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# WDG NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026

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## Its time to Party!

We are delighted to announce that we have been granted permission from Concord Theatricals to put on a production of *Abigails Party* by Mike Leigh in April 2027. The play, which celebrates its 50th year next year, will be directed by Marian Cox at Warton Village Hall. A production meeting has already been held at the Village Hall and an exciting set is being planned by our



technical team. The dates of the play will be **Wednesday 31st March to Saturday 3rd April**, with a matinee and evening performance on Saturday. A reading will be held in October and casting will take place before the new year to allow rehearsals to start in January.

This is an exciting production which sees WDG return to Warton after a few years away at The Heron. The play will be performed in the round and use WDG's seating/staging rake to create an intimate experience for the audience. For those who haven't seen it, *Abigail's Party* is a landmark 1977 British tragicomic stage play. It is a razor-sharp, cringe-inducing satire of suburban aspirations, social class, and gender roles. Set entirely in a 1970s living room, it follows a disastrous cocktail party where tensions escalate into emotional chaos. As well as building the seating/

Anyone own a sofa like this? We are on the look out for 1970's furniture for *Abigails Party*

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staging, we will need to construct a set and source some key pieces of furniture and props, please offer your help to Marian.

## Committee News

The committee meet every couple of months to keep the group on track. Recent meetings have focused on reviewing our risk assessment, the website, thinking about publicity and our next production. Anyone is welcome to attend committee meetings and contribute to discussions, in the (unlikely) event of a vote non committee members cannot vote. The next committee meeting is Thursday 25th June at Jo & Davids house in Hest Bank. **Our AGM will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd September 2026 in Warton Village Hall.** More details will be sent out to members via email a few weeks before each meeting.

## Brad Cheek

Brad Cheek, our amazing photographer, has captured rehearsals and produced publicity shots for our group for many years. Brads work from Hay Fever now features on a company website. The company is a start up who make stage cigarettes for theatre and film companies. Check out Brads photos and the products here: <https://www.stage-props.co.uk>

If you would like to reminisce some more, Brads own website is definitely worth a look as it features photographs from many of WDG's previous productions right back to 2019 and Hindle Wakes. Whilst you are there it's also worth exploring all of Brads other artistic work. Check it out here:

<https://bradverts.co.uk/multimedia/index.php/kinaesthetic-van?view=article&id=376:hay-fever&catid=60>



Malcolm as Stanley Haughton in Hindle Wakes  
2019 at The Heron

## WDG Links

Email: [admin@wdg.org.uk](mailto:admin@wdg.org.uk)

WDG Website: <https://www.wdg.org.uk>

WDG Facebook: Warton Drama Group, plus a private Facebook group 'WDG Cast & Crew' ask Jo if you would like to be added.

WDG Instagram: [wartondrama](https://www.instagram.com/wartondrama)