



A WARM WELCOME ALWAYS AWAITS YOU AT ST LAWRENCE'S

Come along on a Sunday ...

At 8am - Eucharist (Holy Communion)

A quiet and reflective said Service with sermon.

At 10am - Parish Eucharist

Our main act of worship each week, with all ages warmly welcomed (with themed play bags available for the under 6s), followed by coffee - a great time to meet other folk and make new friends.



Also on Sundays at 10am ...

Sunday Club: For 5-10 year olds, fortnightly during term time, starting in Church then moving to the Hall for age-appropriate learning activities and returning to Church for Holy Communion.

Ignite & Youth Groups: Similarly, those in Year 6 and in Years 7-11, respectively, move to the Centre for their programmes.

Tots' Club: For toddlers and babies with their parents or carers at 9.45am on the first Sunday of the month in the St Lawrence Centre.



Or come along on a Saturday evening ...

For an informal once-a-month all-age Community Eucharist with band at 6pm followed by refreshments. The next Services are on 17th February and 17th March. Please see posters, bulletin or church website for further dates.



Weekday Eucharist Services ...

Quiet reflective said Services on Wednesdays at 7.30pm and Thursdays at 10.30am.

If you are unable to get to Church ...

You can receive Holy Communion at home or request a lift to church.

Please feel free to contact the ...

Parish Priest Fr Chris, 020 3665 2029, chris-eastcote@sky.com

Asst Priest Revd Julia, 07860 641086, revjulia1@gmail.com

Parish Office eastcoteparishoffice@tiscali.co.uk, 020 8429 1131

To find out more ...

About worship, events and activities at St Lawrence, you may like to visit our website: www.st-lawrence-eastcote.org.uk



St Lawrence Players proudly present

It's Behind you!

A selection of songs and sketches from past productions to celebrate 70 years of Players



Souvenir Programme 50p

Thursday 8th February 8:00 pm

Friday 9th February 8:00 pm

Saturday 10th February 2:30 pm (Matinee)

Saturday 10th February 7:30 pm

www.stlawrenceplayers.org.uk Front cover by Justin Grant



A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



As I sit down to write this, my last note as the Chair, I realise how far we have evolved as a group. Not only in the last year, or the last seven years of my Chair reign, but in the last 70 years. It is quite an amazing achievement to belong to an amateur dramatic group that came together so long ago and has successfully provided non-stop entertainment throughout the years, under so many leaderships, and yet remained as part of the same church body.

2017 saw us put on our regular three productions: *Wife After Death* in February, *Enchanted April* in May and *The Game's Afoot* in October, as well as a mini-sketch of our own version of *Robin Hood* in Eastcote House Gardens in June and the St Lawrence Fun Day in August. Much to our relief, the new hall lights were finally installed in September which meant that we were able to show them off, to the best of our ability, in our October play. We had a few social events including a meal at Remo's Village, Eastcote, and a coach day trip to Chichester to see *Fiddler on the Roof*. Our year was truly highlighted at our Christmas drinks and nibbles evening in December, when we presented Jacob Sawyerr and his mother, Angela, a substantial cheque to help aid his recovery through his disabilities. It was a great honour to meet Jacob and to witness his and Angela's gratitude. We were doubly privileged to meet Jackie too, a representative for our Charity 2018, the RNIB Sunshine House School. Coincidentally, Angela and Jackie recognised each other from when Angela was seeking advice for Jacob's visual impairments.



Alongside all last year's activities, great preparations have been made towards celebrating 70 years of St Lawrence Players. A 2018 Special Edition Calendar with some past photographs was produced and Valerie boldly took on the task of putting together our celebration ideas and writing the script for this production. The idea was to include everyone and introduce a new generation to the past in a modern and fun way. I believe Valerie and her team have done us proud. It's been a massive project but huge fun. I hope you all agree that it is possibly "The best one yet"!

Sue Worker

OUR CHARITY FOR 2018: SUNSHINE HOUSE SCHOOL



The RNIB Sunshine House School has, over the years, developed into a school that caters and supports approximately fifty children from ages 3 to 14 years who are blind or partially sighted and have significant learning and other disabilities.

The origins of the 'home' date back 100 years but it has always been in Northwood. The School nowadays caters only for day pupils who all come from local areas.

The School's highly qualified team of teachers, therapists and specialists work closely with parents and carers to ensure that the children's achievements go beyond the classroom into everyday life. The school provides a safe and supportive environment for these children, offering specialist education, in-house therapies, health support and family services. It is therefore able to support a wide range of needs including: vision impairment, multi-sensory impairment, and learning, physical and communication difficulties as well as additional medical and health needs. This support together with the latest modern technology equipment that is available help ensure that all the children at the School can meet their full potential.

The School's site is owned by the RNIB. However, the School is very much self-funded for their many specialist needs and they rely heavily on donations from their supporters, including parents and carers and the general public.

The RNIB Sunshine House School is a very worthy charity that St Lawrence Players are pleased to support this year. We, in turn, thank you for your support.



MORE THAN 70 YEARS OF ST LAWRENCE PLAYERS

You may be surprised to learn that a group by the name of St Laurence Players performed Epiphany Mystery plays here as far back as 1935-36, when the choir was thanked for its contribution to the success of these plays.



In January 1938, a dramatic society known as the St Laurence Mummings appeared on the scene. Admission was free to the entertainment, but there was a silver collection and any profits went towards the Permanent Hall Fund. The new section, added to the old hall, housed the stage and back rooms. This was opened in February 1940 but, because of World War 2 activities, had to be put on hold.

A Mrs and Miss Angell moved into the bungalow in the 1940s and remained in residence until the late 1950s. The same bungalow has undergone many alterations since that time, but it is still much in use today. Miss Lillian Angell worked extremely hard in the parish, especially when the Revd Godwin was vicar. She encouraged both young and old members to participate in church activities; she particularly liked to involve the young. For many years she taught in the Sunday School. After the success of the scholars' Christmas play in 1945, the youngsters were keen to do more in the way of acting and the St Laurence Juvenile Players was formed. At the summer fete in 1945, they presented scenes from *Alice in Wonderland* arranged by Miss Angell. This was followed by further productions; the success of these raised £20 for children's charities over the year. By 1954 the Junior Players Club had evolved into the St Laurence Youth Fellowship.

In 1947 the St Laurence Senior Players was established as a separate group and had become more ambitious, but for a number of years they joined together with the Junior Players to take part in the many pantomimes, revues, and church Nativity and Easter plays.

In February 1948, two performances of *The School for Scandal* received encouraging reviews in the local paper. The St Laurence Players have continued the tradition of producing at least three shows a year with very few breaks.

Details of all productions since 1948 can be found on our website www.stlawrenceplayers.org.uk with photographs, programme covers, history and so much more.

Barbara Williams

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

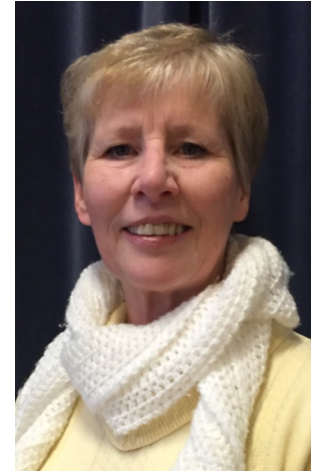
How can one begin to celebrate 70 years of St Laurence Players? How can anyone deliver a proper tribute to the many serious plays and comedies we have performed over the years? *It's Behind You!* only skims the surface of all that Players have achieved in the past.

When the children wanted to be involved, the solution seemed obvious; let's celebrate our pantomimes, add a smattering of plays we have previously performed and wrap it all up with some musical numbers, including our tribute to both World Wars.

A heartfelt thank you from me to our Producers, Estelle and Alison, for all their hard work and without whom this production would not be possible. Many thanks must go to our multi-talented Duncan for the music and to Sue who is ever-positive and supportive. I must thank Win for her lovely contribution to the script and Mark, not only for his humorous sketch but for all his help and direction with the children. A big thank you to the talented Debbie for the choreography and to Barbara for both her brilliant poem and being in charge of the costumes. I must also thank my husband, Peter, who has been a constant support throughout.

Every person in St Laurence Players was invited to be involved and all accepted, some appearing both on stage as well as front of house. A big thank you to each and every one of you! The idea has been for everyone to take part and have fun. Let's hope we succeed but, of course, we won't unless you, the audience, play your part and join in too!

On behalf of everyone in St Laurence Players, thank you for coming and I hope you have a wonderful evening - or afternoon!



Valerie Clarke

**St Lawrence Players
present their 211th production**

It's Behind You!

Written and directed by

Valerie Clarke

Cast

Joy Allcock	Debbie Hennessey	Arthur Plummer
Bieneke Barwick	Barbara Higgs	Barbara Plummer
Brian Beeston	Emma Kimsey	Ann Sykes
Dorothy Bentote	Mark Kimsey	Duncan Sykes
Malcolm Bentote	Marita Kitto	Tag
Claire Bishop	Marian Lally	Ann Taggart
Dave Bowers	Gwenllian Leach	Terry Wigington
Win Brion	Diane Maltz	Barbara Williams
Angela Charles	Alison Marshall	Jo Williams
John Chrzczonowicz	Garry Marshall	Lionel Williams
Valerie Clarke	Iris Mutton	Sue Worker
Estelle Dunham	Roy Oldfield	Alison Wyatt
Graeme Gibaut		

and introducing

Rhodri Leach	Joseph Marshall	Jackson Reader
Hannah McCarthy	Adam Rayment	Louie Reader
Thomas McCarthy	Dolcie Reader	Sofia Zachopoulos-Butler

There will be an interval between Act I and Act II.

Coffee, tea and wine will be available during the interval.

There is no set charge for tea and coffee
but all donations will be gratefully received.

Proceeds from our raffle will be go to our Charity of the Year:
RNIB Sunshine House School.

The audience is reminded that smoking is not allowed in the building.

May we also remind you to switch off any mobile phones
during the performance.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Valerie Clarke
Producers	Estelle Dunham and Alison Marshall
Music	Duncan Sykes Gary Steward and Peter Taff
Choreography	Debbie Hennessey
Stage Management	Rick Dunham
Lighting & Sound	Geoff Higgs
Props	Players
Prompt	Ann Taggart
Costumes	Barbara Williams and Sue Worker
Make-up	Diane Maltz
Set Design & Construction	Players
Poster and Programme Cover	Justin Grant
Programme	Sue Cobb and Emma Kimsey
Box Office	Graeme Gibaut
Front of House Manager	Dorothy Bentote
Front of House	Players
Official Photographs	Arthur Plummer
Publicity	Players

The video and/or audio recording of this performance
by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

**St Lawrence Players' next Production will be
on 9th, 11th and 12th May**

*Please note that there will be a Wednesday evening performance
in May but no Thursday evening performance.*