

Flora's Peeverel



**A community play celebrating Flora Thompson's
time in Liphook, Hampshire, 1916-1928**

written and directed by John Owen Smith

*Flora Thompson, the author of "Lark Rise to Candleford,"
lived in Liphook from 1916 to 1928. This play brings to life
the period when, against the odds, she won the fight to write*

Except for the first and last two scenes, the action of the play takes place in various locations in and around Liphook between the years 1916 and 1928.

The performance is continuous, with one interval of 15 minutes

Tour 2007

Phoenix Arts Centre, Bordon	<i>Friday 6th July – 8pm</i>
Haslemere Museum	<i>Saturday 7th July – 2.30pm</i>
Rural Life Centre, Tilford	<i>Sunday 8th July – 2.30pm</i>
Petersfield Library	<i>Monday 9th July – 8pm</i>
Liphook Millennium Hall	<i>Friday 13th July – 8pm</i>
Headley Village Hall	<i>Saturday 14th July – 8pm</i>

CAST – in order of appearance

Flora Thompson	Mel White
Postman at Bournemouth	John McGregor
'Louie' Woods	Georgia Keen
Sgt John Mumford	Charlie O'Reardon
John Thompson	Rod Sharp
'Joe' Leggett (at 8 years old)	Alex Clark
Bill Tidy	Jo Smith
Maggie Tidy	Pru Harrold
Harry Envis	John McGregor
Dr Ronald Campbell Macfie	Peter Glinn
Bessie Vale	Emily Downs
Mrs Vale	Wendy Downs
Gypsy woman	Mary Coyte
Mrs Parkhurst	Mavis Standing
Elsie Parkhurst	Emily Downs
Diana Thompson	Isabelle Glinn
Eileen Leggett	Sarah Wellen
Capt. Byfield	Peter Glinn
Sam, the shepherd	David Irwin
Mrs Leggett	Kay McGregor
Peter Thompson (at 8 years)	Katherine Wellen
Chairman of cable company	John McGregor

Production Team

Author/Director	John Owen Smith
Stage Manager/Scenery construction	Paul Heath/Martin Wellen
Wardrobe	Dil Williamson & helpers
Properties	Kay McGregor, Mavis Standing & helpers
Publicity distribution	Pru Harrold
Transport	Simon Coyte

and thanks to all those others who have helped with this production in any way

Acknowledgements

Alexa Barrow: fishing rods, shepherd's crook; Rural Life Centre, Tilford: camera, bicycle; The Phoenix Centre, Bordon: smock; Mavis Standing: Mills bomb, soldier's uniform

SCENES OF THE PLAY

Act 1 - 1916-18

Prelude: Flanders, April 1916

Scene 1: Flora's garden in Bournemouth, April 1916

Scene 2: Canadian army camp, near Liphook, September 1916

Scene 3: Liphook Post Office, later that morning

Scene 4: Lynchmere Common

Scene 5: Flora's room, Liphook Post Office

Scene 6: On the road from Forest Mere

Scene 7: The Postmaster's house, soon after

Scene 8: On the Road with Maggie Tidy

Scene 9: Liphook Post Office, summer 1917

Scene 10: On Bramshott Common, later that day

Scene 11: Liphook Post Office, soon after

Scene 12: On the Road with Bill & Maggie Tidy

Scene 13: Flora's room, Liphook Post Office, early 1918

Scene 14: A street in Liphook, at the same time

Scene 15: Flora's room, Liphook Post Office, at the same time

Scene 16: Split scene - Flora and Louie

INTERVAL

Act 2 - 1926-28

Scene 17: An open space near Liphook, summer 1926

Scene 18: Liphook Post Office, a few days later

Scene 19: In the garden of the Postmaster's house, a few weeks later

Scene 20: Liphook Post Office, at the same time

Scene 21: On Weavers Down soon after

Scene 22: The Leggett's farm, Griggs Green, a few weeks later

Scene 23: 'Woolmer Gate', Griggs Green, soon after

Scene 24: Liphook Post Office, early morning a few weeks later

Scene 25: Weavers Down, early spring 1927

Scene 26: The Telephone Exchange, Liphook Post Office

Scene 27: 'Woolmer Gate', Griggs Green, soon after

Scene 28: Lynchmere Common

Scene 29: The Leggett's farm, Griggs Green, a few weeks later

Scene 30: Hewshott House, Liphook, summer 1927

Scene 31: 'Woolmer Gate', Griggs Green, some time later

Scene 32: 'Woolmer Gate', Griggs Green, autumn 1928

Scene 33: Dartmouth, Devon, April 1937

Scene 34: Brixham, Devon, May 1947

EDITED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1916 Apr: Flora's brother Edwin killed in action in Belgium
Aug: Thompson family moves from Bournemouth to Liphook
- 1918 Oct 19: Peter Redmond Thompson born in Liphook
- 1921 Book of Flora's poems published: *Bog Myrtle & Peat* - her first publicity
- 1922 Flora begins writing her 'Peverel Papers' nature notes
Sept: Basil Thompson starts at Churchers College (age 12)
- 1923 Peter Thompson starts school (age 5)
- 1925 Flora helps to write the *Guide to Liphook*
- 1926 Feb: Basil Thompson and Cecil Cluer (engaged to Diana) go out to Queensland
Thompsons buy *Woolmer Gate* at Griggs Green
- 1927 July 6: Vacancy for postmaster at Dartmouth advertised
Aug 3: Appointment of John Thompson to Dartmouth recorded
Sep 9: *Woolmer Gate* put on the market
Nov: John Thompson moves to Dartmouth - Flora, Diana & Peter stay behind in Griggs Green
- 1928 Autumn: Thompsons move from Griggs Green
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- 1935 John Thompson retires
- 1938 'Lark Rise' accepted by the Oxford University Press
- 1939 Mar: 'Lark Rise' published
Flora starts writing 'Over to Candleford'
- 1940 Thompsons move from Dartmouth to Brixham
- 1941 Sept: Peter Thompson lost at sea, aged 22
- 1942 Flora writes 'Candleford Green'
- 1943 Jan: 'Candleford Green' published
- 1944 Flora writes 'Heatherley'
- 1945 Apr: Trilogy of 'Lark Rise to Candleford' published
Flora starts writing 'Still Glides the Stream'
- 1946 Aug: 'Still Glides the Stream' completed
- 1947 May 21: Flora dies in bed in the evening, aged 70
- 1948 Jul 13: John Thompson dies, aged 74
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Further productions by Headley Theatre Club

2007: October 5, 6 Music Hall of 1899

2008: January 11, 12 / 18, 19 Sleeping Beauty

www.headley-village.com/drama/ or 01428 712892 for further details