



MADF
ISLE OF MAN
EASTER FESTIVAL
OF PLAYS
2023

GAIETY THEATRE DOUGLAS
8th TO 14th APRIL



ARTS
COUNCIL

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Manx Amateur Drama Federation

Affiliated to NDFA, NODA and AETF

Committee

Patron	His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor
President	Michael Lees
Chairman	Sharon Walker
Vice Chairman	Vivienne Bridson
Festival Organisers	Jan & Mike Percival
PR Officer	Michael Lees
Online Admin	Emma Quirk, Ron Beswick,
Committee Members	Christine Sugden, Harvey Garton, Dorrie Garton, Mike Trout, Jan Percival, Mike Percival, Helen Clarke

Committee Representatives from:

The Manx Operatic Society	Arbory Players
The Legion Players	Friends of Manx Drama
Rushen Players	The Service Players
Hog The Limelight	

Life Members:

Mr J. Bowring	Mr M.J. Lees	Mr M. Trout
Mr M. Goodman	Mrs J. Percival	Mr S. Whittam
Mrs K. Goodman	Mr M. Percival	Mr J. Wright

MADF Stage Manager

Andy Simpson

Stage Team

Clare Austin, Artia Bawden, Louisa Bawden, James Maguire,
Karl Morgan, Lindsay Riordan, Sandra Simpson, Millie Burgan

The awards will be presented on Thursday night for the Youth Awards by Robert Meadows and on Friday night for the Adult One Act and Full Length Plays by H.E. The Lieutenant Governor Sir John Lorimer.

Winners of the MADF Festival will be eligible to compete in the All England Theatre Festival Northern Area Semi-Final and may be invited to the National Drama Festivals Association All Winners Festival

MADF Chairman Sharon Walker



Dear theatre goer! May I wish you a warm welcome to our festival of plays. Over this week you will be able to enjoy 11 plays over a wide spectrum of genres and ages. By bringing our One Act and Full Length plays festivals together we hope to give you, our audience, the opportunity to indulge in new writing, classic theatre and everything in between!

This year we are joined by Robert Meadows of GoDA to adjudicate both competitions. Robert is well known to our MADF festivals having adjudicated at our One Act Play festival last year and in 2017 as well as our virtual Young Actor of Man competition during 2020. We eagerly await his comments and hope the participants benefit from her observations. Unfortunately there can only be one winner but I can speak from experience by saying that just by being in the competition itself reaps enormous benefits.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our Patron, His Excellency, Lieutenant Governor, Sir John Lorimer and Lady Lorimer. We are extremely grateful for their support and that of the Arts Council without whom we could not stage our competition.

Thank you also to the MADF committee who have worked tirelessly to ensure the festival runs as smoothly as possible and to the teams for their hours of preparation and rehearsal in order to perform for you. And finally a big thanks to you – our audience – for supporting the competitions and our participants. Please settle into your seats and enjoy!

MADF wish to express their gratitude to the Staff and Management of the Gaiety Theatre, the Friends of the Gaiety and to the Empress Hotel who host our Green Room each evening and the Festival Lunch

We are grateful to G4S for storing the F.M.Cubbon trophy for the past year.

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As part of our commitment to inspire **participation**, **creativity** and **excellence** in the arts, the Isle of Man Arts Council are proud to fund amateur groups and societies enabling opportunities to perform at the magnificent **Gaiety Theatre**.



**ARTS
COUNCIL**

Isle of Man Arts Council
Department of Education, Sport and Culture
Unit 8, Villa Marina Arcade, Harris Promenade, Douglas, IM1 2HN

www.iomarts.com
01624 694598

Adjudicator Robert Meadows GoDA

I began my adjudicating career more than twenty years ago. Since then, I have adjudicated Irish, Scottish, English and British Finals and have had the privilege of working for over one hundred festivals from as far afield as Guernsey and up to the Orkney.

I am keenly interested in new writing for the theatre having been involved in writing and producing many site-specific dramas for Heritage Lottery as well as having work produced by professional and amateur groups. For many years I ran my own murder mystery company so have enjoyed the cut and thrust of staging plays.

Drawing on the experience of teaching and examining drama in schools and universities up to 2000, I went on to work as a keynote speaker on creativity and arts learning for Arts Council England across the UK and abroad. I continue – very occasionally, these days – to offer business development support to art and cultural organisations.

It has always been an honour to adjudicate for the Manx Drama Federation and I am looking forward to returning for this year's innovative Easter Festival. There will, as ever, be a range of challenging and engaging plays to enjoy and the opportunity to share with the wonderful audiences and performers a passion for all that is best about live theatre.



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MADF President, Michael J. Lees

Welcome to our Easter Festival which has seen some changes this year. The committee decided to bring together our 1 act play festival and our longstanding Easter festival. We sincerely hope this will make for an enjoyable week of theatre. Many festivals in the UK have closed since covid proved so disastrous for groups coming together and so we are delighted to once again include three teams from the UK.



We give a warm welcome to our adjudicator Robert Meadows who has been very popular with both our audiences and teams for his helpful adjudications. The Young Actor of Mann competition has become biennial and will next be organised in 2024.

My sincere thanks to our page sponsors and the IOM Arts Council without whom this festival would struggle to financially survive.

Finally I wish to put on record my thanks to our hardworking chairperson Sharon Walker. She works very hard to bring all aspects of our festivals and MADF together.

Wishing all teams and you our audience a Happy Easter Festival.

Spencer Wright Bursary

The fund is available to assist with the purchase of equipment or materials needed by students enrolled on an Undergraduate/Musical Theatre training course.
www.madf.im

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MADF - Manx Amateur Drama Federation

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LMS Partners is proud to support the Manx Amateur Drama Federation's Festival of Plays at the Gaiety Theatre 8th – 14th April 2023

'Break a leg' to all involved!



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Saturday 8th April

Service Players (Isle of Man)

“Lovers” by Tony Rushforth

Published by Samuel French Ltd

Cast:

Maureen - Lindsay Quayle

Anna - Michelle Cain

Bob - Lindsay O’Riordan

*Directed by Lindsay Quayle (with
help from the rest of the cast)*

*Backstage help Sam Edmund
Beth Davies*

*Stage setting and props
Lindsay Quayle*

Maureen, Bob and Anna are all visiting Michael’s grave. They speak to Michael as if he is still here. How are they all connected to Michael? How much do they know about each other’s parts in Michael’s life.

This page is sponsored by Dorrie and Harvey Garton

Youth Festival

Broadway Youth Theatre

(Isle of Man)

“Sweep Under Rug” by Lindsay Price

Published by Theatrefolk Original Playscripts

Cast:

Miranda	-	Emily Bridson
Counsellor Kelly	-	Abigail Harrison
Ariel	-	Darcy Swann
Conrad	-	Orry Wilson
Bobby Sue	-	Stella Karezi

Director Carrie Hunt

Team SUR Saoirse, Danielle, Matty, Joe

Sweep Under The Rug envisions a future where struggling families are placed in the “Bobby Sue” program. A “Bobby Sue” is a computerised guardian of sorts; someone who warns their “family” against making wrong decisions and guides them along the appropriate path in life.

But what happens when people want to think for

This page is sponsored by Dorrie and Harvey Garton

Sunday 9th April
Wellington Theatre Company

(Shropshire)


“Waiting For Godot”
by Samuel Beckett

Published by Concord Theatricals

Cast:

Vladimir - Joseph Maclean
Estragon - Jack King
Pozzo - Simon Phillips
Lucky/The Boy - Sean Gilham

Directed by - Ali Maclean
Lighting and Sound - Laura Delves



Vladimir and Estragon (two tramps) meet near a tree in the middle of nowhere. They are waiting to meet a man called “Godot”.

The two men have to find ways of entertaining themselves to pass the time whilst they wait for the appearance of Godot.

They are joined by Pozzo and Lucky (a slave owner and his carrier) who attempt to entertain the men to pass the time.

Monday 10th April
White Cobra Productions (Northampton)
"The Lonesome West"
by Martin McDonagh
Published by Samuel French Ltd

Cast:

Father Welsh - Ben Stanton
Coleman Connor - Fraser Haines
Valene Connor - Richard Jordan
Girleen - Olivia Hulley

Director - Ian Spiby
Stage Management - Bernadette Wood and Kate Jordan
Set Design - Rod Arkle
Set Construction and Painting - Rod Arkle
and Bernadette Wood
Props - Denise Swann and Kate Jordan
Lighting & Sound - Dave & Flic Jones

Valene and Coleman, two brothers living alone in their father's house after his recent death. find it impossible to exist without the most massive and violent disputes over the most mundane and innocent of topics. Only Father Welsh, the local young priest, is prepared to try to reconcile the two before their petty squabbling spiral into vicious and bloody carnage.

This page is sponsored by Christine Sugden

Youth Festival

Tuesday 11th April

Platform Theatre School (10M)

“Heritage” by Dafydd James

Published by Bloomsbury

Cast:

ABBY BREWARD
CAOIHME FARRELLY
ELLA WINSTANLEY
EVIE COWELL
DAISY WATSON
KAYLA ODELL
LILY COWELL
LUCINDA MUSSON
ROSIE BULLOUGH
SAMMY WINSTANLEY
SCARLET BROPHY
TYLA CLARK

Heritage is a blistering black comedy that explores the darker side of nationalism.

It is May Day in the village of Northbridge and a group of children gather in an electrified cage. They are there to rehearse their performance for the festivities.

It gradually becomes clear, however, that this group of misfits have been corralled for very different reasons.

Parodos Theatre Company

(Isle of Man)

“The Monkey’s Paw” by William Wymark Jacobs

Cast:

Mr White - Thomas Iain Dixon

Mrs White - Meg Walker

Herbert White - Orry Wilson

Sergeant-Major Morris - Peter Wicks

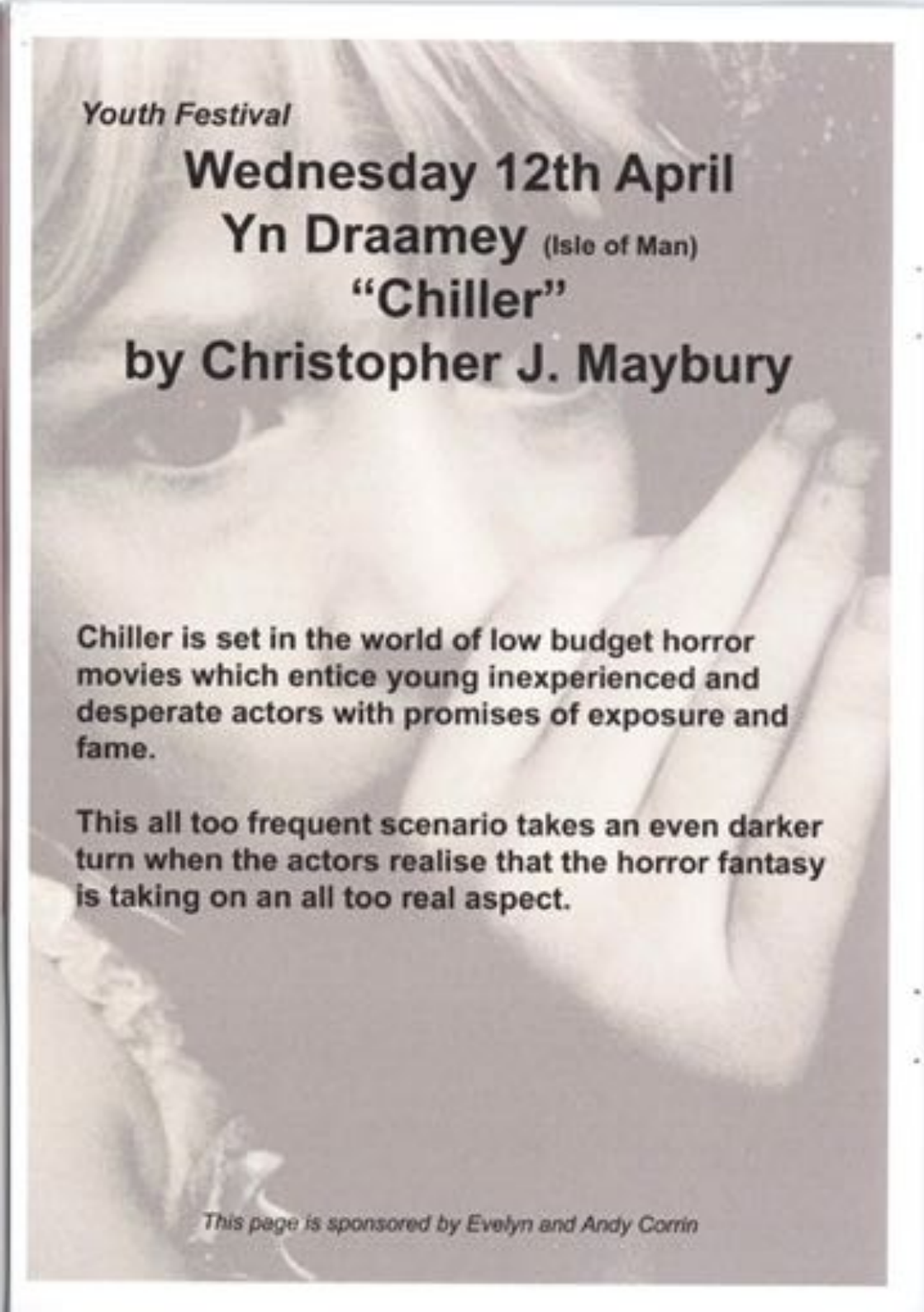
Narrator - Charlie Williams

Be careful what you wish for – you might receive it.

A mummified monkey’s paw bestows three wishes on its new owner; all of which come true, but in a macabre and unexpected way.

The married couple first wish to test the efficacy of the talisman. The second wish brings their dead son back from the grave. Then, in the dead of night, comes a knock at the door – their third wish.

This page is sponsored by Evelyn and Andy Corrin



Youth Festival

Wednesday 12th April

Yn Draamey (Isle of Man)

“Chiller”

by Christopher J. Maybury

Chiller is set in the world of low budget horror movies which entice young inexperienced and desperate actors with promises of exposure and fame.

This all too frequent scenario takes an even darker turn when the actors realise that the horror fantasy is taking on an all too real aspect.

This page is sponsored by Evelyn and Andy Corrin

The Service Players (Isle of Man)

“The Photograph”

by Lisa M. Smith

Cast:

- Debra - Rachel Martin
- Sally - Kim Quine
- June - Lisa Smith
- Paul - Neil Callin
- Derek - Toby Smith
- Young Debra - Meredith Creighton
- Young Sally - Jemima Caine
- Ken - Simon Fletcher
- Sheila - Jenny Derbyshire
- Frank - Chris Caine
- Sue - Sarah Radcliffe
- Bob - Geoff Pugh
- Gloria - Rachael Joughin
- Maria - Vivian Toro
- Brendan - Rob Pritchard

CREW

- Director - Helen McKenna
- Technical - Jenny Halstein
- Continuation - Rosina Gallagher

Debra and Sally find a collection of their mother's photos, one of which puzzles them somewhat. Will they ever find out who the mystery man at the garden party was?

Youth Festival

Thursday 13th April

Yn Draamey (Isle of Man)

"Faces in The Dark"

by Christopher J. Maybury

Four young people suddenly become aware in a dark and confining space.

They cannot remember how they got there.

They cannot remember where the place is.

They speak to each other and shout for help.

An authority figure appears and one at a time subjects the young people to abuse and humiliation.

The young people realise that their predicament is beyond their control.

It may be terminal.

And repeatable.



This page is sponsored by Helen and Johnny

Rushen Players (Isle of Man) **“September In The Rain”** **by John Godber**

*This amateur production of “September in the Rain” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk*

Some cuts have been made to the script to comply with the One Act Festival rules of 55minutes duration.

Cast:

Liz - Jude Dicken

Jack - Jack Verity

Directed by Susie Beswick

BEHIND THE SCENES

Lights & Sound: - Ron Beswick

**Stage Crew: - Matthew Warren, Adrienne Sanderson,
Susie Beswick**

Prompt: - Brian Matthews

Newly wed Yorkshire couple, Liz and Jack, have their first trip to 1950 Blackpool. They holiday in a world of deckchairs and donkeys. As the Wurlitzer organ plays they sway together on the floor of the Tower Ballroom. For 30 years, come rain or shine, they never miss their annual week on Blackpool sands. Moving backwards and forwards through time, 30 years of married life unfolds through laughter and tears, boarding houses and fish & chips.



Friday 14th April

Garden Suburb Theatre (London)

**“The Game’s Afoot;
or Holmes for the Holidays” by Ken
Ludwig**

Published by Samuel French

Cast:

William Gillette/Holmes – Mark Sampson-Vincent

Felix Geisel/Moriarty – Kayne McCutcheon

Madge Geisel/Marian – Fiona White

Martha Gillette – Debbie Lane

Aggie Wheeler/Alice – Claire Janew

Simon Bright/Zerlinsky - Daryl Hurst

Daria Chase – Trudi Dane

Inspector Harriet Goring – Saria Babiker

It's December 1936 and Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his leading role in the play “Sherlock Holmes” invites his fellow cast members to his Connecticut castle. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death the festivities in this isolated house quickly turn dangerous. Gillette assumes the persona of his beloved Holmes to catch the killer before the next victim appears. Danger and hilarity ensue.



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ONE ACT PLAYS AWARDS WINNER

Cyril Spencer Best Play in Youth festival	Youth Festival
Best Director in Youth festival John Bowring Trophy	Youth Festival
Olga Gray MBE award Best Actress in Youth Festival	Youth Festival
Stan Woolock Trophy Best Actor in Youth Festival	Youth Festival
Northern Arts Rose Bowl Best Adult play	Adult 1 Act Festival
Best Director Caine Family Trophy	
Adjudicator's award (Discretionary)	
Best Actress Jean Webb award	
Best Actor Mark Clift Award	
Best use of Sound & Lighting Sure Mobile Award	
Best stage Design John Hayes Trophy	
<i>On line on MADF website remaining 1 act awards winners</i>	
Best Actor in Supporting Role Rushen Players President's Award	
Best Actress in supporting role Personal Choice Ltd Trophy	
Best Dramatic moment Nadine Talbot Award	
Best Comedic moment Daphne Clark Memorial Trophy	

FULL LENGTH PLAYS

AWARDS

WINNER

John Bryan Award Audience Appreciation Award	All Festivals
David Sugden Memorial Trophy Set Conception, Design and Construction	
June Edge Trophy Most promising Performance under 21	All Festivals
Vanda Lambert Award Best Female Performance	
S.E. Benn Trophy Best Male Performance	
The Raven Players Award Best Producer/Director	
Jackie Banner Award Best Comedy	
Michael J Lees Award Best Drama	
Olga Gray MBE Adjudicator's award Outstanding Contribution	All Festivals
Jack Lynch Cup Second Runner up	
Dick Craine Cup 1st Runner Up	
The Rev F. M. Cubbon Trophy Best Play	
<i>On, line on MADF website remaining full length awards</i>	
Jenny & Brian Green Award Costume & Make Up	
Frances Isaac Award Best performance over the age of 60	
The Group Theatre Company Ensemble Award Ensemble Aspects of Production	
David Kennaugh Award Best Male Actor in a supporting role	
Mollie Corkill Award Best Female in a supporting role	

PREVIOUS WINNERS

- 1962 Rushen ADS IOM 'Ladies in Retirement'
1971 Legion Players IOM 'Angels in Love'
1990 - Martello Productions, Wicklow "Agnes of God"
1991 - Sedgefield Players, Co. Durham "Stepping Out"
1992 - Sedgefield Players, Co. Durham "Woman in Mind"
1993 - Group Theatre Company, London "September in the Rain"
1994 - St James' Players, Burnley "Last Tango in Whitby"
1995 - Sedgefield Players, Co. Durham "Dancing at Lughnasa"
1996 - Tryst Theatre, Falkirk "Under Milk Wood"
1997 - Brigstow Theatre Company "Driving Miss Daisy"
1998 - Tudor Players, Manchester "Hindle Wakes"
1999 - Tryst Theatre, Falkirk "Cemetary Club"
2000 - Tudor Players, Manchester "The Curious Savage"
2001 - Bovingdon Players, Herts "Abigail's Party"
2002 - Everyman Productions, Sligo "The Mai"
2003 - In Yer Space, Blackpool "A Night in November"
2004 - Tudor Players, Manchester "The Prisoner of Second Avenue"
2005 - Tudor Players, Manchester "Humble Boy"
2006 - Cytringan Players, Kettering "Night, Mother"
2007 - Cytringan Players, Kettering "Peggy for You"
2008 - Everyman Productions, Sligo "Juno and the Paycock"
2009 - Bejou Productions, Essex "Someone who'll watch over me"
2010 - Bejou Productions, Essex "Burn This"
2011 - Bejou Productions, Essex "The Birthday Party"
2012 - Romiley Little Theatre, Stockport "The Thirty Nine Steps"
2013 - Martello Productions, Wicklow "By the Bog of Cats..."
2014 - White Cobra Productions, Northampton "The Days of Wine and Roses"
2015 - Romiley Little Theatre, Stockport "Frozen"
2016 - White Cobra Productions, Northampton "Scaramouche Jones"
2017 - University Players Hamburg, "Lift Not the Painted Veil & Frankenstein"
2018 - White Cobra Productions, Northampton "Glorious!"
2019 - Martello Productions, Wicklow "Portia Coughlan"
2022 - Mutley and Minques, London - "The Importance of Being Earnest"

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If you are asked to evacuate the building, please do so as quickly as possible and leave by the nearest exit. You will be directed to this by the staff.

In the event of an emergency which by necessity requires that the Theatre be evacuated, you as a member of the audience are requested to co-operate by paying strict attention to any instructions, either by announcement from the stage, or given verbally by a member of the Theatre Staff.



**The Friends of Manx Drama help the
Manx Amateur Drama Federation to
promote the art of amateur theatre on
the Isle of Man**

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Selling programmes on the night

Helping to advertise the Festival
by distributing posters and flyers

Helping to source props and furniture
for the visiting drama teams

Providing food and refreshments
for rehearsals during the day

***This is just an indication of some of the varied
ways you can become involved***

If you would like to help, please contact:

Harvey - 432532 hadgar@manx.net

Christine - 817507 folly@manx.net

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MADF
ISLE OF MAN
EASTER FESTIVAL
OF PLAYS

Saturday 8th - Friday 14th April

**GOOD LUCK TO
EVERYONE TAKING PART**



**We hope you
enjoy the plays!**

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