

the mitre players
present



oh what a lovely war

At the OMWA
clubhouse
18th, 19th, 20th
August 1999

Details from
Paul Beard on
0181 651 4119

the mitre players present



I wonder
if he likes
me?

He tells her this, she tells him that
- it all adds up to a yack-itty, yack-itty
Saturday Night Chat.

A
**Slice of
Saturday
Night** by The Heather Brothers

The Swinsins
Sixties Musical

At The OMWA Clubhouse,
Lime Meadow Avenue,
Sanderstead.

Tuesday 13th to Friday 16th April 1999 at 7.45pm

An amateur production, by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

A message from the chairman

'If you remember the sixties then you weren't there', the saying goes. Logically then it is impossible to know what it was like. However tonight's show is an attempt to reconstruct what it might have been like on one night for some people. This show, like the sixties, is not for the fainthearted but then the Mitres never have been.

With the decision to do a Christmas show in December rather than in our more normal January this is the first show of the year. After all the excitement of our 25th year celebrations we have deliberately scaled back our activity this year, but keeping, we think, enough dramatic and social things going for all our members and followers.

Next up is **'Oh What a Lovely War'** in August which will be at the Clubhouse prior to our traditional summer tour to Dawlish. In a way this too has a sixties theme to it as it was first produced in that decade and is a real 'child of its time', thought provoking, funny and immensely moving. Until then please sit back and enjoy a slice of the sixties.

Warwick Jones
Chairman



1964

These were some of the major events of 1964, some 35 years ago how many do you remember?

The top selling films were Zulu, Mary Poppins, My Fair Lady, Hard Day's Night and Carry on Spying

On this week in 1964 the Beatles had no less than 12 singles in the Charts

The Beatles conquered the USA and toured Australia and New Zealand

The Olympic Games were held in Tokyo.

Denmark's Princess Anne Marie married Greece's Prince Constantine

Harold Wilson was the first Labour PM since Clement Atlee

Pope Paul became the first Pope to fly - in a plane!

A massive earthquake hit Anchorage, Alaska

Prince Edward was born

Hurricane Dora hit Florida

The pirate radio station, Radio Caroline, was launched

Johnson was elected President of USA with biggest majority ever

Mary Quant opened her first boutique in London

Japan's bullet train was launched, running between Tokyo and Osaka

Santa Claus won the Derby

The all Australian Wimbledon Men's final was won by Emerson (Lake & Palmer?!)

A Slice of Saturday Night

THE CAST

Gary
Rick
Eddie
Paul & Terry
Bridget
Sue
Sharon
Penny & Shirl
Eric "Rubber Legs" de Vene
Barman

Graham Read
Phil Evans
Nick Lawson
Paul Grace
Natasha Palmer
Clare Garnett
Kelly Beard
Cathy Newitt
Paul Smith
Barry Buckley (Tuesday & Friday)
Warwick Jones (Wednesday & Thursday)

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Directed & Choreographed by
Musical Director
Stage Manager
Lighting Design
Properties
Costumes
Wigs
Sound
Technical Team &
Set Construction

Julia Ascott & Claire Lee
Colin Warnock
Gillian Bartle
Alan Bishop
Sue Carter
Anna Warnock & Shelia Garnett
Clare Garnett
James McLeod

Gillian Bartle, Alan Bishop, Sue Carter,
Alan Collins, Paul Grace, Colin Green,
Julian Parsons, Graham Read, Dave Richards,
Andy Thompson, Lucy Thompson, Adam Tibbalds
Jill "Wiggy" Wilson
Warwick Jones
Liz Kallend
Julia Gibbs
James Miller
Marcus Ascott

Scenic Artist
Production Manager
Box Office
Front of House Co-ordinator
Programme
Photographs

THE BAND

Keyboards
Bass
Guitar
Drums

Colin Warnock
Dominic Palmer
Dave Revelle
Craig Backway

MUSICAL NUMBERS

PROLOGUE - 1964, Early Saturday evening as the gang prepare for a night out.

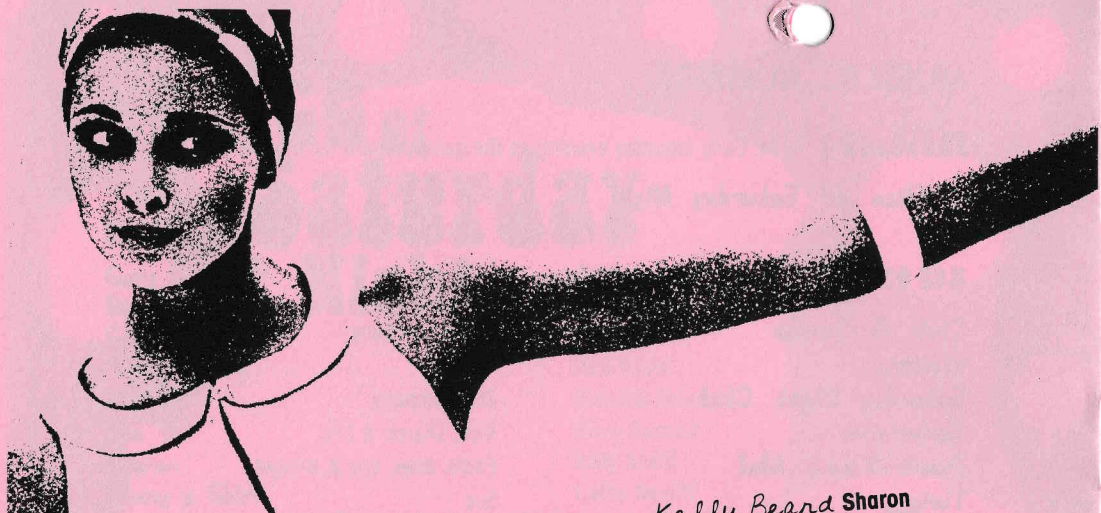
A Slice of Saturday Night Boys & Girls

ACT ONE - Inside the Club A Go-Go, later that evening.

Club A Go-Go Eric & Company
Waiting Girls
Saturday Night Chat The Company
Seventeen Rick, Sharon & Eric
Don't Touch Me! Eddie, Boys, Eric & Bridget
Twiggy Sue
Cliff Eric, Gary, Rick, Eddie, Sue,
Sharon & Bridget
Love On Our Side Terry & Shirl
What Do I Do Now? Rick & Sharon
What Do You Do? Gary, Eddie, Eric, Rick, Sue, Penny & Sharon
If You Wanna Have Fun Eric & Company
Long Walk Back Rick
Romance/Wham Bam Girls & Boys
The Boy of My Dreams Bridget & Eddie
It Wouldn't be Saturday
Night Without a Fight Eric & Company

ACT TWO - Inside & the alleyway outside the Club A Go-Go, later that evening.

Eric's Hokey-Cokey Shuffle Eric & Company
I Fancy You Rick & Sharon
Sentimental Eyes Sharon & Rick
Heartbreaker Sue & Girls
Eric's Gonna Keep Doing Eric, Gary, Paul & Rick
Oh So Bad Eddie & Gary
Please Don't Tell Me Boys & Girls except Gary
You're Oh, So... Sue, Girls & Gary
Lies Eric & Boys
Baby I Love You Sue, Gary, Penny, Paul, Bridget & Eddie
P.E. Gary
Who'd be Seventeen Eric
Last Saturday Night Rick & Sharon
Finale The Company



Julia Ascott/Claire Lee
Directors/Choreographers and
Colin Warnock Musical Director

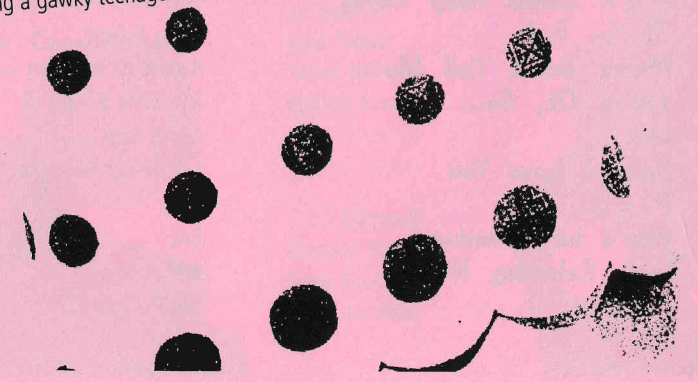
This is not the first time that Julia and Claire have worked together, but this production has proved to be a challenge that they have both enjoyed enormously, not least due to the considerable effort put in by their wonderfully talented cast. Of course, their own meticulous planning, coupled with their military-style organisational skills and dictatorial rehearsal style, has left nothing to chance, with the exhausted cast begging to be allowed to go home on occasions. So, it is a brave man who agrees to be Musical Director alongside them. Colin Warnock coped by not coming along to many early rehearsals and sending his double in the form of a cassette tape. However, he is the only member of our team to remember the 60's (although he denies this), and we have enjoyed drawing on his own experience of being a gawky teenager in a club during that era.

Kelly Beard Sharon

Kelly has travelled more miles than anyone else for this production, as she commutes from Brighton (thank you, Kelly). She hadn't realised the amount of snogging involved in this production and hopes that Phil doesn't go out for a curry before each performance, and remembers to bring his breath freshener with him. The other boys all wish they had been cast in the part of Rick!

Phil Evans Rick

Phil's main problem is that he is just too big, and cries around the clubhouse of "think small, Phil - you'll break the lights" were commonplace during rehearsals. Cast partly for his gurning ability, we hope you will enjoy some of his many varied faces. Many would say that Phil has been miscast as an inexperienced, shy teenager but he jumped at the opportunity to practice his on-stage chatting-up techniques.



Clare Gannett Sue

A first for Clare in this show, in that her love interest is Graham Read who brings a gritty realism to their groping scenes. She has patiently put up with being fondled and cast aside by the dastardly Gary, many times an evening. Remembering lines, songs and dance routines is no problem for Clare, so to fill up any spare moments she expertly gave the boys great 1960's hairdo's.

Paul Grace Paul/Terry

Being the only member of the male cast who is even vaguely the right age for this show, we have called on Paul for his youth, vitality and his ability to remember all the dance routines, thus providing a role model for the other boys (and someone for them to copy during the show). This is Paul's first production as a Mitre Player, and we hope the first of many - so buck up, all other male members - the competition has suddenly got tougher.

Nick Lawson Eddie

This is Nick's second production with the Mitre Players and his first ever musical, although you would not know it. Nick has embraced his dance moves with enthusiasm and never ceased to surprise us with new variations on a theme. We particularly enjoyed his solo dance routine in "Saturday Night Chat" and the top note in "Don't Touch Me" - watch out for them!

Cathy Newitt Penny/Shirl

The dance routines have not been a problem for Cathy (she knows the dance notes off by heart), and she has also never ceased to please us with her wonderful range of facial expressions. We think the wig she wears as Penny is particularly effective, allowing you to realise the full beauty of her own hair when playing Shirl.



Natasha Palmer (nee Nair) Bridget

Natasha is the only married member of our cast, having tied the knot at the start of our rehearsal period, which threw the rehearsal schedule into disarray. However, we do forgive her as her new husband has agreed to play in the band for the love of his woman. Whether the rest of the cast forgive her for making them all learn 5 dance numbers a night to catch up when she returned from honeymoon, remains to be seen!

Graham Read Gary

Graham has enjoyed the challenge of playing Gary, marking a departure from his usual specialities - camp roles and animals in pantomime. He has excelled himself in the musical numbers, surprising everybody, but mostly himself! He truly has proved to be the gang's natural leader and has been great fun to rehearse with.

Paul Smith Eric "Rubber Legs" De Vene

Paul has proved perfect for this role, rising to the challenge of playing loveable rogue, Eric. He has discovered that he can do new things with his rubber legs that he could never do before, and consequently we have an ambulance on standby each evening. You can tell that he is really enjoying this role, despite the fact that it doesn't need him to dress up as a woman, unlike some previous parts.

**Barry Buckley/
Warwick Jones
The Barman**

This enormously challenging role requires not one but two of the society's most accomplished actors to take it on. Only years of training at the OMWA club bar could possibly do this role justice. Reluctantly, they have both agreed to stay firmly behind the on-stage bar, for fear that their own dancing and singing ability would put the rest of the cast to shame. We are grateful to them for the many hours spent rehearsing.

**A
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