



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 1962 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 Hermaid and the West End. Among colleagues of note have been Albert Finney, Alec McCowen, Julie Christie and Spike Milligan.

KEITH HEAD 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 Byer 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 Boltonia 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	David Matthews
Gabriel	Ann Cross
Mary	Sarah Goodfellow
Joseph	David Arkell
Soldiers	Wendy Bevan
	Juliet Brown
Herod	Peter Grainger
Belchior's servant	Paul Windsor
Belchior	David Brown
Casper	Martyo Fry
Balthazar	Chris Smith
News Vendor	Juliet Grainger
Herod's Secretary	Joceline Matthews
Innkeeper's Wife	Margaret Eccles
Innkeeper	Jeff Bevan
Shepherds	Nicholas Corrigan
	Keri Griffiths
	Paul Matthews
	David Matthews
	Mary Bevan
	Marion Brunskill

CHORUS

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

PRODUCTION

Director	Wendy Griffiths
Co-Musical Directors	John Yarnley Keith Head
Guitar	John Graham
Wardrobe Mistress	Bethara Hubbard
Wardrobe Assistants	Rachel Burton Barbara Edwards
Lighting & Set Construction	Peter Ingle-Jones
Stage Manager	Alison Luna
Assistant Stage Manager	Philip Bevan
Administration	Janet Bevan
Publicity	Margaret Hawker

MUSICAL COMPANY

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. Unless 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 Harry	Company
21. The Blessing	Company
22. Marc Dinitias/Peacefully	Simeon & Chorus
23. Glory! Glory! (reprise)	Simeon & Chorus
24. I will watch you grow	Chorus
25. Recitative, Herod's Decree	Mary
26. What game are you playing, Lord?	Herod
27. Off to Egypt	Mary, Joseph & Chorus
28. Make a new tomorrow	Gabriel & Chorus
Reprise 1. Glory! Glory!	Mary, Joseph & 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 medieval 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 C.O.D.S. and the C.O.S.S., and more recently took the A.D.S. 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 Hermaid 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)	Ros Brown
Moshe (the uncle)	Martyn Fry
Miriam (the aunt)	Margaret Walker
Rabbi	James Ingram

'OLD TESTAMENT' FAMILY

Aaron	Jeremy Worth
Elisheba	Ann Cross
Eleazar	Nick Corrigan
Rachel	Jill Ribbell
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
Israelite woman	Margaret Eccles
Her daughters	Ros Eccles, Emma Sanders
The burning bush danced by	Joceline Matthews, Ros Brown, Pili Luna, Barbara Penney, Dena Walker, Fiona Wood
Pharaoh's guard	Peter Simpson, Jeff Bevan, Fiona Wood, John Palmer
The plagues danced by	Ros Brown, Sarah Hurl, Pili Luna, Dena Walker
Angel of Death danced by sung by	Joceline Matthews Julie Seville
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 Hackett	Ros Taylor
Jean Hackett	Christine Tyler
Mark Hackett	

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 Brown, Fiona Ginn
Cello	Laurence Eccles
Stage Manager	Alison Luna
Wardrobe	Jean Hackett, Lois Newman
Lighting	Peter Ingle-Jones
Sound	Chris Jones
Set/Finance	Alan Penney
Administration	Janet Bevan, Margaret Walker
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 Balcarras 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.

CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

PRESENT



'ROCK NATIVITY'

BY TONY HATCH, JACKIE TRENT AND DAVID WOOD

A POPULAR MODERN MUSICAL

AT CHARLTON KINGS SECONDARY SCHOOL

ON 5TH, 6TH, 7TH AND 8TH DECEMBER 1984

AT 7.45 PM

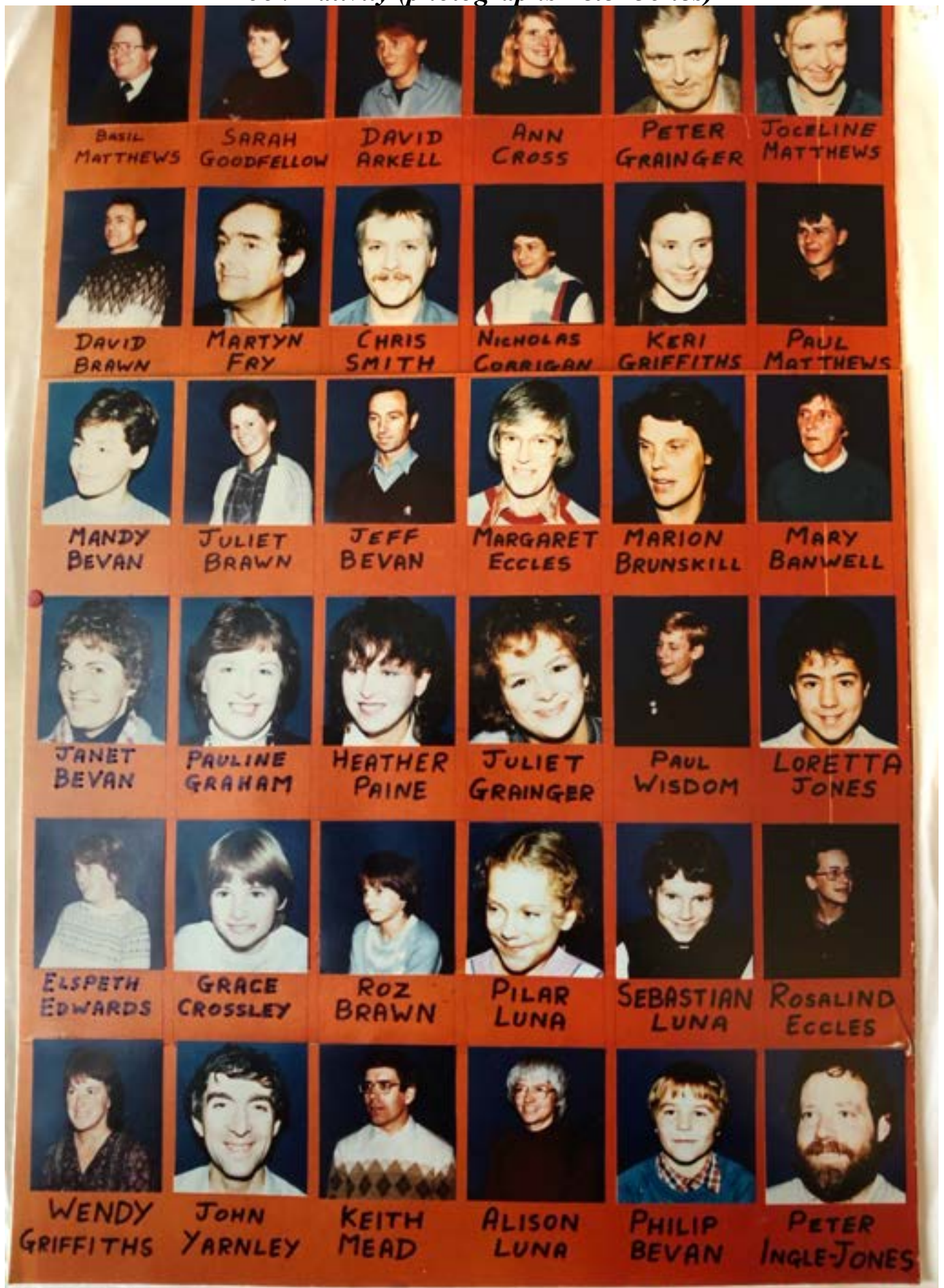
(MATINEE ON SATURDAY AT 3.0 PM)

TICKETS: £2.50 (£1.75 O.A.P.S AND STUDENTS)

FROM MRS. J. BEVAN, 6 CHATCOMBE CLOSE, CHARLTON KINGS,
MEMBERS OF THE CAST, 'GOOD MUSIC' OR CHARLTON KINGS LIBRARY

IN AID OF ST. MARY'S HALL APPEAL

Rock Nativity (photographs Peter Jones)



Pharaoh to Freedom







Pharaoh to Freedom



Photographer not identified

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
Ros Taylor	Christine Tyler	Stuart Everitt
Andrew Griffiths	Jon Hill	Derek Palmer
Vern Robinson	Peter Simpson	

MUSICIANS

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR	-	Keith Mead
DRAMA DIRECTOR	-	Jill Gresswell

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.

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.

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

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 prince, my priest and king,
My lord, 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 Michell.

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 Brown, 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 Quinzel
Mary	Alison Widdowson
Annie	Rachel Sanders
Young Girl	Clare Hockett
Robert Walker	Peter Grainger
Bishop Smythe	Nigel McGregor
Mrs. Badger	Dilys Jones
Mr. Brooks	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	Alison Luna, Phil Bevan and David Brawn
Costumes	Jean Hockett and Mary Hunter
Scenery/Staging	Alan Penney
Sound	Peter Aylett and Phil Evans (Organ)
Publicity	Yvonne Brawn and Bernard Hubbard
Production	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 life 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

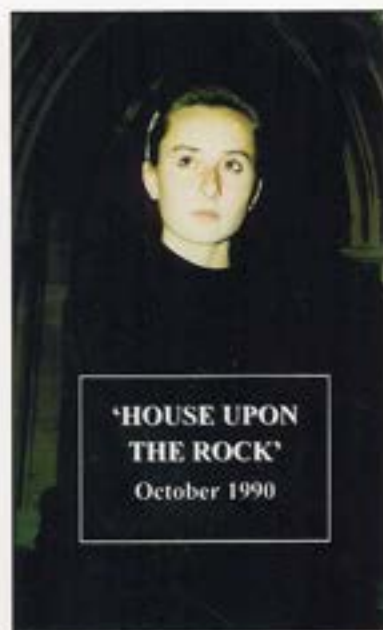
'HOUSE UPON THE ROCK'

by Peter Grainger and Martyn Fry

3rd - 5th October 1990
at 8.00 pm



PROGRAMME



'HOUSE UPON THE ROCK'

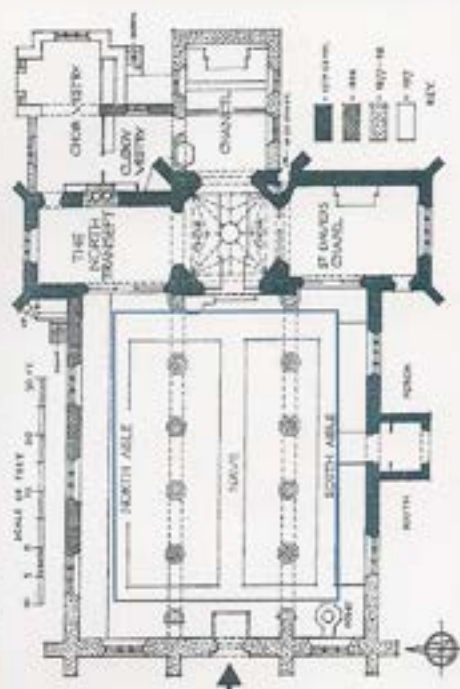
October 1990

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

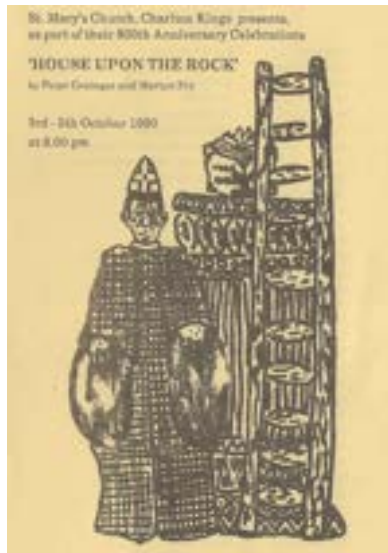


The play has been created by a group which has been meeting since Christmas with the two playwrights who also have parts in the production....

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



St. Mary's Church, Charlton Kings

For APRIL PARISH MAGAZINE

HOUSE UPON THE ROCK

Those who have read to the end of their 800th anniversary programme of events will have noticed that a Community Drama Production, 'House upon the Rock', is to be performed in the church in October. As with the previous community drama productions in Charlton Kings, 'Rock Nativity' and 'From Pharaoh to Freedom', we hope to involve as many people as possible of all ages from the community as well as from St. Mary's parish itself.

But unlike the previous productions we are creating the performance entirely ourselves so that we can make the best use of the dramatic potential of the church. A small group has been developing ideas since Christmas and we now have a synopsis and sufficient details to get more people involved. We would very much like to hear from anyone interested in being involved in any capacity.

There will be five linked scenes, each representing a different aspect of the church in England, some historical, some local, some personal, but all dramatic. The church building itself will form the set, with lighting and sound adding to the dramatic effect. At present there are a minimum of thirteen speaking parts of varied lengths and ages, as well as opportunities for any number of Anglican 'spear-carriers'!

The play will run during the week preceeding the Dedication Festival, 3-5th October, and we are planning to hold the first meeting of all those interested at the end of April. Please let Alison Luna, Martyn Fry or me know as soon as possible if you feel you can contribute in any way. Community Drama is a very special experience, and this event will be a very special occasion in a very special year.

Peter Grainger (Tel: 526947)

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

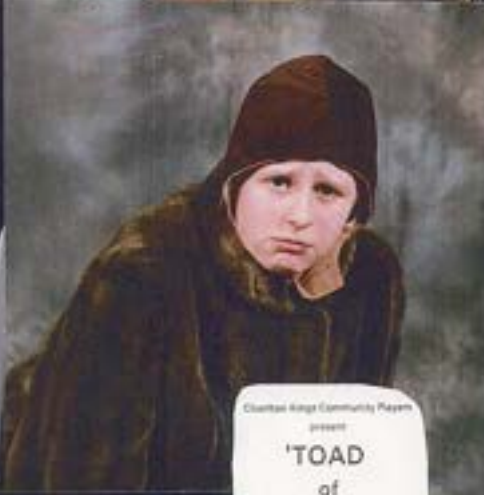
Marigold	Sarah McCordie
Nurse	Linda Hurl
Mole	Rachel Stevenson
Water Rat	Alison Talbot
The Badger	John Palmer
Toad	Mark Hackett
Alfred - Horse	Sarah Kedge and Natalie Byrne
Chief Ferret	Suzi Hope
Chief Weasel	Katy Fry
Chief Stoat	Alison McCue
First Field-Mouse	Elizabeth Vallins
Second Field-Mouse	Emma 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 Gould, 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 Curi
Treasurer	Derek Pearce

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

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







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 1991 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 Taine 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/CHATAHOOGA 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

MUSLEY FROM ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Ann Anderson & Keith Mead

SERMON from "BEYOND THE FRINGE" by Alan Bennett
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 Nichell, 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 Nichell, 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, 'Secondhand', '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 19th March - Friday 21st 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 12th - Saturday 15th 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 Oxford	Annika Mitten
Nourissa 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
Garvin Irvine	Jessica Tyrell
Tom Jordan	Nadia Waite
Sam Leishman	Sarah White
Kirsty Lerry-Johnson	Emily Wright
Verona 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	Dilys 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
Costumes	Andrew Bartlett
Dressers	Maggie Scrivens
	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

A Kaleidoscope of Romance



Edward

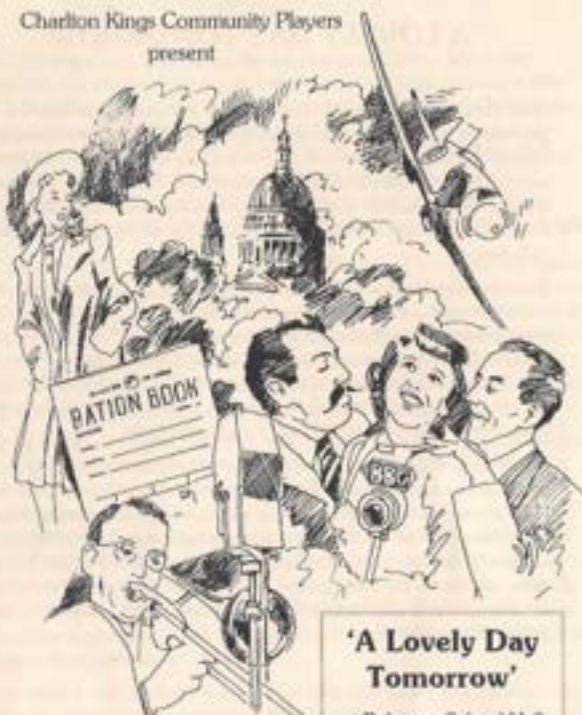


Cast with author Margaret Wood





Charlton Kings Community Players
present



'A Lovely Day Tomorrow'

at Belcarras School Hall
18th-20th February 1999

including

'Harlequinade'
by Terence Rattigan

PROGRAMME

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

Thank you!

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

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 Mees 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. *rick*

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 Gai'	Gill Garrett
Dancers	Helen Elston, Tony Elston, Diane Field, John Field, Emily Kingston
Cast of 'Blitz'	Sophie Ahearn, Frances Briggs, Hannah Brown, Johnathon Brown, Lucy Brown, Robert Coletta, Sarah Coombe, Caroline Coxhead, Ann Faulkner, Jeannette Godwin, Rosanna Harris, Jonas Ingollison, Ollie Jackson, 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 Binks and Val Flippence

INTERVAL of 20 minutes

Act 2

'HARLEQUINADE'

by Terence Rattigan

Arthur Gosport	John Palmer
Edna Selby	Gill Bennett
Johnny	James Deacon
Diana Maud	Bea Oldman
Jack Wakefield	David Crankham
1 st Halberdier	Tim Richards
2 nd Halberdier	Martyn Fry
Miss Fahlock	Lynne Glover
Muriel Palmer	Hannah Maynard
Miss Burton	Linda Huft
Joyce Langland	Helen Roberts
Policeman	Frank Wood
Fred Ingram	Peter Grainger
Producer	Martyn Fry
Assistant Producer	Jane 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 Granger, 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 Fahlcock, 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.

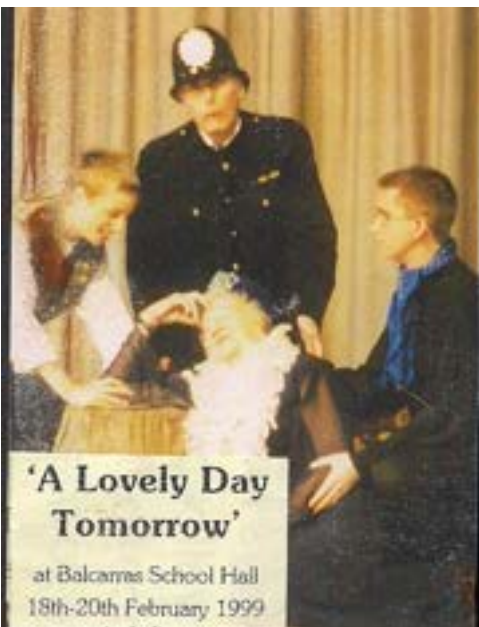
We also welcome three newcomers to the Players. First of all, Gill Bennett as Edna, Arthur's wife; I am sure you will agree that we have made a real discovery here. Secondly, David Crunkburn who plays the linchpin of the play, Jack, the Stage Manager. It's a wonderful part in the best traditions of farce 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 Barton 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

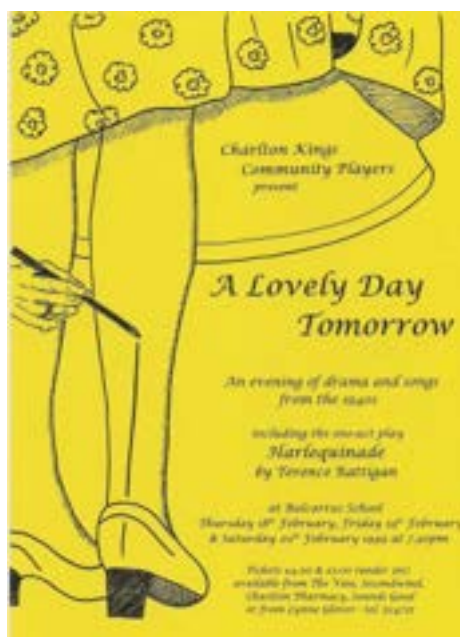




**'A Lovely Day
Tomorrow'**

at Balcarnes School Hall
18th-20th February 1999





Jill Richell

Therapy said like to see!

[Signature]

ROGER A. JONES
43 ARLE ROAD
CHELTENHAM
GLOS GL51 8JY
TEL: 01242 515533

Law Peter

It was a pity that your extravaganza received only a cursory mention in the Echo through lack of space. I have pleasure in sending you the full review as it landed on the editor's desk. Every good wish.

[Signature]

21.2.99.

REVIEW: A Lovely Day Tomorrow: CK Community Players, Balcarras School Hall, 18-20.2.99

It was back to ration books and flowery pinafores in this nostalgic recreation of the forties by Charlton King's Community Players.

The first half interspersed popular music from the War with the reminiscences of three individuals - keenly observed by local author Sue Dyson - as they prepare a war-damaged theatre for a performance of Romeo and Juliet.

Peter Grainger as a Dad's Army veteran and Shakespeare buff seeks to create order out of the chaos, aided by a world-weary Margaret Walker who has lost her son in battle and GI bride Erica Hope who was once set to become her daughter-in-law.

Sequences of songs and dances from the company were generally well handled, and Gill Garrett's tribute to The Grand Old Girls of Britain was outstanding. The younger cast members playing Cockney evacuees set the evening alight with their vivacity and naturalness.

And then it was on to Shakespeare - or rather Rattigan's Harlequinade - where a rehearsal of Romeo descends into farce. John Palmer and Gill Bennett excelled as the ageing actors who cannot distinguish between the stage and real life. There was inspired support, notably from Bea Oldman as the even more ancient Dame Maud and Frank Wood as a bemused policeman.

A Lovely Day Tomorrow: Producer Jill Richell. Sequences written by Sue Dyson. Musical Director: Frank Wood. Blitz directors: Cynthia Birks and Val Flippance.

Harlequinade: Producer Martin Fry. Stage Manager: Ray Talbot. Cast: John Palmer, Gill Bennett, James Deacon, Bea Oldman, David Crunkhum, Tim Richards, Martyn Fry, Lynne Glover, Hannah Maynard, Linda Hurl, Frank Wood, Peter Grainger.

ROGER JONES

Technicians	Richard Major, James Holland & Greg White
Human Resources Mentor	Jane 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

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. 28th February & Sat 1st 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, melodicon and mandola.

The Members of Puzzlejug are: Carol & Gwilym Davies, Mary-Ann Davies, Tony Foulter 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: Irish Irish?	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 Woerall

The Visitors

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

Sunset House Staff

Miriam Sidebottom	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



'Daphne' (Claire Cipriani) and *'Oscar'* (Derek Palmer)
residents in the retirement home
(publicity shot supplied to and printed by Gloucestershire Echo).



The Residents plot their strategy to thwart the plans of those who wish to acquire the property.



The residents learn some particular skills for their campaign



Residents confront the 'Acquisition Executive'