

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 20, 2023

Do you love Downton Abbey? Do you love playing Clue? Then we've got a great evening planned for you! Join us for the 1920s Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre on June 3rd, 2023

Laurie McRae-Bingley spends her days as a kindergarten teacher and her nights as an actor, writer, and director. And she sees a lot of parallels. "Both take a lot of energy!", she laughs.

Now, Laurie and her *Murder on the Funny Side Productions* theatre troupe are bringing their talents – and lots of fun - to the WDMH Foundation's 1920s Murder Mystery Night. It will be held on June 3rd, 2023, at Matilda Community Hall in Dixon's Corners.

Laurie's original play is entitled "Clues Lead to Murder at the Down Town Abbey" (© 2016) and it is sure to entertain all of the guests, even those pulled into the show. "I want everyone to have a good time and be comfortable," says Laurie. "We have a few surprises planned for those who choose to get involved. For everyone else, the clues will guide you!"

The theatre troupe includes 6 local actors playing 10 characters. They are supported by a lighting crew and a runner who keep everything on track. "We are all excited to finally bring this show back to life again for the first time in three years," sums up Laurie. "It's a fundraiser near and dear to our hearts because many of us, and our family members, have been cared for at the Winchester Hospital." In fact, Laurie's two grandchildren were born at WDMH!

The event has an upscale 1920s theme. Starting with a cocktail hour, the main meal will be a delicious plated dinner which includes chicken and ham by Traiteur La Bonne Bouffe Catering.

During the event, there will be a live auction – with local auctioneer Brandon Scheepers, a silent auction, raffles and games, and a free photo booth. Fabulous music will be provided by *Ice – No Slice*. Proceeds will support the WDMH Foundation's Family Care Fund – supporting families just like yours.

"We hope everyone will come to this special event in support of our local hospital," sums up Kristen Casselman, Managing Director. "This is the last WDMH gala we are planning for a while, so if you've always wanted to come, this is your chance. We can't wait to welcome you!"

Tickets are \$105 each. Purchase online at <u>https://wdmhfoundation1920smurdermystery.eventbrite.ca</u> or contact Justine Plummer at 613-774-2422 ext. 6172 or <u>jplummer@wdmh.on.ca</u>.



Cutline:

Seated Front row (I-r) : Nik Skidders as Lady RoseLynn/Mrs Lates; Stephane Bruneau as Lord Richard; Laurie McRae-Bingley -proprietor and writer as: Lady Viola / Lady Marla.

Standing in back row (I-r): Alex Merizzi as Inspector Klumzo (of the local constabulary); Brett Desrosiers-Director and as Lady Ethel/Mrs. GetMore; Marvin Massia as Mr. Berry Handsome / Mr. Will Barrell (butler) and Mathieu Tondreau as Sound and Lights Tech.

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