



Officials

President Mark Bishop
Past Presidents Chris Tarrant, Robin Wilson
Vice-Presidents Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle,
John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Sheila Garnett,
Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson, Martin Tyrrell,
Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

Current Committee

Chairman Alan Merricks
Secretary Di Jones
Treasurer Alan Bishop
Additional Members Ian Brown, David Elder,
Julia Gibbs, Joe Pepper, Anna Warnock

Additional Contacts

Theatre Club Organiser Colin Warnock
Membership Secretary Julia Ascott
Box Office Number 07914 763422 or 0845 2255799

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 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 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

The Mitre Players

Is There Life After High School?



The Mitre Theatre
February 2012

THE MITRE PLAYERS

PRESENT

CALENDAR GIRLS

BY TIM FIRTH

DIRECTED BY DI JONES

25TH TO 27TH OCTOBER 2012

THE MITRE THEATRE
TRINITY SCHOOL, CROYDON

Tickets for all our shows are available from:

Cash/Cheques: 07914 763422 or tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk

Credit/Debit Cards (with booking fee): www.mitreplayers.ticketsource.co.uk

Please log on to our website: www.mitreplayers.org.uk for more details.

Situation Vacant

Would you like to help with Publicity? Can you spare some time?

Naturally we would like to see full houses at all our performances and fortunately that is often the case. However, all productions benefit from as much publicity as possible, particularly plays and musicals that aren't too well known. We are looking for someone who can spare a bit of time now and again in the lead up to a production to help with some local publicity.

The job would include organising the delivery of handbills to local libraries, railway stations, shops etc, as well as arranging reciprocal publicity with other local dramatic societies etc. The committee will be on hand to bounce ideas off.

The job is not onerous and can be fitted in to suit you. If you feel you can help, please speak to Julia Gibbs tonight or call her on 020 8686 2693. Thank you!

THE MITRE PLAYERS
PRESENT

RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET

Shakespeare's Forgotten Rock and Roll Musical

BY BOB CARLTON

DIRECTOR: HELEN HARMAN **MUSICAL DIRECTOR: COLIN WARNOCK**

Trinity School

Thursday 19th to Saturday 21st July at 7.30 (£10.00)

Saturday Matinee at 3.00 (£8.00)

Box Office Opens 1st April.

The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno: 20th to 24th August

01736 810181 or www.minack.com

GOOD
COMPANY

in association with Croydon Stagers and CODA presents

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A Race Against Time



A New Musical
by Ian Rae &
Chris Chambers

"Very few people can write good tunes - Ian Rae can"
Richard Stilgoe - Co-Lyricist, Phantom of the Opera
Lyricist - Starlight Express

www.Olympusthemusical.co.uk



Ashcroft Theatre, Croydon May 9-12

0208 688 9291 www.fairfield.co.uk

Minack Theatre, Cornwall May 17-19

01736 810181 www.minack.com

The Mitre Players

Is There Life After High School?

Book by Jeffrey Kindley Music and Lyrics by Craig Carnelia

Suggested by the Book by Ralph Keyes

Director: Di Jones

Musical Director: Colin Warnock

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Croydon

16th to 18th February 2012

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 Samuel French Ltd.



Chairman's Letter



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to our production of **Is There Life After High School?** There are certain types of production at which the Mitres excel and I hope you'll agree that this is one of them.

What if you returned to your old school after many years - whether in mind or body, or in both? How would you feel - how would it look and smell? What memories would come flooding back? Uncertain? Happy? Sad? All of these I suspect. It happens to me every time I come back to Trinity, but this time with music - and very good music too!

For this production, my dear audience, we have assembled nine of our talented Mitre Players for your entertainment; the cast list contains names that will be familiar to you as you may have seen them previously. Unless, of course, this is your first Mitre show, in which case firstly welcome again and, secondly, trust me - they are very good!

Once more we are so lucky to have Colin Warnock (**Our House** and goodness knows what else) as Musical

Director; Di Jones (**Daisy Pulls It Off** and *eminence blanche* – that's a very good thing by the way – and goodness knows what else) who, between them have forgotten more about this kind of musical show than most of us have ever learned.

Also, too numerous to mention here individually - a big THANK YOU to our Backstage and Front of House team.

Sit back and enjoy.

Meanwhile – PLEASE note in your diaries – details elsewhere in the programme – in July we have **Return to the Forbidden Planet** (directed by Helen Harman), in the Concert Hall here at Trinity school before it goes on tour to the Minack Theatre, Cornwall. Following that we have **Calendar Girls** in October with Di Jones directing once again. Book your tickets—from 1st April - for both productions.

Thank you once again for coming to see us.

Best wishes,

Alan Merricks,

Chairman

The Mitre Players would like to thank:

The Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for permission to perform **Is There Life After High School?** in The Mitre Theatre. Jeremy Covell, Robin McKinlay, Janet Dean, Mario Sammut, Phil Jupp, Dean Sammut, all the staff at Trinity and everyone else who has helped with this production.

Megan Harries-Rees

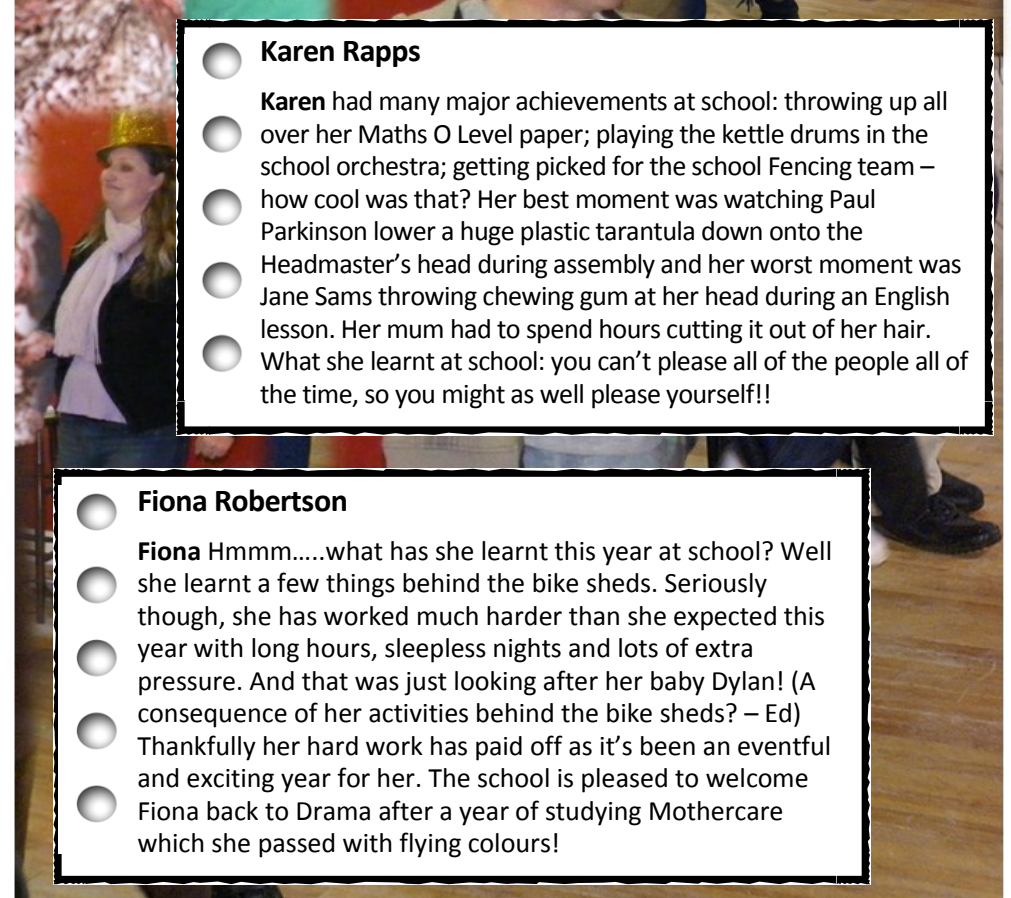
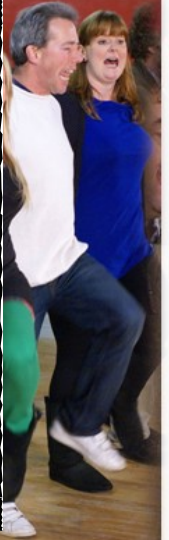
Megan is not convinced that schooldays are the happiest days of your life! She loved Music and Drama but it didn't really seem like work. She really enjoyed French but found it so easy that it didn't really seem like work either. It was fun nipping behind the bike shed for a crafty cigarette (she hopes her Mum and Dad don't read this!!) and that definitely wasn't hard work. There seems to be a constant thread running through this, doesn't there?! She actually did learn quite a lot - she can do her times tables and she can spell accurately, she can change a plug and knows a lot about photosynthesis, she knows not to speak to strangers and not to throw litter on the floor but most important of all, she found out who her real friends at school were and now, years after she left, they're still special friends and always will be. "Happiest", she's not sure but really special in a lot of ways.

Karen Rapps

Karen had many major achievements at school: throwing up all over her Maths O Level paper; playing the kettle drums in the school orchestra; getting picked for the school Fencing team – how cool was that? Her best moment was watching Paul Parkinson lower a huge plastic tarantula down onto the Headmaster's head during assembly and her worst moment was Jane Sams throwing chewing gum at her head during an English lesson. Her mum had to spend hours cutting it out of her hair. What she learnt at school: you can't please all of the people all of the time, so you might as well please yourself!!

Fiona Robertson

Fiona Hmm.....what has she learnt this year at school? Well she learnt a few things behind the bike sheds. Seriously though, she has worked much harder than she expected this year with long hours, sleepless nights and lots of extra pressure. And that was just looking after her baby Dylan! (A consequence of her activities behind the bike sheds? – Ed) Thankfully her hard work has paid off as it's been an eventful and exciting year for her. The school is pleased to welcome Fiona back to Drama after a year of studying Mothercare which she passed with flying colours!



Katy Davies

Katy has had another eventful year, having misbehaved with Joe Casey and his gang at the beginning of the year and forever talking about **Our House**. She then seemed to have settled into a more sensible route working with her cousin as a wedding caterer before being distracted by the songs and romance with **The Wedding Singer**. Katy hopes that by reminiscing on her school days she will be able to regain focus allowing her to concentrate on her studies, in particular her sciences to enable her to graduate as a science officer in **Return to the Forbidden Planet** at the Minack this summer.

David Elder

David – many decades have passed since David attended his High School, but those years are remembered with a great deal of fondness. The Edinburgh Academy was home for David's formative years and many sporting war-stories have been suitable exaggerated for the benefit of his kids. School was a blur of rugby, cricket, athletics, the occasional exam, orchestra (the leader no less!), various choirs and annual productions. Meeting Mrs Vaughan Williams was a particular highlight (for him, not her) and also being told by his aunt that he was a "beautiful girl" – the peril of playing Desdemona in an all-boys school!

Kevin Hayes

Kevin writes:

I liked school it just didn't like me.
Most of the subjects were hard except poetry
I turned up for my exams but I don't know why
They said there was a point but it was just a lie.
The lessons I learnt weren't spelling and Maths.
It was not getting caught when you made a few gaffs.
If I'd passed my exams and not got in a mess
I would never have made of my life a success.
I've been in many shows and bet you want to know.
So here's a list that I've written below.
There's Kipps and Stanley, Barnum and Bill,
Mickey and George and to give you a thrill
There was A Cat in the Hat, a Governor and Jim.
Robbie and Roddy were cool but quite dim.
With Tobias and Linus, Arnold and Jack
Snoopy and Seymour it's fun looking back.
The most important thing I learnt for your whole life through,
Never look up to them - then they can't look down on you!



Director's Notes



Colin Warnock and I were looking for a small-cast musical for our first show together as a production team. We first met, Colin as MD & me acting, in 1976 and I am delighted that our friendship, love of good music and witty dialogue still continues and has brought us together for this exciting production.

Is There Life After High School ? is a cross between a revue and a musical play. The cast, who are not given names, and are known only as women and men, play many characters from different high schools in America who share with the audience their memories of friends and events from their school life. These memories appear as monologues, short scenes and songs which are at times both funny and poignant. The task faced by



the cast has been to perform without constant changes of clothes, wigs, false beards and make up. By using their acting skills, their voices and movement and the odd prop or piece of costume, the cast of nine constantly change characters and we hope you will enjoy identifying them all. I should point out that the reunion in Act 2 is also an amalgam of several such gatherings.

As the audience we ask you to use your imagination as you follow their reminiscences; you may well identify with some of them! My job as director has been made much easier by having a strong and experienced group of players who are able not only to deliver witty dialogue but hold a tune, often alone, against four or five other strong singers. Rehearsals have been a pleasure and, as Colin's famous song says, "I love it, I love it all!"





Behind The Scenes



Director

Diane Jones

Musical Director

Colin Warnock

Set Design

Alan Bishop, Alan Collins

Stage Management

Alan Collins

Costume Co-ordinator

Anna Warnock

Lighting Designer

Alan Bishop

Sound

James McLeod

Backstage Assistants and Technical Crew

Gillian Bartle, Matt Beal,
Liz Dolman, Alan Geeson,
Andy Hind, Alan Magrath,
Amy Marr, Pete Marr,
Sue Marr, Julian Parsons,
Andy Thompson, Jill Wilson

Projection Co-Ordination

Jon Lee

Properties

Katy Sheehan

Production Manager

Julia Gibbs

Handbill and Programme

Alan Bishop, Anna Warnock

Press Officer

Lesley Bates

Photography

Charles Marriott

Box Office Manager

Gill Frost

Front of House and Refreshments

Anna Frost,
Alan Merricks,
Joe Pepper
and Friends of
The Mitre Players

The Band

Musical Director/Keyboard 1

Colin Warnock

Keyboard 2

James Beal

Bass Guitar

Jack Woods

Drums

Craig Backway

Cello

Matthew Raven

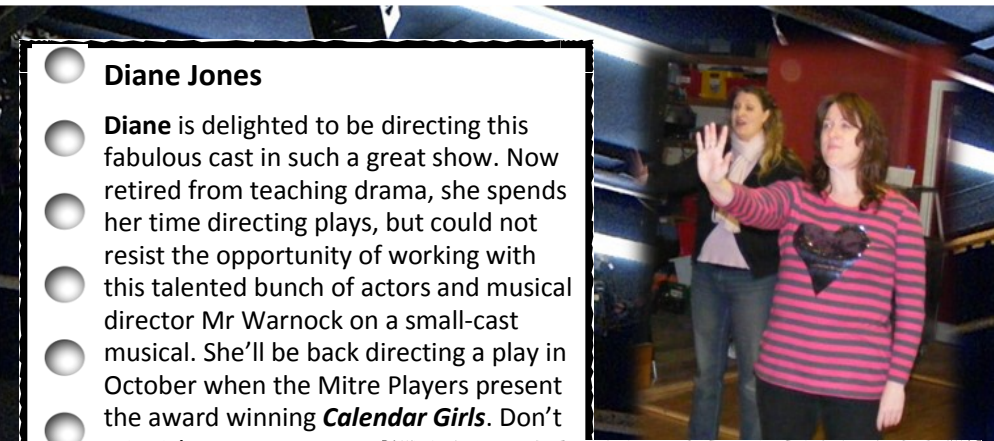
Ian Brown

Ian was a very quiet little boy until he went to high school where he learnt the art of talking which he has been doing ever since. Oh yes, there were some real subjects too, including French and German, which were very useful because he could then talk to even more people. One of the most important things he learned was that the old boys of the school had a drama society. After graduating from University in French and German in 1982, Ian joined and has thus been a member for 30 years and appeared in countless productions.

Chris Chambers

Chris has just got his end of term report from the principal – oh well! You can't please everyone... "Chris has got a long way to go if he thinks he is going to get anywhere. He seems to be wasting his time on this acting lark, prancing around in silly wigs and sporting strange accents. And now I hear he is to spend an inordinate amount of time this Spring directing a show called *Olympus* at The Minack Theatre! What **Timing!** When he did *Gulliver's Travels* there I begged him to cut the second act and concentrate on the big and small people – did he? Like hell! So please get him to reconsider! Much as it may bring some joy to a minority, I urge him to think before investing any more energy in this direction. And what does he know about the Ancient Greeks. An AS Level does not make a philosopher! He simply doesn't know what he is doing!"





Diane Jones

Diane is delighted to be directing this fabulous cast in such a great show. Now retired from teaching drama, she spends her time directing plays, but could not resist the opportunity of working with this talented bunch of actors and musical director Mr Warnock on a small-cast musical. She'll be back directing a play in October when the Mitre Players present the award winning *Calendar Girls*. Don't miss it!



Colin Warnock

Colin is reminded of his schooldays every time he returns to Trinity with the Mitres as he went to this very school. When he started here in 1965, this theatre wasn't built - in fact lots of the school wasn't - assemblies took place outside! He played tennis and badminton, scored at cricket matches and along with Martin Tyrrell attended rugby matches as a supporter. His enthusiasm for music and drama led to parts in many plays and the Trinity Swing Band. The Mitre Players was formed as a direct result of these Trinity Experiences....

Olivia Beckwith

Olivia didn't learn very much at school but was talented enough to train at Italia Conti. Although her home economics skills were sadly lacking, she showed great netball skills in PE and continues to play in local teams. Since leaving school Olivia has appeared in many productions and sung in Monte Carlo, New York and our very own Royal Albert Hall to name but a few. She needs to concentrate a little more in class and stop daydreaming. She also needs to work harder on her dancing skills if she is to make it to Broadway.



The Kid Inside
 Things I Learned in High School
 Second Thoughts
 Nothing Really Happened
 Beer For Them
 Diary of a Homecoming Queen

The Company
 Megan
 The Company
 All the Girls
 Ian, Kevin and Chris
 David and The Company
 Fiona

There will be one interval of 20minutes
 Please pre-order your drinks before the show

Thousands of Trumpets
 Reunion
 High School All Over Again
 Fran and Janie
 I'm Glad You Didn't Know Me
 Reunion (Reprise)

Kevin and The Company
 The Company
 Chris and The Company
 Katie and Karen
 Olivia and David
 The Company

It is important to note that this piece was written before the Internet and Social Networking. Friends Reunited and Facebook hadn't been dreamt of and mobile phones only existed in Science Fiction.

Although our setting is, in one sense, timeless we have made a decision not to update the production that much. So switch off your mobile phone, sit back and relax and remember what it was like before you had an inbox of 300 unread emails or all those texts you haven't replied to. Bliss

Patrons of The Mitre Players for 2012

Julia Ascott, Sally Brooks, Peggy Brown, Ros Broyd, Barbara & Bill Cobbett, Derek Cooper, Diane Copas, Pat Curtis, Don Dummer, Mike Fleming, Gill Frost, Geoff & Sue Gear, Enid Ghent, Martin Godber, Jackie Harris, Pat Hecks, Catherine King, Don Lloyd, Clare Martin-Reed, Ian Mcleod, Lou Parrish, Grace Parsons, David Price, Mr S F Price, Liz Raishbrook, Andrew Rapps, Aileen & Bernie Regan, Louise Ricca, Rosemary Saw, Vera Sewell, Alan & Heather Sexton, Diane Simpson, Marian Steele, Michael Street, Joyce Swaffield, Charles Thomas, Jenny Vereycen, Mike Wareham, Barry Widger, Geoff Wilsher, Robin Wilson

Please see our website www.mitreplayers.org.uk for details on how to become a Patron for 2012



THE CAST

Kevin Hayes Ian Brown David Elder Chris Chambers

Megan Harries-Rees Fiona Robertson Katy Davies Karen Rapps

(Olivia Beckwith was absent from class on school photograph day)