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Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson, Martin Tyrrell,
Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

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Additional Members Ian Brown, Julia Gibbs,
Charles Marriott, Dave Price

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 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



We are delighted that Helen Harries-Rees has decided to end her five-year break from amateur drama by directing *City of Angels*. We had planned to perform *The Pirates of*

Penzance (Broadway version), but had to switch to this show when it became clear that we would not be able to recruit enough chorus members, especially women. However, just like *Monty Python's Spamalot* last year, we were surprised and pleased when we were granted the rights, despite its recent run at the Donmar Warehouse, where it sold to packed houses.

Helen has previously worked with our Musical Director, Robert Randall, but for other societies. We are especially pleased that he has joined us for this, particularly as he is an Old Boy of Trinity School! It is a wonder that he has not done this before. We hope this will be the first of many Mitre productions.

City of Angels is a complex show in many ways and it is great to have a strong artistic team in place in the form of Helen, Robert and Tonia Porter, our choreographer. Our thanks also go to the many other individuals doing their part in bringing this challenging production to fruition. To get the most from it, the audience needs to pay attention, so you are encouraged to read the synopsis!

We are also pleased to have been able to attract a number of new members who are more used to performing with our local rivals. We welcome them warmly and hope that they will be back for more in the future.

Finally we are looking forward to the return in the summer of one of our co-founders, Martin Tyrrell, to direct *Dick Barton - Special Agent*. Martin recently retired as head of drama at Harrow School, where his pupils included Benedict Cumberbatch (who played Stone in their production of the City of Angels). So watch the cast of Dick Barton carefully - maybe one of them could be headed for Hollywood!

Alex Greenslade

Chairman, The Mitre Players



Ziggy Szafranski - Stine

Two shots rang out. It only took a moment, but in that time the writer realised that, a decade after leaving these halls as a child, he had returned a man - which is quite helpful, seeing as this is Ziggi's second Mitre show, after playing Sir Lancelot in *Monty Python's Spamalot* last summer! Having had the opportunity to perform in many venues, *City of Angels* marks his 100th production (!) and he is delighted to be playing Stine, having previously enjoyed roles such as Gomez (*The Addams Family*), Bernardo (*West Side Story*) and Sky Masterson (*Guys and Dolls*). When he's not here, Ziggi teaches performing arts to children, acts, sings, directs, does voice recordings and is currently fulfilling his dream of being a perpetual student!

Vicky Watkins - An Angel City Singer

Being asked to do a biography is always 'Nightmare Alley' and for me trying to write one is 'The Kiss of Death' but, this morning after 'The Big Sleep', she sat here 'In a Lonely Place' trying to think of things 'Out of the Past'. Of course, 'The Postman Always Rings Twice', she opened the door and saw 'The Woman in The Window' to find 'Panic in The Streets' as 'The Killers' went 'Gun Crazy' in the 'Asphalt Jungle' then 'I Wake Up Screaming' to realise this has all been in her head. The truth is she knows she is in for an amazing week with *City of Angels*, a classic film noir show with a fabulous cast there should be nothing but 'The Sweet Smell of Success'! (See what she did there).



Fiona Robertson - An Angel City Singer

Fiona is enjoying being in *City of Angels* as she loves the city and her parents have always told her she's an angel. Her first ever main part was as Blousy Brown in *Bugsy Malone* (also directed by Helen Harries-Rees) when Fiona was just sixteen. She has just realised that was twenty years ago. Fiona is a media fixer, and sets up filming for companies who come to film in London from abroad. Her favourite productions to date are her two boys, three year old Dylan and her seven month old Rufus.

Beci Sageman - Mallory Kingsley, Avril Raines

Having visited the City of Angels a few years ago, and seen Marilyn Monroe's star on the walk of fame, Beci is delighted to be playing a Marilyn Monroe-type starlet and it makes a pleasant change from all the innocent youths she has been cast as recently! Beci loves the overacting from the Film Noir era and hopes to do it justice this evening... she is never usually one to be over the top.

Peter St James - Irwin S. Irving, Buddy Fidler

Peter played Stine in *City of Angels* at the Stag in Sevenoaks, twenty years ago! Professional credits include *Mutiny!* starring David Essex, *The Wizard of Oz* for the Royal Shakespeare Company, starring Imelda Staunton, *Sweet Charity* starring Su Pollard, *Guys And Dolls* starring Barbara Windsor, *The Best Little Whorehouse* in Texas and *The Full Monty*. Peter's varied career includes national tours of *Equus* and *Annie*, being a cheerleader on *Top of the Pops*, appearing in the film *Flash Gordon*, backing Su Pollard in cabaret, directing *Pirates of Penzance* for Croydon Stagers and playing Jesus in *Light of the World* and *Son of Man* at the Fairfield Halls. He has appeared in many pantomimes with the likes of Arthur Askey, Danny La Rue, John Inman and Ant & Dec.

Fiona Steel - An Angel City Singer

Fiona started her career in musical theatre many moons ago, working her way through the roles of G&S wet heroine and musical theatre comedy second sister. Now wiser and, more importantly, older, Fiona's stage presence is usually as a wife, widow or mother, although recently she did get to indulge her inner leading lady as Patience in *Patience* and her inner exhibitionist as Cora in *Calendar Girls*. When not treading the boards, Fiona can be found the other side of the curtain wearing her directorial hat and bossing the good people of the South East around. Her next project is directing a production of *The Mikado* which will be performed in Devon in July. She's not sure what's on the list after that but suspects it will involve chocolate and a long lie down.

The Mitre Players

Present

City of Angels

Book: Larry Gelbart Music by: Cy Coleman
Lyrics: David Zippel

Director: Helen Harries-Rees
Musical Director: Robert Randall
Choreographer: Tonia Porter

The Mitre Theatre,
Trinity School, Croydon

18th to 21st February 2015

Please note: smoking 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 Musicscope and Stage Musicals of New York.

Trinity
Mid-Whitgiftian
Association

presents



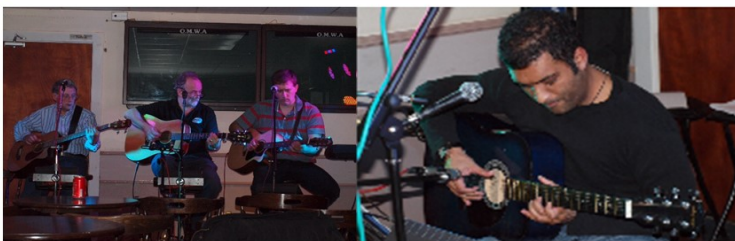
Lime Meadow Acoustic Folk & Blues Club

KEEP MUSIC LIVE

- Wednesday fortnightly
- 8.30 to 11pm
- Licensed bar from 7pm
- Free entry & parking

TMWA Clubhouse
Lime Meadow Avenue
Sanderstead
South CROYDON
CR2 9AS

020 8657 2014



Are you a competent acoustic guitarist, pianist, singer or other, who would like to play in front of other like-minded people, in a friendly atmosphere or just someone who enjoys listening to music? If you are, come along.

Don't be put off by the heading of "Folk & Blues" as, in common with many other "Folk & Blues clubs", the music can be an eclectic mix of other genres.

A PA is available, with microphones, monitors and instrument connections, but kept at a volume level that is comfortable for all to enjoy.

"Fruit of the Loom" Outdoor Fleece Jacket in Smoke with Embroidered Mitre Players Logo. As modelled by Julia Gibbs
100% polyester. Pill resistant. Unlined. Two zip pockets. Self colour zip. Cover stitching detail on hem and shoulder seams. Open hem with drawcord.

£20.00 each Sizes available: (others available on special order)
S to fit chest 35/37 M to fit chest 38/40
L to fit chest 41/43 XL to fit chest 44/46

"Anvil Fashion" Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt in Sport Grey with embroidered Mitre Players Logo
75% cotton/25% polyester. Unlined hood with white drawcords. White taped back neck. Two inch rolled forward shoulder. Full length metallic YKK zip. Twin needle topstitch at neck. 1x1 rib knit with spandex at cuffs and waistband.

£20.00 each Sizes available: (others available on special order)
S to fit chest 34/36 M to fit chest 38/40
L to fit chest 42/44 XL to fit chest 46/48



Both items are available to purchase from members of the committee or by order from: info@mitreplayers.org.uk.



Charles Marriott - *Orderly, Sonny, Officer Pasco, Gene*

Charles is "treading the boards" again in this fabulous Mitre version of *City of Angels*. Playing four very different minor roles, he has had a slight character crisis during rehearsals. It's been a case of....."Tonight Matthew....I'm going to be....." But without giving too much away there is a big scene in the show which takes place on a Hollywood Movie set. Charles plays Gene the Assistant Director, which could be type casting as before becoming a professional Film and TV Director, he worked in this capacity on some of the most famous movies of all time, *Superman* being one of them. Although Charles has worked several times in America throughout his distinguished career in the movie business, it's been more Cricklewood than Hollywood!

Karen Rapps - *Bobbi, Gabby*

Karen is delighted to be returning to the stage after a three-year absence, but is grappling with the split personalities of her role as an 'intelligent and sophisticated woman' (to quote the Director), nightclub singer and prostitute. No stranger to the latter role in the past, having played Marie Kelly in *Jack the Ripper* on three previous occasions, she is clearly struggling with the former. She's sure she'll nail it by Sunday. She'll be happy to hear your views if you buy her a drink in the bar afterwards - a large Sauvignon Blanc preferably.

Katy Reid - *Oolie, Donna*

Katy is looking forward to some Hollywood glamour in her life and embracing her split personality. She has previously played Mabel (*Mack and Mabel*) so is pleased to have moved on to the 'talkies' era'. Previous roles with The Mitre Players include Gloria (*Return to the Forbidden Planet*), Kolo Kolo Bird (*Just So*), Nancy (*Oliver!*), Julia Guglia (*The Wedding Singer*), Mary (*Flint Street Nativity*) and Trish (*Boogie Nights*). Other favourites include Mrs Phagan (*Parade*) Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*), Maria (*West Side Story*) and Julie Jordan (*Carousel*).

Andy Holton - Police Commissioner Gaines, Stagehand and Soundman
Andy is delighted to be back in the Mitre Theatre. He wishes the drama facilities were as good when he was at Trinity School. And he is looking forward to getting his 'wings' in the *City of Angels*, although this does seem unlikely as he is playing some of the lowest of the low and those down in the gutter of celluloid city. But, with a song and a dance, the players will overcome the hard vicissitudes of life!

Diane Jones - An Angel City Singer

Di has come out of retirement (again) to sing in *City of Angels*. She's beginning to feel like 'old blue eyes' but sadly without his voice! It's been 35 years since she first joined The Mitre Players and she still loves it all. She is looking forward to directing the Mitres' autumn production, a play set in rural England at the beginning of the 1800s, a complete contrast to the glamour of 1940s Los Angeles.



Simon Long - Peter Kingsley, Gerald Pierce

Simon is becoming an old hand with the Mitres, despite his age, but this is the first time he has performed in black & white! As this is the closest he will probably get to a Hollywood career, he is making the most of it and enjoying the duplicitous, life-threatening, back-stabbing gloriousness of being a movie star for a week! Alongside pursuing this dream, Simon teaches drama skills to children whilst waiting to study primary school teaching at university.

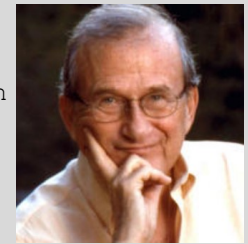
Fraser Macdonald - Lt. Munoz, Pancho Vargas

Not since *Once in a Lifetime* - 1981 would you believe - has Fraser appeared in a Hollywood movie. Sadly this time there are no chorus girls high kicking on the wings of an aeroplane. However he does get to play a South American cop with a chip - or should that be a taco - on his shoulder. Watch out for the phoney accent - hasta la vista baby!

Cy Coleman: Music. Born in New York City in 1929, Cy Coleman was a composer who collaborated with such songwriters as Carolyn Leigh, Betty Comden, Bob Fosse and Neil Simon to produce hit songs and scores for several landmark Broadway musicals, including *Sweet Charity* (1966), *On the Twentieth Century* (1978; Tony Award, best original score) and *Barnum* (1980). In the 1980s, Coleman wrote film scores and composed the music and lyrics for the musical *Welcome to the Club* (1989). In the '90s, he won additional Tonys for *City of Angels* (1990; best musical, best original score) and *The Will Rogers Follies* (1991; best musical, best original score).



Larry Gelbart: Book. He began as a writer at the age of sixteen for Danny Thomas's radio show. In the 1950s, his most important work in television involved writing for Red Buttons, for Sid Caesar on Caesar's Hour as well as with writers Mel Tolkin, Neil Simon, Mel Brooks and Woody Allen on two Caesar specials.



In 1972, he was one of the main forces behind the creation of the television series *M*A*S*H*, writing the pilot then producing, often writing and occasionally directing the series for its first four seasons. His best known screen work is perhaps the screenplay for 1982's *Tootsie*, which he co-wrote with Murray Schisgal and the racy comedy *Blame It on Rio* (1984) starring Michael Caine.

He co-wrote the long-running Broadway musical farce *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with Burt Shevelove and Stephen Sondheim in 1962 as well as the book for *City of Angels*.

David Zippel: Lyrics. *City of Angels* (1989) was his first full-length musical and, with 879 performances, his most successful. Adapted for the stage by Neil Simon from his own 1977 screenplay, *The Goodbye Girl* (1993) with music by Marvin Hamlisch received five Tony nominations and a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Lyrics.



Soon thereafter he turned his attentions to Hollywood, where he spent several years writing lyrics for animated Disney films. The first of these was *Hercules* (1997), scored by Alan Menken; the song "Go the Distance" got an Oscar nomination for Best Original Song. *Mulan* (1998) with music by Matthew Wilder and lyrics by Zippel, received Academy Award nominations for Best Original Lyrics. A year later, he worked with Phil Collins on *Tarzan* (1999).

The Woman in White (2005), a musical adaptation of the Wilkie Collins novel with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, brought Zippel another Tony nomination.

Our Summer Production

DICK BARTON

Special Agent

Read Through
Sunday 8th March at 6.00

Auditions
Sunday 15th March at 6.00

Croydon Performances
TMWA Clubhouse
Tuesday 14th to
Friday 17th July

Dawlish Performances
Shaftesbury Theatre
Tuesday 25th to
Saturday 29th August

Written by Phil Wilmott

Director
Martin Tyrrell

Musical Director
Colin Warnock

Terry Gauntlett - Luther Kingsley, Werner Krieger

Terry has been a member of West Wickham Operatic Society for over sixty years and Chairman for the last thirty years. Over those years he became particularly associated with the Gilbert and Sullivan "Grossmith" roles and has either taken part in or directed all thirteen of the Savoy operas. His favourite roles include Jack Point (*The Yeomen of the Guard*), Ko-Ko (*The Mikado*), The Lord Chancellor (*Iolanthe*), Walter Wilkins (*Merrie England*), Colonel Frank (*Die Fledermaus*), Ali Hakim (*Oklahama!*), Omar (*Kismet*), Max (*The Sound of Music*) and Isidore Straus (*Titanic - the Musical*). His only previous appearance with The Mitre Players was in *Quasimodo* in 1997 when he was privileged to have his first experience of the Minack Theatre.



Julia Gibbs - Margie, Anna, Make-up Artist

Jules is the kinda broad to be delighted to be cast as a masseuse and a brothel owner: she figures dames oughta make their men feel relaxed with a bourbon and an expensive cigar after a tough day's work as a Private Dick in downtown LA (Lower Addiscombe). It is a hard world out there at 2am in some parts of Sanderstead, you gotta be ready, ya know what I mean? It's difficult to tell in the shadows who's legit and who ain't. This last statement particularly applies to Mitre Players' Committee Meetings! Apart from that it rather makes a nice change from wearing chain mail and a painted on moustache in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, although it was super fun!

Alex Greenslade - An Angel City Singer

Alex is appearing in his first musical for a number of years and is grateful that he does not have to remember any dialogue. If he forgets any of the words, the song will just carry on without him! As he only does one show per year, and because his last was our *Sherlock Holmes* production in December, he is now off the hook till the end of 2016! He went to Hollywood many years ago and actually saw Michael Jackson doing a moonwalk outside the Chinese Theatre.

Robert Critchett - Coroner Yamato, Jack

Robert returns to the Mitre boards after an absence of some ten years. He was lured back by the prospect of being directed by Helen and doing an American accent. He watches lots of American films, though mainly sci-fi and in colour. He loves the big musicals, particularly *White Christmas* and any others featuring men in uniform. He loves New York and one day he would love to do a road trip across the USA starting there and ending up in Hollywood.

Rowan Dixon - Stone

OK sweethearts, this wise guy's been flim farming his so - called talents on the stage for longer than he can remember. Since 1974, being a bit of an am dram floozy, he's been around the block a few times and has been putting on his stompers and hoofing into numerous roles, playing everything from innocent Roman virgins to Latin lotharios and still hasn't been bumped off. Go figure huh. He also tours shows in nursing homes with his steady, Hilary Palmer. He feels like the cat's meow to be playing Stone in such a swanky joint and with such a talented cast. He hopes your lettuce is well spent and you have a swell time. Lucky it just acting cause soittently he ain't no ducky shincracker !!



David Elder - An Angel City Singer

The persuasive powers of a fellow-cast member, picking her moment between holiday beers, proved too much for David to resist and he is relishing being back in the Mitre fold after a three-year hiatus. This has been a musical challenge of the highest order and he is grateful that the choreographer has taken pity on him, keeping singing and movement coordination to the bare minimum. At least nobody can maintain now he doesn't have the "Voice of an Angel"!



Welcome to this evening's performance of *City of Angels*. Tonight we take you back to Los Angeles in the late 1940s: money and the movies beckon like a golden ladder. Screenwriters and cheap private eyes cling to the lower rungs. Blondes shimmer, crooners croon, corruption lurks in every mansion, and just what is an honest buck anyway?

Focusing on a young screenwriter *Stine* and his fictional detective hero *Stone*, *City of Angels* glides cinematically from colour to black & white. Colour scenes depict the real world of the screenwriter *Stine*. Black & white scenes place us firmly in the movie as it is being written and created, with plenty of fiddling and interfering from Buddy Fidler the movie producer, much to *Stine's* disgust!

You will meet a plethora of characters who inhabit the *City of Angels*, many of whom play at least one other counterpart from the glitzy intrigue of a Hollywood studio to the film noir* landscape of the writer's imagination.

There are flashbacks, gunshots, bombs, close harmony work, over forty scenes, many costumes and props, seriously tricky lighting, hundreds of sound cues and finally, the first thing that drew me to this show, an amazing score which claims to be the first true jazz musical ever written. The music, under the ever watchful eye of our Musical Director, Robert Randall, is described as a delirious celebration of jazz and pop styles and brings big band swing, torch songs, group vocals, frothy pop (with naughty innuendos) and even has a tropical Latin American number.

I would like to thank everyone involved in this production, with a particularly special mention to those technical specialists, costume and props people behind the scenes who made it possible to bring this technically challenging musical together.

I do hope you enjoy our rendition of this award winning musical as much as we have enjoyed creating our version of this production.

Helen

**French pronunciation: [film noir] is a cinematic term used primarily to describe stylish Hollywood crime dramas, particularly those that emphasise cynical attitudes and sexual motivations.*

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 which announces shows and auditions before they appear anywhere else!

Patrons of The Mitre Players

Kate Benstead, Katherine Bottomley, Ann Bowden, Carolyn Burton, Berry Butler, Barbara Cobbett, Bill Cobbett, Alex Cooper, Del Cooper, Di Copas, Pat Curtis, Diana England, Mark Fleming, Anna Frost, Gillian Frost, Geoff Gear, Sue Gear, Enid Ghent, Bex Gibson, Martin Godber, Hilary Goldsmith, Emily Grogan, Maria Hancock, Andrea Harper, Jackie Harris, Catherine King, Carole Lane, Don Lloyd, Darrielle Mayhead, Ian Mcleod, Alison Naish, Andrew Naish, Clare Parsons, Grace Parsons, Ray Payne, Pat Price, Sam Price, Morven Rae, Liz Raishbrook, Andy Rapps, Tony Rapps, Aileen Regan, Conor Rooney, Trevor Rowlan, Rosemary Saw, Vera Sewell, Alan Sexton, Heather Sexton, Alex Sievwright, Fiona Steele, Marion Steele, Mary Street, Michael Street, Joyce Swaffield, Charles Thomas, Jenny Vereycken, Barry Widger.

If you would like to become a Patron of The Mitre Players please log on to:
www.mitreplayers.org.uk

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, Jeremy Covell and all the Staff at Trinity School

Ian Walsh and everyone at the TMWA for their patience during our rehearsal period

Men's wigs by RB Wig Creations

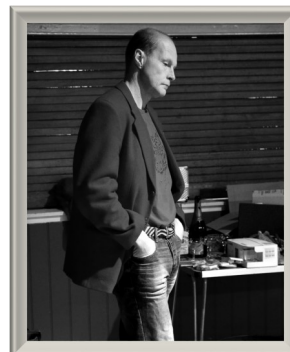
Angels wigs by Bright's Barnets

Weapons provided by Guns in Theatre

Additional costumes supplied by Anne Ponting

CNC Routing by Powermade Designs

Peter Bramwell - Hospital Orderly, Jail Guard, Del Dacosta, Cop
Peter has become an endless source of frustration for his agent. He walked off the set on his first day of filming *Son of The Maltese Falcon* when he discovered that he was expected to dress as a giant egg. He then refused to accept a role in *Return of the Stool Pigeon* and has turned down work for any film with an avian theme in its title. He is playing several roles in this production because he lost a bet.....



Derrick Cathie - Dr. Mandrill, Gilbert, Lighting/Prop Man
Having moved house recently, Derrick is delighted to find a theatre group that is not only just up the road but also has a rehearsal venue with a bar! He has performed in countless plays and musicals over the past 30 plus years. Derrick is enjoying experiencing a show that is a little bit different. Although this is his first show with The Mitre Players, he hopes it won't be the last.



Simon Church - An Angel City Singer
Simon likes to think that he is no stranger to being an angel. Though this is his debut with The Mitre Players, he has spent many years upon the stage with various local groups. He is very much looking forward to flying the Mitre flag with his fellow angels. It has been a very challenging rehearsal period but very rewarding and he hopes that you enjoy the show. After *City of Angels* he will be making another debut - as a director for St John's, in Selsdon - with *Anyone for Breakfast?* in May 2015.

Richard Allen - *Jimmy Powers*

This is Richard's second show with The Mitre Players, the first being way back in 2002, when he "Put on a Happy Face" playing the lead, Albert Peterson in the musical *Bye Bye Birdie*. He is delighted to be back crooning away behind a microphone, still sporting that 'happy face'! More recent theatrical endeavours have been focused around his own theatre company, The Barnstormers, including award-winning productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Parade* at the Minack Theatre, and in October last year, the quirky comedy musical *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at the Barn Theatre in Oxted.

Carolyn Backway - *Margaret, Bootsie, Carla's Stand in*

Carolyn thought she was going to be in *Pirates of Penance* but the show choice changed so she fell into being in this rather unusual show! Whilst not knowing anything about it, she was up for something different and has found herself playing various tiny roles with apparently a lot of costume changes. As she is still struggling with the plot she hopes she does not turn up on stage in the wrong one! Christopher, her son, is doing a good job pushing her in the right direction! Carolyn has enjoyed doing the show and hopes you follow The Mitre Players' portrayal of *City of Angels* more than she has!

Christopher Backway - *Shoeshine Boy, Buddy's Nephew*

Christopher always had a dream of one day acting in Hollywood...But this might be the closest he will get! He is a 17-year-old who is currently studying Performing Arts at Coulsdon College. Besides acting, he loves playing various sports, one being tennis, which is very appropriate to *City of Angels*. He has not been involved much with The Mitre Players in recent years but now feels like he would like to be more involved in these fun shows. He has met brand new people, all very friendly, and hopes the audience will have as much enjoyment watching this show as we have had rehearsing it.

Chrissy Amer - *Alaura Kingsley, Carla Haywood*

This is Chrissy's first show with The Mitre Players and is thrilled to be playing her first femme fatale role. Normally known for playing more ditzy parts; Brooke (*Noises Off*), Janet Van De Graff (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), Serena (*Fame*), Lola (*Copacabana*), she is looking forward to using her powers of seduction and charm to ensnare her prey. In real life, Chrissy is currently married to her first husband, who perhaps needs to watch out.

Act One

The setting is Hollywood in the late 1940s, with two stories occurring simultaneously: a Hollywood comedy and a detective drama. The real-life scenes are in colour and the movie scenes in black and white.

The author, Stine, is a novelist adapting his novel, *City of Angels*, into a screenplay for movie mogul Buddy Fidler. Buddy, a charismatic and autocratic producer-director, has an immense ego and, although he claims to be a fan of Stine's work, he continually demands rewrites from the increasingly reluctant Stine. As Stine struggles to keep both his job and his novel's integrity, his wife Gabby disapproves of his womanising and leaves for New York on a business trip. Shortly afterwards, he begins an affair with Buddy's secretary Donna. Gabby discovers this and leaves him.

In the novel, Alaura Kingsley, a striking socialite, is ushered into detective Stone's office by Oolie, his loyal Girl Friday. Alaura hires him to find her stepdaughter Mallory Kingsley, a beautiful "bad" girl, who will later turn up in Stone's office. Stone receives a brutal beating from two thugs and is framed for a murder. As the plot thickens, Stone's own past comes to haunt him. The relatively simple missing daughter case turns complicated and may end up costing Stone his life. It keeps getting more and more complicated, possibly because the author keeps rewriting it.

When Stine fulfils Buddy's request to remove a racially-motivated plotline from the screenplay, Stone himself grows frustrated with his author's lack of integrity and berates him for it. Creator and creation have an argument, which Stine wins by typing a scene where the detective is beaten up.



Act Two

Stine flies to New York in an unsuccessful attempt to reconcile with Gabby, earning Buddy's ire. When he returns, he discovers that Buddy has drastically rewritten the film's ending to his own satisfaction and given himself a prominent co-writing credit. Stine appears on set for the first day of filming to confront the unrepentant Fidler and discovers, to his shock, that a popular crooner has been cast as his hard-boiled detective.

With Stone himself at his side, Stine rips up the script and quits. He is about to be beaten by two studio guards when, in a reversal on their earlier confrontation, Stone aids him by typing a scene, allowing Stine to defeat the guards and win back both his wife and his self-respect.

Apart from Stine and Stone, the actors portraying the characters in Stine's movie double as the Hollywood executives and actors



Movie Cast List (in order of appearance)

STONE, a private eye	Rowan Dixon
HOSPITAL ORDERLIES	Peter Bramwell
	Charles Marriott
OOLIE, Stone's secretary	Katy Reid
ALaura KINGSLEY	Chrissy Amer
RADIO ANNOUNCER	Warwick Jones
BIG SIX, a thug	Raymond Campbell
SONNY, a smaller thug	Charles Marriott
JIMMY POWERS, a crooner	Richard Allen
THE ANGEL CITY 7	Fiona Steel
	Fiona Robertson
	Di Jones
	Vicky Watkins
	Simon Church
	Alex Greenslade
	David Elder
LT. MUNOZ, a police detective	Fraser Macdonald
OFFICER PASCO	Charles Marriott
BOBBI, Stone's ex-finance	Karen Rapps
IRWIN S. IRVING, movie mogul	Peter St James
PETER KINGSLEY, Alaura's stepson	Simon Long
LUTHER KINGSLEY	Terry Gauntlett
DR. MANDRIL, a religious leader	Derrick Cathie
BUTLER, a maid	Carolyn Backway
MALLORY KINGSLEY, Alaura's stepdaughter	Beci Sageman
MAHONY, studio press agent	Peter Bramwell
CORONER YAMATO	Robert Critchett
POLICE COMMISSIONER GAINES	Andy Holton
JAIL GUARD	Peter Bramwell
MARGIE, a brothel keeper	Julia Gibbs
BOOTSIE, a Whore	Carolyn Backway

Helen Harries-Rees - Director

Helen's last performance with The Mitre Players was in 2009 when she played a mad Irish schoolgirl in *Daisy Pulls it Off*. This experience of going back to school prompted Helen to go off and get some further education and she undertook an MSc proudly graduating at the tender age of 50. She is delighted to be returning to her passion of theatre by directing *City of Angels*. Helen has been a Mitre Player on and off since 1985 and has both performed in and directed many productions. Her first show with the Mitres was *Backstage* and she directed our first Minack Production, *The Wizard of Oz*, in 1992. Helen's research for *City of Angels* started last year when she visited Hollywood at the same time as The Oscars 2014 Academy Awards. She attended a special evening at The Roosevelt Hotel which first hosted The Academy Awards back in 1929. This ambience provided Helen with a clear insight of the setting and atmosphere required of this musical. She was very glad though that she did not bump into any movie moguls such as Buddy Fidler!!!

Tonia Porter - Choreographer

Tonia has performed with the Mitres in their recent two visits to the Minack Theatre in Cornwall, which were, as always, a wonderful experience. Never was "work hard, play hard" so apt! She is happy to trade the front-of-stage glamour and Minack adulation for the latest opportunity to display her creative side, choreography. It brings out the best of her sadistic nature and she has enjoyed the chance to crack the whip over her 'luvvy' charges. After enjoying the first four weeks of "Why the extra netball practice, Miss?", Tonia accepts she is no longer 'the dragon' she used to be, and in her older years has softened into a pussy cat!

Robert Randall - Musical Director

Robert went to Hollywood, CA in 1996 and thought it tacky. He has never seen the number one Film Noir of all time according to the Guardian in 2013 - *The Big Sleep*. However he does think the music to *City of Angels* is first-rate and the Mitre cast is as starry as Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. Unlike Del Da Costa he does not owe alimony to anybody and he writes music before hearing someone else play it (most recently some arrangements for the Croydon Schools' Music Association's upcoming Festival of Music at the Fairfield Halls in March). In April he will be performing Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 27* with the Erato Chamber Orchestra, even though Mozart (and Gershwin) is dead.

The Musical Director:

Reed 1	Simon Briggs
Reed 2	Rory Briggs
Reed 3	Nigel Crane
Reed 4	Sam Gee
Trumpet 1	Pete Cooper
Trumpet 2	Pat Price
Trumpet 3	Jon Lewis





Prod: City of Angels

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR

Helen Harries-Rees

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Robert Randall

CHOREOGRAPHER

Tonia Porter

STAGE MANAGER

Alan Collins

COSTUME COORDINATOR

Diane Jones

ASSISTED BY

Anna Warnock

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Alan Bishop

SOUND

James McLeod

PROPS

Sue Long

SPECIALIST PROPS

AND CAD

Andrew Thompson

SCENIC ARTIST

Paul Adams

WIG MISTRESS

Morven Rae

PROMPTER

Mary Holton

BACKSTAGE ASSISTANCE

James Birch

Paul Bowles

Liz Dolman

Julia Gibbs

Andy Hind

Pete Marr

Sue Marr

Julian Parsons

Dave Price

Tamsin Reeve

Ziggi Szafranski

Denver Watkins

Vicky Watkins

Jill Wilson

FIGHT ARRANGER

John Harries-Rees

BAND FIXER

Pat Price

PROGRAMME

Alan Bishop

Anna Warnock

PRODUCTION MANAGERS

Julie Cumbo, Julia Gibbs

Vicky Watkins

REHEARSAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Charles Marriott

FOH PHOTOGRAPHER

Marcus Ascott

BOX OFFICE

Ian Brown

FRONT OF HOUSE

Alex Greenslade, Joe Pepper and

Friends of the Mitre Players

Hollywood Cast List (in order of appearance)

STINE, a writer of private eye novels

BUDDY FIDLER, movie producer/director

SHOESHINE BOY

GABBY, Stine's wife

GILBERT, Buddy's barber

DONNA, Buddy's secretary

ANNA, Buddy's masseuse

JIMMY POWERS, a real crooner

THE ANGEL CITY 7

Ziggi Szafranski

Peter St James

Christopher Backway

Karen Rapps

Derrick Cathie

Katy Reid

Julia Gibbs

Richard Allen

Fiona Steel

Fiona Robertson

Di Jones

Vicky Watkins

Simon Church

Alex Greenslade

David Elder

Chrissy Amer

Peter Bramwell

Fraser Macdonald

Beci Sageman

Simon Long

Terry Gauntlett

Carolyn Backway

Robert Critchett

Julia Gibbs

Derrick Cathie

Andy Holton

Charles Marriott

Christopher Backway

Andy Holton

Peter Bramwell

Raymond Campbell

CARLA HAYWOOD, Buddy's wife

DEL DACOSTA, a songwriter

PANCHO VARGAS, an actor

AVRIL RAINES, a starlet

GERALD PIERCE, an actor

WERNER KRIEGER, an actor

CARLA'S STAND IN

JACK, a cinematographer

MAKE-UP ARTIST

LIGHTING and PROPS MAN

STAGEHAND

GENE, assistant director

BUDDY'S NEPHEW

SOUNDMAN

STUDIO COPS

Band

Robert Randall

Trombone 1 (Tenor)

Trombone 2 (Bass)

Drum Kit

Percussion

Bass Guitar

Keyboard 1

Keyboard 2

Paul Buckley

Robert Good

Craig Backway

Kieran Crowley

Simon Kennard

James Beal

Colin Warnock

Synopsis of Scenes and Songs

The place is Los Angeles; the time is the late 1940s

Act One

Prologue

Theme from City of Angels: The Angel City 7

SCENE 1: L.A. County Hospital

Scene 2: Stone's Office, one week earlier/Stine's Office

Double Talk: Stone, Alaura

Scene 3: Buddy Fidler's Office

Scene 4: Stone's Outer Office

Double Talk: Buddy, Stine

Scene 5: Stine's Bedroom, The Garden of Allah

Scene 6: Stone's Office and The Garden of Allah

What You Don't Know About Women: Gaby, Oolie

Scene 7: Stone's Bungalow

Gotta Look After Look Out For Yourself: Jimmy Powers and
The Angels

Scene 8: Buddy Fidler's Office

The Buddy System: Buddy

Scene 9: Stone's Bungalow

Scene 10: The Blue Note. A Cocktail Lounge

With Every Breath I Take: Bobbi

Scene 11: Bobbi's Dressing Room at the Blue Note

Scene 12: Stine's Office

Scene 13: The Kingsley Mansion Terrace

Scene 14: The Solarium of the Kingsley Mansion

The Tennis Song: Stone, Alaura

Scene 15: The Search for Mallory

Ev'rybody's Gotta Be Somewhere: Stone and The Angels

Scene 16: Stone's Bungalow

Lost and Found: Mallory

Scene 17: Donna's Bedroom

Scene 18: Stone's Bungalow

Scene 19: L.A. County Morgue

Scene 20: Buddy's Office and Arroyo Seco Canyon Overlook

Scene 21: L.A. County Morgue and Stine's Office

All Ya Have To Do Is Wait: Yamato, Mahoney, Munoz, Pasco

You're Nothing Without Me: Stine, Stone

THERE WILL BE A 20 MINUTE INTERVAL: Drinks are served in the Foyer. Drinks may be pre-ordered to avoid queues

Act Two

Scene 1: A Recording Studio

Stay With Me: Jimmy Powers and the Angels

Scene 2: A Bel-Air Bedroom

Scene 3: L. A. County Jail

Scene 4: Oolie's Bedroom

You Can Always Count On Me: Oolie

Scene 5 Donna's Bedroom

You Can Always Count On Me: Donna

Scene 6: A Bel-Air Garden

Scene 7: Buddy's Library

Scene 8: The L.A. County Jail

Scene 9: Buddy's Study and a dingy Tool Shed

Scene 10: The Bel-Air Garden

Scene 11: Alaura's Bedroom

Scene 12: Buddy's Office

Scene 13: Stine's Apartment, New York/an L.A. Brothel

Scene 14: Margie' Place

Scene 15: The Red Room a Bedroom in Margie's Place

With Every Breath I Take (reprise) Stone, Bobbi

Scene 16: A Pay Phone

Scene 17: The Kingsley Solarium

Scene 18: Stine's Office

Funny: Stone

Scene 19: The Soundstage, Master Pictures Studio

You're Nothing Without Me (reprise): Stone, Stine, Gabby

The action centres around the writing of a Hollywood detective film called "City of Angels" by the writer STINE for his Producer/Director BUDDY FIDLER. These scenes are marked in **blue** and the movie scenes - in black and white are marked **black**. The novel features the private eye STONE, who gets dangerously involved with the Kingsley family...