

The Mitre Players Present

CINDERELLA, CHARLESTON!

by Martin Tyrrell & Colin Warnock



Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th January at 7.30pm

Saturday 13th January at 3.00pm and 7.30pm

& Sunday 14th January at 3.00pm

Tickets available from the Box Office 0845 2255799

THE MITRE PLAYERS



House and Garden

Trinity School, Croydon
November 2006

Chairman's Letter

The Mitre Players have pleasure in welcoming you to not one but two productions, which will run simultaneously during the evening in two separate theatres. Never ones to shirk a challenge, the Mitre Players have thrown themselves into the intriguing state of having to be in two places almost at the same time and to remember whether they are coming or going! We hope you enjoy tonight's presentation of **House** or **Garden** enough to want to come again and see the other play to find out what happens to the characters when they disappear from your view. Tickets will be available in the foyer at the end of the performances.

We once again welcome Paul Smith as our Director to oversee the mayhem. Paul has made a very special effort to lead us in this venture, by commuting from Somerset to Sanderstead for rehearsals over the last eight weeks. We are very grateful to him for this extra special effort to help us with this unusual show.

Our pantomime (11th to 14th January 2007) will be a totally revitalised version of our very first panto **Cinderella Charleston**, written by Martin Tyrell and Colin Warnock. It is the Cinderella story set in the 1920's. Please note that we are doing an extra matinee performance on Sunday 14th January in order to meet the demand for more places for younger audiences. Please book early to avoid disappointment. At Easter we will hopefully give our juniors

something to hone their skills upon with a one act show, followed by a revue by the senior section. These events will be performed at our Clubhouse in Sanderstead.

Next summer will see us touring yet again, this time possibly at two venues. Firstly in the grounds of the Bishop's Palace in Wells, followed by the Shaftsbury Theatre, Dawlish. We are currently making final decisions on a show that will do justice to both venues.

The Mitres often stage shows, which are not the tried and tested diet of productions approached by many societies. Indeed, this is one of our major strengths. We are always interested in welcoming new members and accepting offers of help from friends and colleagues. If you are interested in being involved with any of our forthcoming shows, in any role, we are always pleased to be contacted.

We also thank you, our audiences, for your continuing support and hope you enjoy tonight's production.

Best wishes to you all.

Andy Thompson.

Chairman.



the mitre players

The Dramatic Society of The Old Boys Association of Trinity School of John Whitgift

present

HOUSE and GARDEN

by Alan Ayckbourn

Director: **Paul Smith**

Assistant Director: **Di Jones**

2nd to 4th November 2006

**The Mitre Theatre (House)
and Big School (Garden)
Trinity School, Croydon**

An amateur production, by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Please note that smoking is prohibited in the building. 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.



Officials

President Chris Tarrant

Past President Robin Wilson

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

Current Committee

Chairman Andy Thompson

Secretary Kelly Beard

Treasurer Alan Bishop

Additional Members Di Jones, Dave Price
Morven Rae, Tanya Goody, Anna Warnock

Additional Contacts

Theatre Club Organiser Colin Warnock

Membership Secretary Julia Ascott

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 or 5 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 OMWA 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 Web Site at www.mitreplayers.org.uk

The Mitre Players are grateful to the following local shops for displaying our posters: Regina Pizza, The New Café, Harlequin Hairdressers, Viva Hair Nails and Beauty, 296 Hair Design, Cards and Things, Day 1 Supermarket, Andrew's Fish Bar, The Vinyl Resting Place, Care Providers, Solar 4 Us, Kane's Quality Florist, All That Glitters Bridal Wear, Trinity Dry Cleaners, Hot4You Pizza, Harrison's Newsagents, The Card Shop, Sullivan's Florists, Best One, ECL Digital, Ashburton Learning Village, Shirley Pharmacy

Director's Notes

During our tour to Dawlish in 2005 I was chatting with other members of the society and we were thinking about all the potential ambitious productions we could mount. My reputation for the large, complex and challenging is well known and lead to discussion about HOUSE & GARDEN. I had not seen a production, but had read the script(s) and heard about all the ins and outs of the plays – the idea appealed. Nothing was mentioned again until earlier this year when I was asked to direct it. It is a perfect Mitre show, and I was flattered to be approached, not least because I had just moved to Somerset. This was a minor problem, though a 350 mile round trip to rehearsals has been a huge challenge, but the pull of directing Ayckbourn at his brilliant best is quite a temptation. This play is a theatrical treat and one which it seems only Ayckbourn could put his pen to. His ability to play theatrical gymnastics is well known and this makes it such an exciting project for cast, director and audience to take part in. We have spent a long time in rehearsal discussing how he achieves what he does, but also marvelling at the brilliant characterisation which is so full of depth, and also at the tremendous words which are a delight to speak.

Suffice to say that here we are now, performing the pieces which a year ago

were just a fantasy. Few companies can consider undertaking such a production for obvious reasons and we are so fortunate to have the use of Trinity School, which gives us the two auditoria we need, thankfully rather closer together than at the National Theatre where the original London production took place; the Lyttleton and Olivier theatres being a good minute and a half walk apart. But it is the wonderful cast that we have been blessed with who have achieved the near impossible by achieving two performance standard plays in just eight weeks. I would also take this opportunity to thank Di Jones (my first director in The Mitre Players back in 1984) who has helped me immeasurably and been a great support – as well as my landlady whilst in London.

We hope that you, the audience, will enjoy what you see, whether you just see HOUSE or just GARDEN or whether you see HOUSE followed by GARDEN or GARDEN followed by HOUSE. As you do so, please remember what is happening in the auditoria next door, but, more importantly, what is happening between the theatres – that would be worth selling tickets for alone!

Paul Smith

BOX OFFICE

If you would like to buy tickets for any other show this week, please ask at the bar after the show or ring Kelly Beard on 0845 2255799

The Mitre Players would like to thank: The Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for permission to perform in Trinity School, Robin McKinlay, Mario Sammut, Martin Doolan, James Sym, Merry Sanders and the staff at Trinity, Blackheath Morris Men for costume, music and dance. Jeremy Hart.

The Cast

Trish Platt	Lorraine Price
Teddy Platt	David Price
Sally Platt	Jo Lakin
Giles Mace	Neil O'Gorman
Joanna Mace	Jo Shepherd
Jake Mace	Richard Jones
Gavin Ryng-Mayne	Warwick Jones
Izzie Truce	Ann Bowden
Pearl Truce	Tanya Goody
Warn Coucher	John Bartle
Lucille Cadeau	Diana Dobson
Fran Briggs	Katherine Bottomley
Barry Love	Ian Brown
Lindy Love	Julia Gibbs
The Vicar	Jolyon Roberts

Maypole dancers, Fancy dress children

Jack Alexander, James Cahill, Tom Channon, Ben Harper, Tom Harper, James Henshaw, Alex Jeffries, Sam Westgate

The Brass Band music is played by The South Molton Town band

The action takes place in the House and Garden of Teddy and Trish Platt

ACT ONE

Scene 1: A Saturday in August. 8.00 a.m. **Scene 2:** 11.00 a.m. the same day

20 Minute Interval, drinks may be pre-ordered from the bar in the Mitre Theatre foyer

ACT TWO

Scene 1: 2.00 p.m. the same day **Scene 2:** 5.00 p.m. the same day

After the performance the bar will be open and the garden fete continues in the Mitre Foyer. Proceeds of the fete will be split between East Surrey Crossroads (a charity which supports Carers) and M.D.S. Leukaemia Research at Kings Hospital.

Behind the Scenes

Director

Paul Smith

Assistant Director

Di Jones

Company Stage Manager

Gillian Bartle

Deputy Stage Manager (House)

Alan Collins

Deputy Stage Manager (Garden)

Mark Goody

Lighting

Alan Bishop

Matt Beal

Julian Parsons

Dave Richards

Special Effects

Andrew Thompson

Sound

James McLeod

Properties

Mary Holton

Set Construction/Crew

Alan Bishop

Gillian Bartle

Alan Collins

Liz Dolman

Paul Dolman

Derek Lee

Jon Lee

Colin Parrish

Lou Parrish

Dave Price

Morven Rae

Charles Thomas

Andrew Thompson

Dave Turner

and Members of the Company

Design and Décor

Alison Bottiglia

Jill Wilson

Di Jones

French Language Coach

Jeannie Nicholls

Programme

Alan Bishop

Anna Warnock

Photography

Charles Marriott

House and Garden Logo

Steve Humfress

Publicity

Alex Greenslade

Morven Rae

Jo Shepherd

Box Office

Kelly Beard

Front of House / Refreshments

Kelly Beard

Emily Grogan

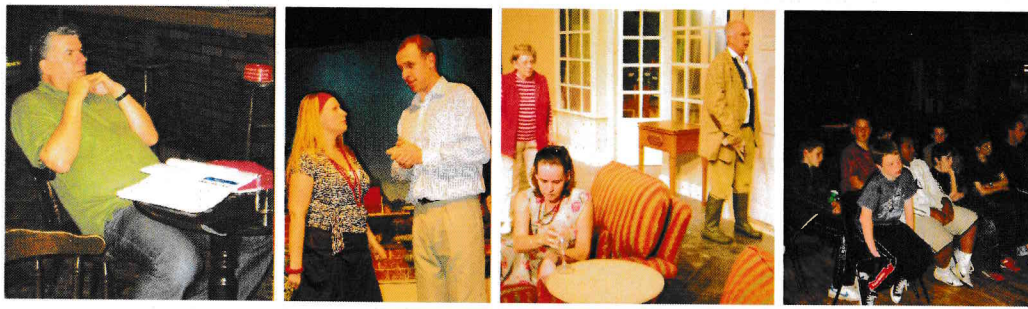
Tanya Goody

and Friends of The Mitre Players

Born in London in 1939, **Alan Ayckbourn** spent a long apprenticeship working in almost every department in the theatre from lighting technician to prop maker, actor, scene painter and, of course, writer and director. Encouraged to write by his mentor Stephen Joseph his plays have nearly all been premiered at the theatre named after Joseph in Scarborough of which Ayckbourn is the Artistic Director. His plays are performed all over the world, have been translated into over thirty languages and have garnered many awards. After Shakespeare, he is the most performed British dramatist. Having received a

CBE in 1987, he became the first playwright to be knighted since Terence Rattigan when he received his award in 1997. His many plays include, **The Norman Conquests, Ten Times Table, Bedroom Farce, A Chorus of Disapproval** and **Seasons Greetings**

House & Garden was premiered at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in 1999 and then transferred to the National Theatre where it starred David Haig, Jane Asher and Trinity Old Boy, Malcolm Sinclair.



Paul Smith (Director) Paul has now spent half of his life as a Mitre Player. Having recently moved to Somerset he has had a very busy last six months as a Mitre, giving his Rhino in **Just So** at Croydon and at the Minack, and then directing this mini epic. In the past Paul has performed in **Cyrano de Bergerac, Little Shop of Horrors, The Mikado, One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, Honk!, Mr Cinders** and many others. His directing responsibilities include **The Cherry Orchard, The Bacchae, Nicholas Nickleby** and **The Madness of George III.** He will never say he will never do a Mitre show again! By day Paul runs a music promotions organisation www.superact.org.uk

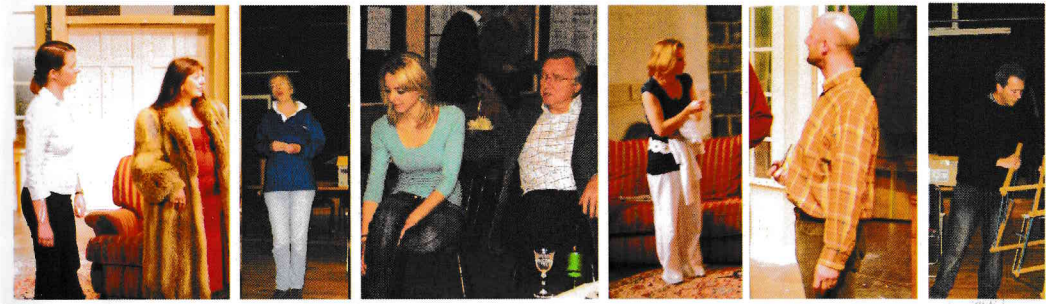
Di Jones (Assistant Director) Wife of Warwick and mother of Richard. In her spare time Di likes to direct plays and teach tap. Having retired from teaching in July she is so busy that she wonders how she ever fitted in the day job.

John Bartle (Warn Coucher) John was somewhat surprised to be cast as the gardener, because although he enjoys gardens he actually loathes gardening. At home he is only allowed to operate the lawn mower so perhaps he is well suited for this part after all. His last role was that

of King Elephant and a Commis Chef in **Just So** at the Minack open air theatre in Cornwall. John is just thankful that there aren't so many steps at Trinity School!

Katherine Bottomley (Fran Briggs) Katherine hasn't been in a Mitre production since playing Andy in **Stepping Out** two years ago. She is very excited at the prospect of making up for lost time by appearing in two plays at once. Learning the French dialogue has been a challenge and she would like to give a big 'merci beaucoup' to Jeannie Nicholls for all her help. Katherine hopes that the sprint training is equally as successful and that she arrives at the right play at the right time and isn't too out of breath.

Ann Bowden (Izzie Pearl) Ann is delighted to be playing Izzy in this truly challenging production and she has enjoyed creating the role under the excellent guidance of Paul and Diane (two of her favourite people). Last year she played Mrs. Higgins in CODA's production of **My Fair Lady** and the year before had the joy of appearing with Mitre Players in **Stepping Out** as the piano-playing Mrs. Fraser. Whilst she need not worry about hitting the right notes this time, she hopes she will always be on the right stage at the right time!



Ian Brown (Barry Love) Ian is thoroughly enjoying playing the truly obnoxious Barry in these plays and really hopes that the audiences hate him. His one regret is that Barry only appears briefly in **House**. Having either been in or directed six Mitre shows in a row, Ian has now been lured away to Chipstead for a while to direct their pantomime, **Aladdin**. He hopes to be back with the Mitres soon.

Diana Dobson (Lucille Cadeau) Diana's recent Mitre roles have included the wise-cracking Sylvia in **Stepping Out** and the TV Producer from Hell in **Robinson Crusoe**. She loves a challenge, and could not resist playing a French, alcoholic film star, with 99% of her lines delivered in a language that she has not spoken since she was a schoolgirl (not that long ago, she reckons). Diana would like to thank Mme Jeannie Nicholls for teaching her the correct way to roll her "r"s.

Julia Gibbs (Lindy Love) Last year Julia played the self obsessed 'Fabulous Roxanne' in **Cyrano de Bergerac**. This brought with it an array of beautiful costumes and being loved by several suitors across the battlefield of France. This year's contract is the complete antithesis playing helpful and unappreciated Lindy Love at a soggy garden fete adorned in a tracksuit! Rehearsals have been great fun and she hopes you all enjoy

House and Garden as much as she does!

Tanya Goody (Pearl Truce) Having recently got married, Tanya decided to try improving her domestic skills so applied for the part of the maid! She has learnt the best way to smash plates, flirt with men and avoid the Hoovering. She hopes her husband is very proud of her and appreciates all her hard work! Previous shows with The Mitre Players include **Sir Merryman, Abigail's Party** and **Cyrano de Bergerac**.

Richard Jones (Jake Mace) Richard could have been born into the Mitres, both of his parents having been involved for nigh onlonger than they would want him to tell everyone. Richard's first Mitre production was the joint Trinity/Mitre production of **Turnabout!** in 1998 and he's done a lot since then including pantos and plays. Richard was involved in Trinity drama throughout his time at the school and this is his first play as a proper 'old boy' having taken his A levels this summer.

Warwick Jones (Gavin Ryng-Mayne) Thoroughly unpleasant, a scheming, creepy, manipulative fixer and hypocritically obnoxiousand the part he plays is not much to write home about either. After 32 years with the Mitres Warwick has at last found a part he can identify with.



Jo Lakin (Sally Platt) This is Jo's second production for the Mitres, her first being **Cyrano de Bergerac** last year. Jo hadn't planned to audition for **House and Garden** but was persuaded to read for Sally and got the part! When not rehearsing for H & G, Jo can be found studying art at Wimbledon College of Art.

Neil O'Gorman (Giles Mace) Neil is looking forward to being in **House and Garden**. He says it's been lots of fun - even the Morris dancing bit. He would like to dedicate his performance to his wife Lucy and the United Kingdom Morris Federation.

Dave Price (Teddy Platt) Never having made a sound financial decision in his entire life, Dave feels a peculiar kinship to Teddy although Dave's wife does occasionally speak to him. Bizarrely, Dave's wife Lorraine is playing Teddy's wife Trish. He won't even be drawn as to which state of affairs he prefers but he's been surprisingly happy at rehearsals! In his last outing at Trinity, Dave played Bill Sikes in **Oliver!** and before that, the impressively titled Captain Carbon de Castel Jaloux in **Cyrano**. He is currently a teacher at Whitgift (Boo! Hiss!) but will be coming back to teach at his spiritual home next year. He'll meet you for a beer in the Wheatsheaf (or Crown) afterwards!

Lorraine Price (Trish Platt) Lorraine is delighted to be playing the part of Trish, having felt like she is a woman after her own heart! Bossy, control freak and obsessive to name but a few traits! This has been Lorraine's most challenging role to date, particularly in the process of having to learn how to speak French, since previous to this her French accent has been à la 'del boy.' Lorraine is a primary school teacher and says her 'teacher voice' has come in useful in the performances of this part. Watch out for those moments!

Jo Shepherd (Joanna Mace) Jo is delighted to be doing a play for once and one that's such a challenge! For those only seeing **House**, Jo is not spending most of the play in the bar but in a bush in the **Garden!** After a five year gap, Jo returned to the stage in a production of **Into the Woods** at The Minack Theatre. Since then she's produced, co-directed and appeared in **Closer Than Ever**, played Queenie in **Honk!** at Epsom Playhouse and returned to The Minack Theatre this summer as Wildebeest 2 in The Mitre's **Just So**. Jo will be slapping her thigh as Prince Charming in **Cinderella** at the Epsom Playhouse in January...oh no she won't, oh yes she will!

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By Kenneth Grahame, adapted for the stage by Alan Bennett

Wednesday 29 November 2006 (7.30 pm)
Thursday 30 November 2006 (7.30 pm)
Friday 1 December 2006 (5.00pm & 8.00pm)
MITRE THEATRE. TRINITY SCHOOL

For more details please email: drama@trinity.croydon.sch.uk

An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd