



## *A round-up of Players productions from early days*

*'Rock Nativity' 1984*  
*'The Late Late Panto Show' 1986*  
*'Greater than Gold' 1986*  
*'Pharaoh to Freedom' 1987*  
*'Old Time Music Hall' 1989*  
*'House upon the Rock' 1990*  
*'Toad of Toad Hall' 1992*  
*'Cabaret' 1993*  
*'A Kaleidoscope of Romance' & 'Edward' 1997*  
*'A Lovely Day Tomorrow' & 'Harlequinade' 1999*  
*'Sunset House' 2003*

*The Players aim to produce photo storybooks of every main production which are published through their web site. For the very early productions this single publication has been assembled. If you have photographs or memorabilia which might be added please contact the Players through their web site.*

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com/>

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WENDY GRIFFITHS has been involved in drama, or according to close relatives, 'obsessed' is the better word, since the age of five when she made her first appearance on stage as a good fairy in a school play.

She has been a member of several local societies, including the G.O.D.S. and the C.O.D.S. and more recently her interest led her to taking the A.D.B. Diploma in Theatre Studies at the College of St Paul & St Mary. Since qualifying she has taught evening Classes and become very involved with community productions for various groups.

In 1982 Wendy founded the Charlton Kings Young Actors, a lively youth group specialising in improvisational techniques and the creation of their own plays. During the two years of their existence the group have won several awards at various One Act Play Festivals.

'Rock Nativity' is Wendy's first full scale musical production which she is finding a most stimulating challenge.

ALISON LUNA (Stage Manager) worked as a stage manager in the professional theatre for several years. She did ninety or so plays at theatres ranging from Cheltenham Everyman and the Birmingham Repertory Theatre to the Mermaid and the West End. Among colleagues of note have been Albert Finney, Alec McCowen, Julie Christie and Spike Milligan.

KEITH MEAD is a scientist in the Civil Service who finds music an ideal form of relaxation. He began playing the piano at the age of six and studied, most recently, until her death in 1982, with Iris Dyer of Gloucester. Although he plays mostly classical music for his own enjoyment, he occasionally has the opportunity to accompany local singers and musicians. He has, in the past played for light opera groups in Essex, Sussex and Liverpool. From time to time he plays the organ at Charlton Kings Baptist Church.

#### OTHER PROGRAMME NOTES

The Charlton Kings Community Players wish to express their gratitude to the County Secondary and the County Junior Schools, Charlton Kings, for their hospitality; to Koinonia for their help; and to the St Mary's Church Choir for their co-operation

CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

PRESENT



# 'ROCK NATIVITY'

BY TONY HATCH, JACKIE TRENT AND DAVID WOOD

## PROGRAMME

IN AID OF ST. MARY'S HALL APPEAL

#### ROCK NATIVITY

##### CAST (in order of appearance)

Evangelist	Basil Matthews
Gabriel	Ann Cross
Mary	Sarah Goodfellow
Joseph	David Arkell
Soldiers	Mandy Bevan
	Juliet Brawn
Herod	Peter Grainger
Melchior's servant	Paul Wisdom
Melchior	David Brawn
Caspar	Martyn Fry
Balthazar	Chris Smith
News Vendor	Juliet Grainger
Herod's Secretary	Joceline Matthews
Innkeeper's Wife	Margaret Eccles
Shepherds	Jeff Bevan
	Nicholas Corrigan
	Keri Griffiths
Simeon	Paul Matthews
Spies	Basil Matthews
	Mary Banwell
	Marion Brunskill

##### CHORUS

Janet Bevan  
Roz Brawn  
Grace Crossley  
Rosalind Eccles  
Elspeth Edwards  
Pauline Graham  
Loretta Jones  
Pilar Luna  
Sebastian Luna  
Heather Paine

##### PRODUCTION

Director  
Co-Musical Directors  
Guitar  
Wardrobe Mistress  
Wardrobe Assistants

Lighting & Set Construction  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Manager  
Administration  
Publicity

Wendy Griffiths  
John Yarnley  
Keith Mead  
John Graham  
Barbara Hubbard  
Rachel Burton  
Barbara Edwards  
Peter Ingle-Jones  
Alison Luna  
Philip Bevan  
Janet Bevan  
Margaret Hawker

#### MUSICAL CONTENTS

##### ACT I

1. Prophecies/Praise	Evangelist, Mary & Chorus
2. Magnificat	Mary
3. Don't be afraid	Gabriel & Male Chorus
4. Open your heart	Mary, Joseph & Chorus
5. This is Herod	Chorus
5a. Music under Dialogue	
6. To be a King	Herod
7. Far away in Persia	Chorus
8. Follow the Star	Three Wise Men & Chorus
9. Recitative: Caesar's Decree	Herod, Herod's Secretary & Chorus
10. Useless then to argue	Chorus
11. Going to be taxed	Company
12. Mary barely conscious	Chorus
13. With You	Joseph
14. To be a King (reprise)	Herod
15. Counting sheep	Shepherds & chorus of sheep
16. Don't be afraid (reprise)	Gabriel & Chorus
17. Come all ye faithful/ Follow the Star	Shepherds, Wise Men, Gabriel & Chorus
18. Silent Night/ What a way to welcome Him	Company

##### ACT II

19. Ding Dong Merrily on High/ Glory! Glory!	Company
20. Herod's Henchmen Hurry	Company
21. The Blessing	Simeon & Chorus
22. Nunc Dimittis/Peacefully	Simeon & Chorus
23. Glory! Glory! (reprise)	Chorus
24. I will watch you grow	Mary
25. Recitative: Herod's Decree	Herod
26. What game are you playing, Lord?	Mary, Joseph & Chorus
27. Off to Egypt	Gabriel & Chorus
28. Make a new tomorrow	Mary, Joseph & Company
Reprise 1. Glory! Glory!	Company
Reprise 2. Follow the Star	Company
Reprise 3. Make a new tomorrow	Company

'ROCK NATIVITY' is a combination of contemporary music, carols, recitative, dialogue and direct speech. This family musical is hopefully a modern equivalent of the mediaeval mystery play - simple, yet not naive, humorous yet not disrespectful, devotional, yet not overtly pious.



#### SOME BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**WENDY GRIFFITHS** (Director) has been involved in drama - some would say 'obsessed' - since the age of five, when she made her first appearance in a school play as the Good Fairy.

She has been a member of several local societies, including the G.O.D.S. and the C.O.D.S., and more recently took the A.D.B. Diploma in Theatre Studies at the College of St Paul and St Mary. Since qualifying she has taught evening classes and has become very involved with community productions for various groups.

In 1982 Wendy founded the Charlton Kings Young Actors, a lively youth group specialising in improvisational techniques and the creation of their own plays. During the three years of their existence the group has won several awards at various One Act Play Festivals.

'Rock Nativity' was Wendy's first full-scale musical production, and it has taken more than two years for her to find the right material for her second, 'From Pharaoh to Freedom'. With an even larger cast and additional dialogue developed by the Players, this production has been a particularly stimulating challenge.

**ALISON LUNA** (Stage Manager) worked as a stage manager in the professional theatre for several years. She did ninety or so plays at theatres ranging from the Cheltenham Everyman and the Birmingham Repertory Theatre to the Mermaid and the West End. Among colleagues of note have been Albert Finney, Alec McCowen, Julie Christie and Spike Milligan.

**KEITH MEAD** (Musical Director) is a scientist in the Civil Service who finds music - at least until 'Pharaoh' - an ideal form of relaxation! He began playing the piano at the age of six and studied with Iris Dyer of Gloucester. Although he plays mostly classical music for his own enjoyment, he occasionally has the opportunity to accompany local singers and musicians. He has played for light orchestra groups in Essex, Sussex and Liverpool. From time to time he plays the organ at Charlton Kings Baptist Church, and most recently directed another Roger Jones musical with them, 'Greater Than Gold'.

**CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS** is a non-partisan group of actors, singers and musicians from Catholic, Anglican and Baptist persuasions and includes those of no religious persuasion at all. Sadly we have no Jews in the cast, but we wish to thank those Jewish people who have willingly given their advice and guidance.

#### CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

PRESENT



BY ROGER JONES

27th - 30th MAY 1987

7.45 p.m.

## PROGRAMME

in aid of Charlton Kings Youth Centre Appeal

#### CAST (in order of appearance)

##### 'MODERN' FAMILY

Aaron (the father)	David Thompson
Elisheba (the mother)	Pauline Graham
Eleazar (the son)	Simon Hurl
Rachel (the daughter)	Roz Brawn
Moishe (the uncle)	Martyn Fry
Miriam (the aunt)	Margaret Walker

Rabbi	James Ingram
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##### 'OLD TESTAMENT' FAMILY

Aaron	Jeremy Worth
Elisheba	Ann Cross
Eleazar	Nick Corrigan
Rachel	Jill Richell
Moses	James Ingram
Miriam	Ann Anderson

Pharaoh	Peter Grainger
Pharaoh's son	Sebastian Luna

Overseers and foremen	Martyn Fry, Jeff Bevan, John Palmer, David Thompson
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Israelite woman	Margaret Eccles
Her daughters	Ros Eccles, Emma Sanders

The burning bush danced by	Joceline Matthews, Roz Brawn, Pili Luna, Barbara Penney, Dena Walker, Fiona Wood
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Pharaoh's guard	Peter Simpson, Jeff Bevan, Fiona Wood, John Palmer
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The plagues danced by	Roz Brawn, Sarah Hurl, Pili Luna, Dena Walker
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Angel of Death danced by sung by	Joceline Matthews Julie Seville
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John	Jeff Bevan
Peter	Martyn Fry
Matthew	Peter Grainger
Jesus	Paul Matthews
Mary Magdalene	Julie Seville
Other disciples	Peter Simpson, David Thompson, John Palmer

#### CHORUS

Janet Bevan	Linda Hurl
Rose Brooks	Richard Mead
Mary Hiscock	Brenda Simpson
Clare Hockett	Roz Taylor
Jean Hockett	Christine Tyler
Mark Hockett	

Other cast members also appear as members of the Chorus at various times during the production.

#### PRODUCTION

Director	Wendy Griffiths
Musical Director/Piano	Keith Mead
Guitar	John Graham
Drums	Derrick Walker
Flutes	Juliet Brawn, Fiona Ginns
Cello	Laurence Eccles
Stage Manager	Alison Luna
Wardrobe	Jean Hockett, Lois Newman
Lighting	Peter Ingle-Jones
Sound	Chris Jones
Set/Finance	Alan Penney
Administration	Janet Bevan, Margaret Hawker
Ticket Printing	Philip Bevan
Publicity	Peter Grainger, Margaret Walker, Ray Brooks

We would like to thank so many people who have helped in various ways to make this production possible, and particularly Balcarra School for their hospitality.

#### PRODUCTION NOTE

The story of Passover is the story of the Gospel itself. Pharaoh represents anything that holds us in bondage, and the blood on the doorposts anticipates the blood shed on the cross when Christ our Passover Lamb was sacrificed for us. Jesus celebrated the Passover with his disciples before his crucifixion, and from that meal comes the celebration of Holy Communion.

In our production we have stressed the dramatic intensity of these and other moments in Roger Jones' musical by adding dialogue in place of a narrator. Almost all of Jesus' words in Act Two come directly from The Good News Bible.

# Greater Than Gold

## 1986

### CHORUS OF CHILDREN

Melody Condy	Richard Foster	Stuart Hodges
Thomas Ingram	Elinor Kimmond	Suzanna Mead
Richard Mead	Diane Mills	James Rainbow
Daniel Rainbow	Wendy Robinson	Mark Robinson
Robert Sandford	Matthew Storey	Louise Waite

### CHOIR

Anne Ayrton	Charlotte Ayrton	Mary Buchanan
Carol Carpenter	Irene East	Fiona Mead
Jenny Palmer	Barbara Rainbow	Fiona Sandand
Brenda Simpson	Sarah Simpson	Doreen Storey
Res Taylor	Christine Tyler	Stuart Everitt
Andrew Griffiths	Jon Hill	Derek Palmer
Vern Robinson	Peter Simpson	

### MUSICIANS

Flute	- Brenda Davies
Oboe	- Jill Holbrow
Violin	- Paul Godwin
Guitar	- Dave Daniel
Guitar	- Paul Northup
Bass	- Kevin Hall
Drums	- Simon Sealey

MUSIC DIRECTOR - Keith Mead  
 DRAMA DIRECTOR - Jill Gresswell

### SYNOPSIS OF SONGS

1. THE THEME SONG. This is a 'Choral Overture' which celebrates the place and value of the Bible.
2. LOST AND FOUND. Mary's family and friends re-enact in music a chapter from Luke's Gospel. Actually this is three songs in one:  
     The lost sheep  
     The lost coin  
     The lost son
3. LORD, THY WORD ABIDETH - a new setting of the hymn which is intended as a comment on the story-line.
4. TELL ME THE STORIES OF JESUS - a fun song which the children sing on the way to Farmer Evans' house.
5. MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE. Mary sings of the place of the Bible in her life.
6. MARY, DON'T GIVE UP. Mary sets about the task of earning enough money for a Bible, supported by her family and friends.
7. BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE. Mary's family express their own faith in God and His Word as Mary begins her famous walk.
8. I LIFT UP MY EYES TO THE HILLS. As she walks amidst the dangers and loneliness of the journey, she reassures herself with verses from the Bible.
9. YOUR WORD. Having achieved her goal, Mary underlines the importance of God's Word in her life.
10. SING TO THE LORD - GREATER THAN GOLD - a biblical song of praise which, in conclusion, returns to the opening theme.

### CHARLTON KINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister Rev. Basil Hill

presents

### GREATER THAN GOLD

by Roger Jones

\*\*\*\*\*

In words and music, we tell the story of Mary Jones, a Welsh girl of the late eighteenth century who longed to own a Bible. By her determination and her perseverance, she helped inspire the Religious Tract Society to start the world-wide work of Bible Societies.

Proceeds from our performances will be devoted to this continuing work.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CAST

Rev'd Thomas Charles	-	Chris Nott
Mary Jones	-	Sarah West
Father	-	James Ingram
Mother	-	Jane Ellis
Jane, friend of Mary	-	Victoria Ayrton
David, friend of Mary	-	Charles Ingram
Farmer Evans	-	Bert Locke
Mrs. Evans	-	Evelyn Locke
Servant to Rev'd Charles	-	Pam Robinson

The Rev'd Thomas Charles was a Minister living in Bala in the second half of the eighteenth century. He was greatly concerned with the establishment of day and Sunday schools throughout Wales. In the musical he acts as Narrator, and it can be imagined that he is addressing a meeting of members of the Religious Tract Society.

\*\*\*\*\*

Members of the audience are invited to join in with parts of songs 2, 5 and 8 when directed.

- 2c. Lost! Lost! Lost and found!  
     That's what the Bible said!  
     Lost! Lost! Lost and found!  
     The son back from the dead.
5. Man shall not live by bread alone,  
     But by ev'ry word from God. (repeat)
8. I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
     From where shall my help come?  
     My help, it comes right from the Lord,  
     Who made all of heav'n and earth.





*Photographer not identified*





Following the success of the pantomime, an 'Old Time Music Hall' review was performed in 1989 in Charlton Kings Junior School and raised funds for the Charlton Kings Youth Group. Photos above include this review.



## *The Late Late Panto Show 1986*











*Old Time Music Hall 1989*



















## Past masters

THE Victorian era of entertainment makes a comeback at a Cheltenham school next week when an intrepid troop of artistes take to the stage for a trip down memory lane.

The occasion is Old Time Music Hall at Charlton Kings Junior School which will run from Tuesday, March 15 to Saturday, March 18, starting at 8pm.

The performers are all parents and friends of the school.

Anyone who fancies an evening of stupendous, extraordinary and grandiloquent divertissement can obtain tickets for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday by telephoning Lyn on Cheltenham 33126. Friday night and Saturday nights have already sold out.





# FINAL HYMN

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,  
And to the weary rest.

Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
My shield and hiding-place,  
My never-failing treasury filled  
With boundless stores of grace.

Jesus! my shepherd, brother, friend,  
My prophet, priest and king,  
My lord and my life, my way, my end,  
Accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart,  
And cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.

The production lasts approximately 1½ hours without an interval.

The synopsis of the play, from which the final script was written, was developed through a series of memorable meetings over six months with Jean Hockett, Wendy Jones, Alison Luna and Jill Richell.

The programme cover was designed by Philip Roseblade, aged 10, winner of the Holiday Club programme competition.

We would like to thank 'The Vine' and St. Edward's School for their help with the publicity for this production.

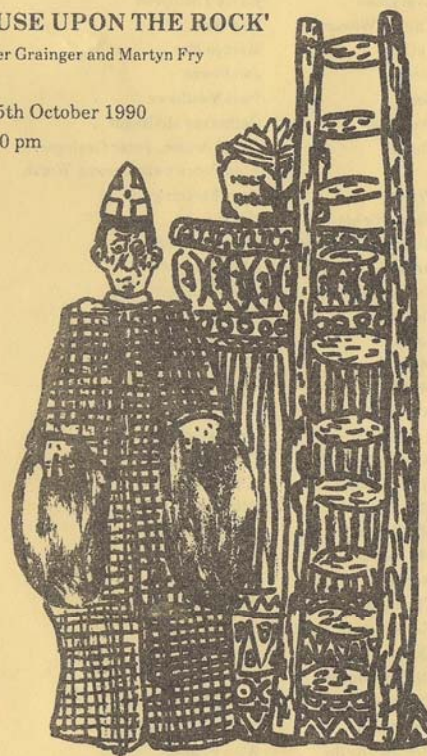
*Proceeds from the production and contributions each evening will go to Cheltenham's Young Homeless Project.*

St. Mary's Church, Charlton Kings presents,  
as part of their 800th Anniversary Celebrations

## 'HOUSE UPON THE ROCK'

by Peter Grainger and Martyn Fry

3rd - 5th October 1990  
at 8.00 pm



## PROGRAMME

### CAST

in order of appearance

Everyman	David Thompson
Church Woman	Meg Rae
Father	Martyn Fry
Mother	Jan Bevan
Son	Paul Matthews
Daughter	Catherine McGregor
Monks	David Brawn, Peter Grainger Alan Penney and Jeremy Worth
Priest	Tony Farthing
Abbot Richard	David Lyle
Bishop of Hereford	Nigel McGregor
Acolyte	Clare Hockett
Everyman's Son	Mark Hockett
Granny	Barbara Penney
Jodie	Emma Sanders
Meg	Melanie Quinnet
Mary	Alison Widdowson
Annie	Rachel Sanders
Young Girl	Clare Hockett
Robert Walker	Peter Grainger
Bishop Smythe	Nigel McGregor
Mrs. Badger	Dilys Jones
Mr. Brooke	Paul Matthews
Mr. Panton	Alan Penney
Ruffian	David Lyle
Thomas Cranmer	Jeremy Worth
Katherine Howard	Emma Sanders
Queen Mary	Anne Lawrie
Bishop Bonner	Peter Grainger
Dr. Story	David Lyle
Dr. Martin	Nigel McGregor
Bishop Thirlby	Alan Penney
Professional Woman	Margaret Walker
Sunday School	Children of Charlton Kings Junior School
Jenny	Alison Widdowson

### Stage Direction

### Lighting

### Costumes

### Scenery/Staging

### Sound

### Publicity

### Production

Alison Luna, assisted by Silvia White and Mary Smith

Alison Luna, Phil Bevan and David Brawn

Jean Hockett and Mary Hunter

Alan Penney

Peter Aylott and Phil Evans (Organ)

Yvonne Brawn and Bernard Hubbard

Peter Grainger and Martyn Fry

### SYNOPSIS

ACT I OUR BUILDING: St. Mary's and the principal characters

ACT II OUR CLERGY: Patronage and the local people

ACT III OUR PAST: Commitment, courage and the Reformation

ACT IV OUR FAITH: Who cares today? We do!

The story begins with the consecration of St Mary's in 1190, a form of service which ended with the celebration of Mass and which leads us into our own Eucharist service. The Eucharist provides the structure and spiritual dynamic of the play.

There are three main groups of characters - a family experiencing the typical life of the church over the centuries, four stereotypes representing views from inside and outside the pews, and the largely real-life characters from the three historical scenes.

The historical scenes have been chosen for their dramatic potential as well as for their relevance to the story of the church in our community. We are indebted to the 'History of Charlton Kings' and particularly to Harry Middleton's researches for the content of Act II, which light-heartedly deals with the ills of local patronage in the early 17th century. For the scenes dealing with Thomas Cranmer, the seeds lie in the production of 'Shirt of Fire' in Gloucester Cathedral last year and to Martyn Fry's patient piecing together of appropriate historical components, which he then fused into a particularly dramatic script.

The later contemporary scenes have enabled us to consider the church in society today in the human terms of the characters involved. The group which developed the synopsis wanted to create a play which had something significant to say, but which, through dramatic effect interlaced with appropriate humour, would entertain.

All of us who have been involved with this complex but exciting project hope that you will sit back and let the impressions of our church, physical and spiritual, flow over you and that you have a most enjoyable evening. And you are very welcome to take part at key moments as the story unfolds - it is after all community drama!

Peter Grainger





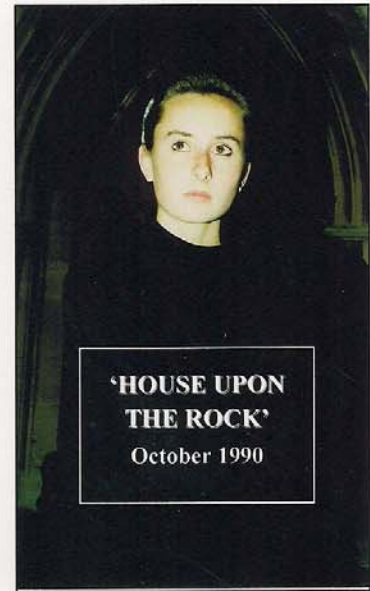
St. Mary's Church, Charlton Kings presents,  
as part of their 800th Anniversary Celebrations

# 'HOUSE UPON THE ROCK' by Peter Grainger and Martyn Fry

3rd - 5th October 1990  
at 8.00 pm



PROGRAMME

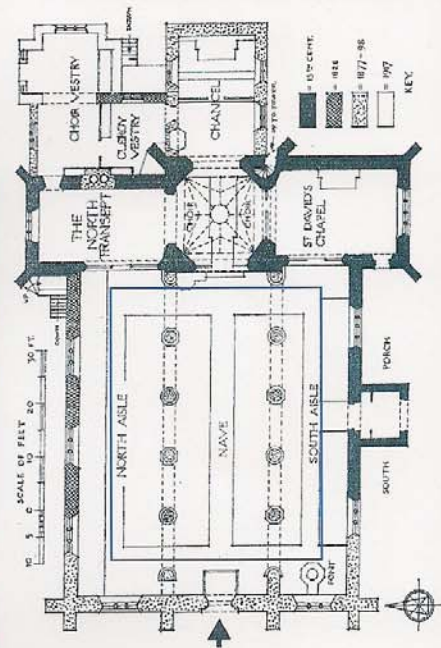


## 'HOUSE UPON THE ROCK' October 1990

**Gloucester**  
St Mary's, Charlton Kings, celebrated their church's 800th anniversary with dramatic flair. Residents of the village, members of the congregation and children from the junior school, staged a five-act play entitled *House Upon the Rock* written by two villagers, Martyn Fry and Peter Grainger. It features a Christian family set in 1190, when St Mary's was first consecrated; then in the time of Cranmer and finally in the present. The play was staged on three consecutive evenings leading up to the church's dedication festival. After

'And you are very welcome to take part at key moments as the story unfolds - it is, after all, *community drama*!'

From the programme



St Mary's  
Church,  
Charlton  
Kings



The play has been created by a group which has been meeting since Christmas with the two playwrights who also have parts in the production....

Peter said: "We had a series of meetings in which we created the structure and basic narrative of the production and then Martyn and I went off and wrote the scripts"...

Youngsters from Charlton Kings Junior School will form the Sunday School choir in the play.

From 'Gloucestershire Echo' September 1990



## CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

'The Players' were set up on a permanent basis in March 1992 by those who had enjoyed what they called 'the wonderful spiritual feel' of the two earlier 'Community Drama' productions, 'Rock Nativity' and 'From Pharaoh to Freedom'. It was agreed that the aim of the group should be:

*'to encourage faith, fun and fellowship  
through ecumenical involvement in a variety  
of drama and musical activities for all ages.'*

A singing group has recently been set up, members of which - together with those not involved in a major drama production - are happy to entertain at appropriate village occasions, such as at Harvest Suppers and Christmas Carol Singing. We would be very pleased to hear of any event at which you might like us to provide a little light entertainment.

We are also helping to develop the Taizé group on an ecumenical basis. These quiet evenings of singing and prayer re-started last week and will continue at different locations around the village.

Members of the group are drawn from all the churches but anyone from Charlton Kings is most welcome to join us in any of our activities. If you would like to join us or to know more, or you have an entertainment opportunity in mind, please contact Peter Grainger on 526947 or Ann Cross on 239569.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like express our thanks to Mr A.J. Martin, Headmaster of St. Edward's School, for permission to use the Middle School Hall and to Richard Elgood, Head of Drama, for his continued encouragement and assistance from the very early days of this venture.

*A very happy Christmas to you all!*

Charlton Kings Community Players  
present

# 'TOAD of TOAD HALL'

by A.A. Milne

from Kenneth Grahame's  
'The Wind in the Willows'

on

17th, 18th & 19th December 1992

at

St Edward's Middle School

## PROGRAMME

*A donation from the proceeds of  
the production will be made to  
'The Vine' Building Fund*



### THE CAST

Marigold	Sarah McCardie
Nurse	Linda Hurl
Mole	Rachel Stevenson
Water Rat	Alison Talbot
The Badger	John Palmer
Toad	Mark Hockett
Alfred - Horse	Sarah Kedge and Natalie Byrne
Chief Ferret	Suzy Hope
Chief Weasel	Katy Fry
Chief Stoat	Alison Mc Cue
First Field-Mouse	Elizabeth Vallins
Second Field-Mouse	Emma Pickering
Policewoman	Dilys Jones
Usher	Melanie Stern
Judge	Peter Grainger
Phoebe	Leanda Morris
Washerwoman	Margaret Walker
The White Rabbit	Alexa Jones
Mama Rabbit	Pili Luna
Lucy Rabbit	Verity Marshall
Harold Rabbit	Andrew Thompson
Fox	Stephanie Freeman
Barge-woman	Barbara Penney
Weasels, Ferrets, and Stoats	Nouritsa Biberian, Stephanie Freeman, Rachel Glover, Laura Goold, Alexa Jones, Verity Marshall, Kathryn Mooney, Alastair Palmer, and Louise Palmer
Carol Singers	Members of the cast
Trees	Pili Luna, Emma Pickering, Melanie Stern, Andrew Thompson, and Elizabeth Vallins
PRODUCER	MARTYN FRY

### MUSICAL DIRECTOR

KEITH MEAD

#### Musicians

Keith Mead	- Keyboard
Carol Axford	- Harmonica
Eleanor Wharf	- 'Cello
Simon Hurl	- Violin
Stuart Terrell	- Flute
Nick Watson	- Percussion

#### Assistant Producer

June Pearce

#### Choreography

Barbara Penney

#### Lighting

Richard Mead, assisted by Jonathan Townsend and James Dallas

#### Set Manager

Ray Talbot

#### Costumes

Joyce Brookes and June Pearce

#### Stage Manager

Alison Luna

#### Front of House

Yvonne Brawn

#### School Liaison

Ann Cross

#### Publicity

Jan Bevan, Chris Aspinwall and Peter Grainger; poster by Ian Alexander

#### Photographs

Barry Curl

#### Treasurer

Derek Pearce

### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

PROLOGUE	Down by the Willows
ACT I	The River Bank
ACT II Scene 1	The Wild Wood
Scene 2	The Badger's House
Scene 3	The same (some weeks later)
ACT III Scene 1	The Court-House
	Interval of 15 minutes
Scene 2	The Dungeon
Scene 3	The Canal Bank
ACT IV Scene 1	Rat's House by the River
Scene 2	The Underground Passage
Scene 3	The Banqueting-room at Toad Hall
EPILOGUE	The Wind in the Willows





Charlton Kings Community Players  
present  
**'TOAD  
of  
TOAD HALL'**  
By A. A. Milne  
from Kenneth Grahame's  
'The Wind in the Willows'  
on  
17th, 18th & 19th December 1992  
at  
St Edward's Middle School









## CHILDREN IN NEED

Most children in Britain live happy, comfortable lives, but there are hundreds of thousands who live in poverty or fear or pain or who are disadvantaged by physical or mental disabilities. Remember, your money stays in this country and goes to help children through a wide range of charities and organisations, large and small including Barnardos, the Children's Society, Childline, Make a Wish Foundation, British Institute for Brain Injured Children ... more than 3,000 organisations benefitted this year. All the money raised tonight will go directly to Children in Need - all our overheads are covered by the Charlton Kings Community Players. There are many, many children who need help - with your assistance, we can make a difference to their lives.

### CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

"The Players" were set up on a permanent basis in March 1992 by those who had enjoyed what they called "the wonderful spiritual feel" of the two earlier "Community Drama" productions, 'Rock Nativity' and 'From Pharaoh to Freedom'. It was agreed that the aim of the group should be:

"to encourage faith, fun and fellowship through ecumenical involvement in a variety of drama and musical activities for all ages"

The various groups performing tonight are happy to entertain at appropriate village occasions such as Harvest Suppers, and to take entertainment to those who may not be able to go out, perhaps in hospitals or rest homes. We would be very pleased to hear of anyone such who would like a little light entertainment.

We are also helping to develop the Taize group on an ecumenical basis. These quiet evenings of singing and prayer continue at different locations round the village.

Members of the group are drawn from all the churches but anyone from Charlton Kings is most welcome to join us in any of our activities. If you would like to join us or to know more, or you have an entertainment opportunity in mind, please contact Ann Cross on 239569.

Charlton Kings Community Players  
present



# Cabaret!

AN EVENING OF  
ENTERTAINMENT  
in aid of

CHILDREN IN NEED

## PROGRAMME

Friday 26th November 1993

at 7.45pm

at Charlton Kings Junior School

20p

### PROGRAMME

#### WELCOME

EARLY ONE MORNING/THEME FROM THE WATER MUSIC/JINGLE BELLS  
The Charlton Kings Handbell Ringers

READING from "THE YOUNG VISITERS" by DAISY ASHFORD  
Jill Alexander

IN THE SHADE OF THE OLD APPLE TREE/CHATANOOGA CHOO CHOO  
Close Harmony Group

THE GARDEN SCENE from "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST"

INTERLUDE FROM "OLIVER" - "WHO WILL BUY"  
The Dance Group

"THE BALKAN HERALD" by Lawrence Durrell  
Melanie Stern

"CAPTAIN NOAH AND HIS AMAZING FLOATING ZOO" Part I  
Keith Mead, Nick Watson & The Choral Group

#### INTERVAL and RAFFLE

"CAPTAIN NOAH AND HIS AMAZING FLOATING ZOO" Part II  
Keith Mead, Nick Watson & The Choral Group

"DOROTHY'S DRAWERS"  
Margaret Walker

MEDLEY FROM ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER  
Ann Anderson & Keith Mead

SERMON from "BEYOND THE FRINGE" by Alan Bennet  
Ian Alexander

SINGALONG WITH MARGARET  
Margaret Walker & Frank Wood

HARMONICA SPECIALITY AND PIANO  
Carol Axford & Margaret Crompton

\* \* \* \* \*

Non-alcoholic cocktails will be served to your tables during the performance; tea, coffee and other refreshments will be available during the interval.

#### PRODUCER

Paul Matthews

#### COMPERE

Martyn Fry

#### Choreography

Barbara Penney

#### Lighting

Richard Mead

#### Stage Manager

Alison Luna

#### Front of House/Box Office

June Pearce

#### Production Secretary

Alison Talbot

#### Treasurer

Derek Pearce

#### THE CHARLTON KINGS HANDBELL RINGERS

Yvonne Brawn, Caroline Ridley, Hilda Ridley, Simon Ridley, Duncan Roberts, Melanie Stern, Alison Talbot, Ray Talbot

#### THE CLOSE HARMONY GROUP

Ann Anderson, Ann Cross, Genevieve Cross, Alison Talbot, Frank Wood.

#### THE DRAMA GROUP

Jan Bevan, Jill Richell, Ian Alexander, Martyn Fry, Peter Grainger

#### THE DANCE GROUP

Katy Fry, George Hitchins, Suzie Hope, Rosie Penney, Lizzie Vallins, Sophie Williams

#### THE CHORAL GROUP

Sopranos: Ann Cross, June Pearce, Barbara Penney, Jill Richell, Alison Talbot  
Altos: Ann Anderson, Yvonne Brawn, Genevieve Cross, Alice Hayward  
Tenors: David Brawn, George Cross, Peter Grainger  
Basses: Ian Bromelow, Frank Wood

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our thanks to the following people:

The BBC Children in Need Publicity Team  
Ian Alexander, David Brawn and Peter Grainger for the design and production of the publicity material  
Martyn Fry for kind permission to use the Junior School  
June Pearce (the Chairman of the Charlton Kings Community Players) for her vital support  
Smith & Mann, The Clock Tower, Gateway, Circle K and W H Smith for donating the raffle prizes



### Thank you

We are most grateful to Martyn Fry, the Governors and staff of Charlton Kings Junior School for allowing us the use of their hall. We would like to thank particularly all those who have kindly loaned us furniture and props for 'Edward'. Many thanks too to those who so generously continue to sell tickets for us, *Charlton Kings Pharmacy*, 'Secondwind', 'Sounds Good' and 'The Vine'.

### Charlton Kings Community Players

The aim of the Community Players is 'to encourage faith fun and fellowship through ecumenical involvement in a variety of drama and musical activities for all ages'. Anyone who lives, works or worships in the Charlton Kings community is most welcome to join, and we are delighted that so many young people are involved in tonight's *Kaleidoscope*.

Our activities include, besides major productions such as *Toad of Toad Hall* and *Oh What Lovely War* entertaining the elderly, street drama, social evenings, practical workshops and charity fund-raising. Our last production, *An Inspector Calls*, raised £700 for the Old People's minibus, and in our five years of existence we have raised over £3500 for local charities.

### And next week...

A DOUBLE BILL AT BALCARRAS SCHOOL

'The Godmother' and 'Titanic'

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 1997

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Adults £3.00, Children and Senior Citizens £2.00

### Charlton Kings Community Players

present

## A Kaleidoscope of Romance

and

## 'Edward'

by Margaret Wood



Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 1997

at Charlton Kings Junior School Hall

at 7.30pm

## PROGRAMME

A donation from the proceeds of this production will be made to Charlton Kings Junior School

### A Kaleidoscope of Romance

#### Part 1

#### THE COMPANY

Lee Axford	Annika Mitten
Nouritsa Biberian	Melissa Monks
Tom Clancy	Matthew O'Neill
Rachel Glover	Carly Price
Louise Godwin	Philip Rushworth
Laura Hampton	James Sizer
Steven Hampton	Emma Stevens
Gina Humphris	Daniel Sutton
Gavin Irvine	Jessica Tyrell
Tom Jordan	Nadia Waite
Sam Leishman	Sarah White
Kirsty Lerry-Johnson	Emily Wright
Verena Mason	
Produced by	Cynthia Birks, Val Flippance and Pauline Mason

#### Part 2

Mary-Anne Davies	Carol Davies
Chris Ramshaw (Gwilym Davies, Saturday)	Frank Wood
Piano	Frank Wood

The audience are warmly invited to join in the last chorus of 'When I Grow Too Old To Dream':

*When I grow too old to dream, I'll have you to remember  
When I grow too old to dream, your love will live in my heart.  
So kiss me, my sweet, and so let us part,  
And when I grow too old to dream, your love will live in my heart.*

### INTERVAL

#### 'Edward' by Margaret Wood

#### CAST

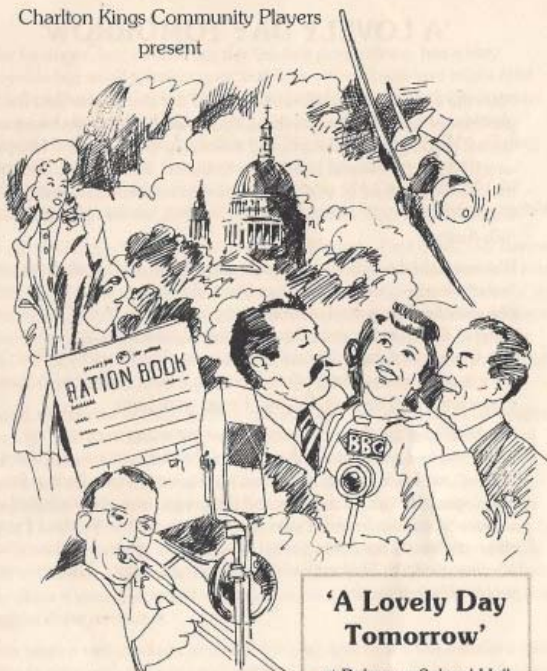
Old Margaret	Linda Hurl
Old Sylvia	Dilya Jones
Old Nell	Bea Oldman
Nurse	Margaret Walker
Young Margaret	Jill Richell
Young Sylvia	Rebecca Wilby
Young Nell	Helen Roberts
Producer	Pat Hunt
Stage Manager	Martyn Fry
Assistant Stage Manager	Adrian Fry
Lighting	Richard Elgood
	Andrew Bartlett
Costumes	Maggie Scrivens
Dressers	Libby Biberian and Alison Mansfield
Props	Tricia Ratcliffe, Mary-Anne Davies and Kate Nye
Hair	Sue Travaskis, Raymondo Guidetti and Helen Bowle
Make-up	Alison Mansfield and June Pearce
Prompter	June Pearce
Front of House	Peter Grainger and assistants
Publicity	Lynne Glover
Displays	Jill Richell and Tricia Ratcliffe
Photography	Barry Curl







Charlton Kings Community Players  
present



### 'A Lovely Day Tomorrow'

at Balcarras School Hall  
18th-20th February 1999

including

'Harlequinade'  
by Terence Rattigan

## PROGRAMME

Props	Tricia Ratcliffe
Hairdressing	Sue Travaskis and assistants
Make-up	Jill Richell and assistants
Front of House	Peter Collins and assistants
Publicity	Lynne Glover
Poster/leaflet design	Geoffrey Maynard
Photography	Bary Curl
Displays	Michelle Grainger and Rebecca Kingston
Production Treasurer	Doreen Fry

### Thank you!

Once again we are delighted to be back in Balcarras School Hall and again we express our thanks to Chris Healy, the Governors and staff of Balcarras for the use of their facilities. We continue to appreciate the on-going support of Dave Thomas, the Deputy Head and of Gary Pargeter, the School Caretaker, who always makes sure we feel 'at home' at Balcarras.

Period pieces require special props and items for display, and we are very grateful to those who so readily lend us what we need. Among these are, Mary Berry, Nancy Pringle, Mary Paget and Cotswold Motor Museum. We have regular support from Cheltenham Museum Outreach Service for our publicity displays, and we would also like to thank Dickson Bennett for their assistance with adapting glasses for the period and to Smith and Mann for freezer space for the ice-cream on sale in the interval.

A big 'thank-you' to **Charlton Pharmacy**, **'Secondwind'**, **'Sounds Good'** and **'The Vine'** for again selling our tickets, and to the Charlton Kings Library, Post Office and Margaret and Derek Walker for again allowing us to use their windows for our displays. *ndk*

## CAST

### Act 1

Elsie Jones	Margaret Walker
Peggy Franklin	Erica Hope
Bill Moffat	Peter Grainger
Singers	Anwen Ashworth, Joan Collins, George Cross, Carol Davies, Michael Heath, Sheila Reynolds, Alison Talbot, Ann Tulacz, Andrea Wood
'Grand Old Girl'	Gill Ganett
Dancers	Helen Elston, Tony Elston, Diane Field, John Field, Emily Kingston
Cast of 'Blitz'	Sophie Ahearne, Frances Briggs, Hannah Brown, Johnathon Brown, Lucy Brown, Robert Coletta, Sarah Coombe, Caroline Coxhead, Ava Faulkner, Jeannette Godwin, Rosanna Harris, Jonas Ingolfsson, Ollie Jackman, Ben Jarvis, Matt Jeffery, Liam Mortell, Kayleigh Norwood, Amy Rideout, Sean Roberts, Stuart Rushworth, Natasha Scott, Catherine Shepherd, Lindy Waltham, Olivia Wright
Producer	Jill Richell
Script written by	Sue Dyson
Musical Director	Frank Wood
Choreographer	Caroline Powell
'Blitz' Production	Cynthia Birks and Val Flippance

INTERVAL of 20 minutes

### Act 2

#### 'HARLEQUINADE'

by Terence Rattigan

Arthur Gosport	John Palmer
Edna Selby	Gill Bennett
Johnny	James Deacon
Dame Maud	Bea Oldman
Jack Wakefield	David Crunkhum
1 <sup>st</sup> Halberdier	Tim Richards
2 <sup>nd</sup> Halberdier	Martyn Fry
Miss Fishlock	Lynne Glover
Muriel Palmer	Hannah Maynard
Miss Burton	Linda Hurl
Joyce Langland	Helen Roberts
Policeman	Frank Wood
Fred Ingram	Peter Grainger
Producer	Martyn Fry
Assistant Producer	June Pearce
Stage Manager and Set Construction	Ray Talbot
Lighting and Sound	Andrew Bartlett, David Cleaves, Brian Deacon, Joe Pigott
Costumes assisted by	Maggie Scrivens Mary Wright



## 'A LOVELY DAY TOMORROW'

After the success of *'The Sound of Music'* the Committee had the problem of what the Players should do next. A group of us met and started reading one-act plays, and eventually decided on *'Harlequinade'*, which Martyn knew and was happy to direct. We realised, of course, that we would need to add to it in order to make a full evening's entertainment, and, as the play is set in 1948, we hit upon the idea of a '40s theme.

We researched songs, monologues and poetry and began to get a real feel of the era. Frank Wood, our Musical Director, collected together an enthusiastic chorus, and, after learning songs such as *'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square'*, Caroline Powell added dance and movement. Sue Dyson, who had played the Abbess in *'The Sound of Music'* and is a successful fiction writer, offered to write a linking piece with three main characters. And so Elsie, Bill and Peggy were born.

It is 1948 and the three of them have come along to open their neglected and war-damaged provincial theatre, which, with 'dramatic licence', we have located to a town not far from here! During the clean-up process the three reminisce and their memories are illustrated with songs and dances from the period. When they have finished the stage is clean and ready for the expected travelling company of actors who are about to perform Shakespeare's *'Romeo and Juliet'*. Thus the scene is set for *'Harlequinade'*...

Jill Richell

*'Harlequinade'* is about the interplay between the characters of the company of professional actors and the sudden intrusion of unexpected visitors, combined with a ghost from Arthur's past which rapidly turns the play into a farce.

It is the first performance in this particular theatre since the outbreak of the Second World War. The play affords our excellent cast the opportunity to play some wonderful cameo parts.

Peter Grainger, our director for the last few productions, has a very enjoyable but small speaking part this time - don't blink you might miss him! Our Musical Director, Frank Wood, makes a wonderful policeman. Lynne Glover, as Miss Fishlock, surprises yet again with a completely different characterisation from those of Mary Magdalen and Mrs. Birling. John Palmer as Arthur, the leader of the troupe, gives a masterly performance so different from his Inspector in *'An Inspector Calls'*; he never ceases to amaze us with the range of parts he undertakes so capably.

We also welcome three newcomers to the Players. First of all, Gill Bennett as Edna, Arthur's wife; I am sure you will agree that we have made a real discovery here. Secondly, David Crunkhum who plays the linchpin of the play, Jack, the Stage Manager. It's a wonderful part in the best traditions of farce and he does it extremely well - more than a touch of Brian Rix here! Thirdly, James Deacon as the prompt is our youngest member, just 13 years old, who makes the perfect chirpy Gloucestershire lad.

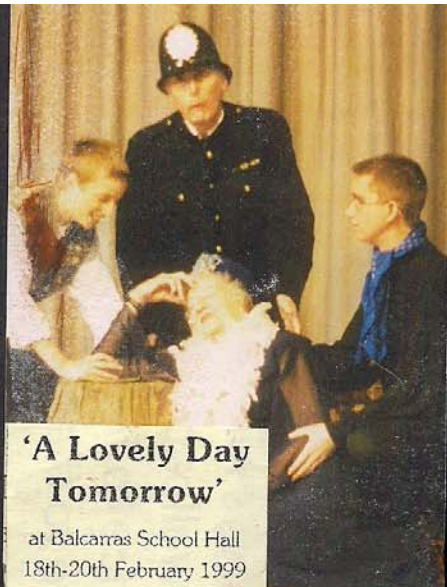
Indeed all the cast in their various cameos will give you a most enjoyable evening. Bea Oldman as Dame Maud - you can hear the 'handbag' of Lady Bracknell in her lovely performance. Pat Kearney as an elderly disaffected actor is a splendid foil to Arthur. Helen Roberts, Jack's exasperated fiancée, makes a good contrast to all the 'dramatic' people. Linda Hurl, as the Theatre Manager, Miss Burton and Tim Richards as the 1st Halberdier listen in on the action of the play with incredulity. Finally, there is Hannah Maynard, my eldest daughter from *'The Sound of Music'*, who plays a young lady with a baby that causes consternation during this the final dress rehearsal.

It has been a real privilege to direct this play and to see this excellent cast come to grips with this very well scripted one act play. I do hope that you enjoy the performance of *'Harlequinade'* as much as I have enjoyed being its director.

Martyn Fry





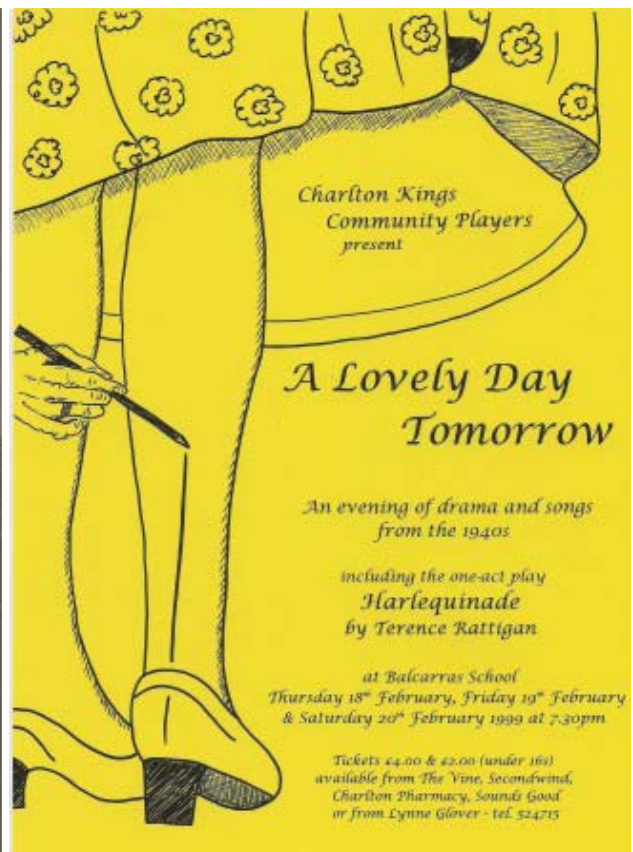


**'A Lovely Day  
Tomorrow'**

at Balcarras School Hall  
18th-20th February 1999



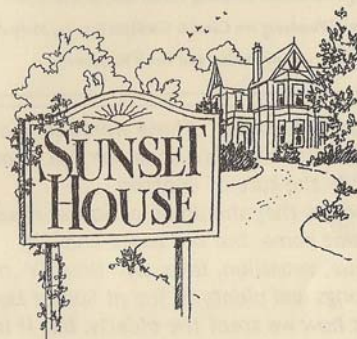






The Crew	Technicians	Richard Major, James Holland & Greg White
	Human Resources Mentor	June Pearce
	Make up	Jill Richell, Alison Mansfield & Sophie Kinane
	Publicity	Sara Kinane, Veronika Jordan, Andrea Wood & Lynne Glover
	Front Of House	Andi Culley, Peter Grainger
	Catering staff	Ann Cross & assistants
	Prompt	Tricia Ratcliffe & Mary Wright
Special Thanks To...	Sacred Heart's Church	
	The Forge Newsagents	
	The Vine	
	Charlton Pharmacy	
	Secondwind	
	The Borchester Echo	
	Charlton King's Junior School	
	Charlton Church Post Office	
	All for the local community	

## Charlton Kings Community Players present



Sacred Heart Hall, Charlton Kings  
Fri. 28<sup>th</sup> February & Sat 1<sup>st</sup> March  
at 7.30pm

## PROGRAMME

This evening we have a mixture of drama and music.  
All of the participants come from the community of Charlton Kings.

**Puzzlejug** are a group of singers who specialise in the traditional songs of Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds.

Their vocal harmonies are accompanied by a variety of interesting instruments including concertina, melodeon and mandola.  
The Members of Puzzlejug are Carol & Gwilym Davies, Mary-Ann Davies, Tony Poulter and Geoff Ramshaw

"Welcome to Sunset House." Those words send a shiver up Michael's spine. All he has is a shoe box full of memories, now he is left in the care of **Matron**.

Things are not as they should be at Sunset House. It's a retirement home, but not as we know it. There's intrigue, rebellion, love, day-time TV, maybe some macaroons, songs and plenty of fun at Sunset House.

It's all about how we treat the elderly, but it is far from being the sad little story you might expect. Will the dashing handsome Howard sweep Matron off her feet? Will Daphne ever realise who the flowers are from? Will Joyce ever be found? What is an "Acquisition Executive"? Why has Jack called an emergency meeting, in the middle of the night? What is in the shoe box? Who are Joyce's "little friends"? What couldn't you get at M&S? What does HP stand for?

The answers to these and many other questions can be found when you come to Sunset House.

## Sunset House The Cast

### The Residents

Forsyth Macgregor	Ex GCHQ hush hush!	George Cross
Daphne Juliet	Reads a lot of Barbara Cartland	Claire Cipriani
Cedric Plunkett	Major General RTD	Jack Kane
Oscar Romero	George Clooney of Chelms	Derek Palmer
Jack Prendegast	Former associate of Del Boy	Peter Simpson
Gertrude Smythe-Jones	Debutante of 1943	Sophie Kinane
Ursula Twilight	Author of "Life's little instruction book"	Margaret Walker
Michael Oakley	former headteacher of a local school	Joseph Kinane
Joyce Johnson	Lock your doors!	Josie Worrall

### The Visitors

The Acquisition Executive	Cruella Deville of Chelms	Veronika Jordan
Howard Aitken MP	"Friend" of Matron	Geoff Ramshaw
Mercedes Swarzenigar	Joyce's granddaughter	Megan Reid
PC Parker	"Friend" of Nellie	Sam Jordan
Angry neighbour	NIMBY	Sara Kinane
Puzzlejug	The band!	Puzzlejug

### Sunset House Staff

Miriam Sidebotham	Matron	Someday my Prince will come."	Jane Kane
Nellie, care assistant		"I like a man in uniform"	Elizabeth Kane

### Voices Off

Trevor Neusaten	Newsreader	Peter Grainger
Kate Adie	Travelling Correspondent	Lynne Glover
Michael's daughter		
	"I love my dad, but I would like the extra room"	Andi Culley
Michael's son-in-law		
	"He's not my dad anyway"	Tony Jeans

Written, directed & produced by Joseph Kinane