

Photo Storybook of the Production and related activities

CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

TREASURE ISLAND

almost a pantomime

Tickets available from:
The Forge and Second Wind,
Charlton Kings

Or Call: 07766 475 619

Or Visit: www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com

Adults: £8

Under 18s: £5

By
Stewart
Auty

A donation from the proceeds
will be made to a local
children's charity

30th October - 1st November 2019

Doors Open 7pm Show starts 7:30pm

St Edwards Performance Hall, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings

For more information visit: www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com

from the classic tale by Robert Louis Stevenson



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Charlton Kings Community Players*

Editor: Sandra Jeans

<http://www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com/>

Programme - Designed by Andrew Laver

The cast

Jim Lard
Mrs Hawkins
Ruby O'Riley
Billy Bones
Dr Livesey
Squire Pegg
Captain Smollett
Long John Silver
Pretty Pearl Plank
Cutthroat Katy
Handbag Jones
Black Dog
Blind Pew
Ms Jobsworth
Ben Gunn

Imogen Creed
Carol Davies
Anastasia Mander
Geoff Ramshaw
Darryl Drinkwater
Derek Palmer
Vincent Hobbkirk-Capps
John Palmer
Deb Masling
Fiona Connor
Sue Drinkwater
Vincent Hobbkirk-Capps
Lucas Mason
Alison Talbot
Geoff Ramshaw

Pirates:

Maggie Ansell (solo and recorder), Sylvia Fry, Sue Vickers,
Jenny Elliott, Joy Sagar, Linda Hurl, Kieran Nagina, Louise Palmer,
Peter Simpson, Brenda Simpson

Musicians:

Keith Mead (piano), Brenda Johnston (flute), Carol Axford (harmonica),
Joy Thorburn (percussion)

The crew

Director
Musical Director
Producer and Stage Manager
Technical Director
Technical Crew
Stage crew and Props

Nigel Jones, Chris Blackwell, Mercedes Hobbkirk-Capps
Bex Pearce, Dave Parsons, Caroline Sparkes,

Prompt

Make-up

Set

Photography

Programme and poster

Front of House

First Aid

Car Parking

Debbie Dundas
Keith Mead
Jane Jones
Peter Ryan
June Pearce, Lucas Mason
June Pearce
Tricia Ratcliffe and team
Andy Connor (Ship's wheel - Ray Talbot
Ray Talbot
Andy Laver
Becky Peach and team
Annette Bugaighis, Sue Close and Susie Glover
Chris Flippance and Geoff Sparkes



CHARLTON KINGS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

TREASURE ISLAND

almost a pantomime

By Stewart Auty



Performed under licence from
Playstage Senior

Donations will go to
CKJS Swimming pool
restoration fund,
Battledown Children's Centre
and CK Lunch Club from
the proceeds of the show.

30th October - 1st November 2019

St Edward's Performance Hall, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings

www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com

TREASURE ISLAND

almost a pantomime

Some might say 'A pantomime at Halloween, surely not!' Good thing this isn't one, then. There is no dame, but there is singing, dancing, plenty of jokes and a baddie to boo at! (Look out for the one legged, one handed one eyed pirate). Make sure you warm up your voices ready to sing along and to let Jim Lard know who's behind him.

So this classic story of Treasure Island, could be called Almost a Pantomime!

It has been wonderful to be able to direct Treasure Island: Almost a Pantomime by Stewart Auty for CKCP. Everyone involved has been brilliant. We have some familiar faces within the cast, who continue to prove how talented they are, as well as many new members who have brought fresh ideas to the rehearsal room. We have had many laughs and giggles, especially at the bad jokes! I would like to thank all the cast for their hard work and commitment over the past months.

I would also like to thank all the production crew who have supported me throughout this process and didn't say no to all the ideas that I have come up with. Especially to Keith (Musical Director) and Jane (Producer) who have worked so hard behind the scenes to help create this amazing show and without whom there would be nothing to watch.

So please sit back and enjoy all the cheesy jokes, bad puns and general merriment!

PS Don't forget to sing or the pirates will be after you.

Debbie Dundas, Director

Sea shanties became very popular in the mid-19th century as a way of coordinating the physical efforts of sailors on merchant sailing ships. But when that need reduced with the demise of sail, shanties remained a popular form of folk music, and there are many groups that aim to keep the tradition alive today. You'll hear several of the better known shanties in our production, and we'll be seeking to keep the original style - though with accompanying instruments that wouldn't have been available on the deck of a clipper ship! We have a few more modern numbers as well for variety. Most will be familiar and, as Debbie says, you'll be expected to join in!

Keith Mead, Musical Director



Overture

The Admiral Benbow (Trad)

A-Rovin' (Trad)

Lily the Pink (Trad arranged by John Gorman, Roger McGoough and Mike Mc Gear)

What shall we do with the drunken sailor? (Trad)

We'll Be Watching You (aka Every breath you take) (Sting)

The Wild Rover (Trad)

Money, Money, Money (Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus)

Blow the man down (Trad)

Sailing (Gavin Sutherland)

Interval

Reprise: Sailing (Gavin Sutherland)

Sisters (Irving Berlin, arranged by Keith Mead)

Row, row, row the boat (Trad)

Pirate Girl (Soren Rasted, Claus Norreen, Rene Dif, Lene Nyström (Aqua))

Cheese (Charles Aznavour)

Gold is the Colour (Daniel Boone and Rod McQueen)

Reprise: Gold is the Colour

Overture and Interludes composed by Keith Mead

The Author

After having a full career as a Primary School Headteacher, which included winning The Ted Wragg Award for lifetime achievement in teaching, Stewart Auty has for the last 10 years been writing plays. His main focus has been on school plays, with performances in over 700 schools in 24 different countries worldwide. He has also turned his hand to plays for the older generation, with a range of humorous full length plays and One Acts.

Warning about weapons:

All guns and other weapons used in this production are replicas. Gunshots will be heard during both Acts.



The CKCP would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their assistance in staging this production:

St Edward's School (particularly Estate Manager Stuart Jeal)

Charlton Kings Junior School

Charlton Kings Baptist Church

Dave and Helen Roberts

The Royal

The Forge

Second Wind

St Andrew's Church

Programme additions and corrections

Drew Tyler joined the ‘**Stage Crew and Props**’ team
Captain Smollett & Black Dog – Vincent Hobkirk-Capps
Make-up team (led by Tricia Ratcliffe) Debbie Dundas, Pat Dundas, Debbie Masling
Front of House team (led by Becky Peach) Jackie Bickell, Janet Freeman, Don Goold, Lynne Glover, Sandra Jeans, Tony Jeans, Jenny Palmer, Sue Ramshaw

Charities and local projects supported by this production:

Charlton Kings Junior School Swimming Pool Restoration Fund
Battledown Centre for Children & Families
Charlton Kings Lunch Club (operated through Charlton Kings Baptist Church)

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

Music Lists (also see programme acknowledgements) Dramatic Right Organisation (interpolated)

‘**Lily the Pink**’ ©John Gorman, Roger McGough and Mike McGear
‘**We’ll Be Watching You**’ © Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner CBE (words and music)
‘**Money, Money, Money**’ © Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus (words and music).
Originally titled ‘Gypsy Girl’
‘**Sailing**’ © Gavin Sutherland (words and music)
‘**Sisters**’ © Irvin Berlin (words and music)
‘**She**’ © Charles Aznavour (music, words French) and Herbert Kretzmer (words English)
‘**Barbie Girl**’ © Søren Rasted, Claus Norreen, René Dif, Lene Nystrøm (words and music)
‘**Blue is the Colour**’ © Daniel Boone and Rod McQueen (words and music)
Song Chelsea Football Club.

Traditional (Roud indexed folk songs)

‘**The Admiral Benbow**’ (Roud index 227)
‘**A-Rovin**’ (Roud index 649)
‘**What shall we do with the drunken sailor?**’ (Roud index 322)
‘**The Wild Rover**’ (Roud index 1173)
‘**Blow the man down**’ (Roud index 2624)
‘**Row, row, row the boat**’ (Roud index 19236)
‘**The Ballad of Lydia Pinkham**’ (Roud index 8368) (origin of ‘**Lily the Pink**’)

Roud Folk Song Index numbering originates from the work of Steve Roud and relates to songs collected by the oral tradition. It incorporates the work of others to provide a comprehensive research aid and correlates versions of different lyrics.

Incidental and Scene change music

Amateur Theatrical Performance Tariff PPLPP03 Licence

Production licence

Licensing company, Playstage Senior
<https://playsforadults.com/index.php>

The Production

(a selection from auditions, costume evening, rehearsals and performances)

Auditions in the Charlton Kings Baptist Church which were open to the community



Raiding the costume store and personal wardrobes!



Performers enjoyed researching their costumes and trying out different ideas.



Rehearsals develop the action!







*Technical Rehearsal
Scenes from the Admiral Benbow Inn, on the Hispaniola and on the Island*



© Ray Talbot

November 2019

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Images were projected above the set to keep the audience in the picture of what was happening.

On stage – *lights - action!*

The Admiral Benbow Inn – much quaffing and singing goes on



Spot the high visibility yellow vest!

She appears frequently as the HR person laying down the rules.



Billy Bones reveals to Jim Lard the existence of a treasure map and the revellers try to listen in.



Billy Bones passes out from too much rum.

He recovers and tries to mend his ways. However, he is served with the dreaded 'Black Spot' by Blind Pew.

The 'Black Spot' is a circular piece of black material and sends a message that the recipient is to be deposed or even killed.

It's a serious challenge!





After recovering the treasure map from Billy Bones, and beating off *Black Dog's* gang, planning takes place to go to island to find the treasure. A sailing ship is located, a captain appointed and a crew recruited. The mysterious Long John Silver appears on the scene.



In true panto fashion with the wave of a magic wand (aka the Stage Crew) the Inn becomes a galleon!



On-board the Hispaniola



© Ray Talbot



Well, just who is in charge on this ship?



The women pirates take looking after the ship very seriously and don't like shirkers!



Another wave of the magic wand by the Stage Crew and we are on the Island!



On the island...



Some of the crew mutiny. There is a fight and the mutineers find the treasure is no longer where it was buried.

Jim Lard meets Ben Gunn who has been marooned on the island since Captain Flint left the treasure many years previously. He expresses his desire for a 'piece of cheese' in song – to much amusement from the audience!



© Ray Talbot



All ends well – the mutineers are eliminated, Long John is taken prisoner and the intrepid searchers for treasure return home

Back home again to the Admiral Benbow Inn



The customers revisit their adventure and speculate on what had happened to particular characters.



Just who is that mysterious character who claims to be a war veteran and his very attentive lady friend? They all think he is suspiciously like Long John Silver and that lady who laid down the rules.





A good time was had by all

**Director, Debbie Dundas, and Producer, Jane Jones,
received flowers and gifts and joined in a final song**



The Set Assembly



An enjoyable time was had by people creating the set, the St. Edward's Performance Hall being the perfect space to develop ideas.

© Ray Talbot



© Ray Talbot

Producer, Director, Technical Desk and Stage Management



© Caroline Sparkes, Ray Talbot

Musicians, Prompt and Backstage



Front of House

Car parking volunteers were the first to greet the audience



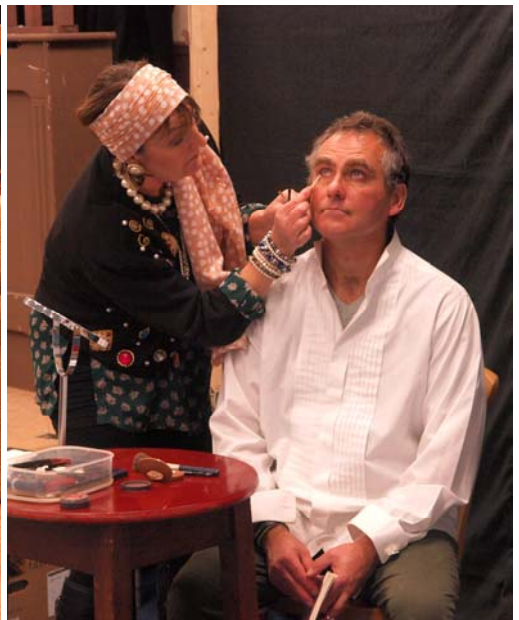
© Tony Jeans, Jane Jones, Ray Talbot

Preparations

The makeup team gets busy



© Sandra Jeans



© Ray Talbot

The Director and Producer encourage the cast



Actors await their cues





Audience



The audience contribute to the action by singing 'Row, row, row your boat'

Party after the show



© Ray Talbot

Promotional Activities

Charlton Kings Summer Fête

June 15th 2019

Players' stand

Rain and sunshine greeted a well attended fête and volunteers attracted interest in the Players' productions and '*Treasure Island*'.



PRESS RELEASE

'Treasure Island: Almost a Pantomime' performed by local Drama Group

Charlton Kings Community Players, a local amateur community drama group, are busy preparing for the upcoming performance of '*Treasure Island: Almost a Pantomime*' by Stewart Auty.

Auty's play is a subtle twist on the classic story of '*Treasure Island*'. The play opens with Billy Bones hiding in a refuge for bloodthirsty female pirates. He gives the secret of buried treasure to Jim Lard, which a lot of nasty pirates are after, especially those of the one legged, one armed and one eyed variety. An enjoyable evening where the pantomime fun is brought to the Halloween holiday. Although there are no traditional pantomime dames present, there is plenty of laughter, songs and audience participation. So bring along your best singing voices!

Debbie Dundas, Director, says: "After so many years being part of the Charlton Kings Community Players, it's brilliant to be able to direct such a different show for the group; it's the first time since I joined in 2002 (at the young age of 9) that we have attempted a Pantomime".

"The cast are brilliant, it's wonderful to see people of various ages come together and have so much fun in the rehearsal room. Most of the giggles come from the many jokes in the script. We hope to bring much laughter to the spookiest time of the year!"

Jane Jones, Producer and Charlton Kings Community Players Chairman, says: "All productions have open auditions and encourage participation by people who live, work, go to school or to church in the Charlton Kings. Our productions offer opportunities for involvement in all aspects of the performing arts for all ages."

Since its formation in 1992, the group have performed big hits such as musical '*My Fair Lady*', the murder mystery '*Murdered to Death*' as well as a locally written commemoration of WW2 '*Some Sunny Day*'. Our productions support local and national charities, donating more than £25,000 since 1992.

A donation from the proceeds will be given to Battledown Children's Centre, Charlton Kings Junior School and Charlton Kings Lunch Club.

Performances are on 30th, 31st October & 1st November 2019 at 7.30pm at St Edward's School Performance Hall, Cirencester Road, Cheltenham, GL53 8EY.

Tickets are: Adults £8, under 18's £5. These are available from the website

(www.charltonkingscommunityplayers.com) where details of local outlets can also be found, or on the door.

Doors open at 7.00 pm. Show starts 7:30 pm.

BBC Radio Gloucestershire 30th October 2019

Debbie Dundas (Director) and Jane Jones (Producer) were on air in the lunchtime slot talking about *'Treasure Island – almost a pantomime'* and were interviewed by Mark Smith.

This was the perfect opportunity for promotion of the activities of the Charlton Kings Community Players as well as telling everyone about the current production. It's just the kind of reporting by local radio which supports amateur dramatic groups and the wider local communities. It would have been heard across Gloucestershire and beyond. It encourages people to find out what is happening in their areas and to become involved.

When asked how well *'Treasure Island'* was going, Debbie responded *'It's going well - really, really happy and the cast are loving it.'* Jane provided the back story to the Players and how it had been formed over twenty-five years ago, and was based on people who live in, go to school in, attend one of the churches, work in, or are associated with Charlton Kings in some way. She explained it was originally formed through the churches in the parish, but now it had grown and had a wider base. The variety of the productions put on was emphasised, and that the group operated through a committee which supported, in principle, anyone coming forward in the community to put on a show. Everyone was keen *'to make it happen'*. Debbie said how daunting it can be to direct a production - rather *'scary'* - but she had been well supported. This was her first main production as director. When asked about the size of the group she said we were not particularly tiny. Jane reinforced this saying it involved some hundred active participants at any one time, and that there were lots of people in the community with different talents who contributed to its productions.

Debbie explained that it was *'almost a pantomime'* and that it was chosen as an early *'glimmer'* to the pantomime season leading into Halloween. In response to questions about the rehearsal time needed, both explained rehearsals had been on-going since April to ensure people were *"secure in their roles"*. Different ages were involved, and particularly youngsters who needed timeout for exams. The aim was not to put people under pressure.

Jane described how putting on productions was a challenge as the location used at St. Edward's was empty space. Staging, set, lighting, and sound systems had to be brought in from various locations and put together over one weekend. Items were recycled from other productions and the set builders had always been inventive – in *'Treasure Island'* someone's radiator cover has been used to make the bar. A wonderful ship's wheel had been made for the scene on-board ship. People helped on a regular basis if they were free at the time. When asked to pinpoint a favourite bit in the show, the dramatic start was nominated as a major highlight. *'It's so atmospheric'* said Jane. The pirates wander amongst the audience, with lights down, and then one of the principals who plays Billy Bones starts to sing the folk song *'Admiral Benbow'*. On being questioned about who came to the shows, it was explained that the Players had a regular group of local people who always attended every show, from every age group. There was particular support for the Christmas Show which was in four weeks time – a collection of different items. The programme was being developed for it and the team would soon come together to plan its delivery and to rehearse. Planning for the next main production would start after Christmas.

The Charlton Kings Community Players thank BBC Radio Gloucestershire for the opportunity to promote their 2019 production of 'Treasure Island – almost a pantomime'.

The Window Display

The Forge, Church Street, Charlton Kings



Going ashore- beware of crocodiles!

© Tony Jeans

More about the Production's sea shanties, folk songs and nursery rhymes (see also Musical Director's description in programme)

Do particular songs from your childhood, from school or social gatherings bring back enjoyable memories? It's likely these are from our rich history of songs developed as part of work and play, and can be identified in the referenced collections put together by many different people – all accessible through the World Wide Web. So what has been built into Stewart Auty's interpretation of the tale of 'Treasure Island' as originally conceived and written by Robert Louis Stevenson – a yarn for youngsters of 'adventure, buccaneers and buried gold'?



So pirates hang out at 'The Admiral Benbow' Inn... Just who was Admiral Benbow? This is when the true story becomes more daring than the fictional perhaps!

'**The Admiral Benbow**' (Roud index 227) is a traditional alehouse song about the incident in August 1702 when Admiral Benbow fought the French – led by a M. Du Casse. Benbow lost a leg and later died of his wounds in Kingston Jamaica. Captains of some of the ships in his fleet behaved cowardly. There was a trial and two were eventually shot and one pardoned. Below is a quoted communication from Du Casse to Benbow:

Sir,

I had little hopes on Monday last but to have supped in your cabin: but it pleased God to order it otherwise. I am thankful for it. As for those cowardly captains who deserted you, hang them up, for by God they deserve it.

Yours,

Du Casse

'**A-Rovin**' (Roud index 649) is a sea shanty claimed to be Elizabethan or Jacobean (c 1600) and is a risqué tale of an amorous encounter by a sailor. As with all sea shanties they were usually to accompany particular tasks on-board ship and thus had particular rhythms to reflect this. It's said this relates to the tasks associated with brake-pumps and lever windlasses. They were also sung unaccompanied, usually with a good lead singer, or may have been supported by a man on a fiddle, concertina, fife or piccolo.

'**What shall we do with the drunken sailor?**' (Roud index 322) is perhaps one of the most engaging of the easy to sing sea shanties as it is a walking pace or marching song, which it is claimed supported the hauling in of ropes. Various lyrics exist for this song and it is a popular song for community singing.

'**The Wild Rover**' (Roud index 1173) is a folk song the origins of which appear to be much disputed. There are lots of versions and it's considered a drinking song and also a temperance song! It's reputed to be of Irish or Scottish origin.

'**Blow the man down**' (Roud index 2624) is a sea shanty associated with the hauling of the halyards.

"A common mishap at sea during the age of sail wherein a strong, sudden gale catches a ship with its topsails fully set – the force of the wind, depending upon the load and balance of the ship's cargo, can actually "blow the man down", or blow the man-o'-war down into the water, partially capsizing it."

'**Row, row, row the boat**' (Roud index 19236) is an English nursery rhyme. It is often sung as a round for four voice parts and performed as an action song.

Auty has built a modern version of a traditional folk song into his script. This is '**Lily the Pink**' as written and adapted by John Gorman, Roger McGough and Mike McGear (copyright). This is based on '**The Ballad of Lydia Pinkham**' (Roud index 8368) which describes the invigorating effects of a 'woman's tonic' promoted by Lydia Estes Pinkham for women's ailments! Variants of the words exist and it became a rather bawdy drinking song. The Gorman, McGough and McGear version is 'cleaned up' but remains with fantasies about what the 'medicinal compound' might do if you use it!

References: Wikipedia (including citations), Roud Index

