10 at the Earl of March auditorium. Left to right: Rosemary Keneford, Mary Mauger Brooke Keneford and Bob Lackey.

Kanata Theatre



Kanata Theatre brings their 17th season to a hilarious end with their presentation of "Ghost on Tiptoe" — a sparkling British comedy opening this Wednesday evening, May 7, at the Earl of March Auditorium and running through to Saturday, May 10. Curtain 8 p.m. In rehearsal Neil Robertson and Brooke Keneford. Box Office tel. 592-1715.

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THEATRE

Comedy takes lighthearted look at sixties

Theatre review
A Ghost on Tiptoe
Kanata Theatre
Earl of March High School
until Saturday

By Catherine Lawson
Citizen correspondent

Cuthbert Barnstable's comfortable yet dull existence as a prosperous vegetable merchant is shaken when he learns he has one year to live.

His response, in the British comedy *A Ghost on Tiptoe*, is predictable if also amusing.

"Before I push off I'd like a final tumble," he confesses. As well as more exciting sex, he also discovers modern art, vintage wines and gourmet cooking in this very lighthearted play by Robert Morley and Rosemary Sisson.

Dorothy Beak, director of this Kanata Theatre production, wisely chose to set this play where the writers intended — in swinging London of the 1960s.

Any other approach would have given this comedy a very dated look. Rebellious youth who reject the option of a career are in very short supply these days. And very few people name their children Liberation.

What is wrong with this production is, like the ghost referred to in the title, the cast appears to be performing on tiptoes. There is no flamboyance, no dramatic pause for effect, and many clever lines simply wafted away.

Neither did the production take full advantage of the visual excesses of the sixties. The costumes were surprisingly tame.

Brooke Keneford, as Barnstable, and Neil Robertson as his acerbic, long-suffering friend, were at their best in the scenes they played together.

Hilarious farce presented by Kanata Theatre

BY JENEFER HAYNES

Kanata Theatre presents what could be classified as a "terminal" British farce at the Earl of March High School Auditorium on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday May 7 to 10, 1986. Curtain time is 8:00 PM.

This sparkling comedy, **Ghost on Tiptoe** was written by Robert Morley and Rosemary Sisson. Many will know Robert Morley not as a playwright, but as a fine comedy actor of the English stage and screen. However, he did, in fact, take the leading role in this production when it was first presented at the Savoy Theatre, London in 1974.

Dorothy Beak directs a fine comic Cast for the Kanata Theatre production, which includes Brooke Keneford, Neil Robertson, Mary Mauger, Betty Francis, Rosemary Keneford, Bob Lackey and Jenny Haynes.

Amazing as it may sound, Kanata audiences will laugh at this very amusing interpretation of what life, and death could be all about.

For a lighthearted evening of good theatre and fun, call Kanata Theatre Box Office early to ensure a good seat at 592 1715.

Cast struggles bravely with poor script: a review

by Mark Henderson

The Kanata Theatre's latest production is 'A Ghost on Tiptoe', a 1975 British comedy written by Robert Morley and Rosemary Anne Sisson.

Starring Brooke Keneford as Cuthbert Barnstable, a blustery middle-aged businessman who thinks he is about to die — the paly is possibly the weakest example of British humor this reviewer has ever witnessed.

While the efforts of the cast are commendable, the premise and content of 'A Ghost on Tiptoe' is so thin there is little for the players to do except attempt to breathe life into its hoary plot mechanisms and painfully dated depictions of such matters as the so-called hippie movement and radical ideology. The script is littered with obscure terminology known only to those of British extraction and the final act has no purpose except to drag the play out to almost 2½ hours and to tie up louse ends that have long been self-evident.

The play begins when Barnstable informs family and friends he has contracted Blum's disease and has 18 months to live. Bothered that those close to him don't react as he feels they should, Barnstable throws himself into preparing for his death, drawing up a will and convincing his lazy artist-son (Bob Lackey) to take over his vegetable business.

Then he meets Poppy (Jenny Haynes), a young, pretty hippie "bird" character conceived with considerable insensitivity and incomprehension of what that youth movement was all about.

Poppy convices Barnstable that he should stop planning for death and live life to the fullest. Charmed by her beauty, Barnstable makes a dramatic change in character and begins acting like a trussed up buffoon. He takes up abstract painting, buys a vampire bat and cooks stews made of goldfish, much to the disgust of the other characters. He also takes a physical shine to Poppy and we assume they have sex.

Farce doesn't necessarily rely on a sturdy plot full of deep meaning but it demands a script that is crisp, well-timed and truly witty. 'A Ghost on Tiptoe' fails to deliver any of these ingredients, yet the cast forges on and makes the best of a bad situation. The company should look a lot harder for material to adopt in the future.

The only character who is blessed with some dry, witty lines is Henry Pool, played with flair by Neil Robertson. As Barnstable's close friend and executor of his will, Pool is able to stand aside and humorously comment on the action while keeping the plot moving.

When the truth about Barnstable's condition finally comes out, 'A Ghost on Tiptoe doesn't have the sense to end, dragging on for another major scene pushing the play on far too long. By that time the thickness of the theatre seat padding is of more concern than the witless activities on stage.

'A Ghost on Tiptoe' is playing in the auditorium of the Earl of March High School until Saturday night.

GHOST





ON



TIP



TOE ---





MAY. 1986











