



Officials

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Vice-Presidents Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle,
John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Alan Collins, Julia Gibbs, Di Jones,
Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson, Martin Tyrrell,
Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

Current Committee

Chairman Alex Greenslade
Secretary Di Jones
Treasurer Alan Bishop
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 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 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

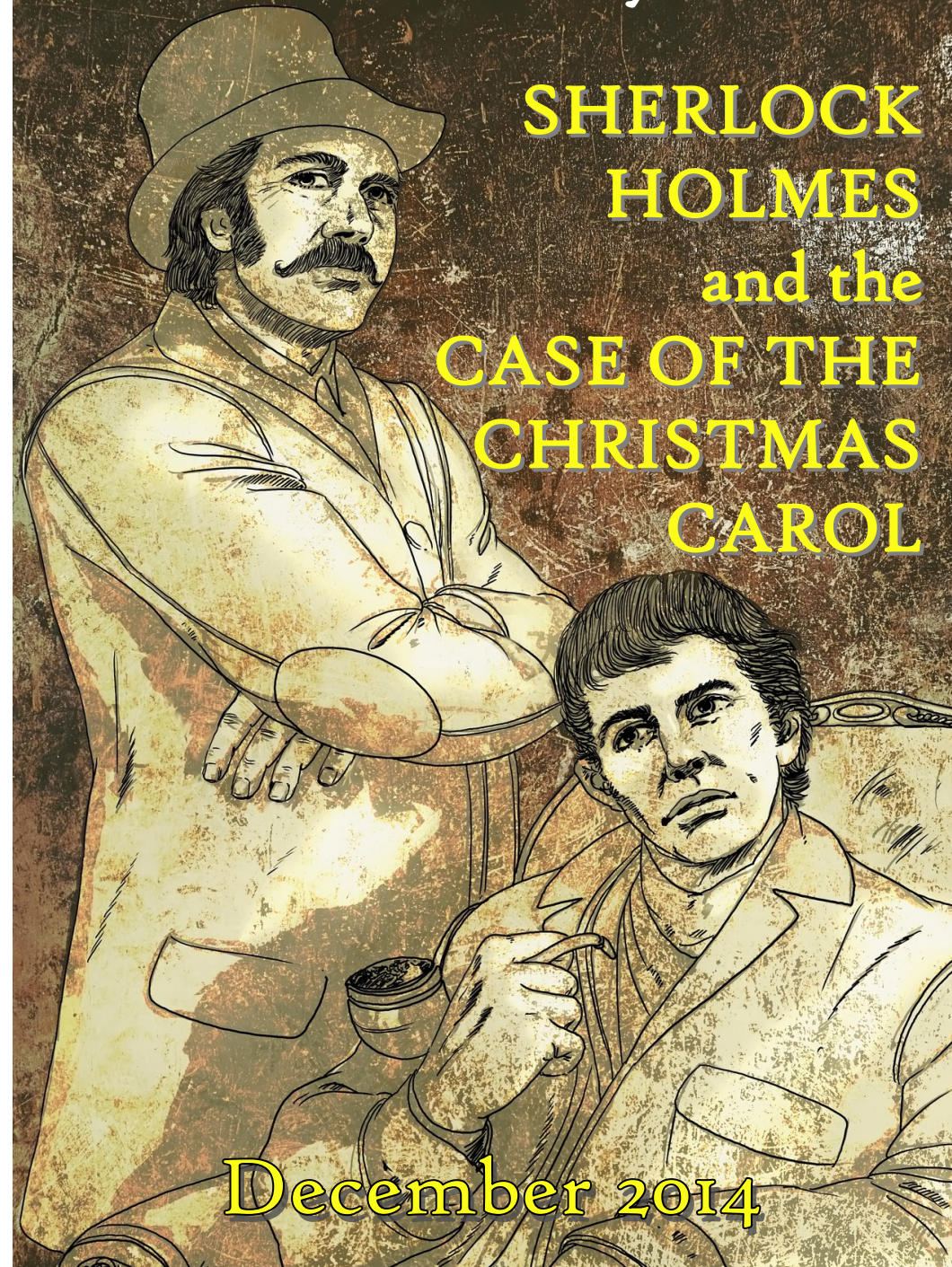
remain out of the spotlight, building scenery, lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing 'Front of House' or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

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

The Mitre Players

SHERLOCK HOLMES and the CASE OF THE CHRISTMAS CAROL



December 2014

A word from the Chairman

I would like to welcome you to this year's Christmas Clubhouse production, **Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol**. Shows that we put on here have a special, intimate atmosphere and those who only know the hall as a venue for rehearsals, meetings, meals or children's activities are surprised by the transformation it undergoes.

This show is a contrast to our last, the well-received colossus of our sell-out run of **Monty Python's Spamalot** at the Minack Theatre in Cornwall this summer, and demonstrates our versatility.

We are pleased to welcome as our first-time director my near-namesake Alex Greenwood (rehearsals have been confusing sometimes!) and are always pleased to nurture young talent. Also new to the Mitres is Jamie Heath, who only just over a week before the dress rehearsal valiantly agreed to increase his involvement by taking over the part of Dr. Watson from Alan Merricks, who had to withdraw for health reasons. We wish Alan a speedy recovery.

It has also been good to see the return to the stage of Mitres stalwart Warwick Jones in the title role. Now that he is retired from his day job, he can spend all his days learning lines.

Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol was not a show known to any involved in choosing our productions, but is an interesting take on a well-known story and ticked most of our 'boxes'. Some of our cast are also rehearsing our next show, the musical **City of Angels** (full details in this programme). Not for some time have two productions overlapped in this way. Concurrent rehearsals in rugby changing rooms have been very interesting!

We hope you enjoy this evening and, as ever, are grateful for your support.

Alex Greenslade

Chairman

The Mitre Players



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.

Megan McMahon (Becky, Russell)

Sherlock is Megan's second production with the Mitre Players, having played Sandy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* earlier this year. Christmas has always been a special time with family and one memorable one in particular... Hailing from South Africa, most Christmases have been spent poolside, which was always a great opportunity for the McMahon sisters to put on a show of highly improvised synchronised swimming. Family members had to pay for their tickets as well as the printed programme of events. Needless to say due to artistic differences between the two girls, the show was cancelled at the last minute (however, tickets were obviously non-refundable). Megan hopes you enjoy the show and have a lovely Christmas with those you hold dear..



Eve Simpson (Mycroft, Topper, Vera)

Eve remembers watching Basil Rathbone and Jeremy Brett on 'Sherlock Saturdays' at her Grandmother's house when she was little, so she jumped at the chance to be in this play! Having been with the Mitre Players for almost five years now, she never thought she'd end up wearing these urchin breeches... She hopes you enjoy the show and leave full of Christmas cheer (not just from the mulled wine!)



Patrons of The Mitre Players 2014

Chrissy Amer, Carolyn Backway, Kate Benstead, Katherine Bottomley, Ann Bowden, Carolyn Burton, Berry Butler, Barbara Cobbett, Bill Cobbett, Alex Cooper, Del Cooper, Di Copas, Robert Critchett, 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, Karen Rapps, Tony Rapps, Aileen Regan, Katie Reid, Conor Rooney, Trevor Rowlan, Rosemary Saw, Vera Sewell, Alan Sexton, Heather Sexton, Alex Sievewright, 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

Present

Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol

By John Longenbaugh

Directed by Alexander Greenwood

TMWA Clubhouse, Sanderstead

9th to 12th December 2014

An amateur production, by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

We respectfully remind you that the taking of photographs and the use of audio and video recording equipment are strictly forbidden.

Please remember to switch off mobile phones.

John Longenbaugh, author

John grew up in Alaska. After high school he attended the University of Kent in Canterbury as an undergraduate and then the University of York as a graduate, and (after a brief hiatus) the Central School of Speech and Drama on their directing course. He then went to Seattle and within six months was writing theatre criticism for the Seattle Weekly, where he was soon promoted from freelancer to full-time theatre critic. He worked at the Weekly for six years, while continuing to write and direct theatre at the rate of one or two shows a year. He eventually quit the job at the Weekly, gratified to have come away with some great memories, a couple of regional journalism awards, and some good friends.

From late 2003 to early 2005 he was the artistic director of a small fringe company, Theatre Babylon, which managed to produce a year and a half of great plays before losing their venue to an impressive mass of bureaucratic red tape.

From 2008 to 2010 he was the PR Manager for Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre which produced a full season of fully-staged musicals. Since then he has focused more on writing while continuing to try and keep his various theatre projects spinning. There's a novel, and there are short stories, and there are even screenplays these days, as he begins a flirtation with the strange new worlds of independent films.



Mary Holton (Violet Holmes)

Over 25 years ago Mary appeared in a pink ballet dress in *Dame Sherlock*. She has also appeared as a ghost in two panto chases. Luckily this ghostly appearance is much more sedate and she really wanted to be in a production about one of her heroes.



Warwick Jones (Sherlock Holmes)

Warwick is delighted to be performing again at the Clubhouse where he first began with the Mitres 40 years ago. Since then he is sure he has been in one artistic triumph after another.....he just can't remember any. As John Lennon wrote, and Sherlock might have said, 'So this is Christmas'.



Jane Kortlandt (Mrs Hudson, Eli, Wiggins/German Soldier)

Jane's last show with the Mitres was *Spamalot* at the Minack, so playing Mrs. Hudson is a nice change from playing a peasant - at least there is no hessian in this one. Jane's most memorable Christmas was performing in Panto many years ago as the Voice of Queen Zog, from behind a screen, operating a shadow puppet. The leading lady lost her voice so Jane

stepped in to sing off stage on her behalf - and sang the wrong words. She is sure no-one noticed! Other Mitre credits include Cora in *Calendar Girls*, *Return To The Forbidden Planet* and Kath in *Our House*.

Simon Long (Young Holmes, Spirit 2, Albert)

As a big fan of Sherlock in all his genres, Simon is excited to be playing the great detective as a young man and offering clues to his enigmatic character. Simon has been with the Mitre Players for some years now and appeared in too many productions to mention - those who have seen him before will hopefully remember past performances! Even now, as a 22 year old, he absolutely LOVES Christmas, and has already started playing and singing along to Christmas songs in his car! He is hoping Santa will pay him the usual visit down the chimney!



Ros Broyd (Spirit 1, Toff's girl, Head Nurse)

Last seen as the knife-wielding wife of the bigamist taxi driver in the farce *Caught in the Net*, Ros is enjoying the challenge of playing very different characters in her second outing with the Mitres. No type-casting in this company! It's most enjoyable to be the really nasty Head Nurse too. A memorable Christmas has to be when, as a 'keen-to-impress new wife she did a fantastic job preparing an enormous turkey only to find the thing was way too big to fit in the oven! They don't tell you to measure your oven in the glossy ideal Christmas magazines!



Alex Greenslade (Moriarty, William Holmes, Toff, The Professor, Maxwell)

Alex visits the Christmas markets in Germany every year without fail. This is where this evening's mulled wine was bought. However, he also likes to escape to the sun in the middle of most winters and his two most memorable Christmases were spent in Australia and Singapore, but they were a long time ago. No chance of that this time as he is also in our next show, *City of Angels*. As the Chairman, duty calls!



Alex Greenwood (Director, Garrison, Uncle Tim, Old Garrison)

This is Alex's first time directing with the Mitres. He accepted after being visited by three spirits in one evening...

Jamie Heath (Watson, Spirit 3)

This is Jamie's first appearance with the Mitre Players, although his father Richard is no stranger to us, being a stalwart of the 80s as our Stage Manager. Jamie is particularly good at playing old men and his last stage appearance was as an 83 year-old in his university production of *The Crucible*. His most memorable Christmas was when he let off his new Mushu toy in church one year and it vocally proclaimed itself to be God to the assembled congregation!



Andy Holton (Lestrade, General)

The last time Andy was a police inspector he took a lot of flack because he failed to identify and arrest the murderer. This time it is all different. He has entered our Christmas charades, playing the parts that he has been given and trusting that someone in the audience can guess who on earth he is portraying! Pass him the mulled wine!

Our next production



City of Angels

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

The Mitre Theatre, Trinity School, Croydon, CR9 7AT
Wednesday 18th to Saturday 21st February 2015 at 7.30

Tickets: £13 (includes a souvenir programme)

from www.mitreplayers.ticketsource.co.uk (no booking fee) or by phone: 07914 763422

Early Bird Discount: Tickets £11 if paid via Ticketsource before 1st February 2015

Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol

Warwick Jones	Sherlock Holmes
Jamie Heath	Dr. Watson/Spirit 3
Jane Kortlandt	Mrs. Hudson/Eli/Wiggins/German Soldier
Andy Holton	Lestrade/General
Alex Greenslade	Moriarty/William Holmes/Toff/ Professor/Maxwell
Alex Greenwood	Garrison/Uncle Tim/Old Garrison
Ros Broyd	Spirit 1/Toff's Girl/Head Nurse
Simon Long	Young Holmes/Spirit 2/Albert
Megan McMahon	Becky/Russell
Eve Simpson	Mycroft/Topper/Vera
Mary Holton	Violet Holmes

There is a 20-minute interval

The bar is open during the interval and remains open after the show

Sherlock Holmes and Dr John Watson: two men who have no need of an introduction. One cannot hear their names without imagining the cluttered study, the dressing gown and the pipe. For a long time I've wanted to direct a Sherlock Holmes play, but little did I imagine my first would see me pitting these two against a far more older tale. I have seen the tale of Scrooge and his partner Jacob Marley played a thousand times and never has its impact or lesson diminished. So, as you finish your mince pies and mulled wine, settle well into your seats and let our cast take you back, feel the crisp December air, hear the clattering of the hansom cab, smell the chestnuts being sold by the vendors along the road.

Welcome to London in 1894, where the game is afoot...

Alex Greenwood, Director

Director	Alex Greenwood
Production Manager	Di Jones
Set Construction	Alan Collins
Assisted by	Richard Heath, Andy Hind, Dave Price, Andrew Thompson and members of the cast
Scenic Artist	Paul Adams
Costumes	Di Jones
Lighting	Alan Bishop and Julian Parsons
Sound	James McLeod
Props	Di Jones and Mary Holton
Make-Up	Julia Gibbs
Press Liaison	Lesley Bates
Prompter	Anna Warnock
Handbill and Programme	Alan Bishop and Anna Warnock
Photography	Charles Marriott
Box Office	Gill Frost
Front of House	Alex Greenslade, Julia Gibbs and Friends of The Mitre Players

The Mitre Players would like to thank: Ian Walsh, The Staff of St. Antony's Pre-school, Nick Trend and everyone at the TMWA for their patience and forbearance during the rehearsals and the production.