

**WILLERSEY FOOTLIGHTS**

**PRESENTS**

# **BOOKS**

**A VARIETY SHOW OF SONGS & SKETCHES  
INSPIRED BY LITERATURE**



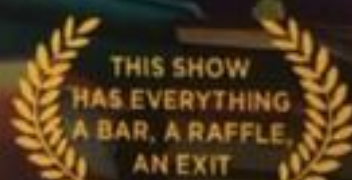
THE FINEST  
BRAND  
OF ABSOLUTE  
RUBBISH

DOMESTIC WASTE  
ASSOCIATION



I'VE SEEN IT  
15 TIMES AND IT  
GETS BETTER  
EACH TIME

BARE FACED LIAR  
MAGAZINE



THIS SHOW  
HAS EVERYTHING  
A BAR, A RAFFLE,  
AN EXIT

FIND THE POSITIVES  
WEEKLY

**11/12TH OCTOBER  
2024**

**WILLERSEY VILLAGE HALL**



[www.willersey.org/footlights](http://www.willersey.org/footlights)



# *Footlights' Notes*

Welcome to this year's Footlights Show which uses the theme of Books to tie in the nonsense that you will see on stage tonight. All of tonight's sketches were written by Footlights members, they will be acted out word for word as fully intended by the script writer, - should this actually happen it will be the first time in 38 years!!!!

Four members of tonight's cast have taken part in every Footlights Show since 1986, and over the time since that very first show they have been joined on and off stage by nearly one hundred other fools. You might ask yourself what is the attraction of being involved in Footlights, - well every time we embark on a show you get on the Footlights Rollercoaster which will take you on a ride of highs and lows. The lows are the rehearsal nights when things don't go well and nobody laughs or claps when you have finished your bit, but that's all forgotten when you eventually get things right, and the highs are on show nights when things have gone well and the audience have clapped and cheered!!. For many it's the friendships which are forged in a cramped dressing room and the backstage camaraderie, helping out and encouraging each other, that's the magic of Footlights.

Unfortunately, all four of the original cast members are the wrong side of retiring age and the average age of the cast creeps up every year so we appeal to all those of a younger age to come forward and think about helping take this wonderful Footlights Society into the future. If you would like to become involved please see any of the cast or a member or our front of house team.

Please note; No animals or humans will be actually harmed during the performing of this show.



Anyone caught scrolling though Facebook or Instagram pages on their phones during the performance will be asked to join in the cast on stage for the knife throwing scene.

## *...and Some Special Thanks*

David McAteer has now left the village and we wish him well in his new abode. David joined Footlights in 2006 and we would like to acknowledge the significant contribution he made to the Society over the 18 years not only on stage but also administratively. David was Chairman for a number of years.

### **Also:**

Taylor's Garage for Ticket Sales.

Broadmark Computers for Technical Solutions.

Acorn Creative for Everything.

Willersey Snooker Club for the use of their room for the period of the show.

**Final Thanks** – to you the Audience for your support.

### **This Year's Charity.**

Since Footlights began in 1986 we have raised considerable amounts of money for Charitable causes and this year is no different with us.

**so please support our raffle tonight.** The proceeds of tonight's raffle and any profit from ticket sales will go to the worthwhile Charity





# *Cast & Crew*

## *Cast*

<i>Mike Barnes</i>	<i>Ashley Boudville</i>
<i>James Boudville</i>	<i>Sue Clark</i>
<i>Steve Ford</i>	<i>James Hands</i>
<i>Tom Jelfs</i>	<i>Will Jelfs</i>
<i>Mal Jelfs</i>	<i>Neville Jelfs</i>
<i>Adine Keatley</i>	<i>Gill O'Donoghue</i>
<i>Tini Owens</i>	<i>Cathy Twigger</i>
<i>Sandra Vale</i>	<i>Karen Wadey</i>
<i>Roger Webb</i>	

## *Crew*

<i>Phil Bennett.</i>	<i>Paul Clark.</i>
<i>Tom Jelfs.</i>	<i>Will Jelfs.</i>
<i>Will Jelfs</i>	<i>Malcolm McLean</i>
<i>Neville Jelfs</i>	



### *Costumes and Props*

Mal Jelfs	Sue Clark.
Cathy Twigger	Acorn Creative.

### *Bar*

Angie Beale	Anne Webb
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### *Front of House*

Alan Gittings	Sandy Barnes
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### *Raffle.*

Ruby Hancock	Angie Gittus
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### *Script Writers*

The Cast	Mary Gittings
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### *Finance Aspects*

Alan Gittings	
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### *Production Team*

Tom Jelfs	Neville Jelfs
Cathy Twigger	Mal Jelfs



## *The Shows to Date*

2024	Books
2023	The TV Show
2019	The Best of British
2017	A Christmas Cracker
2016	Footlights Through the Ages
2014	Footlights at the Movies
2013	Anything Goes
2011	The best of 25 years
2010	The Four Seasons
2008	London
2006	The Lost Secret
2005	Footlights Follies
2004	The Next Generation
2001	The Best of Footlights
1999	A Real Oddity
1997	The Wafta Awards
1995	A Very Rough Guide to Britain
1993	As Time Goes By 5000 BC to 1993
1992	End of the Pier Show
1991	Around the World in 80 Minutes
1990	Cinderella 2
1989	Hooray for Hollywood
1987	39/45 War Show
1986	Old Time Music Hall



## *The Story of Footlights....so far*

In the summer of 1985 an appeal was put in the Parish Magazine inviting local organisations to “do a turn at the” forthcoming Harvest Supper. The school Parents and Teachers Association immediately took up the challenge and got busy organising a sketch, and after much ‘we could do better’ the Football Club committee decided to have a go too. The PTA's version of ‘We plough the fields and scatter’ was very entertaining if somewhat risqué for a Harvest Supper, the Football Club's rather pathetic attempt at Barbershop Singing was, at best awful but nevertheless extremely funny. Both attempts at entertaining were to leave the audience in tears, thankfully from laughter.

In the audience were the new postmaster Philip Simpson and his wife Trish, who thought as newcomers to the village they should be seen to support the local event. Well, after going along to what they thought was going to be a rather typical grin and bear it evening, they left having had a jolly good time and still chuckling at what they has seen. A few weeks later Phil met the ‘would be’ Barbershop boys in the Bell Inn and expressed his enjoyment at their performance; he also expressed his desire to join in on any future performances. The truth was that no one would ever ask them to perform again, so it was decided to form Willersey Footlights to put on their own show. Three months later our society was officially formed.

Phil's influence was enormous. As a former professional musician he had been there and done that, but loved the easy go attitude of the local enthusiasts. His bizarre scouse humour was at the root of most of the early Footlights shows. As you can see by our list of shows, we have had a go at most topics all of which have one thing in common; all have been a mixed bag of humorous sketches sprinkled with the odd attempts at trying to be serious. Our audiences who have supported our shows over the years do not come to witness artistically great performances. If so, they would go away disappointed but they do however come to see the cock-ups, the ad-libbing and people totally prepared to be made fools of.

The 24 shows put on by the Footlights have sold well over 5000 tickets and donated more than £17,000 to various charities. (Nearly 100 cast members over the years have performed over 300 sketches and attempted to sing over 100 songs.





A FOOTLIGHTS  
PRODUCTION