

Stepping Out



by

Richard Harris

3rd—14th December 2002



Stoke-on-Trent
Repertory
Theatre

£1

Welcome!

Welcome to Stoke-on-Trent Repertory Theatre! We hope that you enjoy your evening with us. Here's a little information that first-time visitors may find helpful.

The car park will be open from 6.30pm on performance evenings until the theatre bar closes. Overspill parking is available in the Staffs University car park. Neither the Rep nor the University can accept responsibility for damage to or loss of vehicles.

The Bar is open from 6.45pm until 11.00pm on show nights. Drinking-up time is 20 minutes afterwards. Coffee, tea and confectionery are available in the Foyer from 6.45pm. All interval drinks may be ordered before the performance, to avoid having to wait your turn later.

Smoking is not allowed in the auditorium, neither is photography or the taping of the performance.

Booking Information

Our Box Office is open on the Monday preceding each Rep production from 5.00 - 8.00pm, and during the run of the show.

Tel: 01782 209784.

Tired of talking to an Answer Phone?

Save time — save money

BOOK ON-LINE!

With Internet access, you could place a provisional order **AT ANY TIME** using the On-Line booking facility at

www.stokerep.org.uk

Book tickets in office hours from Music Mania,
4/5 Piccadilly Arcade, Hanley.

Tel: 01782 206000.



BBC RADIO STOKE

BBC Radio Stoke has been at the heart of life in North Staffordshire and South Cheshire for more than 30 years. No-one has a better understanding of local people, local issues and local concerns. From unrivalled coverage of all the most important sporting action to hard hitting news stories and all the local weather, travel and entertainment updates, BBC Radio Stoke has got every angle covered.

Add great music and great conversation from the station that has more local presenters than most you can find, and there's no better station for you and yours in North Staffordshire and South Cheshire.

We are please to support the Arts and regularly cover local events on the Barbara Adams programme, Monday to Friday between 3 pm and 5 pm.

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Spotlight on a Member

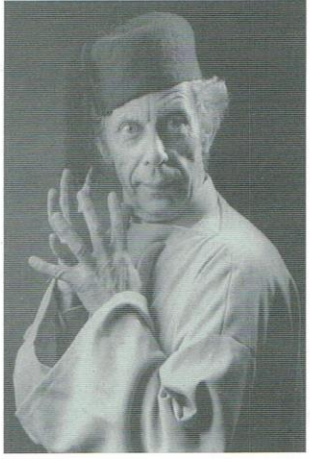
George Goodall

My very first rôle was with the Rotary Youth Club - a small part in *Jane Eyre*. I was then cast as Danny in *Night Must Fall* by Emlyn Williams - at sixteen, exactly the right age for the part - and this gave me the 'acting bug'. Joining the New Era Players, I played several important, enjoyable rôles - particularly George Gibbs in *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder. We were invited to the Victoria Theatre, where I played Biff in Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* - a very moving experience.



For the S-O-T Operatic Society, I took major rôles in *The Merry Widow*, *Oklahoma!*, *La Vie Parisienne*, *Kiss Me Kate* and, in 1974 at The Regent, *The Mikado*, playing Koko. In *The White Horse Inn* I had a wonderful comedy rôle as Ebenezer Grinkle (underwear, Oldham!) In North Staffs Operatic

Society's *Fiddler on the Roof*, I played the Innkeeper - what a show! Fortunate enough to play Frosch the Jailer in *Die Fledermaus* at the Theatre Royal, with Newcastle Operatic Society, I had to improvise 15 minutes of dialogue, inserted as a comic interlude - a frightening experience, but with good laughs from the ever-kind audience.



Now back to the REP.....(Cont'd on next page)

Rep Gift Vouchers

Solve all your Christmas present worries!

Make a gift of a ticket for an evening at the Rep.

Please ask at the Box Office.

If you're interested in reserving advertising space in our next programme, please ring Alison Wicks on 01782 619921.

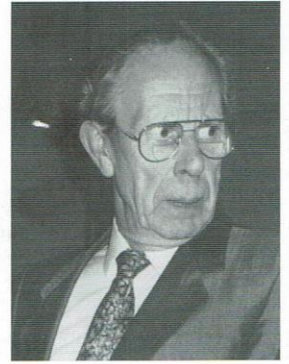
Spotlightcont'd



I was grateful to the late Peter Legge, who cast me as the Adjutant in *Conduct Unbecoming* - a terrific part. I asked, "Why me?" He said, "You've played a lot of comic parts, it's time you did a serious one for once." Then there was *Death Trap*, in which Derek Yeomans and I tried to kill each other for most of the play! Also memorable are

Arsenic and Old Lace (with son, Howard), *Climb the Greased Pole* (with daughter, Cathy), *The Long, the Short and the Tall* (Sergeant Mitchum) and *Under Milkwood*. In *The Happiest Days of your Life*, as the Headmaster, everything that could possibly go wrong - did! But again, the audience played its part extremely well. (Where would we be without you?) In *Out of Order* I was presumably 'dead' for the first act - thrown around and hung behind a door - with Vaseline in my nostrils to stop me from sneezing! It was great to play Dick Dead Eye in *HMS Pinafore* and Private Willis, 'B' Company, Grenadier Guards in *Iolanthe* - a nice solo song with full orchestra - what a thrill!

Lately, I have rendered some works by our Chairman, Peter Dutton, in Potteries dialect, and people still ask me to do 'voice overs' and short films. Over the years, I've made many friends and, I hope, not many enemies. The crux of the matter is teamwork with fellow members to create a rapport with the audience and, once again, we thank you.



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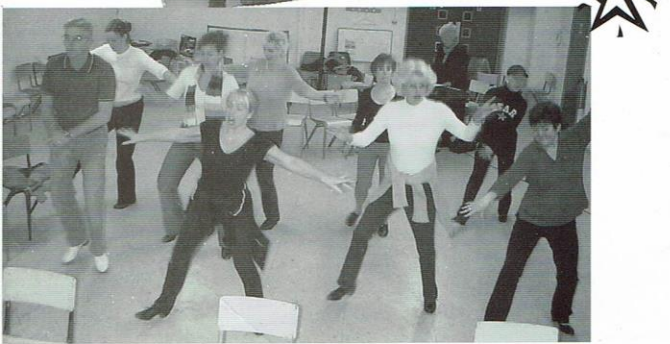
The Crew

Director: Geoff Legan
Co-director: Diana Halstead
Choreographers: Caroline West, Veronica Tweedale
Stage Director: Richard Masters
Set Design: Brian P. Hadley
Construction Manager: Bill Hancock
Stage Manager: Richard Masters
Scenic Artist: Brian P. Hadley
Assisted by: Paul Cooper, Paul Orry
Set Dressing: Margo Bloor
Properties: Glennis Rushton, Janet Clarke
Lighting Designer: Stuart Campbell
Lighting Technician: Jamie Wood
Sound Design: Mike Adams
Sound Technician: Paul Jones
Costume Supervisor: Georgine Machin
Company Photographer: Peter Croft
Programme: Alison Wicks

We are indebted to the rest of the Backstage Crew, and to the Front-of-House, Bar and Coffee Bar Staff - Members, Friends, Young Rep members and other helpers. All are volunteers who give up their time week after week, and without whom we could not provide the standard of production and customer service you have come to expect at the Rep.



The show in rehearsal



The Cast

Mavis:	Caroline West
Mrs. Fraser:	Diana Halstead
Lynne:	Catherine Carter
Dorothy:	Dawn Birks
Maxine:	Veronica Tweedale
Andy:	Sarah Mould
Geoffrey:	Greg Walker
Sylvia:	Louise Challinor
Rose:	Jane Thomson
Vera:	June Hodson

The action takes place in a church hall in North London.

- Act I Scene 1 Evening, around 8.00pm
- Scene 2 A month later, 7.45pm
- Scene 3 A month later, around 9.00pm
- Scene 4 A month later, 7.40pm

- Act II Scene 1 A week later, around 8.00pm
- Scene 2 2 weeks later, around 9.00pm
- Scene 3 2 weeks later, around 8.00pm
- Scene 4 3 weeks later, around 8.00pm
- Scene 5 2-3 weeks later, Evening

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



Outside it is winter. Inside it's bright and sparkling with the high kicks (and sometimes low!) of Richard Harris' comedy, *Stepping Out*.

Three members of the cast played quite different rôles in the Rep's 1994 production. Jane Thomson, previously playing Sylvia, takes on the rôle of Rose. Caroline West steps into the tap shoes of Mavis the dancing teacher, formerly played by Veronica Tweedale who, this time, plays Maxine. Both take credits for the choreography. Geoff Legan, the director, played Geoffrey, the lone man in the class of tappers - Greg Walker takes on this part in our current production.

Welcome to new members Catherine Walker and Sarah Mould, both experienced performers. The other four tappers - Diana Halstead (Co-director), Dawn Birks, Louise Challinor and June Hodson - are regulars on the Rep stage.

So... forget your troubles, come on, get happy and tap all your cares away! Enjoy!!



Our 1994 Production



**PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOBILE PHONES
ARE SWITCHED OFF
DURING THE PERFORMANCE**

Friends of the Rep

Friends of the Rep have raised thousands of pounds for our theatre over the past five years, through their many and varied activities and social events. Their gifts to the Rep include the computerisation of the Box Office and our revolving stage.

The Friends Committee is eager to enrol enthusiastic people on to the team which organises these fund-raising schemes.

To share your ideas, or maybe join the Committee, please contact Brian Harvey on 01782 393026.

*We are indebted to the
St. John Ambulance
Brigade, whose
members voluntarily
attend all our
performances.*

**THE
ARTS
COUNCIL
OF ENGLAND**

Artist in the Gallery

Tom Vitta

Tom, a Rep season ticket holder, was born at Heron Cross, Fenton. He attended Heron Cross Infant and Junior School, where his talent for drawing was discovered. He won a scholarship to the junior art department, then on to Burslem College of Art, where he was a pupil of the late Paul Clarke. Sadly, his ambition to go on to the Royal College of Art was put to an end when his father was tragically killed in a mining accident.

He started to work as a junior designer at Adderley China pottery, Fenton, under the excellent tuition of the late Mrs. Alice Turner and continued his studies at night school. After National Service in 1957, at the age of 23, he went to work for Rataud's Ltd, a ceramic transfer company, manufacturers for the pottery industry. Many of his designs were accepted by the pottery industry and also many of the leading retail stores. In 1997, after 40 years with the same company, he retired and now enjoys his hobbies of travelling, watercolour painting, pastels and crown green bowling. Tom is married with two grown up sons.

Thanks for the loan of your work, Tom.

Coming Up Soon....

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Christmas at the REP

Saturday 21st December

7.30pm

Tickets £8.50

including coffee & mince pie

Box Office: 01782 209784

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Stoke on Trent Repertory Theatre

TWELFTH NIGHT

*by
William
Shakespeare*

28th Jan - 1st Feb & 4th - 8th Feb 2003 • 7.30pm