

Charlton Kings Community Players Newsletter

May 2017

'Let Us Be Merry – Travelling to Christmas' – 2016

This highly popular community production was on 7th December in Sacred Hearts Hall. It was a joyful evening with music, songs and carols, poems and readings both funny and serious. Station Master & Guard, Tony Jeans, took us on our journey by Boat Train, the Orient Express and the Night Mail, with mince pies and drinks in the Restaurant Car of course!.



The Panto team performs 'Dick Whittington' (not forgetting the cat) written by Peter Simpson.



Sue Drinkwater reads 'The Donkey's Carol'. The young members entertain with amusing poetry.



CKCP Singers and The Wednesdays sing songs and carols and the audience was invited to join in.

Carol Singing

A group sang Christmas Carols at Grevill House in December.



This show took over two years to research and write and was based on local stories of WW2 and the 40s. A publication has been produced of the stories which contributed to the script.

A Showcase event was put on in October 2016 to introduce people to the show, the local stories and the exhibition.



The show in February 2017 was very well attended and we had a very positive response from the audience. Older members especially enjoyed singing familiar songs. We had some of the story contributors there each night and were able to present them to the audience.



Tip: Copy links given into your browser

The exhibition was packed every night and the extra session on the Friday afternoon provided an opportunity to view items and material about the show for people unable to get to the performance or wanting a second look.



On Monday 20th, we provided workshops called 'Living in WW2' for primary age children using the expertise of cast members and material from the exhibition and the associated research. The workshops were led by Jane Jones with support from St Edward's School.



© Tim Hamilton (St Edward's School)

The Charlton Kings Film Society screened the WW2 classic, 'Mrs Miniver', in February 2017 as part of their support for the Players productions.

The Forge newsagents hosted a window display for a week before the show and Charlton Kings Library put on a display of books related to WW2.



St Edward's School provided use of their Performance Hall, Main Hall and drama studios for the production and rehearsals.

Donations were made from income generated to Great Western Air Ambulance, Severn Freewheelers and St Edward's School.

The photographic storybook may be downloaded from the Players web site at:

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/SSD-Photo-Storybook.pdf>

Street Drama 2017

The Players performed a street drama on Good Friday as part of the Charlton Kings Churches 'Walk of Witness'. This was called "*The Newcomer*" by Paul Burbridge & Murray Watts (performed under licence as part of the Riding Lights repertoire).



Angels on duty, Lynne Glover and Jane Jones, receive the 'Good Thief', Helen Jones, on her entry into Paradise. An appreciative audience watched the drama unfold.



Photos of this and the 'Walk of Witness' may be downloaded from:

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Walk-of-Witness-2017-update.pdf>

Charlton Kings in Bloom talk on Wartime kitchen gardens

The Players supported the annual Spring talk put on by the Charlton Kings in Bloom group by providing a table top display of various artefacts and books from the exhibition put on for 'Some Sunny Day'. The talk was held in the Stanton Room on 28th April. For information about CK in Bloom

<http://www.charltonkingsinbloom.talktalk.net/www.charltonkingsinbloom.talktalk.net/Home.html>

Charlton Kings Community Fayre

The Charlton Kings Library put on an event as part of their 40th birthday celebrations (1977-2017) to promote local groups and clubs. The Players provided a display and attracted local interest.



Let Us Be Merry 2017

The Players regular Christmas Show will be on the evening of Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Sacred Hearts Hall.

There is a Play reading evening on 5th September 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in the CK Baptist Church when material for this show may be considered.

Look forward to seeing you.

Donations to charity

The Players have contributed nearly £26,000 to charities since Dec 1992 (its formal formation with a constitution).

This includes 'The Alison Luna Bursary' donations which total £1,895.

Alison Luna Bursary for Performing Arts



In honour of a dearly loved, distinguished and highly talented member of the Charlton Kings Community Players, who died in 2004, we offer each year one or more bursaries of £100-£150 to students of Performing Arts.

Applicants would normally be under 21, having been selected for a bona fide drama-related course which may include a backstage specialism. Exceptionally a more mature student, studying, say, writing or directing, could be considered. Priority will be given to residents of Charlton Kings or who were active locally but have moved away. Anyone who has acted or worked backstage effectively with the Players will have an advantage.

If you would like to apply for the Alison Luna Bursary, please include the following details:

- details of your course and the location of your studies;
- your reasons for choosing 'Performing Arts' and this particular course;
- any future plans you may have for making use of the course after your studies;
- your thoughts on how you may use the bursary.

A form is available at:

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com/contact-alison-lunar/>

CKCP Publications

Available on CD ROM various CKCP publications (as pdf files):.

** Its Performance Trilogy from the earliest roots in the 1980s until Easter 2017 – production details, photographs, programmes.

** Photo storybooks for the productions 'Let Us Remember' (2014), 'Murdered to Death' (2016) and 'Some Sunny Day' (2017).

** The local stories which underpinned the script for 'Some Sunny Day'.

Contact Sandra & Tony Jeans at jeanstda@jeanstda.plus.com

Other Publications

Available on CD ROM (as a pdf file) 'New Slants on the Word' which contains performance pieces by Tony Jeans, Peter Grainger and Lynne Glover. Some of these pieces have been performed as part of the Street Theatre in Charlton Kings on Good Friday and as part of 'Let Us Be Merry', the annual Christmas Show put on by CKCP. Contact Tony Jeans at jeanstda@jeanstda.plus.com

Informing the Community

The Players are providing people with information about their activities through various electronic and printed publications available.

There is a comprehensive web site and people may make contact by that means.

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com>

Information is published in the 'Where I Live' supplement produced by the 'Gloucestershire Echo', under the section for 'Charlton Kings'.

'Gloucestershire Info' is used to post regular activities

<https://www.glos.info/whats-on-and-events-around-gloucestershire/hobbies-societies-and-groups/>

Charlton Kings Community Players Committee Members 2017-2018

Chair – Jane Jones

Vice Chair – Geoff Ramshaw

Treasurer – Derek Palmer

Secretary – Fiona Connor

Publicity – Fiona Connor

Committee - Debbie Dundas, Jane Kane, Debbie Masling, Joyce Parsons, Peter Ryan, Sandra Jeans (co-opted) as Recorder of CKCP records/publications



The Players organise play readings through-out the year You are invited to join us on these informal evenings and to help choose future productions. These are advertised on the web site and through the email contact list.

Writers Wanted

We are on the look-out for new and budding writers – if you have an idea for a play or sketch, please come along to a Play Reading evening and share it with us.

Tim Masling



Tim on stage during 'Let Us Remember' (2014) and with Debbie in 'The Rivals' (2013)

It is with great sadness that I write about Tim who was such a character and who will be greatly missed by the Players. Tim was involved with the Players in a variety of disguises – taking roles in productions including 'Let Us Be Merry' (notably as a gorilla), 'Let Us Remember', 'The Rivals', 'Ghost Train' and 'Murdered to Death'. His roles usually had a comic element, which he played to the full – who will forget his portrayal of the Frenchman Pierre Marceau in his last performance, with his exaggerated French accent, or his sinister Station Master with his hurricane lamp in Ghost Train.

Tim was also able to learn his lines with great ease – enabling him to develop his character and movement around the stage while the rest of us were still at the stage of juggling books and forgetting our lines.

Tim did not only perform with the Players, but he also supported Debbie, his wife, as she took on the arduous role of Chairman of the Players, and he was always there to help when staging was being moved, erected or dismantled. He also masterminded some really enjoyable quizzes which raised valuable funds for the Players to buy new lighting and sound equipment.

His sense of humour, comedy and ebullient personality were the outward appearances of a sensitive and thoughtful man. He will be greatly missed, and not only by Debbie and his children, but also by the wider community, including the Charlton Kings Community Players. I am so grateful to have known and worked with him.

Jane Jones