

THEATRE 3 NEWTOWNABBEY  
**A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE DUCKS**

*By Jean Lennox Todie*

**The Play**

Two 'strangers' meet close to the duck pond in the grounds of a senior citizens' housing complex. Irma and Samuel discover that there is still much to enjoy about life. She is 78, he is 79 — they put their moves on each other in a minuet that is a joy to behold.

**The Group**

Theatre 3 Newtownabbey was formed in 1984 when three companies in the Newtownabbey area decided to join forces. In the last 30 years Theatre 3 have produced a multitude of plays ranging from local comedies for Summer Theatre to the Classics from authors all around the globe such as Sean O'Casey, Henrik Ibsen, Neil Simon, Graham Reid, Jean-Paul Sartre, Harold Pinter and Lee Blessing to name but a few. They are regularly to be seen on the Festival circuit (both Full and One-Act) and have had numerous appearances in Ulster, Irish and British Finals with plays like *Ghosts*, *Remembrance*, *Heroes*, *One for the Road* and *Bench at the Edge*.

T3 are delighted to represent Northern Ireland in the British Final for the third time running.

KIRKINTILLOCH PLAYERS  
**THE BEACHES OF ST VALERY**

*By Stuart Hepburn*

**The Play**

In June 1940 Churchill hailed "the miracle of Dunkirk" when all 350000 men of the British Expeditionary Force were evacuated to safety by a flotilla of little ships. For the men of the 51st Highland Division there was no "miracle", sacrificed in a secret political deal Churchill ordered them to stay and fight. Against overwhelming odds the remaining 9000 men had no other choice than to surrender at St Valery-en-Caux and were marched all the way to POW camps in Poland.

All of them were betrayed! Some of them escaped! One of them fell in love! The Beaches of St Valery is his story! Dedicated to the memory of Arthur and Helene Fraser and the men of the 51st Highland Division.

**The Group**

Kirkintilloch Players is one of the oldest clubs in Scotland. It was founded in 1923/24 - this year we celebrate our centenary 100 years of existence!

Along with many other clubs in Scotland the pandemic took its toll on us. We are so happy that we have been able to present two full length plays, a youth show, music from the movies and lastly our annual pantomime albeit a scaled down version in our own little Turret Theatre in the past year.

We are delighted that we can once again represent Scotland in the UK's One Act Festival Final and can't wait to meet the other teams and to see their plays.

We are looking forward to performing at The MAC Theatre Belfast in this year's British Final.

TOTAL ARTS COMMUNITY THEATRE  
**A SUDDEN VIOLENT BURST OF RAIN**

*By Sami Ibrahim*

**The Play**

From award-winning playwright Sami Ibrahim, a poetic fable of an impenetrable immigration system that mirrors our own.

A Sudden Violent Burst of Rain is a fairytale about the hostile environment, told through a mother and daughter's journey towards citizenship.

**The Group**

Total Arts Community Theatre are a very small community group based in Staffordshire. We have no permanent base and have been known to rehearse in gardens, car parks and greenhouses. We have an open door policy and anyone who joins gets a part. Outside of AETF, we perform in working men's clubs, Historic buildings and community venues. We are ten times English champions of the All England Theatre Festival and current British Champions. Previous Shows include *Metamorphoses*, *The Thrill of Love*, *Five Kinds of Silence* and *The Tempest*.

THE UNKNOWN THEATRE COMPANY  
**A SUPER HAPPY STORY (ABOUT FEELING SUPER SAD)**

*By Jon Brittain and Matthew Floyd Jones*

**The Play**

Sally's a happy person. She doesn't let little things get her down and almost never cries. But she's got an illness. It makes her feel like she isn't the person she wants to be, but she doesn't want anyone to know about it.

Prepare for a hilarious play about depression that explains how it's OK not to be OK.

**The Group**

The award-winning Unknown Theatre Company aims to provide performance opportunities and training for young people. Established for over 20 years, they have performed locally, nationally and internationally.