



Let Us Be Merry - 2018

A celebration of the Christmas season in words and music

‘What is Christmas?’

The 18th LUBM in the Players’ history - thanks to all those in the community who have contributed to this annual Christmas event which raises money for charities.

LUBM 2018 charities were:

Charlton Kings Care Home

Shelter



*Compère
Sue Drinkwater*

Photographs were taken at rehearsals and on the performance evening.



An evening of songs, readings and sketches, as part of the Players regular Christmas Show, was held in Sacred Hearts Hall.

The audience enjoyed the opportunity to sing popular Christmas carols, and to enjoy mince pies and drinks in the interval.

Anna, Sue, Jane, Linda and Derek perform a piece by Joanna Miller *'What is a Christmas'*.



Local school students contributed to the show by performing two sketches – *'A Very Special Time of Year'* and *'The Light of the World'*

'The Ladies Choir' in rehearsal for their unique presentation of a version of *'Jingle Bells'* on Christmas shopping.



The Charlton Kings Junior School Choir joined the production for the first time, and entertained with two uplifting songs, one with a soloist. This was much appreciated by the audience.

The singing group **'The Wednesdays'** with their leader Louise Johnson entertained with a lively selection of songs.



‘Pete’s Pantos’ was on great form again for a snappy production of **‘Cinderella’**.

Peter, Don, Brenda, Sophie and Jan delivered a concise and amusing ‘mini production’.



‘Puzzlejug’ – Geoff, Gwilym, Cressida and Carol performed a selection of traditional carols, including **‘A Virgin Unspotted’** which provides the name **‘Let Us Be Merry’** for these Christmas shows.



Alison sang two Christmas songs – the **‘Appalachian carol’** which has traditional roots and is a Christian folk hymn, and a song which tells a miraculous tale based on the Christmas wishes of a little girl.



Joyce read two poems written by Nazareth House residents from a recently published book. The Players provided funding to support its publication from the proceeds of LUBM 2017. Brenda read a deeply reflective poem - **‘The Thirteenth Day of Christmas’**.

Derek read a '*Wartime Christmas*' reflecting on the Great War, 2018 being 100 years on from the Armistice.

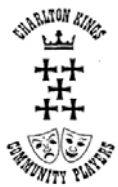


Linda entertained with a piece about '*A Family Christmas*'.



Sylvia amused with '*Eat, Drink and Be Sick*' (no photo)

Lynne provided food for thought with two pieces by Elizabeth Rooney – '*Bethlehem Revisited*', when a certain visitor returns to see where he was born, and '*Gifts*'.



Preparing for the show

Producer, Jane Jones, at rehearsal ready to brief the performers.



Jane, Nigel and Debbie confer on the programme.



Sound and lighting technical crew - Nigel, Peter and Chris.

