



## **THE GATHERED LEAVES - By Andrew Keatley**

**PRODUCTION DATES: 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> January (matinees) 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> January (evenings)**

**AUDITIONS: Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, from 7.30 p.m.**

**Directed by Maria Bailey - Mob: 07586 297492 email – [mariab642@gmail.com](mailto:mariab642@gmail.com)**

This play brings three generations of the Pennington family together for the first time in 17 years, to celebrate William's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. William's children have always been a disappointment to him, with long-held resentments rising to the surface, and new problems unexpectedly presenting themselves, a family reconciliation may be some way off. That said this is a moving, poignant and funny family drama, providing some challenge for our actors.

**Period:** Spring and Autumn 1964 and Present Day  
**Set:** Some woodland on the fringe of a private property (down stage left or right) and the Drawing Room of a Conservative Country House, very late 20<sup>th</sup> century Country Life Mag.  
**Costumes:** Mostly modern day  
**Props:** Suitcases, Tea tray, cups and saucers, Uno, Trivial Pursuit & Backgammon, presents and a cake  
**Sound:** Doorbell and curtain music.  
**Lighting:** Basic – day going to night.

### **CHARACTERS AND AUDITION PAGES**

There is a wide age range across all the characters, and the ages shown below are playing age. There has to be a visible difference in ages between William and Olivia, Samuel, Giles and Alice and their children.

Young Samuel-	(Son 16yrs) - on the autism spectrum but is high functioning.	pgs. 7-9
Young Giles	- (Son 14yrs) - does all he can to support and protect his brother.	pgs. 7-9
William	- (74 yrs) – Doesn't appear to care about the needs of others.	pgs. 49-52, 75 & 128-130
Olivia	- (73 yrs – William's wife) – Calm and patient, the opposite of William though grows impatient with him.	pgs. 49-52
Samuel	- (Son 49 yrs) – Very honest and sees things black and white.	pgs. 133-136
Giles	- (Son 47 yrs) – totally devoted to Samuel and tries hard to keep everyone happy, though unsuccessfully.	pgs. 54-57 & 96-99
Sophie	- (Giles' wife 45 yrs) – Keeping up a façade with the marriage and appears to feel that she comes second to Samuel.	pgs. 54-57 & 96-99
Simon	- (22 yrs G&S son) – Forward thinking not afraid to challenge.	pgs. bottom 30-33
Emily	- (19 yrs G&S daughter – Doesn't like confrontation except with her brother Simon.	pgs. ½ way 68-top 73
Alice	- (Daughter 39 yrs) – Estranged for 17 years with the family	pgs. 76-to top 79
Auralia	- (17 yrs A's mixed-race daughter) – friendly and accommodating	pgs. 111-114

Please contact Maria with any questions and/or for a reading copy of the script, contact details above.  
Please also do get in touch if you are interested in working backstage on props, lighting, sound, stage managing or prompting.