

THE MITRE PLAYERS

THE HUNTING
of the
Snark

Minack Theatre, August 2004



minack

THE MINACK THEATRE

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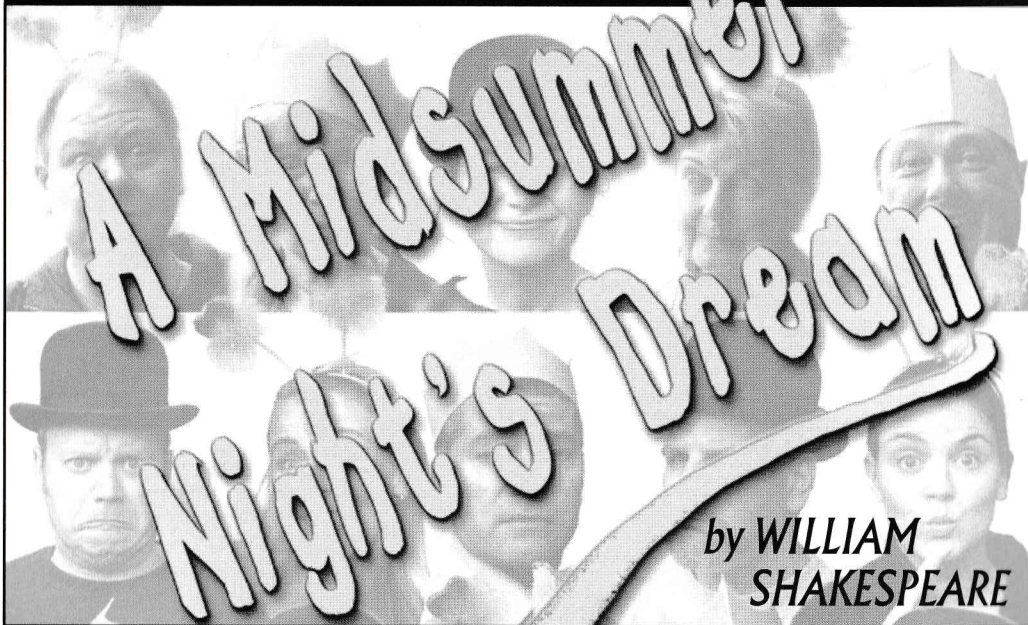
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- Not to walk on the stage at any time and to keep to the paths and steps when in the theatre.
- Not to smoke at any time in the areas when the audience is seated
- To place all litter and especially cigarette ends in the bins provided
- To turn off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

Next week at the Minack Theatre

THE HERTFORDSHIRE PLAYERS present



23rd - 27th August at 8.00pm

Wednesday 25th and Friday 27th Matinees at 2.00pm

THE MITRE PLAYERS

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

present

THE HUNTING of the Snark

Music and Lyrics by Mike Batt

*Based on and including the nonsense poem
by Lewis Carroll*

Director: **Helen O'Gorman**

Choreographer: **Helen Harman**

Musical Director: **Andy Rapps**

Associate Musical Director: **Andy Trehwella**

Designer: **Paul Bowles**

Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon

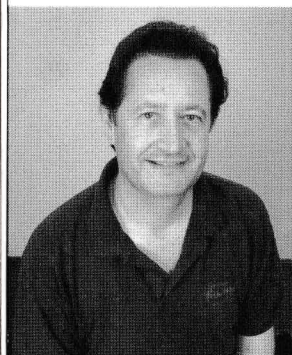
29th July to 31st July 2004

The Minack Theatre, Porthcurno

16th to 20th August 2004

Performed with the kind permission of Mike Batt

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



I am very pleased, on the behalf of the Mitre Players, to welcome you to the Minack Theatre, which has one of the most scenic theatrical backdrops in the world!

The Mitre Players are an amateur group, initially established in the 1940's and then in their present form in 1973. We are based in Croydon, Surrey, and enjoy involvement in many types of Theatre. We have presented a touring show during the summer, in some part of the south west of England, for many years now and we are delighted to once again be visiting the unrivalled Minack Theatre.

This is the sixth time The Mitre Players have performed at the Minack. Tonight's show, is a creative adaptation of Lewis Carroll's poem, ***The Hunting of the Snark – An Agony in Eight Fits***, by Mike Batt, to whom we are indebted for permission to perform the world amateur premiere of this imaginative show. 'Previews' for the show are being staged, prior to our run at the Minack, at our home base in Croydon.

Our next production, in October, is ***Stepping Out***, for which preparations are already under way. We are also looking forward to our Christmas Pantomime, which, as is tradition with the Mitres, will once again be written by "The Broker" and "The Bellman". This year it is based around the story of ***Robinson Crusoe***. Also, look out for us next summer at the Shaftesbury Theatre, Dawlish, where we will be performing another musical sometime during August.

Tonight's show has been in preparation for over three months and has been great fun for cast and crew alike. The unusual costumes, set and original music have all presented their own challenges. We hope you, our audience, all have an enjoyable evening watching today's performance, in this unrivalled setting.

Andy Thompson.
Chairman

LEWIS CARROLL – AN INSPIRATION

Lewis Carroll had a wonderfully clear and logical way of approaching nonsense. He wrote many letters to his young friends, where his practical approach to the absurd was evident. He wrote to one of them, saying, "Thank you for the peaches. They were delicious, almost as delicious as kissing you, but not quite. I think if I had to give the exact measurement, I should say 'three quarters'". Carroll, whether he meant to be or not, was never a "children's" writer. His surreal imagination led him, like Alice, down dark paths which brought him to stranger places and into contact with more interesting characters than would have been the case had he been pitching solely to an audience of children.

"It is not children who ought to read Lewis Carroll", wrote Gilbert Chesterton, "they are far better employed making mud pies". Of course, Chesterton was wrong too. Children often appreciate the adult side of Carroll more perceptively than adults. Adults sometimes forget, or are too preoccupied to think deeply enough or with curiosity, whereas children always want to know reasons. They are therefore fascinated when the reasons are hidden or non-existent.

So if children appreciate the adult side of Carroll, and adults are reduced to appreciating the childish side, he has worked on us a particularly typical Carrollian trick. In approaching

Snark as a theatrical piece, I had to decide how much to deviate from Carroll's text and style. It became clear to me that setting his verse to music would force the music into a regular discipline of metre which I was not prepared to accept. All the tunes would have the same "umpty-tumpty" gait. So I decided to write new lyrics and not mix them with Carroll, in song. Whenever spoken verse is used it is pure Carroll, Whenever anything is sung, new lyrics are used. I rationalise this by considering myself to be an *illustrator* or *interpreter* of Carroll, rather than presuming to add or change his work. Consequently, he talks in his language, and I talk in mine. It is a respectful conversation, although of course I would admit that he does not have much choice in the matter. That passiveness on his part is really what has sustained my constant effort to keep to a form or style he might have liked. If he is floating around somewhere, listening, I would like him not to be displeased with what is happening.

All the characters whose names begin with the letter "B" are his inventions, except the Bishop, so he would be constantly aware of the theological and philosophical possibilities of Carroll's inert allegory.

Mike Batt



MIKE BATT

MIKE BATT is one of Britain's best-known songwriter/composers. His consistent track record of success includes production, composition and conducting on projects as diverse as **Watership Down** (music and lyrics to Art Garfunkel's international number one single, **Bright Eyes**), **Phantom of The Opera** (producing, co-writing with Andrew Lloyd Webber and orchestrating the first hit) and a great deal of symphonic work, including many television and film scores. He is the only composer ever to have won the Ivor Novello Award for 'Best Film Music' two years in succession, once with **Watership Down** and once with **Caravans** (the epic adaptation of James Michener's novel, starring Anthony Quinn). He has conducted many of the world's great orchestras including the London Symphony, The London Philharmonic, The Royal Philharmonic, The Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the State Orchestra of Victoria and The National Symphony Orchestra Of Ireland. He has also had successes as a stage

and TV designer and director, having developed a unique system of animation design for live theatre and television productions.

His first hits as a singer/songwriter/producer were by The Wombles, in 1974. After eight hit singles and four gold albums with The Wombles, he moved on to work with Steeleye Span (**All Around My Hat**), the Kursall Flyers (**Little Did She Know**), Elkie Brookes (**Lilac Wine**), Barbara Dickson (**Caravan Song**) and Art Garfunkel (**Bright Eyes**) all of which were top five in at least the UK.

In 1983 Mike wrote and produced three more top ten hits, **Please Don't Fall In Love** (for Cliff Richard), **A Winter's Tale** (for David Essex, with lyrics co-written by Tim Rice) and **I Feel Like Buddy Holly** (for Alvin Stardust).

The first **Snark** album was recorded in 1984, featuring Art Garfunkel, Cliff Richard, Deneice Williams, Captain Sensible, John Hurt, Sir John Gielgud, Roger Daltrey, Julian Lennon, Stephane Grappelli

and George Harrison. It was the first step towards a full dramatic treatment. **The Hunting Of The Snark** was then successfully presented as a dramatised concert at Sydney's State Theatre with the Elizabethan Symphonia in 1990, and was produced as a musical in London's West End in 1991 with Mike designing and directing.

In 1990 he was appointed by the then Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher as a member of the Government Working Group for music in the school curriculum. He then produced, arranged and conducted the **Cover Shot** album by David Essex (top three in the UK albums chart) and recorded his Symphonic Suite **The Dreamstone** with the LPO.

Mike composed and produced the four million-selling album **The Violin Player** with classical violinist Vanessa Mae (EMI Classics, 1995) from which the top ten single **Toccata and Fugue in D minor** was taken.

In 1998, Mike produced, arranged and conducted the album, **Philharmonia** with the RPO and guest singers included

Roger Daltrey, Marc Almond, Bonnie Tyler, Status Quo, Huey Lewis, Kim Wilde, Justin Hayward and many others. Also in 1998, he relaunched The Wombles pop group, with two hits, **Remember You're A Womble** (at number 13) and **The Wombling Song** (at number 22) as well as producing the new music for the ongoing 52 part Womble series

After conceiving and co-creating the all-girl string quartet **Bond**, and producing their first single, he then created the eight-piece classical crossover band **The Planets**. Their album **Classical Graffiti** was released in February 2002 and went straight to number one (classical charts) on the day of release and remained there for three months.

Currently, he is dedicating most of his time to guiding the career of 19 year-old **Katie Melua** from Georgia (part of the former USSR). Katie's debut album **Call Off The Search**, has achieved quadruple platinum status in the UK, having sold 1.2 million records.

PROGRAMME NOTE FROM MIKE BATT

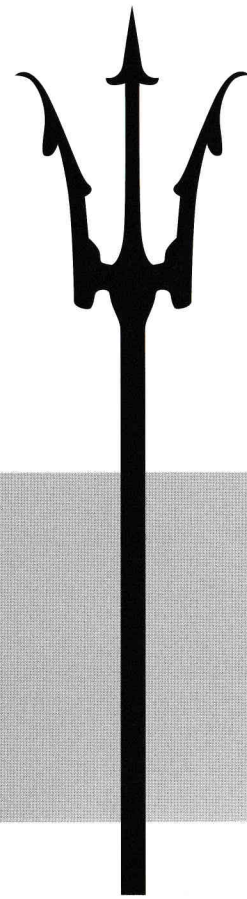
Since the staging of the Snark in 1991, there have been many requests for me to give my blessing to amateur or semi-pro productions, but I have been reluctant to make it available because our original production was so unusual in its style that a great deal of written direction and description would be

needed, – and there is also a reluctance to restrict people, whether performers or directors. Some of the unusualness of our production was spontaneous, but nevertheless essential to the piece, and some of it was not essential. Who is to say which is which?

However, when I was requested by the Mitre Players to grant the rights, I decided that this was the moment to formalise some of that written material and to publish a printed version of the score, libretto and other essentials.

It is a very delicate and changeable entity, this piece of theatre. It should allow plenty of scope for the

imagination of those involved, but hopefully in a way which allows the original piece to flourish in a manner similar to the piece we created at the Prince Edward. I have a feeling that the Mitre Players understand this very well and that they will deliver an intriguing and energetic version.



THE CAST

Lewis Carroll
John Shepherd

The Bellman
Colin Warnock

The Billiard Marker
Jolyon Roberts

The Baker
Keith Robertshaw

The Baker's Wife
Morven Rae

The Banker
Dave Price

The Broker
Julian Chenery

The Barrister
Katy Davies

The Bishop
John Speller

The Butcher
James Smoker

The Beaver
Karen Rapps

The Bonnet Maker
Lorraine Titchener

THE COMPANY

John Bartle
James Beal (Soloist)
Michael Bird
Stephen Bird
Katherine Bottomley (Soloist)
Joss Brazier
Emma Chenery
Olivia Chenery
Paul Cohen
Mark Curtis (Soloist)
Michelle Earl
Paul Grace

Megan Harries-Rees (Soloist)
Andy Holton
Mary Holton
Fiona Lilley
Camilla Rockley
Lucy Thompson
Teddy Walker

Alice in Wonderland Extras
Carolyn Chenery
Georgina Chenery
Anna Warnock

THE BAND

Musical Director
Andy Rapps
Associate Musical Director
Andrew Trehwella
Keyboards 1
Chris Ash
Keyboards 2
Keith O'Gorman
Guitar
Clive Furness
Bass Guitar
Patrick Moore
Drums
Richard Wear
Violin 1
Marcus Suranyi
Violin 2
Olivia Hamlyn

Viola
Mandy Emerson
Cello
Chris Sampson
Trumpet
Pat Price
Trombone
Paul Buckley
Flute
Peter O'Connor
Woodwind
Eric Blachman
Woodwind
Will Henry
French Horn
Max Dinning

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director
Helen O'Gorman

Choreographer
Helen Harman

Musical Director
Andy Rapps

Associate Musical Director
Andrew Trehwella

Designer
Paul Bowles

Stage Manager
Alan Collins

Deputy Stage Manager
Gillian Bartle

Construction Manager
Colin Parrish

Lighting Designer
Alan Bishop

Special Effects
Andy Thompson

Sound
James McLeod

Props
Sue Carter

**Stage Crew,
Technical and Construction**

Lesley Bates
Liz Dolman
Nic Lee
Simon Gainey
Lou Parrish
Julian Parsons
Kati Poynor
Dave Price
Pat Price
Dave Richards
Adam Tibbalds
Clare Tibbalds
Ben Warnock

Specialty Costumes and Props
Paul Bowles
Anne and Dave Villette
Jill Wilson

Costume and Wig Coordinator
Morven Rae

Costumes
Carolyn Chenery
Anna Warnock

Assisted by
Claire Ali
Julia Ascott
Jo Gunner
Mary Holton
Ann Macdonald
Morven Rae
Margaret Stockwell
Nicholas Uglow

Production Secretary
Margaret Stockwell

Rehearsal Pianists
Andy Rapps
James Beal
Keith O'Gorman

Music Copyist
Chris Ash

Band Fixer
Pat Price

Programme Coordinators
Alan Bishop
Anna Warnock

**Programme and
Handbill Design**
Pat Price

Original Artwork
Patrick Woodroffe

Photography
Charles Marriott

Foyer Display (Croydon)
Alex Greenslade

Box Office (Croydon)
Gill Frost

Box Office (Minack)
Katherine Bottomley

**Front of House and
Refreshments (Croydon)**
Julia Bassett
Kelly Beard and
Members of the Mitre Players

Front of House (Minack)
Lucy Bates
Jane Cruickshank
Barry Ghent
Enid Ghent
Angie Robertshaw and
Members of the Touring Party

Tour Coordination
Alan Bishop
Anna Warnock

ACT ONE

PROLOGUE

The Bellman

CHILDREN OF THE SKY

The Company

WE HOPE YOU'RE OUT THERE

The Company

STORM/ ARGUMENT

Principals

WHO'LL JOIN ME ON THIS ESCAPEDE?

Principals

THE WAY WE THINK

Principals

DEPARTURE

The Bellman, The Billiard Marker, Carroll,
The Baker, The Butcher, The Beaver

THE BELLMAN'S SPEECH

The Bellman and Principals

MIDNIGHT SMOKE

The Baker

THE TROUBLE WITH YOU

The Bellman, The Baker

DANCING TOWARDS DISASTER

The Beaver and The Company

INTERVAL

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

THE HUNTING of the *Snark*



ACT TWO

BANKER'S FATE

The Banker, Carroll

THE HUNTING

The Barrister, The Billiard Marker, The Company

NURSERY PICTURES

Principals

WAITING FOR A WAVE

The Beaver, The Bellman

THE BUTCHERY WALTZ

The Butcher, The Beaver

JUNGLE BRIDGE

Principals

THE SNOOKER SONG

The Billiard Marker, The Bonnet Maker

THE PIG MUST DIE

The Barrister, The Company

MORE TROUBLE

The Bellman, The Baker, Carroll

THE BEAVER'S LESSON

The Butcher, The Beaver, Carroll

AS LONG AS THE MOON CAN SHINE

The Butcher, The Beaver

YET MORE TROUBLE

The Baker, The Bellman

THE VANISHING

The Baker, The Bellman, Carroll,
The Beaver, The Company

KITCHEN IN THE SKIES

The Baker's Wife

WHATEVER YOU BELIEVE

The Bishop, The Baker's Wife, The Bellman, The Company



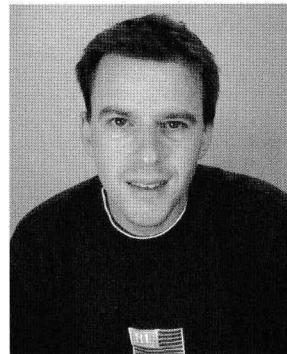
HELEN O'GORMAN (Director) Having directed the first two Mitre shows at the Minack Theatre, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Man of La Mancha*, Helen is delighted to be directing the world amateur premiere of Mike Batt's *The Hunting of the Snark* in what she believes is the perfect setting for this nonsensical revelry. Directing the show has proved a real challenge in balancing a new husband, two children, a full time job and a new house but has also proved to be extremely rewarding, particularly working with such a fine talented band of people. Special thanks must go to Andy Rapps and Helen Harman for their support during the creation of the show. Helen hopes you will enjoy finding your own Snark during the performance... Whatever that may be...? Whatever you believe...?



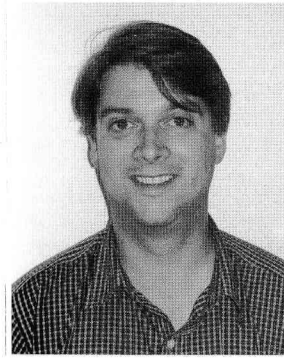
ANDY RAPPS (Musical Director) has been involved in many Mitre shows and usually manages to find an excuse to miss all the performances. This time, rather carelessly, he has got a job as Assistant Musical Director of *The Woman in White*, the new musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber opening in London later this year, so is unable to be at the Minack. He would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to help bring the music of *The Hunting of the Snark* together.



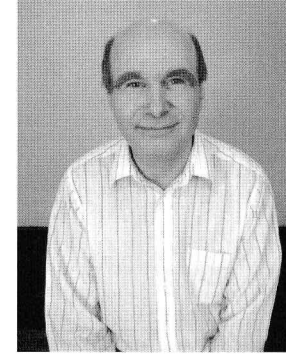
HELEN HARMAN (Choreographer) was delighted and very intrigued to be invited to assist in staging *The Hunting of the Snark*. The company has worked extremely hard in bringing this fantasy tale to fruition. She has thoroughly enjoyed working with a very astute director, Helen O'Gorman, and accomplished musical director, Andy Rapps, not to mention the vast army of very talented Mitres who have beavered away so diligently behind the scenes. Helen's work has been seen in various theatres in the South East.



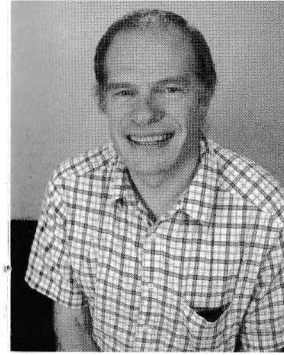
PAUL BOWLES (Designer) Paul's last appearance for the Mitres was as a member of the Royal Household in *The Madness of George III*. Previous appearances have included Jackdaw/Barnacles in *Honk!* (2002) and Evans in *The Long the Short and the Tall* (2002). He has designed and painted the set for several Mitre productions, namely *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peggy for You* and, most recently, *Peter Pan*. Paul would like to thank all the crew who have helped him 'realise' the set and the costumes.



ANDREW TREWHELLA (Associate Musical Director) left Croydon in 1995, having been a member of staff at Trinity School. Since then he has lived and worked in Somerset where he is Director of Music at Wellington School. Despite the distance factor, he has somehow maintained active links with the Mitre Players and has most recently co-MD'd their touring productions of *Return to the Forbidden Planet* and the award-winning *Honk!* He is particularly excited to be involved in the amateur premiere of *The Hunting of the Snark* and to be reviving his celebrated double-act with the other Andy! Andrew has been involved (in a variety of musical roles) in every Mitre musical at the Minack – he even learned to play the tamps for *Man of la Mancha!* Passionate about musical theatre, Andrew has established a strong tradition of musicals at Wellington and most recently MD'd the school's acclaimed production of *Les Miserables*.

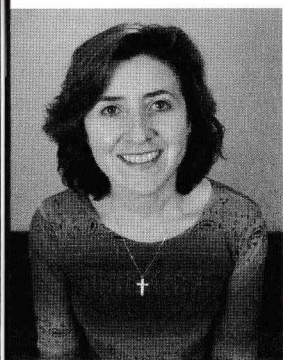


JOHN SHEPHERD (Lewis Carroll) is making his debut with the Mitre Players but his second appearance at the Minack Theatre. Three years ago he played Sir Andrew Aguecheek in the Miller Centre Players' production of *Twelfth Night*. He is also a member of Sanderstead Dramatic Club and has played Dame in their last few pantomimes – a show to rival even the Mitres' renowned productions. Altogether now: 'Oh no it isn't!' 'Oh yes it is!'

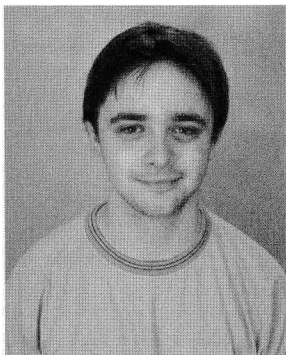


COLIN WARNOCK (Bellman) attended Trinity School many years ago and was a founder member of the Mitre Players in 1973 – since then he has been involved in most of their shows as an actor, Musical Director or Composer (qv Broker!). Here at the Minack he was The Man, Cervantes, in *Man of La Mancha*; Frollo in *Quasimodo* and Drake and the Bullfrog in *Honk!* Other favourite roles include Fagin in *Oliver*, Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*, Emcee in *Cabaret* and Charley in *Merrily We Roll Along*. Recent Musical Director credits include *Copacabana*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Godspell*; not forgetting *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan* and the forthcoming *Robinson Crusoe* (with the Broker again!!). For the past twenty years Colin has worked at the prestigious Laine Theatre Arts College for the Performing Arts in Epsom helping to train the stars of tomorrow; and whose shows he regularly visits (with the Broker!!!) from The National Theatre's *Funny Thing Happened to Saturday Night Fever* and *We Will Rock You*. So "ask not for whom the Bellman toils; he toils for these!"





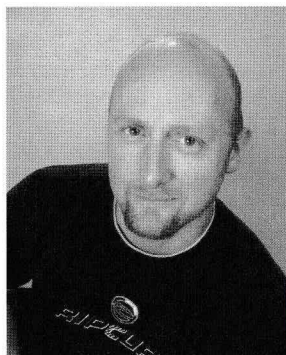
KAREN RAPPS (Beaver) is thrilled to be playing a 'nice beaver' (no more jokes please) and would like you to know that she has spent several agonising minutes researching her character. This is her third Mitre outing to the Minack, having last appeared as Paquette, a demented old hag, in *Quasimodo* (1997). How things have changed! In real life, she is the beautiful mother of two beautiful girls, Ellie (three years) and Rebecca (one year).



JAMES SMOKER (Butcher) Although he has a filthy penchant for Beaver, James reckons that it's no worse than the Koreans liking dog. He has enjoyed wielding his cleaver with relish whilst waltzing, and playing wantonly with his ball during the euphemistic "Snookering You" number. Croydon audiences might also recognise him from *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad), *Godspell* (Our Lord Jesus Christ) and *Peter Pan* (Pirate 5), whilst Minack regulars will, of course, recognise him from The Barnstormers' production of *Into the Woods* seen earlier this year.



KEITH ROBERTSHAW (Baker) is skipping years of fun, laughter and tears in the world of amateur theatre and will ignore all the rules of writing a bio to leave you marooned in the dark. Suffice it to say that he is not RADA trained but that much you could probably tell. If you can't quite place where his accent is aimed, does 'above Watford Gap' ring a bell?



DAVE PRICE (Banker) is one of the few cast members to have seen the original West End production of *The Hunting of the Snark* and has spent the last twelve years scouring the country to find a production of it to be in. If he knew he was going to end up with the Mitre Players he may have thought twice or even once! Seriously though, Dave is delighted to have found his Snark, delighted to be performing at the Minack again after ten years and is looking forward to milking those immortal words 'Twas brillig...' for all they're worth!



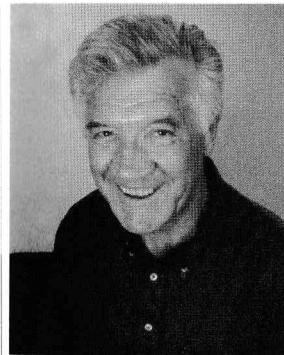
KATY DAVIES (Barrister) must be a glutton for punishment having agreed to do two shows at the Minack this year (think of those quads!) having previously appeared in *Into the Woods* as the Baker's wife. She like the ethos of the Barrister, ie, she thinks she should be paid £200 for every hourly contribution she has made to this production. In her spare time Katy is a doctor.



JOLYON ROBERTS (Billiard Marker) Following a long succession of 'character' parts Jolyon decided a change of image was necessary for this production. He auditioned to play the rich one, the academic one, the leader, the married one, the psychotic one and the sexy one. Instead he got to play the lecherous one in the shiny waistcoat – go figure! Following last year's tour to the West Country, scones were flown in from all over Britain to meet Jolyon's cream tea habit. If all goes to plan in the tea shops this year then future parts will include the enormous, inanimate one! Pass the jam!



JULIAN CHENERY (Broker) Though recently described in the Daily Mail as the 'literary equivalent of McDonald's', but as someone who thinks of himself more as a 'West Cornwall Pasty Company' sort of guy – he's still clever enough to know that Lewis Carroll was bonkers! He writes pantomimes with the Bellman and, like the Bellman, is unlikely ever to tread the boards again having been traumatised by the whole experience. Believe it or not, he is a writer, actor, director and producer for theatre and film.



JOHN SPELLER (Bishop) This is John's first appearance with the Mitre Players and he is looking forward to it, especially the Minack experience. He has played a variety of roles over the years – our Director, Helen, was in fact his leading lady in *Oklahoma* many moons ago! Having been a dustman (*My Fair Lady*), a Beadle, Mr. Bumble (*Oliver*) and a King (*King & I*) he now finds himself as a Bishop with a propensity for pink Teddy Bears! Must be a sign of something!



LORRAINE TITCHENER (Bonnet Maker) has never played a nimble-fingered woman on stage before and is delighted to have been given the opportunity to do so. She is doing this show because she feels her life is not busy enough. She has just run The London Marathon, completed her first year as a newly qualified teacher and is getting married the week after the show closes at The Minack Theatre. Lorraine is marrying the Banker, but would like to stress that she is not marrying him for his money. Boom! Boom! She hopes you enjoy the show and has just one thing to say: if anybody discovers what a Snark is, can they alert a cast member immediately!



MORVEN RAE (Baker's Wife/Company) When Morven first read *The Hunting of the Snark* she became captivated by the characters, the situations in which they found themselves, and, most of all, by the words. Some would say that it takes a nonsensical person to appreciate a nonsensical work – this may well be true. She also became captivated by the Minack Theatre the first time she saw it, so is thrilled to be taking part in her third show there (two this year) and combining both obsessions.



MEGAN HARRIES-REES (Soloist & Company)

Megan 'Blond Girl' H-R has been a regular sucker to amateur dramatics ever since she was a little girl. She has played many roles, ranging from the all-singing, all-dancing Dainty June in *Gypsy* to the love-struck, Shakespearean role of Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*. However, in this particular production she has enjoyed not having any lines to learn and having to use her imagination in playing certain parts such as a rock and the sea. She will soon begin rehearsals for the role of Polly in *The Boyfriend*.



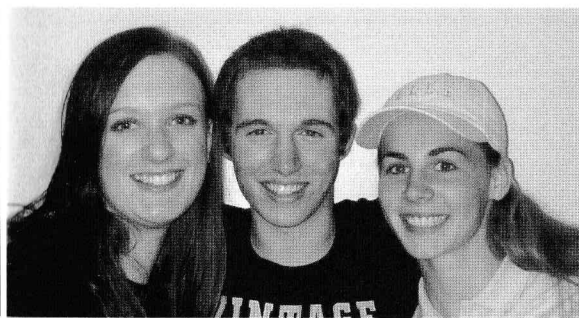
JAMES BEAL (Soloist and Company) 2004 is turning out to be a far-too-busy year for Jimbo. *The Hunting of The Snark* will be his fifth show this year (and frankly, stupidly his third musical in the month of July alone). He started the year being violently flung around the Big School stage as *Peter Pan*, his tender areas protected from a razor sharp harness only by a skimpy pair of green tights. He wore a far less revealing costume in April as Musical Director of the junior production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, but sadly *The Hunting of the Snark* costume plot calls for him to wear no less than two different leotards. The one with tiger-stripes is his favourite. Elsewhere this year Jimbo has musical directed *Fings Ain't Wot They Used TBe*, *The Wiz* and *Zombie Prom*. He's also been involved with an assortment of revues and showcases as part of his work with students on the Musical Theatre course at Carshalton College, where he has somehow become the resident musician bloke. Jimbo cannot dance.

OLIVIA CHENERY (Company) Trainee super-model, film star and millionaire Olivia is keen to follow her father's footsteps into the entertainment business but notes that he is neither handsome, famous or rich. She is thus honing her talents with the Mitres including appearances here at the Minack in *Honk!*, and in the past year or so in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan* and *Little Shop of Horrors* - and *Cabaret* (with Oxted school).

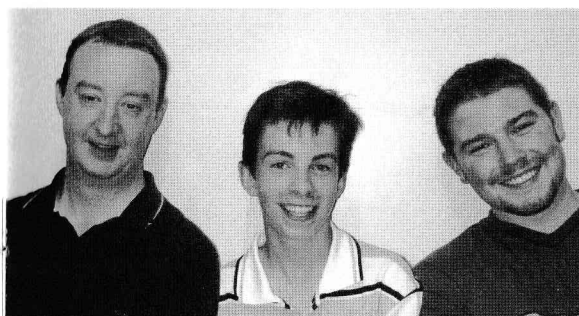
KATHERINE BOTTOMLEY (Soloist & Company) Although a Mitre for 11 years, this is Katherine's first tour since 1999 as she is usually away rafting the Amazon or learning how to be a game ranger - any elephants to track in Cornwall? She is looking forward to playing Andy in *Stepping Out* in the autumn.

FIONA LILLEY (Company) Having not done a Mitre show for a while, Fiona is enjoying being in a show playing so many characters. Her favourite of all of these is "a Rock" which she has been practising on both of her children. Neither are that impressed, so perhaps she needs to go to more rehearsals!

MICHELLE EARL (Company) is an excited Mitre Virgin who's not quite sure what she's getting into! She flew through the audition, as she did on ITV's Soap Stars! This time she has made the final cut and hopes her ancient knowledge of dance comes back!



CAMILLA ROCKLEY (Company) is thrilled at the prospect of wearing four very different leotards during the show, as well as a lycra body bag. With no fewer than 12 costume changes during the proceedings, they might need to zip her up in it by the time she's finished. Previous roles have included Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, and Johanna in *Sweeney Todd*, but please be gentle with her - she's a Mitre Virgin.



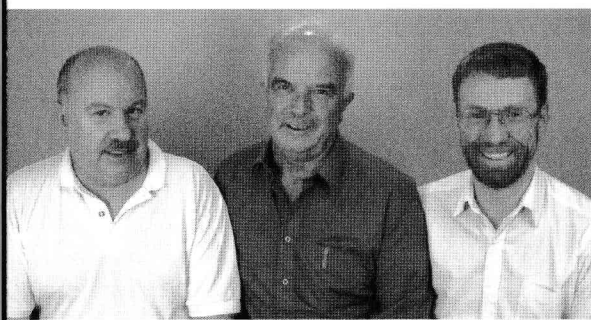
PAUL COHEN (Company) is thrilled to be given the opportunity to play the most demanding role of his amateur career, that of 'the sea'. He would also like to express his pleasure at being allowed to wear such sumptuous costumes - after all, who wouldn't look good in a shiny aqua blue catsuit. How the girls manage to keep their hands off him we'll never know!

MARK CURTIS (Soloist and Company) As the father of a psychopathic, insecure Butcher, there seems to be a slight role-reversal between Mark and his 'son' James. Mark is having problems with the whole butch side of things - apart from his natural deficiencies in this department, he has just played Seymour in our recent junior production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, so little help there. Mark always seems to find himself thirsty after a show and says that his role model goes by the name of Blond Girl.

EMMA CHENERY (Company) Trainee super-model, film star and millionaire Emma has been told not to get out of bed for "less than £10,000 a day", and she is currently training hard at the "not get out of bed" bit. She appeared in *Honk!* at the Minack and recently in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Peter Pan*. Other parts include Olivia in her school's production of *Twelfth Night* and Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*.

STEPHEN BIRD (Company) is 14 years old and is a pupil at Trinity School, Croydon. This is his third Mitre Players production having appeared in *Peter Pan* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. He says he hopes the audience understands the plot in this show as most of the cast don't seem to!

PAUL GRACE (Company) Once again, Paul has managed to sneak into the Mitre Players' summer touring show. Last year he returned from a theatre festival in Germany just in time to appear in *Godspell*, singing 'All Good Gifts' and he is delighted to have snuck in this year to perform once again at the beautiful Minack Theatre. Previous appearances here include Beaky in the award-winning *Honk!* (2002) and *The Country Wife* (2000), both with the Mitre Players, as well as Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* (2001) with the Barnstormers (and he is very jealous of James' and Camilla's previous production here this year). Paul has just graduated from university and is now embarking on his professional acting career, beginning in September by touring with Shakespeare 4 Kidz in *The Tempest*.



MICHAEL BIRD (Company) is performing in his second show for the Mitre Players. He thinks they are good fun and enjoys supporting the rest of the cast. He is looking forward to appearing at the Minack Theatre and will be trying very hard not to fall in the drink whilst on stage!



LUCY THOMPSON (Bandersnatch/Company) is currently studying for her A levels in Physics, Biology, Design Technology and Dance. She first performed with the Mitre Players in *Snow White*, at the age of four. More recent shows included *Return to the Forbidden Planet, Honk!* (staged at the Minack) and *Little Shop of Horrors*, in which she made her choreographing debut for the Mitres. Tonight she is putting her dancing and movement skills to good use in the dance chorus and as the head of the Bandersnatch.

JOHN BARTLE (Company) is appearing in his umpteenth Summer touring show giving his usual definitive impersonation of John Bartle. However in *The Hunting of the Snark* you will see him in several costumes. See if you can spot the difference.

ANDY HOLTON (Company) began his acting career as a rat in *The Lord of Life* back in 1973. More recently he has performed with the Mitre Players in *Bye Bye Birdie* (2002), and moved up to become the Prime Minister's right-hand man in *The Madness of George III* (2003). This will be his first time 'on stage' at The Minack. His next role will be playing Stanley in the comedy *Run For Your Wife* by Ray Cooney.

TEDDY WALKER (Company) is playing a variety of roles in this production, ranging from choir boy to a flower. This is his fifth production with the Mitre Players but his first touring show. Recently, Teddy stole the show in our junior production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, also playing bit parts so watch out for him tonight! In September, he will be going into his third year at Trinity School, Croydon.

MARY HOLTON (Company) was upstaged last year by a warming-pan in *The Madness of George III*. Having been a yellow flower, scum-of-the-Earth, a prisoner and 'a what the Dickens' at the Minack she now appears before you as a vine. Will she ever play a normal human-being? Not physically possible, we fear!

JOSS BRAZIER (Company) continues to make the part of "chorus" his own, having been in the last two Mitre Players' pantomimes. He now branches out into singing and dancing in the background. Watch out for that cliff-edge Joss when everyone shouts "Back a bit... a bit more!!"



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

Chairman: Andy Thompson

Secretary: Julia Bassett

Treasurer: Alan Bishop

Additional Members: Kelly Beard, Ian Brown, Dave Price, Morven Rae, James Smoker

CURRENT COMMITTEE

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Box Office: 0845 2255799

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 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.

If you would like more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on 020 8239 1010 or visit our Web Site: www.mitreplayers.org.uk

The Mitre Players wish to thank

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Rob Sneddon at Dakota Music

Elizabeth Callow, Shakespeare 4 Kidz, Anne Ponting at Eclectia (Costumes)

Derek Easton (Wigs)

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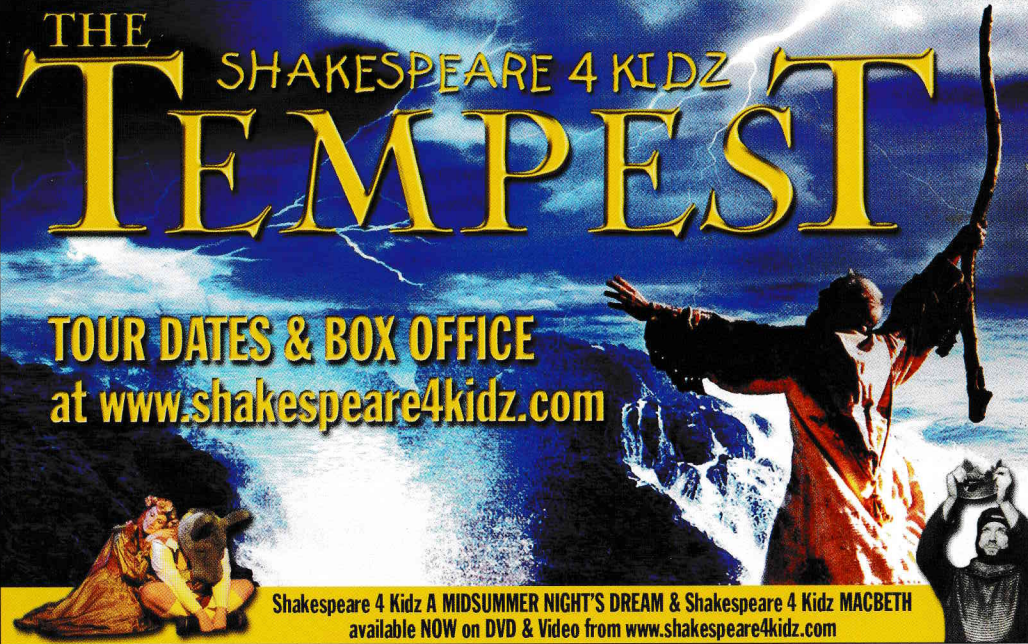
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THE MITRE PLAYERS

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