



## **You're Lucky if You're Killed**

Rehearsals have just gotten underway for this once-in-a-lifetime show being produced by ECT this November at the Grand. It was written by the Dr. Norman Craig, a Fergus physician, who staged the original production at the Fergus Grand Theatre in 1933.

The play concerns a group of young men, heading off to fight in the First World War. We first meet them on the night before they are to leave home, at a Dance Hall somewhere in small-town Canada. They are giddy, cocky, zealous teenagers, ready to serve and eager for a piece of the action.

When we next see them it is just a few short years later, during the closing days of the war. In a bombed-out French Chateau the surviving friends, along with a few new and unlikely compatriots, take stock of what they have turned into after four years of the brutality of war.

Finally, we see them return home, to a Canada that is eager to welcome them, but oblivious to the horrors they have been through.

This play was written as an homage to the dead, to those lost in the trenches of WW1, but its message still resonates today.

Directors Bronwyn Allen-Hill and Gary Bryant have assembled a large group of people for this production already, but are looking for more, specifically for some young men and boys (the average age of recruits at that time was 18 or 19 years old) to play some of the soldiers. In addition, they are also looking for some people who are willing to step in and assist with some of the sizeable production requirements for this show.

Grinder Productions is one of many area groups that have come together to help with this production. We've already done the set design, and several Grinder (many of whom are also ECT people) are helping onstage and off, but there's still room for more bodies.

The play is being produced, in part, in conjunction with the Fergus 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. There is also a fund-raising component to it as well. The current holder of the performance rights, the Grandson of Dr. Craig, has told ECT that the royalties he receives from this production will be donated to an organization dedicated to assisting the families of Canadian soldiers who have been killed in Afghanistan.

I would like to see as many Grinder members as possible out at this event, either offering their time and assistance with the production, or by coming out to see the show. It is an excellent opportunity for us to work with our fellow local theatre groups, and build the partnerships that are so essential to the continued health and vitality of the arts in our community.

To get on board, just call Bronwyn at 519-846-9612.

**Brighton Beach Memoirs**  
**A comedy by**  
**Neil Simon**



**Tracy Leighton**  
**Kate Jerome**



**Thomas McDevitt**  
**Stanley Jerome**



**Sonia Ingriselli**  
**Blanche Morton**



**J-P Soucy**  
**Eugene M. Jerome**



**Bailey Geissler**  
**Laurie Morton**



**Eric Goudie**  
**Jack Jerome**



**Julie Kennedy**  
**Nora Morton**



**Minerva Gardiner**  
**Stage Manager**



**Raven Clarke**  
**ASM**

*I didn't get a chance to print this off, and post it, the only time this summer we didn't have a Front-of-House display. Sorry guys! I'll include it here, in the newsletter, so that all may know who was involved in the show that was Brighton Beach Memoirs. Thanks to everyone for all their hard work and dedication on this show – you made it amazing –I've been told!*