

## 'The Browning Version'

### by Terence Rattigan

The action takes place in the sitting room of the Crocker-Harris's flat at a Public School in the South of England. It explores the relationships between the three main players, often dramatic, funny and sad in turn.

Ill health is forcing Andrew Crocker-Harris to retire from school teaching. His wife despises him for being a failure and has been finding consolation with another master, Frank Hunter. As Andrew prepares to leave she openly taunts him. Frank, witnessing this, is disgusted and bitterly ashamed. As the full story of the marriage is revealed, he warms to Andrew. Millie Crocker-Harris knows she has lost Frank, but even more bitter is the realisation that he is now Andrew's fast friend. To this is added the mischievous but very likeable Taplow, one of Crocker-Harris' pupils, who has a secret admiration for 'the Crock'. The scenes between these two and Taplow and Hunter are delightfully portrayed and there is much humour but also pathos in them. There are some memorable encounters too between Crocker-Harris and his Headmaster and his replacement Peter Gilbert and his wife.

Rattigan has this wonderful gift of ensuring that even the minor characters add a great deal to the play as a whole. Combine this with a very strong cast and the audience is in for a very enjoyable first half of this evening's programme.

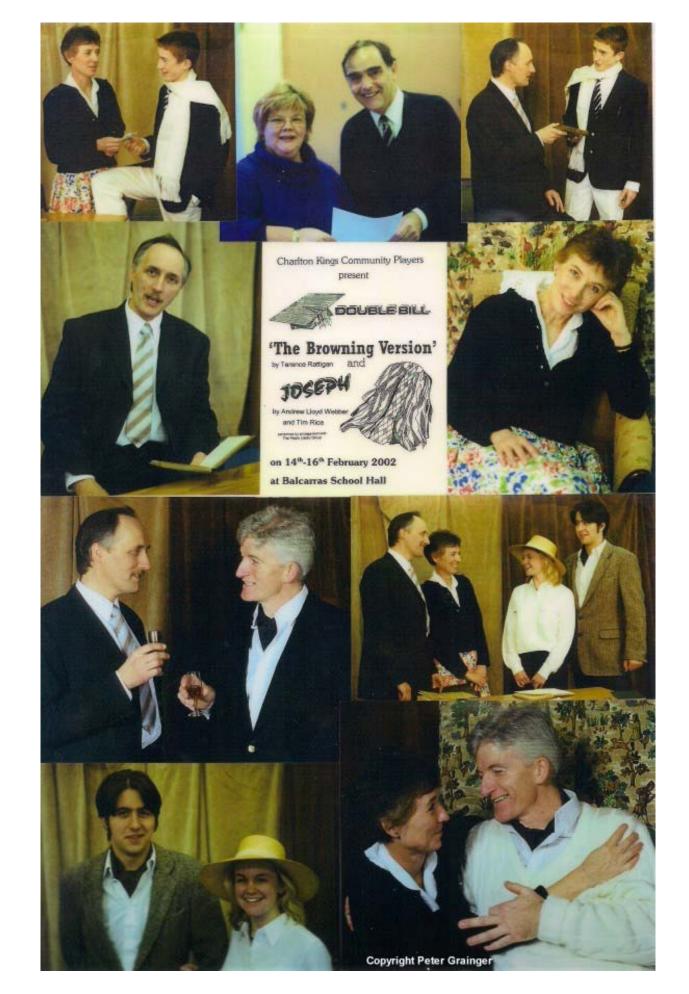
John Palmer plays Crocker-Harris. John has been a leading member of the Players for some time now and his credits include Badger in 'Toad of Toad Hall' and the Inspector in 'An Inspector Calls', plus numerous other parts.

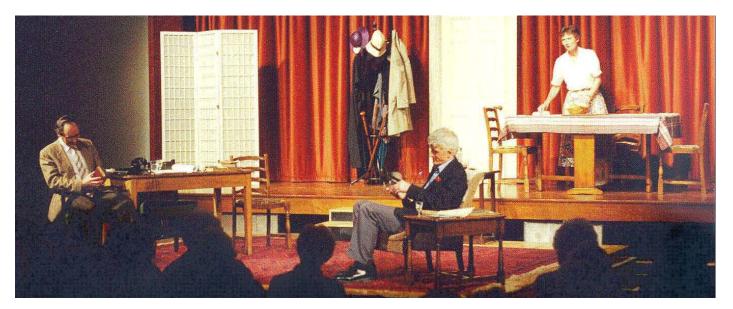
Jo Kinane plays Frank Hunter. Jo has played a number of roles over the last few years for the Players and recently produced 'Let Us Be Meny Again'. Jane Kane plays Millie Crocker-Harris, her first leading role for the Players.

The interplay between these three form the meat of the play. They bring a depth of understanding, sensitivity and delight in the performing of the play and will provide very good, strong performances.

The supporting parts are taken by three of our very talented and exciting young members, Oliver Jackman, Kayleigh Storey and Tom Jordan. Kayleigh played Jackie in our last production, *Hay Fever'*, and we welcome Tom to his first part with us. All of them give marvellous cameo performances and will delight the audience in the freshness of their approach. It augurs well for the future of the Players that we have such talented youngsters in our midst.

Martyn Fry





#### CAST

in order of appearance		
Taplow	Oliver Jackman	
Frank Hunter	Joe Kinane	
Millie Crocker Harris	Jane Kane	
Andrew Crocker-Harris	John Palmer	
Headmaster	Martyn Fry	
Peter Gilbert	Tom Jordan	
Mrs Gilbert	Kayleigh Storey	
Producer	Martyn Fry	
Stage Manager and Assistant Producer	June Pearce	
Assistant Stage Manager	Dilys Roberts	
Stage Design	Peter Grainger	
Set Construction	Ray Talbot and Richard Major	
Props	Alison Luna and Louise Palmer	
Prompter	Alison Luna	





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### 'Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

The original score of 'Joseph' and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' was written to be performed by children; it has since become a well-loved stage musical with an adult cast. Val Flippance and I wanted to return to these beginnings with this production of 'Joseph' using a cast of children from Charlton Kings. Unfortunately, because of her illness, Val has been unable to continue with the production, but I think she will be pleased with the result!

The familiar story of 'Joseph' is told in the abridged version of the show. Joseph lives with his brothers and father, Jacob, in Canaan. Joseph is Jacob's favourite son and the giving of a colourful coat leads to anger and jealousy amongst the eleven brothers. It is not surprising that the brothers found Joseph and his dreams pretty insufferable, especially when he suggests he might be more important than them! In a fit of pique the brothers decide to drop him in a pit and leave him to die.

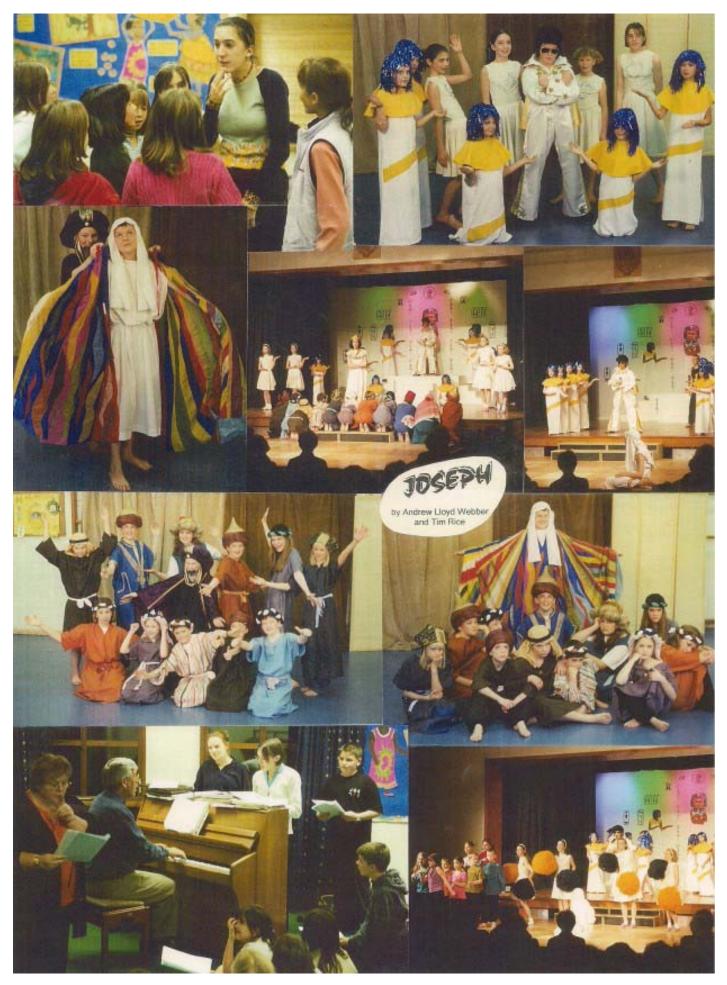
By the time the brothers have had a chance to 'cool down' the fateful passing of a group of Ishmaelites sets in motion a train of events which takes Joseph to gaol in Egypt where his ability to interpret dreams leads him to Pharaoh's palace.

This lively rock 'n' roll number, in which Pharaoh is obviously 'The King', ensures that Joseph soon becomes Pharaoh's trusted second-in-command in times of plenty and famine. This could be the happy ending needed to finish the show; however we return to Canaan to find the famine taking its toll on the brothers and their father, now an old man.

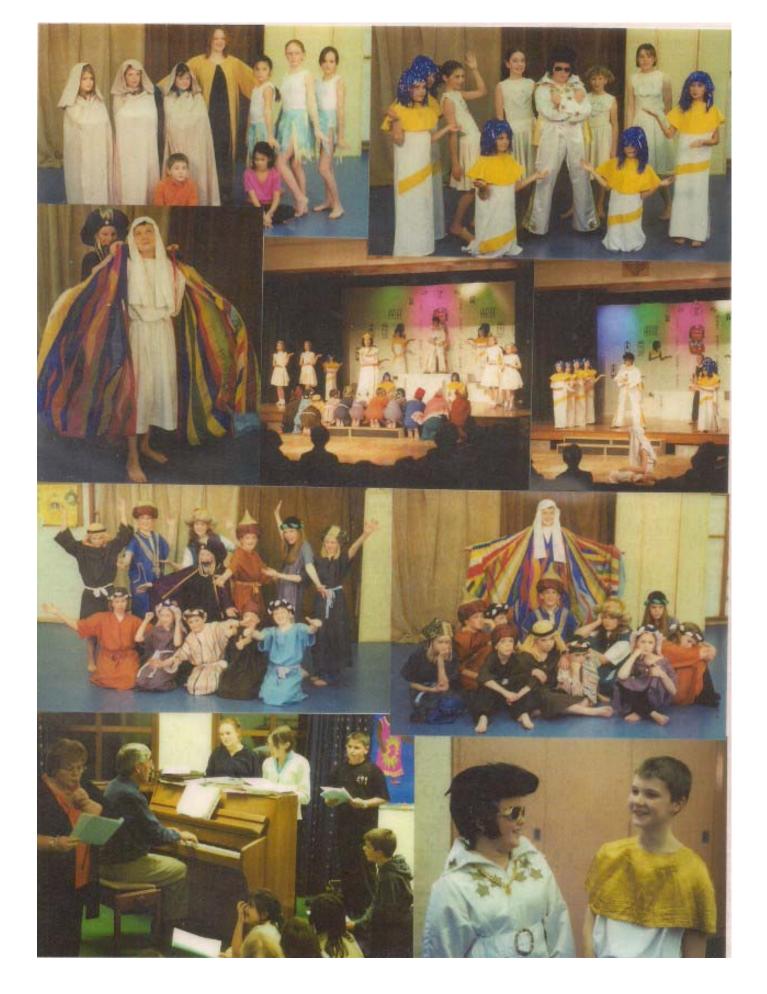
The brothers travel to Egypt where there is plenty of food. As they grovel at his feet, Joseph realises that the dreams have come true and decides to teach his brothers a lesson. He accuses Benjamin of theft. The brothers, knowing that their father will be devastated by the loss of another son, beg for his freedom. Joseph reveals himself and Jacob comes to Egypt to be met by Joseph in his 'chariot' of gold. 'Any dream will do' brings the cast together for the final celebrations in song.

This enthusiastic young cast will ensure that the second part of the double bill has toes tapping and fingers snapping to the tunes of now familiar songs. Large boxes of tissues are recommended for the more tearful amongst you!

Andrea Wood



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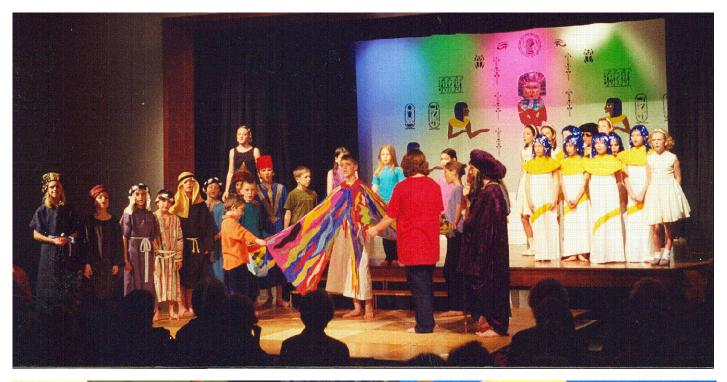








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		Producer	Andrea Wood
Ishmaelites	Debbie Dundas, Gemma Foulkes, Miles Guildford, Jamie Martell, Chrissie Worrall	Musical Director	Keith Mead
and the second states	The new second strangers in the second strangers and the second strangers and	assisted by	Cynthia Birks
Pharaoh's Dancers	Kim Assemat, Laura Baggot, Zoe Haden, Philippa Hawkins-White, Megan Hill, Laura	Choreography:	
	Masling, Chrissie and Josie Worrall	Joseph's Dream Dancers	Olivia Wright
Candle Dancers	Laurie Assemat, Debbie Dundas,	Pharaoh's Rock 'n' Roll	Laura Jackman
	Gemma Foulkes, Miles Guildford, Jamie	Other	Andrea Wood
	Martell, Rosie Norwood, George Trevaskis Chrissie Worrall	Production Assistant/	
Colour Dancers	Laurie Assemat, Debbie Dundas,	Team Co-ordinator	Tricia Ratcliffe
	Gemma Foulkes, Miles Guildford, Jamie	assisted by	Joyce Morgan (Costumes), Andy Culley
	Martell, Rosie Norwood, George Trevaskis		(Costumes and Set), Barbara Maynard (Props
Musicians	Lee Axford and Nouritsa Biberian (flutes),		and Costumes), Diane Mooney (Support)
	Matt O'Neill (guitar), Chris Rayner (bass) Diran Biberian (drums)	Set Design	Andrea Wood

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#### FOR THE DOUBLE BILL:

Production Manager	Tony Jeans
Lighting and Sound	Greg White, Richard Major and James Holland
Make-up and Hair	Rachel Uzzell, Eve Ward, Sarah Williams, Alison Mansfield, Jill Richell and Sue Trevaskis
Front of House	Peter Collins with Eric Worrall, Ann Cross, Tim Wood Jenny Palmer, and assistants
Publicity	Lynne Glover
Poster/leaflet Design	Geoffrey Maynard
Library/lobby Displays	Anna Wright
Photography	Barry Curl
Treasurer	Alison Luna

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We receive an enormous amount of help from so many people in the community when we stage a production of this scale, and we are very grateful to everyone who supports our activities in so many ways.

Again a special 'thank you' to Chris Healy, the Governors and staff, and especially to Andrew McClelland, the Deputy Head, for his unwavering help and kindness throughout the year. We are also grateful to Gary Pargeter, the School Caretaker, for all his on-going help, and wish him a speedy recovery - our thanks also to his deputy and brother, Derek.

Among those we would like to thank for kindly contributing to the staging tonight are *Lee Longlands* of Bath Road for the loan of the period telephone and Paula Hadley for the period armchair, *'Inside Out', 'Image' and 'Showcase'* for costumes, **Glenfall School** for Joseph's coat, Kevin Elliot for lighting equipment and Malcolm Hawkins of *Lyefield DIY* for the 'candles' and their contents.

We also very much appreciate the on-going help we receive from **Charlton Kings Pharmacy, 'Secondwind'** and '**The Vine'** with publicity and for selling our tickets locally, and to the **Post Office** and **Library** for their patience with our publicity.

We are very pleased again to be able to offer ice creams in the interval and thank *Walls* for their kind donation. We would also like to thank Ken Bloxham for continuing to provide a waterproof roof over our larger sets!

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# Some reports of the productions

# From the Chairman

A lot has happened since Barry wrote to you in August. The auditions for '**Browning Version'** and '**Joseph'** were very successful and two superb casts are now working hard on the double bill - "bonus" production for February. We have had an excellent set of workshops during the Autumn and new talent is always being discovered.

Unfortunately Barry has had to stand down as producer of '**Browning Version**' and to take a break from the Players for a short while because of pressure of work. This is a great loss to us and we want to put on record our thanks to Barry for his leadership and artistic contribution to the Players. Because Barry is unable to continue as Chairman at the moment, your Committee have invited me to be interim Chairman (definitely not <u>Acting Chairman - I am very happy back stage!</u>) until the AGM next year. I am very honoured to be so invited and I shall do my best to steer the players through the next cycle of productions and to prepare for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year in 2002.

Barry had given us a great start with '**Browning Version'** and we have been very fortunate that Martyn Fry has agreed to take over as producer and also to continue with the part of the Headmaster in the play. It is a good indication of the strength in depth of the Players that we can call on some one as experienced and talented as Martyn at short notice. Martyn is ably supported by June Pearce as stage manager and they are working with the actors to get this subtle little play just right.

Andrea Wood and her team are well advanced with the all singing and dancing '**Joseph**'. Unfortunately Val Flippance has not been able to take the role of assistant produced this time but Andrea has a great team with Cynthia as her assistant and Keith Mead as Music Director. We will, of course, be very happy to have Val back with us when she is available.

Tony Jeans November 2001 Charlton Kings Community Players Newsletter

## Report on the Last Production

Andrea Wood reported that '**Joseph**'was enjoyed by everybody although it was thought that a future production of a similar nature could have a matinee performance. Joe Kinane reported that '**The Browning Version**' was a great success, and thanks were given to Martin Fry who took over from Barry Irvine. Tony Jeans mentioned that the lift we hired for the lights was a great idea and that this should be hired each time.

Several letters of appreciation for the Show were received.

540 tickets had been sold and Lynne was thanked for her great publicity efforts.

March 2002 Charlton Kings Community Players AGM Minutes