

Laying The Ghost

A comedy by Simon Williams

2nd 3rd 4th Sept 2004

At 8pm

The Jubilee Hall

Kings Worthy

For box office ring

01962 88

The Worthy Players

A Welcome From The Worthy Players

Welcome to this production of "Laying the Ghost", a witty comedy that was first performed in 2001. From time to time, in a small society such as the Worthy Players, for a variety of reasons only a limited number of people are available to take part. Such was the case for this production. Of necessity I had to trawl through the play catalogues in order to find a play with a cast that fitted the talent we had. "Laying the Ghost" at that time was completely unknown to me but when I read it for the first time, I realised that here was a well written play which our audiences would hopefully enjoy as much as we have enjoyed rehearsing it.

Shirley Lovell
Producer and Director

Shirley Lovell

Shirley Lovell, having been born to a family steeped in amateur dramatics, produced her first play, aged nine, for the Brownies, and has been acting and directing ever since. She trained to teach modern dance and directed highly successful school productions involving both dance and drama. At the age of 29 she founded the Testudo Musical Players in Seaton, Devon, who recently celebrated their 40th anniversary, directing and doing the choreography for many shows including "Oklahoma!", Brigadoon and Perchance to Dream. Shirley joined the Worthy Players in 1975, since when she has tackled every aspect of production, acting in and directing reviews, plays and pantomimes. Her favourite roles include Madame Acarti, Miss Marple and most recently a long monologue in Visiting Hour. She also wrote and directed The Worthy Mystery Play in St Mary's Church to celebrate the millennium, and she directed last year's production of "Lettice & Lovage".

THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN DURING THE INTERVAL.

The Players

Joy Thompson

Joy is a founding-member of the Worthy Players, having joined when the group was first formed in 1973. For dramatic and mysterious reasons, Joy took a break for a few years, returning in 2000. Since then she has appeared in "Red Letter Day", "Visiting Hour", "Aladdin", "Lettice & Lovage" and "Robin Hood". She will also be particularly remembered for her performance as the sensitive and world-wise "Delia" in "Bedroom Farce" in 2003. Joy is looking forward to many more performances in the future.

Gill Walker

Gill has been a member of the Worthy Players since 1976 and for most of that time has run our box office so hopefully most of you know her telephone number – 880377! She has appeared on stage every year since then in a variety of parts from straight plays and farces to pantomime and Music Hall. Some parts that spring to mind for a variety of reasons include the title role in Andrew Davies's "Rose", the goose in Mother Goose's Golden Christmas, where she spent a claustrophobic time totally encased in yellow rubber, and two plays, "Pardon Me Prime Minister" and "Breezeblock Park" where she appeared with her daughter Ruth. She also has happy memories of performing "The Hole in the Elephant's Bottom" in Music Hall. Last year you may remember her performance as Miss Schoen in "Lettice & Lovage", and more recently she appeared in a multitude of parts in our 40s Revue, "ITWA".

Margaret Woodley

Margaret joined the Worthy Players in 2000 and has been heavily involved in all the group's activities since then. She first appeared on stage in "Cinderella & The Football Boots" and quickly followed this up with a part in "Red Letter Day". She has courageously looked after the small children during pantomime, though she was back on stage again last year in both "Robin Hood" and "Lettice & Lovage". Margaret is a wonderful helper who is always willing to try her hand at anything.

Clare Walker

Having recently moved to the village, Clare wanted to get involved with the local community. She spotted one of our posters last year and was soon on stage in "Robin Hood". She enjoyed the experience so much that she came back for more in the 40s Revue, "ITWA", and so is now appearing in her third Worthy Players' production in succession. We all hope you'll be seeing a lot more of Clare in the future.

Jackie Nouwens

Jackie returns to the stage of the Jubilee Hall a year after her memorable performance in the lead role of "Lettice & Lovage". This is only her third acting role with the Worthy Players due to family commitments, but we hope you will be seeing a lot more of her on stage in the near future. Jackie's husband, Peter, directed 2 shows for us last year. Both daughters have also trod the boards of the Jubilee Hall, and Alanna is working backstage for this show. Jackie was involved in amateur drama for many years in her native Australia, and has been delighted with her involvement with such a friendly group as the Worthy Players here in the UK. In return, the Players' were delighted that Jackie and her family found us.

Michael Edwards

Michael has not been acting for as long as he says it feels! In those ten years he has been in Music Hall both with the Worthy Players and St Cross, though a poor singer and worse dancer, and has played detectives and various solicitors ("The Business of Murder" and others), strange neighbours and relatives (including "Darling Mr London", "Last Tango in Little Worthy" and "Run For Your Wife"), policemen, the Devil and various other biblical characters, and Elizabethan celebrities and non-entities (courtesy of the W.I. Millennium show). He seems now mostly to play old and "mature" men (some on – or in - their death-bed!) as well as "character parts". He likes making props for the stage almost as much as acting and, if asked, can usually turn his hand to making anything from full-body plaster to swords, axes, trees, video cameras or almost anything that will fit in his garage!!

Laying the Ghost

By Simon Williams

CAST OF CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Freda Deacon.....	Joy Thompson
Margot Buchanan.....	Gill Walker
Mrs Kidd.....	Margaret Woodley
Sadie.....	Clare Walker
Lady Buchanan.....	Jackie Nouwens
Leo Buchanan.....	Michael Edwards
Superman.....	Roy Derrick
Orderly.....	David Woolford

The action takes place in the sitting area of a retirement home, Yew Tree House, on the South Coast. Time: the present.

ACT ONE

10.30am on a Spring morning

ACT TWO

Three minutes later

There will be an interval of 20 minutes between the acts during which the bar will be open and coffee and biscuits will also be on sale from the kitchen.

Production Team

Producer	Shirley Lovell
Stage Manager	Roy Derrick
Assistant Stage Manager	Alanna Nouwens
Prompt	Monica Gomm
Lighting Design	John Lovell
Lighting and Sound Set-Up	Richard Aldous
Lighting and Sound Operation	David Woolford
	Tim Woolford
Set Design and Construction	Michael Edwards
	Peter Nouwens
	Roy Derrick
	Martin Pettigrew
	and Members of the Group
Props Construction	Michael Edwards
Poster Design and Publicity	Michael Edwards
Front of House Manager	Alison Woolford
Box Office	Gill Walker
Bar Manager	Sarah Hammond
Bar	Martin Pettigrew
	Ian Hammond
	Peter Nouwens
	Nick Kearns

The music used in this production is from the “Romeo and Juliet Overture” by Tchaikovsky.

More of the Players

Roy Derrick

Roy was an active member of the Armstrong Players for many years, joining the Worthy Players for "Cinderella and the Football Boots" in 2000. Since then there has been no stopping him, as he has appeared in two more pantomimes and a multitude of other roles. Roy has also served on our committee for a couple of years, but you will see from the way he fits into his "Superman" costume that he has found his true vocation in this part. He is also our stage manager for this show, so he will be making sure the rest of the cast behave themselves in the dressing room.

David Woolford

David is yet again in the throes of writing this year's pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast", along with his wife Alison. Both have been stalwart members of the Worthy Players for over 20 years, and many of you may have enjoyed their production of "Aladdin" two years ago. David is remembered more recently for his performance as our Dame, when he thrilled us with his dancing in last year's panto. It is perhaps appropriate that having played the part of "Nursie" he has now been promoted to the dizzy heights of "Orderley". This will be a special challenge for David, as he will also be operating the lights from the other end of the hall at the same time. Don't be surprised if he ends up handing out the raffle prizes as well – another man of many talents!

WORTHY PLAYERS NEWS

NEXT PRODUCTION - PANTOMIME

“BEAUTY AND THE BEAST” – 3-4 and 10-11 December 2004

This year's pantomime is being written and produced again by David and Alison Woolford, who directed us so successfully through “Aladdin” two years ago. Readings and auditions will be held on Tuesday 7 September and Wednesday 8 September in the Jubilee Hall from 1930hrs. We are on the lookout for new members, both to perform as stars on stage, but also to help backstage. With a large mixed cast of characters there are lots of opportunities, so why not come along and have a go? David and Alison are both helping out with the show tonight and will be delighted to talk to you if you are interested – if you can't find him then grab the first player you can get hold of!

OTHER FORTHCOMING WORTHY PLAYERS ACTIVITIES

Table Quiz, Saturday 25 September 2004

Another of our annual favourites, this is open to all-comers – our table teams usually comprise about 6 people per team – we will make up ad hoc teams on the night if required. A buffet supper will be provided (bring your own drink), but you must please book in advance with either the Woolfords (tel 01962-) or Gill Walker. The cost is £5 per person, and the venue is here in the Jubilee Hall, starting at 1930hrs.

For more information about the Worthy Players, either contact our secretary, Monica Gomm, (tel), or visit our exciting website at <http://theworthyplayers.users.btopenworld.com>. You can also e-mail us (address – theworthyplayers@btinternet.com).

Remember we also run an annual booking scheme offering discount tickets, and we maintain a mailing list. Contact Gill Walker (Margot Buchanan!) – tel – for details.

A long, long time ago.....

The Worthy Players have been around for quite some time. Here's a list of our past productions - maybe you can remember some of them.....

1973	Dick Whittington	1990	The Other Fellow's Oats
1974	Double Bill Mother Goose		Music Hall
1975	Swiethen Puss In Boots		Pardon Me Prime Minister
1976	2 One Act Plays		Sinbad the Sailor
	Bonaventure	1991	Confusions
	St. George And The Dragon		Music Hall
	A Worthy Tale		Breeze Block Park
1977	2 One Act Plays		Robinson Crusoe
	Murder At Key Cottage	1992	84 Charing Cross Road
	Jack And The Beanstalk		Music Hall
1978	FlatSpin		The Secretary Bird
	20's Revue		The Wizard of Oz
	Deadly Record	1993	When We Are Married
	Sleeping Beauty		Farndale Ave-Murder Mystery
1979	Ladies In Retirement		Music Hall
	Sailor Beware	1994	A Month Of Sundays
	3 One Act Plays		Farndale Ave-S.S. We Found Love
	Pantomania		Music Hall
1980	When We Are Married	1995	Humpty Dumpty
	Music Hall		One For The Road
	Suddenly At Home		Living Together
	Hickory Dickory Dock		Falling Off A Log
1981	Nothing Legal/Black Comedy		Music Hall
	Music Hall	1996	Murder In Company
	The Edge Of Darkness		Music Hall
	Mother Goose's Golden Christmas		Local Affairs
1982	Rose		Panto Trek
	Music Hall	1997	Gaslight
	Don't Just Lie There, Say Something		Mixed Doubles
1983	Dangerous Corner		Relatively Speaking
	Revue, We'll Meet Again		Music Hall
	Move Over Mrs Markham	1998	Farndale Ave-Haunting
	Aladdin		Breath Of Spring
1984	Rock-A-Bye Sailor		Music Hall
	Music Hall	1999	Business Of Murder
	Not Now Darling		Educating Rita
	A Right Christmas Caper		The Last Of The Red Hot Lovers
1985	End Of The Honeymoon		Music Hall
	Music Hall	2000	Cinderella And The Football Boots
	Key For Two	2001	Outside Edge
	Cinderella		Black Comedy/Red Letter Day
1986	Table Manners		Dick Whittington
	A Tomb With A View	2002	Play On
	Music Hall		Visiting Hour
	Dick Whittington		Aladdin
1987	The Chalk Garden	2003	Bedroom Farce
	Music Hall		Lettice & Lovage
	Do Not Disturb	2004	Robin Hood
	Babies In The Magic Wood		It's Those Worthies Again (ITWA)
1988	Something To Hide		
	Music Hall		
	There Goes The Bride		
	Pinocchio		
1989	Blithe Spirit		
	Music Hall		
	3 One Act Plays		
	Jack And The Beanstalk		