

Spring Grove Fringe – 2025

A Family Affair

The Templeton Teapot
a one-act play ... AND

A Family Secrets Quiz



Friday 3rd October, 7:30pm
Saturday 4th October, 7:30pm

St John's Parish Hall,
Grove Lane, KT1 2SU

Charity No. 1150982

The Templeton Teapot

by Grace Cooke Strong

adapted and directed by Nigel Duffin

Cast

Horace Templeton, a collector of antiques
Celia Templeton, Horace's wife
Hilda Templeton, their daughter
Susan Templeton, Horace's sister
Professor Algernon Gates, a family friend
Chalmers, the Templeton's butler

Scott Milligan
Sandie Glenny
Suki Bains
Janice Smith
Laurie South
Matt Sexton

Leon Burnett, the Templetons' neighbour
Fanny Burnett, Leon's wife
Eric Dean, Fanny Burnett's brother
Leighton, the rich new owner of the Manor House

Chris Brookes
Becca Knifton
Nigel Bellwood
Peter Freeman

The Templeton Teapot, a domestic farce, was written by Grace Cooke Strong, and published in 1912 by Walter H Baker and Co. There is no biographical information available for Grace Strong, so maybe she also has family secrets!



The play has been translated from America to a rather well-to-do area in Shropshire in the 1900s. The teapot of the title is a centuries-old family heirloom, much valued by the head of the house, Horace Templeton. It is central to unfolding mysteries and domestic chaos.

We follow the Templeton family, their knowing butler Chalmers, their neighbours the Burnetts, and the enigmatic Leighton, amid confusion about an inheritance, a potential marriage, and an alarming burglar.

Costumes

Props

Stage Management

Sound & Lighting

Prompt

Catering

Bar

Front of House

Jenny Robson

Helen Dawson

Adrian Treloar

Mark Springthorpe

Adrian Treloar

Daisy Jones, Val Boyle, Sarah Richardson

Jayne Britten, Al Britten, Rod Gavshon

Tessa Kind. Sarah Richardson

Family Secrets

This evening's quiz is brought to you by by Steve Wells and Tessa Kind, ably assisted by Stephany.

Every family has a few skeletons in the closet, and tonight we'll be dusting them off in the spirit of fun and trivia. Expect questions that test your knowledge of famous dynasties, legendary scandals, hidden histories, and the quirky facts we love to whisper about behind closed doors. Whether it's royal feuds, celebrity revelations, or mysteries from your favorite stories, nothing is quite as juicy as a well-kept secret. Gather your team, sharpen your wits, and prepare to uncover the truths that bring families together—and sometimes tear them apart.



SGF is grateful to Big Yellow, New Malden, for assistance with storage for props, costumes and technical gear.



Motor Neuron Disease Association

Following this production, a donation will be made to the Motor Neuron Disease Association.



Steve's sister is in the later stages of Motor Neurone Disease (MND). MND is a devastating, progressive condition that attacks the nerves controlling movement, leaving people locked in a failing body while their mind and senses remain intact.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA) is the only national charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland focused on supporting people affected by MND. The MNDA provides vital care and information, funds pioneering research to find treatments and a cure, and campaigns to ensure people with MND receive the best possible support.

Their vision is clear: a world free of MND. Until that day, they are committed to making sure no one has to face this disease alone.

Next Production – November 28th/29th

Our November show is another two-parter!

The first half is a selection of sketches based loosely on human behaviour, written by Frances Garrood, ranging from a vet's waiting area to a hospital room. With moments of poignancy and laughter it promises to be entertaining.

The second half is a one-act play called **Alright on the Night**, a farcical comedy by Robin Wilson about an Amateur Dramatic group rehearsal which goes from bad to worse. That sounds familiar to many of us SGF cast members!



As usual a delicious meal will be provided by our wonderful team. Book early to save disappointment!