

The Mitre Players

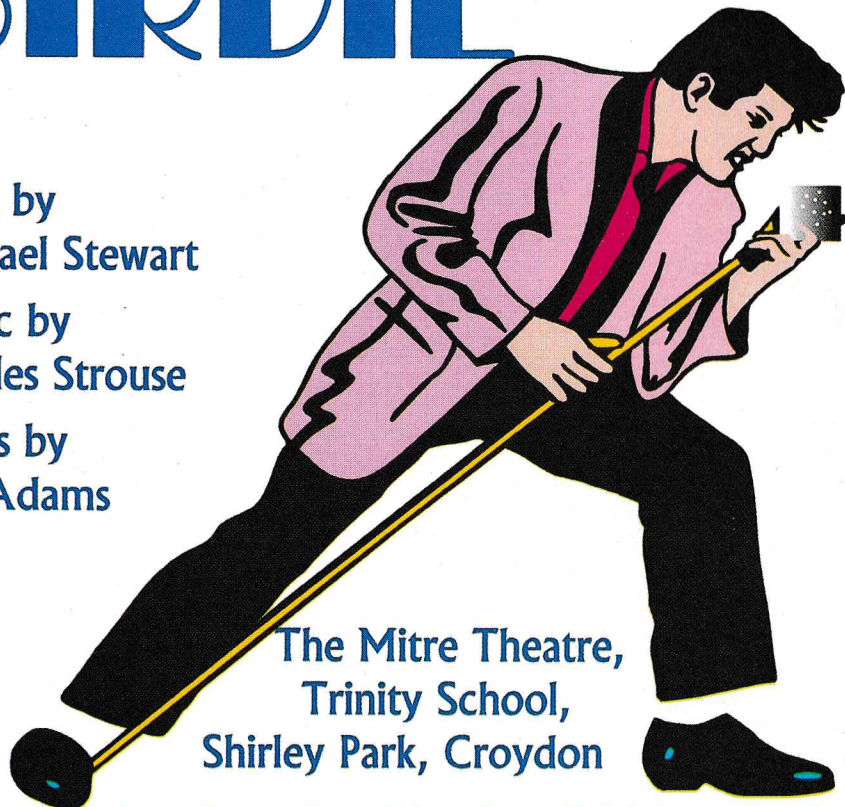
Present their Autumn Musical

BYE BYE BIRDIE

Book by
Michael Stewart

Music by
Charles Strouse

Lyrics by
Lee Adams



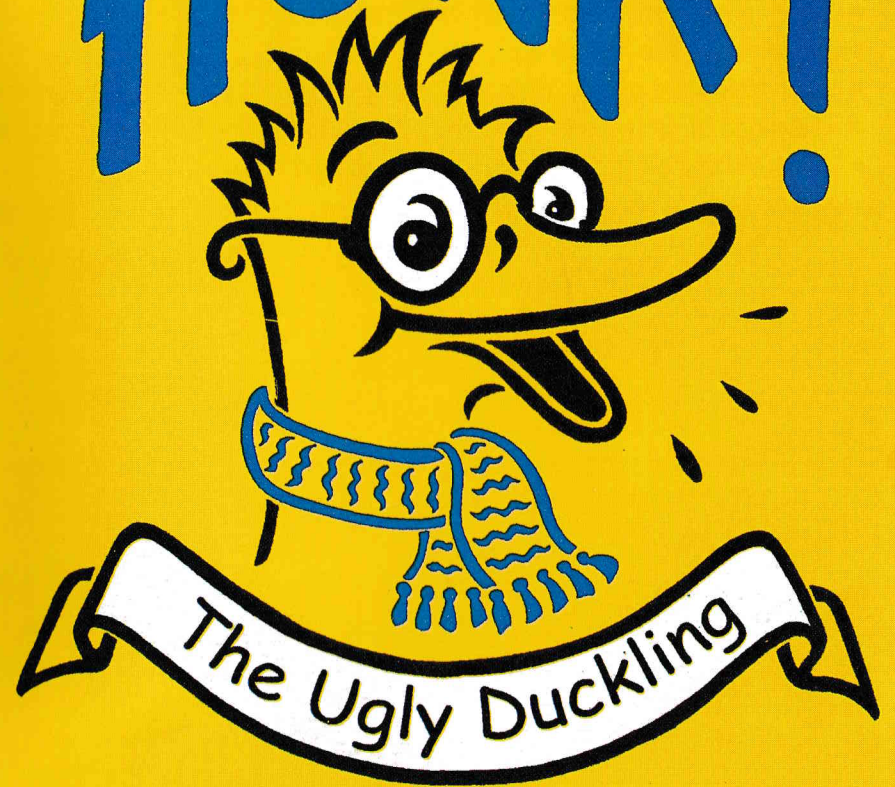
The Mitre Theatre,
Trinity School,
Shirley Park, Croydon

Thursday 24th - Saturday 26th Oct. 2002 at 7.30

Box Office: Sheila Garnett: 020 8650 7882

the mitre players

HONK!



Minack Theatre. August 2002

The Theatre

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- Not to walk on the stage at any time and to keep to the paths and steps when in the theatre.
- Not to smoke at any time in the areas when the audience is seated.
- To place all litter and especially cigarette ends in the bins provided.
- To turn off all Mobile Phones, Pagers and Digital alarms.

Next Week

Derby Shakespeare Theatre Company Presents

THE TEMPEST

Monday 12th to Friday 16th August at 8.00pm.
Wednesday and Friday Matinees at 2.00pm.

The Mitre Players

(A section of the Old Boys Association of Trinity School, Croydon)

Present

HONK!

The Ugly Duckling

Music by George Stiles

Book and Lyrics by Anthony Drewe

Director and Choreographer: JULIA ASCOTT

Assistant Director: GILLIAN BARTLE

Musical Director: JONATHAN BUTCHER

Associate Musical Director: ANDY TREWHELLA

The Mitre Theatre, Shirley Park, Croydon.

25th to 27th July 2002

The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno.

5th to 9th August 2002

An amateur production by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

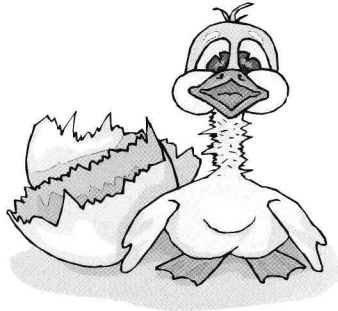
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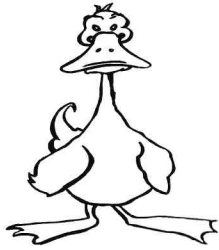
George Stiles (composer) & **Anthony Drewe** (lyricist) first met in 1980 when they were both students at Exeter University. They wrote their first show **Tutankhamun** just after graduating (George in Music, Anthony in Zoology). It was first performed at the Northcott Theatre, Exeter in 1984 and then remounted at the Imagination building, London in 1992.

In 1985 they wrote **Just So**, inspired by the Rudyard Kipling stories. It won the annual "Vivian Ellis" award for unpublished new British Musicals and as a result was later performed at the Watermill Theatre, Newbury and the Tricycle Theatre, London with the encouragement and financial support from Cameron Mackintosh. Steven Spielberg has optioned it for a feature length animation.



Honk! was commissioned by the Watermill Theatre in 1993 and in 1996 they were asked to write the score for a new version of **Peter Pan**, in collaboration with Willis Hall. Having been premiered in Copenhagen it went on to win the Best Song and the Orchestra's Award at the International Musical of the Year competition. In April 2001 it was performed as a concert with an all star cast and the BBC Concert

Orchestra at London's Royal Festival Hall. It was subsequently broadcast by the BBC on New Year's Eve 2001.



Independently, in 1996, **George** composed the music for **The Three Musketeers** with Paul Leigh and Peter Raby. He also, with Leigh and Claire Luckham, adapted Daniel Defoe's **Moll Flanders** into a musical, using **The Beggar's Opera** as a musical source. Other projects include the score for Sam Mendes production of **Habeas Corpus** and a version of **Tom Jones**.

Anthony has also been busy writing and directing independently from George. In 1992 he wrote additional lyrics for the revival of **The Card** (music by Tony Hatch and Jackie Trent). He has also written lyrics for **The Canterville Ghost (1987)**. He is in demand as a director, most notably for **Snoopy** (Watermill), **Cowardy Custard** (Royal Academy of Music) and various productions of **Honk!**

They have also written two revues and have contributed songs to a variety of theatre, TV and radio shows. They are founder members of the **Mercury Workshop**, a writer based organization, dedicated to nurturing new writing for the musical theatre. They are currently working on a new musical about Soho.



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Hans Christian Andersen was Denmark's most famous author. His fairy tales are among the most widely read works in world literature. His stories of make-believe have enchanted young readers around the world for generations. Many of Andersen's fairy tales have serious moral lessons that are intended for adults.

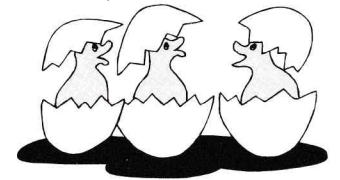


Andersen was born in Odense on 2nd April 1805. He was the son of a poor shoemaker who died when Hans was 11 years old. After attending the city school for poor children, Andersen left Odense at the age of 14 to seek a career as an artist in Copenhagen. He nearly starved while trying to earn a living as an actor, singer, and dancer. In Copenhagen, he received help from Jonas Collin, who became his lifelong friend. Collin got him a royal scholarship, which permitted Andersen to continue his education from 1822 to 1828. Andersen published the first of his 156 fairy tales in 1835, and continued writing them until he died in 1875.

Andersen gave each tale its own style, but his stories can be roughly classified into several

groups: imitations of folk tales; tales based on Andersen's life (including 'The Ugly Duckling', an almost autobiographical tale); tales that make fun of human faults and philosophical tales. Some of the tales use settings in Denmark, but others can take place anywhere.

The tales first appeared in a series of pamphlets and later were collected and published in books. The stories became popular in the early 1840's, and made Andersen famous. His acquaintances included royalty and such fellow artists as the composer Franz Liszt and the novelists Charles Dickens and Victor Hugo. Andersen travelled throughout Europe and wrote many lively books about his experiences. *A Poet's Bazaar* and *In Sweden* are probably his best travel books. He also wrote an autobiography called *The Fairy Tale of My Life*.



Andersen was a sensitive man who eagerly sought fame and success. He never married, although he fell in love with 3 women, including the Swedish singer Jenny Lind and the daughter of Jonas Collin. None of the women returned his love.



Almost 3 years ago I was bought tickets to go and see "Honk!" at the National Theatre in January 2000 as a Christmas present. The whole family went together - spanning 3 generations, the youngest being my then, 4 year old son, Nathan. We were sitting with some other friends (many in the cast or crew today) in the front 2 rows of the Olivier Theatre. We had no idea what to expect but still in festive spirit, we were all out to enjoy ourselves - but assumed it to be a show primarily for the children. We had an absolutely fabulous evening and were all bowled over by the humour, wit and emotion of this wonderful show, which very cleverly seemed to have something for everyone - appealing to not just the children in the party but indeed to all the adults, many of whom are often difficult to please, especially where musicals are concerned! We literally laughed and cried tears of joy and sadness as we were taken on an emotional roller coaster of a ride which will remain a very happy memory. Nathan was so entranced that as the show finished he leapt up onto the stage (very easy from the front row) in sheer delight and happiness.



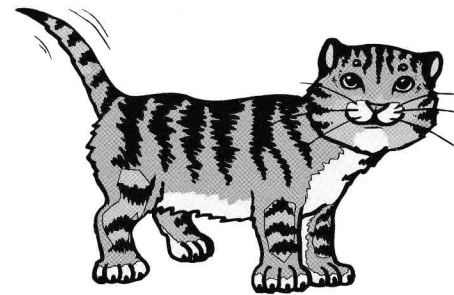
None of us were surprised when it won Best New Musical in the Laurence Olivier awards later that year. Immediately it struck us all that it would make an absolutely ideal piece to be performed at the open air Minack Theatre in Cornwall. The Mitre Players are delighted to be the first company to present this musical at this most prestigious venue.



When I first read the script I was surprised at how little dialogue there was, although I remembered each character being drawn very clearly by the actors in the NT production. The score is absolutely vital in moving the story along and setting the right atmosphere, often without the audience even being aware of it. The lyrics are both poignant and witty and help the actors develop their characters but the music itself is very challenging. I was therefore delighted when Jonathan Butcher agreed to be MD - and thanks to his hard work, expertise and enormous sense of fun, not only have we had a fantastic time learning the music but I think the end result is better than I ever dared hope for. The excellent band, under the direction of Andy Trehwella, wonderfully

complements the singing. Both Jonathan and Andy have been a very real pleasure to work with and I know all the company would like to join me in expressing our gratitude to them.

I decided to do this show with a large cast, as there was so much interest at the auditions, although originally it was written for a minimum of 12 actors - all doubling up. As a director, much of my time has therefore been spent moving large numbers of people around the stage and in this task I have been supported by my assistant Gillian (my Mum), who is especially good at overseeing the not very glamorous but vital administrative jobs. Thanks Mum!



Having cast the show, I started to develop a keen interest in ducks, geese and poultry and it would appear many of the cast also did their own research at local parks and farms. Jill Wilson, the designer and I borrowed ornithology books from the library and had many discussions about the colour of a particular breed's legs or beaks and I hope you will agree that the end result is visually stunning.

As with any show, there are always many unsung heroes and although I cannot possibly mention them all by name I have been extremely lucky to be

surrounded by a very talented & happy crew, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes, and in front of house. Many thanks to you all - we really couldn't do it without you. As always the staff at Trinity School and the Minack Theatre have also played their part.



For the last 3 months we have been rehearsing 3 evenings a week and I have had a tremendously fulfilling time and learnt so much. My extremely patient and supportive husband, Marcus, still just about recognises me but I couldn't have done it without his co-operation. Finally, I would like to thank the cast who have made my job hugely rewarding and have always given 100%. We have had enormous fun rehearsing this show (thank you Mr. Stiles & Mr. Drewe) and whether you are part of our audience in Croydon or Cornwall, thank you for coming and on behalf of all the team I hope you enjoy our performance today, as much as we do!

Julia Ascott.

Director



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Anthony Drewe was asked to help write versions of two classic Andersen fairy tales, **The Red Shoes** and **Thumbelina** with Jule Styne, Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg. Sadly, neither musical materialised, but it meant he had an anthology of Andersen's tales. Believing that in **The Ugly Duckling** there was a timeless tale that people of all ages and walks of life would be able to relate to, he set about turning it into a musical, turning to his long time collaborator, George Stiles for the music.

The show was first performed at the Watermill Theatre, Newbury on 11th December 1993. At that time it was called **The Ugly Ducking** or **The Aesthetically-Challenged Farmyard Fowl**.

A revised version, now retitled **Honk!** opened at Alan Ayckbourn's Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough on 28th November 1997. This production, at Britain's longest established 'theatre in the round', was directed by Julia McKenzie. This version was recorded and is now available on CD.

It had its London premiere at the Landor in Clapham before becoming the first original British musical to be staged at the Royal National Theatre. Their 1999 production, again directed by Julia McKenzie, won best new musical at the 2000 Laurence Olivier Awards - beating **The Lion King** amongst others. This production, with a different cast that included Norman Pace, Clive Rowe and Tracie Bennett, toured the U.K. in 2001.

Honk! is now performed all round the globe and there are plans to produce a feature film of the show.

The Mitre Players wish to thank:

Philip Jackson and all the staff at the Minack Theatre.
The Governors and Head Master of Trinity School.
Eyre Maunsell, John Bertram and their staff. Eric Jones.
Norman Glover of Tower Marketing.
Rupert Sharp at Josef Weinberger Ltd.
Ian and Claire Sutton of "The Vineries".
Tim Ellison of "White Sands".
Mick and Sandra Wilby of "The Cable Station".
Lester Bowden of Epsom for Ugly's School Uniform
Kidz R Us.

The Cast

Russell Hawkins	Ugly
Morven Rae	Ida
Paul Smith	Cat
Colin Warnock	Drake / Bullfrog
Clare Tibbalds	Maureen / Queenie
James Beal	Duckling Billy
Paul Grace	Duckling Beaky
Megan Harries-Rees	Duckling Fluff
Catherine Osborne	Duckling Downy
Chris Bassett	Turkey / Goose / Cameraman
Julia Gibbs	Henrietta / Goose
Ann Bowden	Grace
Ian Brown	Greylag / Pheasant / Fish
Kelly Beard	Dot / Coot / Fish
Helen Harries-Rees	Lowbutt / Goose
Nathan Ascott	Chick / Fish
Oliver Ascott	Chick / Fish
Carolyn Backway	Pinkfoot Goose / Fish
James Backway	Baby Coot / Fish
John Bartle	Farmer / Father Swan / Goose
Paul Bowles	Jackdaw / Barnacles Goose
Emma Chenery	Young Hen
Georgina Chenery	Baby Coot
Olivia Chenery	Young Hen
Clare Dempsey	Penny / Goose / Fish
Mary Holton	Guinea Fowl
Liz Kallend	Snowy Goose / Floor Manager
James Smoker	Coot / Goose
Margaret Stockwell	Mother Swan / Pheasant
Lucy Thompson	Young Hen / Fish

Other characters are played by members of the company.

ACT ONE

Various locations around the Duckyard. Spring.

A Poultry Tale	Drake and Ensemble
The Joy of Motherhood	Ida, Maureen
Different	Ida
Hold Your Head Up High	Ida, Ugly, Ensemble
Look at Him	Ida, Drake, Ugly, Ducklings and Ensemble
Different	Ugly

The Cat's Lair, inside one of the farm buildings.

Play With Your Food	Cat, Ugly
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The Duckyard, later that evening.

The Elegy	Ensemble
Every Tear a Mother Cries	Ida

The Marsh. A late summer morning.

The Wild Goose Chase	Greylag, Dot, Ugly, Cat and Goose Squadron
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Hold your Head Up High (Reprise) Ida, Ugly

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

ACT TWO

The Old Woman's Cottage. Late Summer.

Entr'acte	Instrumental
It Takes All Sorts	Queenie, Lowbutt
Together	Cat, Queenie, Lowbutt

The Duckyard and Various Locations, Late Autumn.

The Collage	Drake, Ida and Ensemble
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A ditch on the moors. Late Autumn.

Now I've Seen You	Ugly
Warts And All	Bullfrog, Ugly and Ensemble
The Blizzard	Ensemble

The open countryside. Late Winter.

Transformation	Ugly, Ida, Penny
Melting Moggy	Cat

The Duckyard. Early Spring.

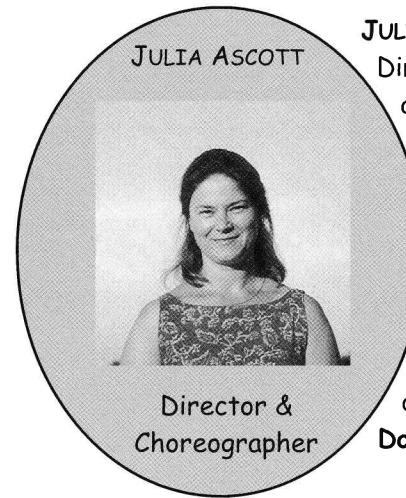
Look At Him (Reprise)	Ensemble
Warts and All (Reprise)	Ensemble

THE BAND

Musical Director	Jonathan Butcher
Reeds	Eric Blachman
Trumpet/Flugel Horn	Pat Price
Keyboard 1	Andy Trehwella
Keyboard 2	Keith O'Gorman
Cello	Chris Sampson

Associate Musical Director	Andy Trehwella
Horn	Tim Banks
Bass	Roger Bacon
Guitar	Clive Furness
Drums	Craig Backway

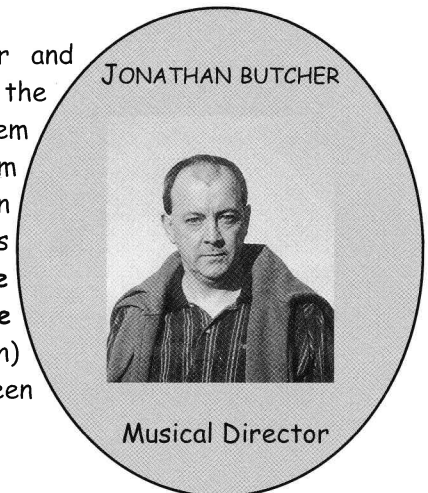
Director and Choreographer Julia Ascott
Assistant Director Gillian Bartle
Musical Director Jonathan Butcher
Associate Musical Director Andy Trehwella
Costume and Set Designer Jill Wilson
Stage Manager Alan Collins
Construction Manager Colin Parrish
Lighting Designer Alan Bishop
Sound James Mcleod
Properties Sue Carter
Special Effects Andy Thompson
Stage Crew, Technical, and Construction Chris Bassett, Lesley Bates, Paul Bowles, Michael Clark, Azmi Hamzah, Lou Parrish, Julian Parsons, Dave Richards, Jan Richards, Adam Tibbalds
Wardrobe Coordinator Anna Warnock
Costumes made by Gillian Bartle, Diana Dobson, Sheila Garnett, Mary Holton, Jan Richards, Tracey Usher, Anna Warnock, Jill Wilson, Colin Marshall
Make Up
Rehearsal Pianists Jonathan Butcher, Richard "Rabbit" Hare, Andy Trehwella
Children's Chaperones Sandy Adams, Carolyn Chenery
Honk Logo designed by Jill Wilson
Programme Alan Bishop, Anna Warnock
Photography Marcus Ascott, Charles Marriott
Foyer Display (Croydon) Diana Dobson
Box Office (Croydon) Sheila Garnett
Box Office (Minack) Ian Brown
Front of House (Croydon) Martin Garnett and members of The Mitre Players
Front of House (Minack) Jane Cruickshank, Graham Read, Alex Greenslade, Barry and Enid Ghent, Ken and Penny Grace and members of the company



JULIA ASCOTT

Director & Choreographer

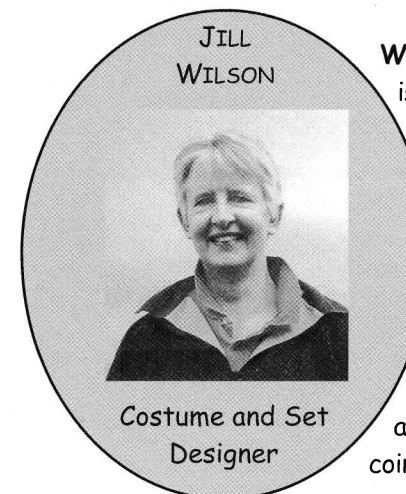
JULIA is a part-time administrator for a TV Directors/Writers Agency and a full-time wife and mother. Her previous Minack performances have included **The Wizard of Oz** (Witch and Choreographer), **Man of La Mancha** (Aldonza) and **The Country Wife** (title role). She has appeared in so many pantomimes, plays and musicals that it is impossible to name them all, so we won't! She has also directed and/or choreographed many of our productions, more recently, **Guys and Dolls** and **A Slice of Saturday Night**.



JONATHAN BUTCHER

Musical Director

JONATHAN is a professional Conductor and Musical Director although in the case of the Mitre Players this is immaterial as for them he has played a variety of roles, from Pantomime Dame to a 'chinless wonder' in **The Ruling Class**. Despite all that he has managed to find the time to conduct **The London Mozart Players**, **Phantom of the Opera** (Her Majesty's Theatre, London) and played piano duets with the late Eileen Joyce (remember Brief Encounter?).



JILL WILSON

Costume and Set Designer

WIGGY earns her living as a display designer and is a self styled Minack bore. She has designed every Minack set for the Mitre Players as well as designing for the Barn Players, Surrey Opera, Phoenix and the Miller Centre, any excuse for a Minack fix. She's already made a mega dragon for Illyria's tour of **The Reluctant Dragon** which made its debut at - guess where - yes, the Minack! (Any resemblance between the dragon's legs and the frogs' costumes is, of course, purely coincidental ...)

ANDY TREWHELLA



Associate Musical Director

ANDY used to teach at Trinity School where he fell in with a bad crowd, otherwise known as the Mitre Players. He is now Director of Music at Wellington School in Somerset. His past Minack involvement has been **Wizard of Oz**, **Man of La Mancha** (on timps!) and **Quasimodo**. He has played the keyboards for most of the Mitre touring shows in the last decade and has been MD of the **Jack the Ripper**, **Cabaret** and co-MD of **Return to the Forbidden Planet**.

COLIN WARNOCK



Drake / Bullfrog

COLIN is an Old Boy of Trinity School and was joint founder of the Mitre Players (with Martin Tyrrell) in 1973. He has co-written numerous shows for the society ever since and appeared in, or musically directed, just as many. Colin has performed in two of our Minack productions, the most notable one being **Man of La Mancha** where he played Don Quixote. He is a professional musician who works at the prestigious Laine Theatre Arts College for the Performing Arts in Epsom, Surrey - helping to train the stars of tomorrow!!

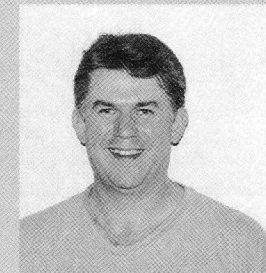
GILLIAN BARTLE



Assistant Director

GILLIAN has stage-managed all our previous Minack productions. Her first appearance for the Mitre Players was in **Cinderella Charleston** (1974) and although she has been involved in over a 100 productions (including 27 pantos) since then, she seems reluctant to repeat her early stage performances!

PAUL SMITH



The Cat

PAUL is a Consultant Trainer. His last performance at the Minack was as Captain of the Guard (**Man of La Mancha**) but he has played numerous parts for the Mitres including Bottom (**A Midsummer Night's Dream**), Ko-Ko (**The Mikado**) and Seymour (**Little Shop of Horrors**). Other notable appearances have been Juror No 3 (**Twelve Angry Men**) and the title role in **Nicholas Nickleby**. Paul has also directed several productions, for the Mitre Players as well as other societies, and is about to direct **Breaking the Code**, **David Copperfield** and **Madness of King George III**. Well and truly caught by the bug!

RUSSELL HAWKINS



Ugly

RUSSELL has been performing since the age of 3 and is currently training at the Charles Cryer Theatre, specialising in Musical Theatre. He is a man of many talents having made numerous television appearances and featured in **A Night of 1000 Stars** at the Royal Albert Hall, in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. Russell founded the **Hawkeye Theatre Company** and has directed their acclaimed productions of **Dreams of Anne Frank** and **And Then They Came For Me**. He subsequently landed a 3 month engagement in Lithuania where he managed and directed a youth theatre-in-education project on human rights. So much for one so young!

CLARE TIBBALDS



Maureen /Queenie

CLARE lists her occupations as PA, make-up artist and resting actor - although she's not resting tonight. She has been with the Mitre Players since early childhood (and that's a long time ago!) and played a variety of roles including Yum Yum (**The Mikado**), Beth (**Merrily We Roll Along**), Polly (**The Boy Friend**) and Sue (**A Slice of Saturday Night**). She has also performed for other societies in shows such as **La Cage aux Folles** and **City of Angels** and played Eliza (**My Fair Lady**) and Grace (**Annie**). Clare has performed at The Globe and claims to have been the first female to appear in a Trinity School production.

MORVEN RAE



Ida

MORVEN is a physiotherapist, a useful person to know! She has not appeared at the Minack before - unless you count being part of a human chain when we struck the set of **Quasimodo**. She didn't even get to see it as the last performance was rained off! Morven is well known in Croydon for playing principal roles with several societies. Notable performances have included Shirley Valentine (**Shirley Valentine**), Dolly (**Hello Dolly**) and Mme Dubonnet (**The Boy Friend**). Morven is half of a duo called Mirage (the other half is her husband, Ian). She has enjoyed 'ducking' and 'diving' for **Honk!**

HELEN HARRIES-REES



Lowbutt /Goose

HELEN directed our first two Minack productions, **Wizard of Oz** and **Man of La Mancha** but this is her acting and singing debut on the Minack stage. She is no stranger to acting and singing (note we do not mention dancing) and has played major roles for many leading societies. Notable appearances have included Roy Hart (**Chicago**), Adelaide (**Guys and Dolls**), Eliza (**My Fair Lady**), Sally Bowles (**Cabaret**) and Rita (**Educating Rita**). She is also well known for directorial skills having worked with numerous local societies in Croydon. She says she is really only here as a mum and does not perform much these days.



KELLY BEARD,
IAN BROWN

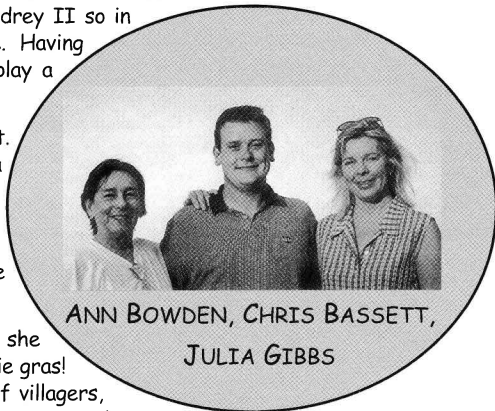
IAN has been seen at the Minack in **The Country Wife**, **King Lear** and **Twelfth Night**. He has played many roles for the Mitre Players and Ian has cornered the market in playing upper class twits. He also has the uncanny ability to recall all the lyrics of any Mitre pantomime song (usually composed by Colin Warnock who cannot remember them himself).

KELLY is a secondary school teacher. Previous Minack appearances have been **The Wizard of Oz**, **Man of La Mancha**, **Little Shop of Horrors** (where she played Audrey). She recently played Sharon in **A Slice of Saturday Night** and Mary Pickford in **The Biograph Girl**.



CHRIS is a landscape gardener. His first production at the Minack was **Little Shop of Horrors** where he was the puppeteer for Audrey II so in effect this is his first noticeable appearance here. Having played a plant and now a turkey, Chris is hoping to play a human being in his next Minack production!

ANN is a personal assistant to a London theatrical agent. She has performed in numerous productions, to name a few, **Cabaret** (Fraulein Schneider), **The Boy Friend** (Mme Dubonnet), **Nicholas Nickleby** (Mrs. Crummies), **Sweeney Todd** (Mrs. Lovett) and **Follies** (Solange). She has directed **The Mikado** and **Aladdin**. To the Mitre Players she is best known as the Queen Mother!



ANN BOWDEN, CHRIS BASSETT,
JULIA GIBBS

JULIA has taken her role in Honk! so seriously that she spent a week researching in the Dordogne - home of foie gras! For the Mitre Players she has played an assortment of villagers, bystanders and whores! For other societies she has been more selective playing roles such as Beatrice (**Much Ado About Nothing**).



JOHN has taken part in all 4 Mitre productions at the Minack. He has been in over 20 pantomimes, 18 plays, 10 musicals, 10 one-act plays and revues - and still he comes back for more. He can also wiggle his ears and move his forehead up and down. Aren't we lucky to have him!



CLARE DEMPSEY, JOHN
BARTLE, MARGARET
STOCKWELL

CLARE is studying for a HND in musical theatre. She has played the leads in the last two Mitre pantomimes as well as playing Sarah Brown (**Guys and Dolls**) and Miranda (**Return to the Forbidden Planet**), both in 2001. She has also performed for other societies. She loves Irish dancing and came ninth this year - in what contest we have no idea!

MARGARET has appeared in all four of the Mitre Minack productions. She been in too many other productions to list but she joined for **Sir Merryman** in 1983. Her most notable appearance was as Lady Brockhurst in **The Boy Friend**, a role so memorable she couldn't remember the name of it!

JAMES used to be found more commonly behind the pianoforte. However, he was persuaded to appear on the more glamorous side of the footlights in 2001 for our production of **Guys and Dolls** and it's now become difficult to keep him away. Since then he has appeared in **Return to the Forbidden Planet**, **The Long and the Short and the Tall** and now **Honk!** On the musical side he has been involved in **Merrily We Roll Along**, **Turnabout**, **Millennium Dame**, **Cindy-Ella**, **Aladdin** and **A Shaw Thing** (where he was musical director). What's next?

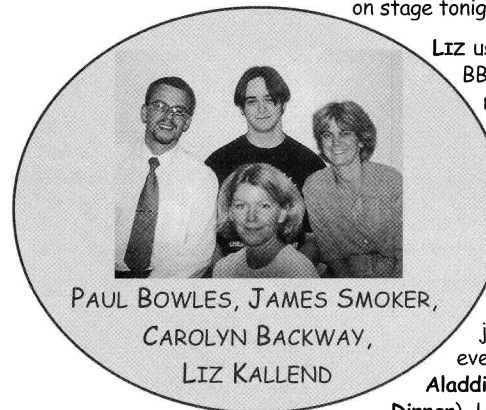
PAUL is an Old Boy of Trinity School although he joined the Mitre Players in 1998 whilst he was still a pupil. He has been in many productions since then, **A Slice of Saturday Night**, **Cindy-Ella**, **The Biograph Girl**, **Return to the Forbidden Planet** to name but a few. He was last seen at the Minack playing the lead, Seymour, in **Little Shop of Horrors**.

MEGAN is the very talented daughter of Helen and is a fourteen year old pupil at Riddlesdown High School. This is her first appearance on the Minack stage although she has been coming here since she was a baby. She has appeared in various Mitre shows and was recently seen giving a brilliant performance as Miss Adelaide in her school's production of **Guys and Dolls**. Megan is hoping to continue performing and is hoping to go on to Stage School.

CATHERINE has been performing since the age of three and belongs to several drama societies. Her favourite shows include **Little Shop of Horrors** (at the Minack), **The Boy Friend**, **Oliver** and **Oklahoma**. Most recently she has appeared in **Half a Sixpence** where she was lucky enough to play the lead. Catherine has really enjoyed rehearsing for **Honk!** and we hope it shows in her performance.



CAROLYN cannot remember her theatrical appearances as there are so many of them. She was last seen at the Minack in **The Wizard of Oz**. She is better known as the long-suffering wife of the dyslexic Australian drummer playing in the bandstand as well as mother of two lively boys, one of whom is on stage tonight.



PAUL BOWLES, JAMES SMOKER,
CAROLYN BACKWAY,
LIZ KALLEND

LIZ used to work in the publicity offices of Channel 4 and the BBC. However she gave up all that "entertainment" stuff to marry Neil and continue in "Real Theatre" with the Mitre Players. She is the mother of two young boys (none of whom are on stage tonight). Liz has been in many Mitre productions and despite playing some major and some chorus roles, feels most comfortable playing pantomime animals. This is her third appearance at the Minack.

JAMES is a 17 year old student of Trinity School. He joined the Mitre Players in 2001 and has been in almost every production since including playing the title role in **Aladdin**, Nicely Nicely (**Guys and Dolls**) and Clive (**Dying for Dinner**). He was most recently seen in Trinity School's production of **Bugsy Malone** under the musical directorship of Colin Warnock.

PAUL joined the Mitre Players in January 2002 for our pantomime, **Aladdin**. He must have enjoyed it because he was back a two months later playing Private Evans (**The Long and the Short and the Tall**) and now here is again. Since being with us it has transpired that Paul is also a brilliant scenic artist. An added bonus!



PAUL GRACE, CATHERINE OSBORNE,
JAMES BEAL,
MEGAN HARRIES-REES

Club Officials

- PRESIDENT** Chris Tarrant
PAST PRESIDENT Robin Wilson
VICE PRESIDENTS Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle, John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Jack Griffin, Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Martin Tyrrell, Colin Warnock
- CHAIRMAN** Andy Thompson
SECRETARY Julia Gibbs
TREASURER Alan Bishop
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS Ian Brown, Keith O'Gorman, Dave Price, Clare Tibbalds and Anna Warnock



The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Old Mid Whitgiftian Association), based in Croydon, Surrey. We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting four or five productions a year in a wide variety of venues. This is the fifth time we have performed at the Minack Theatre, which must have one of the most spectacular theatrical backdrops in the country!

Putting on a production not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design and build our own sets, paint our own scenery, 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.

Preparations are already well underway for our next production, the Musical Comedy, **Bye Bye Birdie**. Also, our Christmas pantomime, based on the **Beauty and the Beast** is currently being written by two of our members. Both these are to be performed at Trinity School's excellent facilities.

If you would like more information about the Mitre Players, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on 020 8239 1010 or log on to our Web Site at www.themitreplayers.com

EMMA is the eldest and most beautiful of the Chenery sisters, still claims the record as the youngest ever Mitre Player for her appearance as Gretl at the age of just four weeks in the 1987 production of **The Sound of Coarse Music**. As an older Mitre she has appeared in six Mitre Pantomimes. Elsewhere as Olivia in **Twelfth Night** and Alice in **Alice in Wonderland**, and professionally as Fairy (Bluebell) in **Shakespeare 4 Kidz A Midsummer Night's Dream**. Currently studying Chekhov to see if he wrote any decent parts.

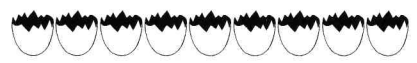


EMMA CHENERY, LUCY THOMPSON, OLIVIA CHENERY, MARY HOLTON

OLIVIA is the middlest and most beautiful of the Chenery sisters, has appeared in the same six pantomimes as her older sister. Professionally she featured in Way Out West's pop video **Intensify**; and most recently as Princess Elizabeth in ITV1's jubilee series **The Queen's Story**. Currently studying Shakespeare's **King Lear** to see if he wrote any decent parts.

MARY lists her occupation as data quality! This will be her fourth production at the Minack. A permanent fixture in the Mitre Players for many years, Mary has been in more productions than we realised that we'd done!! As well as appearing on stage tonight Mary, who is our fashion icon, is responsible for the yellow washing!

Lucy is 15 and attends Weald of Kent Grammar School for Girls. She was in the chorus for **The Country Wife** and was a last-minute replacement for the dance on the final performance. She has appeared in various pantomimes as well as **Guys and Dolls** and **Return to the Forbidden Planet**. She is currently studying for dance GCSE at the Royal Academy of Dance.



NATHAN is seven years old and is a pupil at Ridgeway Primary School. Past appearances have been in **Millennium Dame**, **Cindy-Ella**, **My Fair Dame** and **Aladdin** (all Mitre pantomimes). His speciality is cart wheeling wherever it suits him. He is the only Mitre Player to have appeared at the National Theatre - he was so excited by their production of **Honk!** that he climbed onto the stage at the end of the show.

OLIVER is eight years old and attends the same school as his brother, Nathan. He has appeared in **Millennium Dame**, **Cindy-Ella**, **My Fair Dame** and **Aladdin**. He loves all sports, in particular football and tennis. Watch out Beckham and Henman!

JAMES is the long-suffering nine year old son of the aforementioned Carolyn. Although this is his first noticeable appearance at the Minack his first actual appearance was in 1992 when his pregnant mother performed in **The Wizard of Oz**. He was recently seen on television in **The Lord Mayor's Show** where he played a salamander (thanks to Wiggy).



JAMES BACKWAY, GEORGINA CHENERY, NATHAN ASCOTT, OLIVER ASCOTT

GEORGINA is the youngest and most beautiful of the Chenery sisters, has appeared in **Mother Goose**, **Cindy-Ella** and **Aladdin**, and will be making her professional debut in the forthcoming tour of **Shakespeare 4 Kidz A Midsummer Night's Dream**. Her sweet cherubic features are completely deceptive, and her favourite hobbies include teasing her older sisters. Currently studying **The Three Little Pigs** to see if there are any decent parts.