

Message from the Director

Like many people I remember watching "The Railway Children" at the cinema and becoming engrossed in the lives of Roberta, Phyllis and Peter as the story of their adventures unfolded. When I discovered that a play had been written based upon the novel I knew it would be an ideal choice for our theatre. It is both heart-warming and funny. True family entertainment at it's best. As usual, the members of our Youth Theatre have committed themselves to a very demanding and intense rehearsal schedule. They have worked with dedication and creativity to bring to life both the familiar characters and the busy village in which they live.

It has been a rewarding and humbling experience to work with this very young, incredibly talented cast. They have made me laugh and cry (for all the right reasons!). I am very proud of each of them.

I hope you enjoy stepping back to late Victorian England and the time of the steam train as much as we have.

I would like to express my thanks to the Youth Committee, Sue Palmer and Paul Wilkinson for their support and friendship.

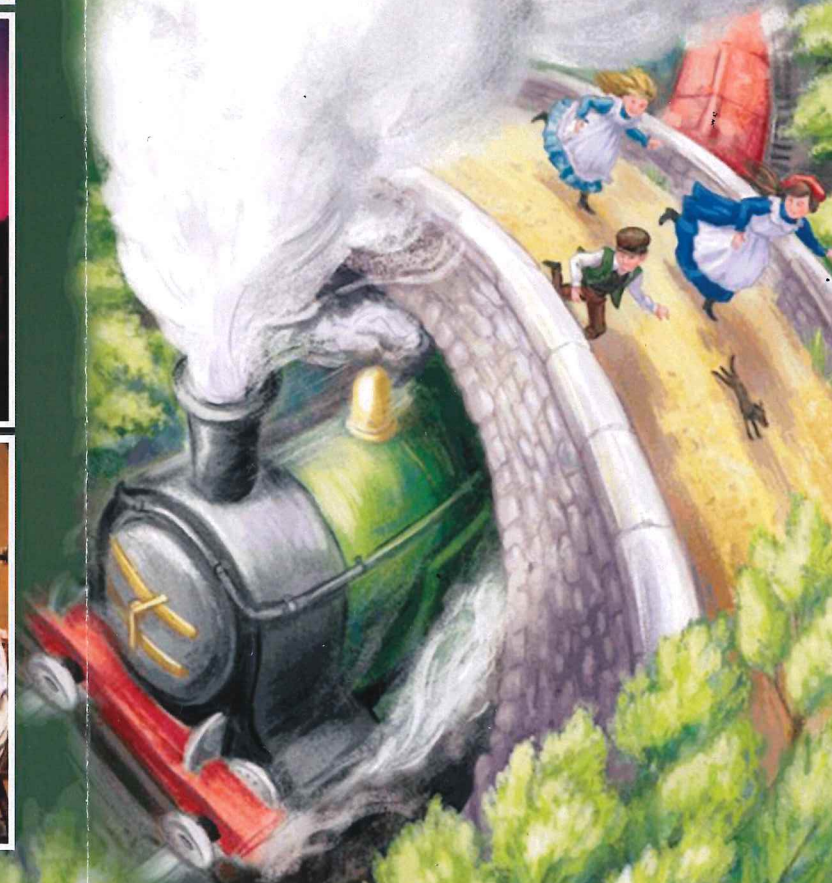
Production Photographs



SDC YOUTH THEATRE PRESENT

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

BY E. NESBIT



Cast

Railway Children:

Roberta..... Eleanor Gillow
Phyllis..... Martha Jenkinson
Peter..... Joseph Evans Bloom

Family and friends

Mother.....Rebecca Molineux
Mr Perks.....Zack Johnson
Mrs Perks..... Alexandra Molton
Georgie..... Hayleigh Griffin
Annie..... Bethany Griffin
Edith..... Ellen Ashcroft
Harriet.....Sophie Jones
Edward..... Dylan Capper
Baby Victoria.... Herself
Old Gentleman..Jamie Lonsdale
Mr Szczepansky..Robbie Fletcher-Hill
Dr Forrest..... Nick Fisher
Mrs Viney..... Eleanor Morris
Mayoress..... Georgia Daly

Thankyou to the children of Room 13 at Farnborough Road Infants for the kind loan of Baby Victoria.

The cast would like to remember the support and friendship of Alistair Hewitt who believed strongly in developing all aspects of youth theatre.

Youth Theatre Committee:

Stephen Hughes Alty, Marilyn Fletcher-Hill, James Hughes Alty, Hilary Thompson

Crew

Director.....Marilyn Fletcher-Hill
Stage Manager..... Ceri Powell
SoundBernie Howat
Lighting.....Michael Clark
and Andrea Jenkinson
Set Design.....Sid Coley
Set Dressing.....Paul Wilkinson and Marilyn Fletcher-Hill
Construction..... Alan Morris and Team.
Wardrobe..... James Hughes Alty
Properties Barry & Jo Johnson
Matron Sue Palmer
Photographs.....Fletcher-Hill Photography

There will be an interval of twenty minutes between the two acts when refreshments are available in the foyer or in our bar downstairs. Drinks may be pre- ordered for your convenience.

Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off . The use of photography and recording equipment is strictly prohibited for reasons of safeguarding and copyright.

The Railway Children

The Southport Dramatic Club Youth Group proudly present their March production of that well known classic tale "The Railway Children," by E. Nesbit. Most of us are familiar with either the book or the iconic 1970 film of the same name.

The novel has been thoughtfully adapted for the stage and stays true to the story, using Station Master Perks as a central character alongside the three "railway children", Roberta, Phyllis and Peter.

The children have lived in a happy, comfortable upper middle-class home in Edwardian London. One night in 1905, they see their father usher two strangers into his study. After an argument he leaves with them and does not return.

They and their mother fall on hard times and eventually move to a cottage in the country. Yet they keep their spirits up and soon find friends within the village community.

They become involved in the antics of the other village children and also find ways to help others.

Fascinated by the nearby steam railway, they wave to the passengers faithfully every day, and their vigilance and courage prevent an accident. Their kindness makes friends of some important people who can help solve the mystery of their missing father.

We hope you enjoy our train journey as much as we do.