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John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Ian Brown, Alan Collins, Julia Gibbs

Di Jones, Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson

Martin Tyrrell, Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

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Chairman Alex Greenslade

Secretary Di Jones

Treasurer Alan Bishop

Additional Members Julia Ascott, Julia Gibbs

Mike Lilley, Charles Marriott, Vicky Watkins

Additional Contacts

Theatre Club Organiser Colin Warnock

Membership Secretary Julia Ascott

Box Office Number 07914 763422

The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Trinity Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 3 or 4 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design, build and paint our own sets, find and make our own props, make many of our own costumes and use "in house" musicians whenever possible.

We would welcome any new members, so if you have any aspirations to act, sing, dance or play a musical instrument, we would like to hear from you. If you prefer to

remain out of the spotlight, building scenery, lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing 'Front of House' or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

Most of our rehearsals take place at the TMWA/TSSSC Clubhouse in Sanderstead. The bar facilities at the clubhouse lend a social and convivial atmosphere to our rehearsals and all members are encouraged to use the facilities at Sanderstead as often as possible.

If you would like more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on: 020 8239 1010 or visit our website at www.mitreplayers.org.uk

The Mitre Players

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

By Robert Bolt



Chairman's Letter

I would like to welcome you to our production of *A Man for All Seasons*, a play that has been on our "to do list" for some time. We were therefore pleased when Peter Bramwell volunteered to direct it. He has acted with us many times, but only directed elsewhere, and we have been impressed by his knowledge and understanding of the piece as well as his enthusiasm.

Many drama groups struggle to find enough men to take part in productions, especially ones whose casts are nearly all male like here, but this was remarkably easy to fill, due in part to the standing of the piece itself, and respect for Peter's abilities.

This play also helps to demonstrate our versatility – our last show was a four-hander on a small set in a

confined space that had convincingly been transformed into a veranda, whereas this takes us back centuries to a turbulent time in our history. Next time it is going to be an American whodunnit comedy musical, *Curtains*, to be performed at our clubhouse in Sanderstead in July (11th - 14th) and then in Dawlish in August.

I hope you enjoy this performance. We really appreciate your support and, if you would like to become more involved, there are many roles available, on stage and off, so just have a chat with one of us and we will gladly point you in the right direction.

Alex Greenslade

Chairman, The Mitre Players

Want to stay up to date with all our news? Want to know when our next social is? Want to know how you can get involved in our shows? Well, we have three options for you:

- Visit our website www.mitreplayers.org.uk
- Like us on Facebook by searching "The Mitre Players"
- Follow us on Twitter @MitrePlayers

As well as our online presence we also publish a regular newsletter which is sent to all members and patrons - this announces shows and auditions before they appear anywhere else!



Neil O'Gorman: *The Duke of Norfolk*. Neil has been in Mitres for over 20 years now. He enjoys plays he can get his teeth stuck into, and this is one of those. He hopes you enjoy it.

Roisin Potter: *The Woman*. Roisin has been acting all her life. Her first roles were as a baby and young child, which were played so convincingly that her parents and grandparents were completely taken in by it. She had similar success in acting as a student, with many teachers and exam boards awarding her solid, if not spectacular, grades. She continued with various roles as an employee with similar degrees of success. Playing the role of mother to four children has been the highlight of her acting career, where she says she learned the most about method acting, although it often seemed Brechtian at times. She has since taken on roles as a surprisingly un-hirsute pirate in the *Firework Maker's Daughter*, as a visceral Andromache in *Trojan Women* and as a remarkably young and attractive looking (ref?) grandmother rebel leader which made Mother Courage look sympathetic, in *Red and the Wolf* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival last year. With this impressive back catalogue she feels ready to move into the cameo role arena and challenges her fans to spot her in this iconic production of *A Man for All Seasons*.



Morven Rae: *Lady Alice More*. Morven is enjoying playing Alice More in this fascinating and powerful play. Often seen in musicals she's looking forward to directing *Pirates of Penzance* in Wandle Park in July, working with a great cast. This play also boasts a great cast but the only trouble is whenever anyone refers to Morven as Mrs More she keeps thinking of the Music Hall song "Don't have any more, Mrs More"!

Fraser Macdonald: *Cardinal Wolsey*. Having previously played the Duke of Norfolk in *Catherine Howard* and, more recently, the Bishop of London in Jean Anouilh's *Becket – The Honour of God*, Fraser is once more donning historical costume to play the cameo role of Cardinal Wolsey in Robert Bolt's *A Man for All Seasons*. The part was originally played by the balloon-shaped Willoughby Goddard and Fraser is currently gorging himself on as much carbohydrate as he can to try to fill the circus tent that has been provided for him as a costume.



Charles Marriott: *Signor Chapuys*. Amongst the comments quoted in the publicity for this substantial production it has been said that it contains “proper acting and a lot of men in tights”. Both of these observations are true if a little flippant. Charles reprises the role of an Ambassador, having previously played the Italian Ambassador in *Catherine Howard* for Mitre. Now he has nipped across the borders, changed the accent and eats paella, so he is Spanish. He is somewhat confused, as he is unclear what will happen when Brexit actually happens, but he needn't worry..... there's a few hundred years before this even raises it's head! In Charles' “real job” he has had the distinction of meeting the writer of *A Man for All Seasons* when working with the author's then wife, actress Sarah Miles. But that's another story.

Owen Moore: *Will Roper*. Owen has been a member of Mitre Players since 2011 and this will be his third production. He previously played numerous characters in *The Wedding Singer* as well as Ruckley in *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, where he got to swear a lot.

The Mitre Players

Present

A Man for All Seasons

By Robert Bolt

Directed by Peter Bramwell

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School
Croydon

Thursday 6th to Saturday 8th April 2017

The Mitre Players would like to thank:

The Headmaster and Governors of Trinity School for allowing us to perform in The Mitre Theatre; Robin McKinley, Mario Sammut, Dean Sammut, Phil Jupp and all the Staff at Trinity School. Ian Walsh and everyone at the TMWA/TSSSC for their patience during our rehearsal period.

Please note: smoking (including electronic cigarettes) is prohibited throughout the school and grounds.

We would also respectfully remind you that the taking of photographs and the use of audio and video recording equipment is strictly forbidden. Please remember to switch off all mobile phones. Thank you for your co-operation.

An amateur production, by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Our Summer Musical

TMWA /TSSSC Clubhouse,
Lime Meadow Ave, Sanderstead

Tuesday 11th to
Friday 14th July 2017

Tickets on Sale 1st May



Patrons of The Mitre Players

Chrissy Amer, Carolyn Backway, Janice Beaumont, Kate Benstead, Alfie Bird
Katherine Bottomley, Ann Bowden, Chrissy Bright, Tony Britten, Ros Broyd, Carolyn Burton
Berry Butler, Derek Cathie, Julian & Carolyn Chenery, Bill & Barbara Cobbett, Derek Cooper
Di Copas, Diana Dobson, Alice Evans, Mark Fleming, Mike Fleming, Anna Frost, Gill Frost
Enid Ghent, Martin Godber, Tom Grundy, Jackie Harris, Amy Hayes, Kevin Hayes
Tracy Jeal, Carole Lane, David Lane, Philippa Lucas, Colin Marshall, Darielle Mayhead
Ian Mcleod, Hannah Millsted-Bowdery, Alison & Andrew Naish, Clare Parsons, Ray Payne
Dave Price, Liz Raishbrook, Hannah Rapley, Andrew Rapps, Bernie Regan, Trevor Rowlan
Rosemary Saw, Alan & Heather Sexton, Kate Sheehan, Paul Smith, Chester Stern
Emily Stockwell, Michael & Mary Street, Niccola Swan, Barry Widger
Geoff & Judith Wilsher, Robin Wilson

If you would like to become a Patron of The Mitre Players please log on to:
www.mitreplayers.org.uk and go to the "join us" page.

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN MUSICAL

TMWA/TSSSC CLUBHOUSE, LIME MEADOW AVENUE

Tuesday 31st October to Friday 3rd November 2017

Tickets on sale 1st August

Jerri-Lee Goater: *Lady Margaret More.* Jerri is no stranger to The Mitre Players, having performed in many productions with them throughout her teenage years. Her most interesting part was playing Claire in the most recent Mitre production, *Proof*. After a long break gaining a theatre studies degree, establishing herself as a primary school teacher and becoming a Mummy, she's decided that now is the time to return to the am dram scene. Jerri has had great fun rehearsing for this play with such a friendly bunch. One thing she has had to get used to is playing a character that goes by the name of her best friend in real life... Meg! If Jerri gives a good performance tonight, she's hoping that the Mitres will have her back again for many more productions in the future.



Paul Grace: *The Common Man.* Paul is thoroughly enjoying letting his common side take over in *A Man for All Seasons*, as he plays all the parts in the script that are left over! He has now been a Mitre Player for over half his life and in that time has loved playing parts varying from panto comics, stuttering lunatics, silent movie stars, gamblers, interstellar chefs, and a whole range of animals! When he is not pretending to be one of these things, he pretends to be a teacher of drama and PSHE.

Andrew Holton: *Thomas Cranmer.* Having graduated with a degree in Theology & Religious Studies in 2000, Andy is not at all surprised to find himself chosen as the Archbishop of Canterbury for the second time in just over a year. In *Becket - The Honour of God*, by Jean Anouilh, he played the Norman Archbishop Theobald de Bec who died in 1161, thus leaving the cathedral vacant for Thomas Becket. Now in *A Man for All Seasons*, Andy plays Archbishop Thomas Cranmer who allied himself with King Henry, only to come to a dire end when Queen Mary came to the throne in 1553. She had him burned at the stake in 1556 for being a heretic.

Warwick Jones: *Sir Thomas More.* Even the kindest follower of the Mitre Players would have to categorise Warwick in the 'veteran' category. He is beginning to think he should finally retire before the critic is tempted to quote Johnson's comments on women preachers: 'It is not done well; but you are surprised to see it done at all'. In the meantime, he is delighted to have spent the last six months engrossed in this enthralling story of England's complicated, exciting and personally dangerous disengagement from a European bureaucracy; such a welcome distraction from our own turbulent times. This was a period when 'hacking' meant what it said!

Christopher Backway: *Chapuy's Attendant*. Since the age of six, Christopher has always loved being part of The Mitre Players. He has played many roles, from his first part as one of Davy Jones' pirates in *Peter Pan* to recently being a young boy madly in love in *The Clockmaker's Daughter*. Christopher got involved with the Mitre Players through his family who have been active members. Every show he's been a part of has always motivated him to (maybe) pursue a professional acting career like his brother who last year was the final actor to play Albert in *War Horse* in the West End... but he's not thinking too far ahead! Christopher hopes you enjoy *A Man for All Seasons* as much as he has!

Peter Bramwell: *Director/Henry VIII*. Henry VIII is England's best known King (not Monarch because Victoria and the two Elizabeths are equally famous). If you said that he was your favourite Monarch you'd probably be reminded that he beheaded two of his wives. Although Peter doesn't claim that this is a typically woman-centric point of view, it at least makes Henry 'interesting'. He's also known for being fat (well, yes he was in his final years), shouting a lot and implementing the first 'Brexit'. And that's about it really....

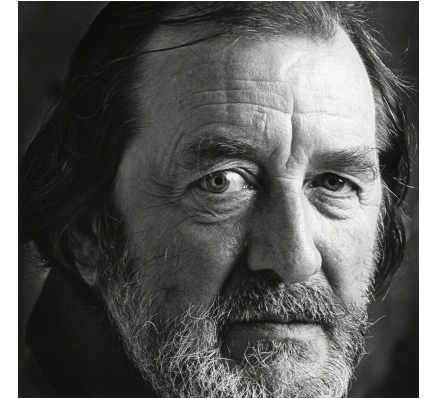
Ian Brown: *Thomas Cromwell*. When Ian joined the Mitre Players way back in 1982, it certainly didn't occur to him that he would still be performing with them 35 years later. Nor did it occur to him that drama would completely engulf his life. It's thanks to the Mitres that for the last 22 years Ian has run the local Helen O'Grady Drama Academy as well as acting and directing with other local groups. He has, however, reduced the number of productions he takes part in or directs from about eight per year in the early years to two or three as he has got older. Ian is really enjoying playing the evil Thomas Cromwell in this production, his 64th with the Mitres.



Paul Cohen: *Master Richard Rich*. Paul's last show with Mitre was as a dancing monk in *Spamalot*. After a two and a half year absence, he is delighted to be back on stage again. Paul is enjoying the challenge of appearing in a 'serious drama', as the materialistic and immoral Richard Rich, rather than in a 'fluffy' musical which he is more accustomed to. Since his last outing with Mitre, Paul has tied the knot (that is, he has got married rather than perfecting the reef knot!). He would like to thank his wife, Caroline, for her support and for helping him learn his lines.

Robert Bolt - A Man for All Seasons

He was born in Sale, Cheshire in 1924 and after wartime service with the RAF he continued his further education at the University of Exeter. He taught English at Millfield School for many years until he became a full-time writer. His first play, *The Flowering Cherry* was performed in 1958 starring Celia Johnson and Ralph Richardson. Only two years later he adapted his 1954 radio play *A Man for All Seasons* into a stage play. The cast included Paul Scofield as Sir Thomas More, Leo McKern as The Common Man and Andrew Keir as Thomas Cromwell.



Whilst Bolt continued to write plays, which include *The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew* (1964); *Vivat! Vivat Regina* – another historical drama, comparing and contrasting the lives of Mary, Queen of Scots and Elizabeth and *State of Revolution*, he became more famous for writing screenplays. He started to work with director David Lean in 1962 when he was asked to adapt T E Lawrence's book, *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom* into the Oscar winning *Lawrence of Arabia*. He continued to work with Lean on other classic British films including Boris Pasternak's *Doctor Zhivago* and *Ryan's Daughter*.

In 1966 director Fred Zinnemann asked him to adapt his own book *A Man for All Seasons* into the classic film. Reprising his role as Sir Thomas More, Paul Scofield won an Oscar for Best Actor. In addition the film won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Costume Design and he won the Best Adapted Screenplay. The cast included Wendy Hillier as Alice Moore; Leo McKern as Thomas Cromwell; Orson Welles as Cardinal Wolsey; Robert Shaw

as Henry VIII; Susannah York as Margaret More; Nigel Davenport as the Duke of Norfolk and John Hurt as Richard Rich.

Charlton Heston also played Sir Thomas More in the USA in 1970s and 1980s, the production then transferred to the West End. In 1987 the production toured Great Britain, reaching Croydon's Ashcroft Theatre in January 1988.

In 1988 Heston starred and directed an American TV movie. It too was adapted by Bolt, but this time was more "stagey" and kept closer to the book. In addition to Heston the cast included Vanessa Redgrave as Alice More; Richard Johnson as the Duke of Norfolk; John Gielgud as Cardinal Wolsey and Roy Kinnear as The Common Man.

In 1972 he wrote and directed the film *Lady Caroline Lamb*. In 1984 he adapted the book Captain Bligh and Mr Christian into *The Bounty*. *The Mission*, which he adapted from his own novel was released in 1986.

He was married four times, (twice to Sarah Miles) and was awarded the CBE in 1972. He died, aged 70, in 1995 after a long illness.

The Cast

The Common Man	Paul Grace
Sir Thomas More	Warwick Jones
Master Richard Rich	Paul Cohen
The Duke of Norfolk Earl Marshal of England	Neil O'Gorman
Lady Alice More Sir Thomas's Wife	Morven Rae
Lady Margaret More Sir Thomas's Daughter	Jerri-Lee Goater
Cardinal Wolsey	Fraser Macdonald
Thomas Cromwell	Ian Brown
Signor Chapuys The Spanish Ambassador	Charles Marriott
Chapuys' Attendant	Christopher Backway
Will Roper	Owen Moore
Henry VIII	Peter Bramwell
The Woman	Roisin Potter
Thomas Cranmer Archbishop of Canterbury	Andy Holton

Behind the Scenes

Director Peter Bramwell	Backstage Assistance Liz Dolman Derek Lee Charles Marriott Julian Parsons Ziggi Szafranski Andrew Thompson Denver Watkins and members of The Mitre Players
Designer & Scenic Artist Paul Bowles	Press Liaison Lesley Bates
Stage Manager Alan Collins	Programme Photographs Charles Marriott
Lighting Designer Alan Bishop	Production Manager Di Jones
Costumes Di Jones	Programme Alan Bishop, Anna Warnock
Assisted by Anna Warnock	Box Office Manager Mike Lilley
Sound James McLeod	Front of House and Refreshments Alex Greenslade, Julia Gibbs and members of The Mitre Players
Props Julia Ascott, Vicky Watkins	
Prompter Di Jones	
Production Photographs Marcus Ascott	

Act I

1. Sir Thomas More's house at Chelsea
2. Wolsey's apartment at Richmond
3. The Riverside at Richmond
4. Sir Thomas More's house at Chelsea
5. Hampton Court Palace
6. The garden of Sir Thomas More's house
7. An Inn
8. Sir Thomas More's house at Chelsea

Act II

1. Cromwell's apartment at Hampton Court
2. Sir Thomas More's house at Chelsea
3. Cromwell's apartment at Hampton Court
4. The riverside at Hampton Court
5. The Tower of London
6. The Tower of London
7. The Hall of Westminster
8. Tower Hill