

the mitre players PRESENT KIGGKL And His Marvellous Limehouse Lamp By MARTIN TYRRELL COLIN WARNOCK TRINITY SCHOOL SHIRLEY PARK, CROYDON. THURSDAY 10TH TO **SATURDAY 12TH** JANUARY 2002



Chairman's Letter



Dear Friends,

Once again, Panto time is upon us and this year sees us presenting yet another original show, on the Aladdin theme, from the pens of founder members Martin Tyrrell & Colin Warnock. Performed originally by Harrow School just over a month ago to very receptive audiences, the show has already been adapted (and considerably shortened) for us to present this week.

Once again this year, many of the cast are quite young, something we hope will secure the future of the Mitres. There are several current Trinity pupils in the cast, a trend we wish to encourage.

This year sees some new innovations for us. In the spring we will be performing not one, but two shows at our Clubhouse in Sanderstead. The first, an all male show, **The Long and the Short and the Tall** directed by Dave Price and a month later, **Agnes of God** with an all female cast, directed by Clare Tibbalds. Both are making their directing debuts for us and we wish them well.

In the summer we shall be performing the musical **Honk!** directed by Julia Ascott, both here at Trinity and then at the beautiful

open air Minack theatre in Cornwall. Honk! is the story of the Ugly Duckling, originally performed at the National Theatre and then toured nationwide. We are fortunate to be the first amateur company to present this show at the Minack. Details of all the above shows are elsewhere in this programme. Please come and support us if you can.

Coming back to the present, Limehouse in the 1930s is the setting for tonight's show, with many, many unlikely inhabitants and a plot to match! We hope you all enjoy this piece of fantasy and escape reality for a couple of hours in the company of 'Aladdin and his Marvellous Limehouse Lamp'.

Andy Thompson

Chairman



The Mitre Players

(A section of the Old Boys' Association of Trinity School)

Present



And his Marvellous Limehouse Lamp

Book and Lyrics: Martin Tyrrell
Music: Colin Warnock

Adapted by: Julia Ascott
Additional Lyrics: Julian Chenery

Director: Ann Bowden
Musical Director: James Beal
Choreographer: Lorraine Titchener

The Mitre Players would like to thank the Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for allowing us to perform "Aladdin" in Big School and Eyre Maunsell, John Bertram and his team for their invaluable help.

Please note that smoking is prohibited in the auditorium.

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 & pagers.

THANK YOU.

The Mitre Players

Chris Tarrant President Past President Robin Wilson

Vice Presidents Gillian Bartle, John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Martin Garnett, Jack Griffin, Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Martin Tyrrell, Colin Warnock

Chairman Secretary Treasurer **Membership Secretary Additional Members**

Andy Thompson Julia Gibbs Alan Bishop Julia Ascott

Kelly Beard, Ian Brown,

Dave Price, Anna Warnock

大龍羊馬猴

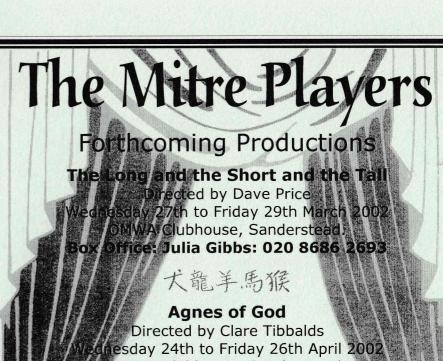
The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Old Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 4 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal 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 Old Mid Whitgiftian Association 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.

For more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on 020 8239 1010 or visit our Web Site at www.themitreplayers.com



OMWA Clubhouse, Sanderstead. Office: Julia Gibbs: 020 8686 2693

犬龍羊馬猴

Honk! The Ugly Duckling

Directed by Julia Ascott Thursday 25th to Saturday 27th July 2002 Trinity School, Shirley Park.

Office: Sheila Garnett: 020 8650 788

Monday 5th to Friday 9th August 2002 Minack Theatre, Porthcurno, Cornwall

For more details please contact any mmittee member or visit our Web Site www.themitreplayers.com

The Cast



Constable Sargent Steve Urie Rosy, a Flowergirl Megan Harries-Rees

大龍羊馬猴

Urchins, Passers-by, Guests, Salamanders & other parts. Sam Cook, Laura Grafham, Shannan Keen, Anna King, Emily Merricks, Katherine Smoker and members of the cast

Urchins. Nathan Ascott, Oliver Ascott, James Backway, Danny Casey, Leah Casey, Georgina Chenery, Ciara Daly, Vicky Gunner, Elizabeth Trend.



Production Team



Director

Ann Bowden

Musical Director

James Beal

Choreographer Lorraine Titchener

Stage Manager Alan Collins

Construction Supervisor

Alan Bishop

Lighting Designer Alan Bishop

Sound

James McLeod

Costume Supervisor

Julia Ascott

Speciality Costumes Wiggy

Special Effects Andy Thompson

Deputy Stage Managers

Gillian Bartle Colin Parrish Dave Richards

Stage/Technical Crew, Construction

Chris Bassett Matthew Beal Kelly Beard Sue Carter

Diana Dobson Martin Garnett Paul Grace Mary Holton Tony Lyon-Williams Fraser Macdonald Lou Parrish Julian Parsons Dave Price Jan Richards Paul Smith Andy Thompson Adam Tibbalds Clare Tibbalds

Anna Warnock Scenic Artists

Charles Thomas

Paul Bowles Steve Humfress

Costumes made by

Julia Ascott Diana Dobson Penny Grace Ann Macdonald Jan Richards Tracey Usher Anna Warnock

Props Mary Holton

Rehearsal Pianist James Beal

Musical **Arrangements** Colin Warnock

Additional Lyrics Julian Chenery

Additional Choreography

Kelly Beard Lucy Thompson

Prompter

Peter Bramwell

Production Secretaries

Ian Brown Julia Gibbs

Programme

Alan Bishop Anna Warnock

Photography Charles Marriott

Fover Display Diana Dobson

Box Office Sheila Garnett

Front of House

John Benstead Martin Garnett and Friends of the Mitre Players

Refreshments

Barbara Cobbett Bill Cobbett Joyce Swaffield and Friends of the Mitre Players

大龍羊 ALADDIN 大龍羊

And His Marvellous Limehouse Lamp

Act One

Scene 1

Limehouse, London's Chinatown

Scene 2

Abanazar's Curio Shop

Scene 3

Limehouse

Scene 4

Outside Madam Pong's Den

Scene 5

Widow Twankey's Laundry

Scene 6

Abanazar's Curio Shop

Scene 7

Deep Underground

There will be a 20 minute Interval, during which refreshments will be available

Act Two

Scene 1

Limehouse

Scene 2

Outside Madam Pong's Den

Scene 3

Widow Twankey's Mayfair Flat

Scene 4

The Sands of Egypt

Scene 5

Inside the Pharaoh's Tomb

Scene 6
Limehouse

Limenouse

The Songs

The Limehouse Way (Chorus)

I'm Mr. Pong (Mr. Pong and the Principals)

When We're Alone (Aladdin and So-Hi)

It's a Four Foot Life (Orphans, Widow Twankey, Aladdin, Wishee)

Widow Twankey's Laundry (Widow Twankey, Aladdin, Wishee)

Stand Up for Sitting Down (Tubby, Principals & Chorus)

Up West! (Widow Twankey, Wishee ,Poppy)

Up West! (Reprise) (Aladdin, Widow Twankey, Wishee, Poppy)

Interval

Happy New Year, Me Ole China (Chorus)

The Happy Song (Tubby, Fifi, Poppy, Policemen)

Abanazar (Abanazar)

Flanagan & Allen (Smelly Sid & Yellow Beryl)

Flying So High (Genie of the Ring & Principals)

Let's Get Wed (Principals)

The Wedding of the Year (Genie of the Lamp & Company)

The Limehouse Way (The Company)

The Band

Keyboards: James Beal, Simon Benn

Woodwind: Nicola Dempsey, Barnaby Jones,

Will Sansom, Hannah Widger

Brass: Chris Hickox, Michael Lockton, Pat Price

Bass: Patrick Moore **Percussion:** Craig Backway

The action takes place in Limehouse, Mayfair and Egypt in the mid-1930s

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Meet the Team

ANN BOWDEN (Director) first appeared for the Mitres in Backstage! (1985) playing the role of Hilda Crouch, the perpetual Queen Mother. Favourite Mitre roles have included Fraulein Schneider (Cabaret), Madame Dubonnet (The Boyfriend) and Mrs. Crummles (Nicholas Nickleby). Her overall favourite role has been Mrs. Lovett (Sweeney Todd). Ann has braved directing her first Mitre Panto, having spent two years directing the Younger Generation at the Ashcroft Theatre, first with a cast of 90 and then (last summer) with over 100 youngsters. She has thoroughly enjoyed directing this show and looks forward to playing another Queen Mother



role in Honk! next summer. Ann works as a PA to a London Theatrical Agent.



JAMES BEAL (Musical Director) James returns to his musical roots to musically direct his first big Mitre Players show - and he's pleased to report that it wasn't nearly as stressful as he imagined. Aladdin is James' third Mitre show this year, and thankfully the first one in which we won't have to listen to his singing, which featured in the junior production of Guys and Dolls and in the summer production of Return to the Forbidden Planet. Elsewhere this year James was dead chuffed to be invited to play one of the piano parts for the Trinity School production of Barnum; wore a very silly hat while musically directing A Bad Day at Blackfrog Creek for

the junior players at Penshurst Amateur Dramatic Society; and has on more than one occasion consumed sufficient alcohol to perform his renowned Elton John impersonation!

LORRAINE TITCHENER (Madam Pong/Choreographer)

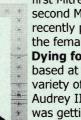
This is Lorraine's third panto with the Mitre Players, having joined in 1998 for **Robin Hoodlum** in which she played a showgirl. Her favourite parts to date have been Lady Jacqueline in **Me and My Girl** (CODA) and the Navigation Officer in our production of **Return to the Forbidden Planet**. Lorraine spends the rest of her time being a student teacher and has also choreographed this show. She says the two are very similar – screaming instructions at a captive audience! This leads us nicely to her character, Madam Pong. Lorraine would like to thank the University of Surrey for giving her the skills to play this part.



MARTIN TYRRELL (Author/Lyricist) Since co-founding the Mitres in 1972, he has continued to write, direct and occasionally act for the company. He has also directed for CODA, Croydon Stagers and Surrey Opera. Since 1994, he has been kept busy running Harrow School's Ryan Theatre where he is also Head of Drama. Having just recovered from directing the "prototype" rendition of this show at Harrow, he is now relishing his first Christmas with his 11 month old son Freddie.

FRASER MACDONALD (Widow Twankey) is no stranger to the annual drag act and hopes the Challenge Cup Bra still fits. Past panto appearances have included King Rat, Dame, Mad Professor and an Ugly Sister. In his spare time Fraser teaches Spanish at Trinity School.

CHRIS BASSETT (Wishee-Washee) This is Chris's



first Mitre pantomime and second Mitre show having recently played the part of the female police sergeant in



Dying for Dinner. His home group is Oxted Operatic, based at The Barn Theatre, where he has played a variety of parts. His favourite was the puppeteer for Audrey II in **Little Shop of Horrors**. His best moment was getting a standing ovation at the Minack Theatre and his funniest was being listed in a Mitre newsletter as a 'juve lead' at the ripe old age of 25!

JAMES SMOKER (Aladdin) is relishing playing a juve lead and is particularly pleased with Widow Twankey's Laundry and Let's Get Wed. Previous roles for Mitres have been Nicely Nicely (Guys and Dolls) and Clive (Dying for Dinner). He says his favourite was Guys and Dolls as he liked singing Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat. He is a student at Trinity and is studying for his A' Levels. James is enjoying playing Aladdin as he feels he is breaking out from being typecast as the nice/gormless one – however much it suits him.





FRAN BINEFA (Poppy Li) This is her third Mitre production having recently played the lead role of Miss Adelaide in our junior production of Guys and Dolls (very cool!) which she says has been her favourite part to date. She is a student at St. Philomena's School and is in her first GCSE year studying music and drama among other subjects. Fran has fond memories of a production of Bugsy Malone where she slipped on a mountain of foam in the finale. Her ambition is to play Eponine in the West End Musical Les Miserables.

CLARE DEMPSEY (So-Hi) has been with the Mitre Players for a year now and the time has flown by so quickly. Her first show was last year's pantomime when she played the title role of Cindy-Ella. After that she enjoyed playing the part of Sarah Brown in Guys and Dolls, and Miranda in Return to the Forbidden Planet (which was her favourite). After gaining her A' Levels, she has just started an HND in Musical Theatre at the Charles Cryer Theatre in Carshalton which runs for two years. Having toured with us in Dawlish, Clare is very much looking forward to performing in Honk! next summer.





DAVE PRICE (Abanazar) Dave's appearances in pantomimes have varied wildly between 'bloke in underpants with a pterodactyl on his head' to 'bloke in underpants in locker room' with brief (more underpants?) interludes as baddies' side-kick, goodies' side-kick and Artful Dodger. He is pleased to make the giant leap to Baddie proper and promises to keep his underwear out of sight – probably. Dave makes big toys for a living, can find a kebab shop anywhere and wishes to succeed Pierce Brosnan as the next OO7.

ALEX GREENSLADE (Mr Pong) Alex first appeared in 1985, having just left Trinity School. He has been in more shows than he cares to remember, playing a wide variety of parts, often involving accents or impersonations. His favourite role was as the Chairman of an amateur dramatic society in our last production, **Dying for Dinner**. But his favourite shows have been at the Minack Theatre, particularly **Quasimodo**. For a living he is an entrepeneur-cum-market researcher whose ambition would be to retire very early.



IAN BROWN (The Rev. Tubby Tinkler) Having been cast as Rev. Tinkler, Ian was given the almost impossible task of finding a wife. After he was turned down twice and told three times 'if you're really desperate', he eventually proposed to his office assistant who (bizarrely) he 'married' many years ago in another Tyrrell/ Warnock show. It has made a change to be playing a man this year and Ian has been eating a lot over the festive season to attain the weight required by his part.



PENNY FISHER (Captain Fifi) was proposed to by Ian Brown. She was very flattered as she already has a partner and two offspring! Penny was even more flattered when she realised it was for stage purposes as she had seen several Mitre pantos with said offspring. One panto was particularly memorable when the Dame almost concussed her daughter with a boiled sweet! Penny has appeared in the CODA production of

Idol Days when she and Ian played the romantic leads. Penny has worked for Helen O'Grady for 4 ½ years and guess who her boss is – yes, it's Ian Brown again!

DIANA DOBSON (Genie of the Ring) Diana appeared in the first Mitre production, **Charley's Aunt** in 1973, playing Kitty Verdun. Over the years she has appeared in a variety of roles, both large and small, ranging from Randolph the Cat in **Cinderella Charleston** to Jean Brodie in **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**. Her most memorable moment was being left alone on stage during a **Coarse Acting Festival**, whilst her fellow actor, who shall remain nameless (but is appearing on

stage tonight), ran into the wings to consult the script! Looking forward to playing Lear in later life, Diana bides her time as Head of Display Advertising at 'Accountancy' magazine.

COLIN WARNOCK (Genie of the Lamp/Composer)
Colin left Trinity in 1972 and co-founded the Mitre
Players with Martin Tyrrell, amongst others, in 1973.
They still collaborate from time to time and have
written many pantomimes and musicals plus an
update of The Mikado. Colin has played many parts



for the Mitre Players including Nathan (Guys and Dolls), Mary Sunshine (Chicago), George (Once in a Lifetime), Fulbert (Abelard & Heloise), Emcee (Cabaret), Frollo (Quasimodo), Cervantes (Man of La Mancha), Mr. Crummles (Nicholas Nickleby), Lord Brockhurst (The Boyfriend) and Prospero (Return to the Forbidden Planet). His favourite moments are when he hears his music coming to life at Band Calls and listening to Ian Brown singing his hits of yesteryear. Colin is a professional musician and works at the prestigious Laine Theatre Arts where he helps to train the stars of tomorrow. His ambition is to continue to get paid for enjoying his hobby!

JULIAN CHENERY (Smelly Sid) is now at the stage where he is better known as Emma/Olivia/Georgina's dad. He made his debut for the Mitre Players in **Backstage!** (1985). Roles have included Sky Masterson in **Guys and Dolls**, Jesus in **Godspell**, Billy Flynn in **Chicago**, Bert in **Home Alone III (A Lad in London)** and Dame in **P.A.N.T.0.0.7**. His dedication to the Mitres knows no boundaries – he



spent the night before his wedding in **Songbook** – sadder still, his bride-to-be was there too (helping with quick costume changes) – even sadder still, he has fond memories of appearing in a **Coarse Acting Festival**!

JULIA GIBBS (Yellow Beryl) This is her 14th Mitre Players' Xmas show – most recently playing the Fairy in **The Millennium Dame**. Other favourite parts include Regan in **King Lear**, Brooke in **Noises Off**

and Beatrice in **Much Ado About Nothing**. During the day Julia works in the insurance world which is why she feels so much at home with the part of Yellow Beryl – the two are so similar! Most embarrassing memory – losing her skirt during an exotic dance in **Where's Charley?**. Let's hope that memory still remains top of the list by the end of tonight's performance!

NICHOLAS UGLOW (Sergeant Constable) Nicholas is a current sixth-former at Trinity and did his first Mitre show last year, taking the role of Buddy in **Cindy-Ella**. Since then he has played the part of Nathan (**Guys and Dolls**) at the Clubhouse. He takes full part in school drama productions, having recently appeared in the lead role of Chaucer in **Canterbury Tales**. He has played supporting roles in many

shows and plays directed by Eric Jones at Trinity, including several Shakespeare productions. He is a keen theatre and opera goer.

STEVE URIE (Constable Sargent) This is Steve's first Mitre show and only his second role. His previous show was **The Mikado**, where he was in the chorus and took great pride in having one line to say. Unfortunately, he got it wrong on the first night! He has spent three years studying for a degree in



music down at Canterbury. Until now, he has not ventured onto the stage; instead he has always been part of the band which he has enjoyed immensely. He now hopes to develop his skills and confidence slowly to enable him to take on a lead role in the future. Watch this space!

PAUL BOWLES (Wong One) is appearing in his first Mitre production as well as his first pantomime. Paul has only been in a few shows but already has gained the habit of playing Chinese people (not due to his acting ability, probably just his beard looked right for it!). Other roles have included John (a reformed Chinese alcoholic) in **Anything Goes**, an old Chinese man in **Little Shop of Horrors** and, most recently, in the chorus for **Oliver**. As well as performing, Paul also likes to be



involved behind the scenes. He recently designed (and built) his first set for the **Darling Buds of May** for the Oxted Players. Paul has been cast as Canada in the Mitre production of **Honk!** and is looking forward to performing it at the Minack next year.

paniel Harvey (Wong Two) This is Dan's first show with the Mitre Players but he is already developing a talent in oriental method acting having recently played a Japanese warrior in

Gilbert and Sullivan's **The Mikado**. Dan hopes the fluent Chinese he has acquired while rehearsing for **Aladdin** will save him the expense of a linguaphone course.

MARGARET STOCKWELL (Fatima) Her first appearance for the Mitre Players was **Sir Merryman** (1983) and she has been in most of our pantomimes ever since. Margaret has shown her versatility in the various roles she has played over the years, ranging from Lady Brockhurst in **The Boyfriend** to the old lady in **The Country Wife**. Despite that she says she has enjoyed being in the chorus most of all.

JOHN BARTLE (Mustapha Plow) Having spent a lifetime perfecting a range of characters such as Doctors, Vicars, Policemen and occasionally avuncular Uncles or destitute Fathers, he has been thrown the challenge of performing as a Middle-East

farmer. We leave you to judge whether he has made the leap to this higher plane. He is however delighted to be performing with three of his grandsons and some goats.

EMMA CHENERY (Faith) became the youngest ever Mitre Player when at just 3 weeks old she appeared as Gretel in the 1988 production of **The Sound of Coarse Music.** Since then she has appeared as various animals for the Mitres; Olivia in her Primary School production of **Twelfth Night** and professionally as Bluebell (First Fairy) in Shakespeare 4 Kidz's **A Midsummer Night's Dream** in Dorking, Tunbridge Wells and Oxted.

JOSIE HENWOOD (Hope) has been in two Mitre shows, namely, **Guys and Dolls** and **Cindy-Ella**. She has thoroughly enjoyed both of them although she has only been in the chorus until tonight. Her ambition is to increase the volume of her lines over the next few shows.



MARY HOLTON (Charity) is a bit of an animal, and sometimes a whole one! In the past she has cornered the market playing a panda (and losing!), a

kangaroo, a mouse, a parrot, a tiger and the front end of a cow. This year, however, Mary has decided to break the habit of a lifetime by wearing a costume that hasn't been made out of fur fabric.

JERRI GOATER (Posy) first appeared for the Mitre Players in last year's production of **Cindy-Ella**. She enjoyed this experience so much that she then took part in our junior production of **Guys and Dolls**. She is a keen participant in the Drama Club and Gym Club at Riddlesdown High School. Jerri is ambitious enough to aspire to a lead role in next year's pantomime and hopes the audience enjoys **Aladdin** as much as she has in being involved in it.



MEGAN HARRIES-REES (Rosy) has been in many Mitre productions having first appeared as Gretel in the Sound of Coarse Music at the impressionable age of 1. Her favourite role was the Mini Me Fairy in Cindy-Ella. She is a student at Riddlesdown High School where she is rehearsing for Guys and Dolls having won the much coveted role of Miss Adelaide. She enjoys musical theatre and hopes to carry it on in the future (maybe in the West End) but being 13 thinks she will stick to 'am dram' for the time being.

RICHARD JONES (Alf) is appearing in his 4th Mitre Christmas show having previously played Roly in **Turnabout**, TDS2 in **Millennium Dame** and Mini Me Demon King in **Cindy-Ella**. This is his favourite role so far as he has got more lines and jokes than before. He was most recently seen as Angie the Ox in **Guys and Dolls**. He enjoys cricket and is currently holding the award of Under 13s best bowler for Purley Cricket Club. Oh for being modest! He is also trying out for a water polo goalkeeper for his school, Trinity. At the age of 13 he is already 5'8.