

The Railway Children

by Edith Nesbit adapted by Dave Simpson

Performed by Headley Theatre Club

at Headley Village Hall

11, 12 April 2008

and at the Rural Life Centre, Tilford

13 April 2008

The book has been read and loved by successive generations of children and has been adapted more than once for television and cinema. I first thought about directing the play to coincide with the hundredth anniversary of the publication of the book (in 1906) but it was not then possible to fit it in to the club's busy schedule. The story is timeless and rightly deserves to be considered a classic; the play adds another dimension with prominent supporting roles given to the children of Perks (the station porter played by Bernard Cribbins in the film) and places more emphasis on the humour. We are fortunate in having some very good young actors in the club and it has been great fun working with all the cast and crew. We are grateful for the support we have had from the Rural Life Centre and are looking forward to performing there on Sunday.

The club is keen to encourage youngsters and family. I first got involved soon after my parents, Stan and Joan, moved to Headley in 1968 and I would like to feel that I have helped pass on to others the enjoyment which I have had from being involved. I would like to dedicate these performances to my parents and to all those who have helped to keep the Club a regular contributor to village life over the last 55 years.

Rod Sharp.

Cast

Perks	David Burnham
Mother	Sarah Cain
Roberta	Isabelle Glinn
Phyllis	Emily Downs
Peter	Christopher Potts
Father	Peter Glinn
Mrs James	Lisa Beasley
Mrs Walker	Kay McGregor
John	Lee Carter
Edith	Sammi Gedsyk
Alfred	Carlton Bone
Bert	Alex Clark
Dr Forrest	Paul Kosinski
Mrs Shepherd	Karina Farnlucher
Mr Szczepansky	Jo Smith
District Superintendent	David Green
Old Gentleman	John McGregor
Mrs Perks	Mel White
Jim	Dan Radford

Scenes

The action takes place in and around a country station and The Three Chimneys Cottage in a Hampshire village in 1908.

There are two Acts with an interval of about ten minutes when refreshments will be available in the foyer (at Headley).

Production Team

Director Rod Sharp
Producers Tina Wareham, Rachel Whittaker
Wardrobe Wendy Downs, Dil Williamson-Smith
Stage Manager Paul Heath
Stage Crew and set construction Paul Heath, David Green
Graham Potts, Dan Radford, Paul Wareham, Nick Webb
Lighting and sound Pru Harrold, Paul Kosinski, Peter Kosinski
Front of House Maggie Farnlucher, Jo Levy,
Mike Measures, Mavis Standing

Dramatic Events in 2008

April 26 Bard's Night, celebrating Shakespeare, England and St George!
July 12 'Casino Royale' evening – time to 'Bond' with us!
and even have a small flutter
Aug 22/23 'The Third Week in August' by Peter Gordon
– and bless me, it is too!
Oct 10/11 An evening of One-Act plays with supper
... and by Jan 9/10 & 16/17, 2009 — it will be pantomime time again!!

**To go on our Mailing List, contact Dil Williamson
01428 712892 or drama@headley-village.com**

**Our thanks to all those who sold tickets for us,
especially Tina's Hairdressers, and Alfred Whittle & Sons (Headley Down)**

Cast Notes

Isabelle Glinn (*Roberta*) “I’d do anything to make sure Mother gets well again”

Emily Downs (*Phyllis*) “Oh... my bootlace has come undone again”

Christopher Potts (*Peter*) “Where’s the hammer?”

Sarah Cain (*Mother*) “I’m afraid it’s inside the box”

David Burnham (*Perks*) “Well, it’s a story long enough to make a whole book”

Mel White (*Mrs Perks*) “Goodness gracious me! I don’t believe it”

John McGregor (*Old Gentleman*) “I hope she will forgive me for the liberty of allowing myself a great pleasure”

Paul Kosinski (*Dr Forrest*) “Now then, what have we here?”

Jo Smith (*Mr Szczepansky*) “Je parle français ... je suis malade”

David Green (*District Superintendent*) “And thank you all very much for coming”

Lisa Beasley (*Mrs James*) “I say the police should deal with it”

Kay McGregor (*Mrs Walker*) “Kids are only kids, aren’t they?”

Karina Farnlucher (*Mrs Shepherd*) “It’s the plague!”

Peter Glinn (*Father*) “I don’t want too many lines to learn”

Lee Carter (*John*) “It’s only a bit of fun”

Carlton Bone (*Alfred*) “I say, what a ripping idea!”

Alex Clark (*Bert*) “I were only saying”

Sammi Gedsyk (*Edith*) “Yer what?”

Dan Radford (*Jim*) “I do hate to be such trouble”

Visit the Headley Theatre Club website
www.headley-village.com/drama/