



Blithe Spirit



*Frayed Knot
Theatre Company
presents a
NOEL COWARD
comedy
in association with
Samuel French Ltd.*

**COURT
THEATRE
PENDLEY
2nd - 5th
NOVEMBER**



**PROGRAMME
50p**

J.R. Smith (Transport) Limited

Would like to wish

Frayed Knot

Every success with their production of

Blithe Spirit



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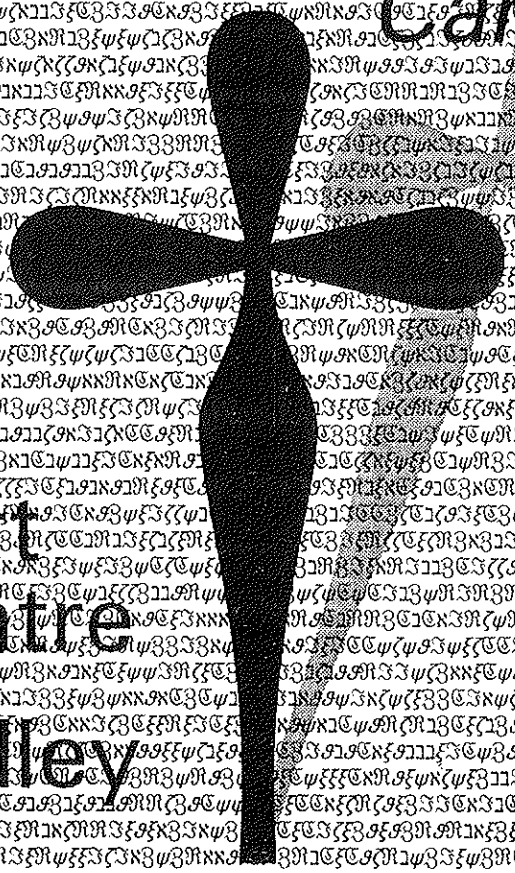
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Prices & Opening Times correct at time of publication. Please check before travelling.

26th 29th April 1995
 The Court Theatre Pendleley
 Marreau and the Sword of Carthage
 Frayed Knot Theatre Company
 presents
 Blithe Spirit
 by
 Noël Coward
 Previous Productions
 1991
 Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman
 (Co-production with Phoenix Theatre Company)
 1992
 Marreau and the African Moon
 1993
 Marreau and the Curse of Cardiff
 D.F.C. / Moby Dick : double bill
 1994
 Marreau and the Bloody Carpet
 Current & Future Productions
 1994
 Blithe Spirit
 1995
 Marreau and the Sword of Carthage
 Second show yet to be decided



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Blithe Spirit by Noël Coward

Cast in order of appearance

Charles Condomine	An Author	Stewart Collins
Ruth	His second wife	Vi Malcolm
Edith	Their maid	Belinda Rose
Dr. Bradman	A family friend	Nigel Froment
Mrs. Bradman	His Wife	Jacqui Hildreth
Madame Arcati	A Medium	Jenny Booth
Elvira	Charles' late wife	Jan Jones

<i>Directed by</i>	Ian Wells
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Rob Farrow
<i>Lighting</i>	Jason Potter
<i>Back Stage</i>	Colin Bryer
	Johann Meadows
<i>Box Office Manager</i>	Jackie Farrow
<i>Front-of-House Manager</i>	Dave Clayden
<i>Props Mistress</i>	Sue Suchter
<i>Make-up</i>	Sue Hyde

Blithe Spirit by Noël Coward

ACT I

*The lounge of the Condomine's house
Shortly before the outbreak of World War II*

***** Interval of 20 minutes *****

ACT II

The same, somewhat later

***** Short interval *****

ACT III

The same, later still

Director's Note

Blithe Spirit is undoubtedly one of Noël Coward's most popular plays. The reasons for this I hope will unfold before you tonight. Amazingly, this play was written in the space of only five days while Coward was staying in Portmeirion in Wales during 1941. He himself said : "It was not meticulously constructed in advance and only one day elapsed between its original conception and the moment I sat down to write it." It was first produced only six weeks later, directed by Coward, and ran for four and a half years. Coward himself, briefly, played the rôle of Charles during both this first long run and the subsequent provincial tour. The film was made in 1944 and the play has been revived in the West End several times.

The small cast, the nature of the characters themselves and, indeed, the relatively simple staging needed, make this an ideal production for the amateur stage. I do hope that you will enjoy it.

Ian Wells

Frayed Knot Theatre Company

Blithe Spirit

About the cast

Stewart Collins *Stewart has appeared in many shows in and around Tring, with a number of Theatre companies including Vale Gilbert & Sullivan Society and Tring Festival Company, recently playing a major rôle in T.F.C.s production of " Abigail's Party ".*

This is however his first performance with "Frayed Knot", though I'm sure it will not be his last.

Vi Malcolm *A founder member of "Frayed Knot", Vi has been in every one of our shows so far, though this is probably her largest rôle to date. As with a number of our members Vi lives in Cheddington and is involved with that village's panto.*

Belinda Rose *Belinda was in our production of "Moby Dick" last year, but appears to have recovered ! Like Stewart, Belinda appeared in T.F.C.'s " Abigail's Party " as a rather "dippy" nurse - to much acclaim.*

Nigel Froment *Another "Frayed Knot" regular, Nigel will no doubt relish a rôle which doesn't require him to die in strange circumstances, as seems to be his fate in most of the Marreaus !*

Jacqui Hildreth *Jacqui joined our society last year to do "Moby Dick" and has since appeared in "Marreau and the Bloody Carpet" and now in this production - this suggests that she's in danger of becoming one of our stalwarts !*

Jenny Booth *Talking of stalwarts ! Jenny is another of our founder members and has also appeared in all of our productions to date, notably as Gwendolyn in the Marreau plays. She has also acted with Phoenix Theatre Co., Festival Company and a number of others.*

Jan Jones *Jan was "Larkspur Simnel" in "Marreau and the Bloody Carpet" and appeared in "Curse of Cardiff" too. The rôle of "Elvira" will, I am sure, give Jan an ideal opportunity to display her acting talents.*

Frayed Knot Theatre Company

Why not join us ?

We're on the look out for

Actors

Actresses

Those technically minded

Back-stage crew

A warm welcome awaits anybody who fancies getting involved

We have lots of interesting ideas for the future, but would like more members

Previous experience in Theatre is not required

Why not give one of us a ring

Membership is only £5.00 a year

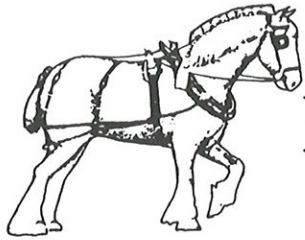
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Colin Bryer (0296) 668033 {Home} (0525) 370013 {Work}

Graham Double (0442) 825422 {Work}

Regina Dobbs (0442) 826324 {Home}



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