

Traged Knot Theatre Company

presents

Oscar Wilde's

**THE
IMPORTANCE
OF BEING
EARNEST**

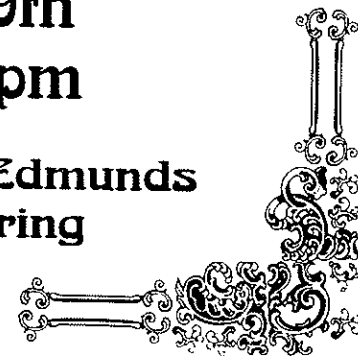


**The Court Theatre
Pendley**

April 16th -19th

7.30 for 8.00 pm

**Tickets from Michael Edmunds
Dolphin Square, Tring**



Vale Gilbert & Sullivan Society
Presents that fun show
HMS Pinafore
by Gilbert & Sullivan

**The Court Theatre,
Pendley, Tring, Herts.**
On to 10th May 1997 at 8 pm
(Saturday Matinee - 2.30 p.m.)

Doors & Bar Open 7.30 p.m.

Tickets from John Copas Tel 01442 381420
&
Michael Edmunds 2 Church Yard, Tring

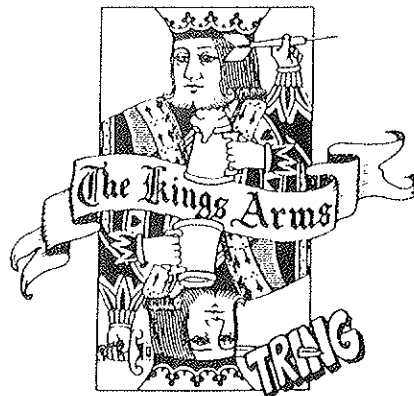
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(in addition to set building!)

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after the Show . . .



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

FRAYED KNOT THEATRE COMPANY

A Brief History

Frayed Knot Theatre Company was established in 1991 and is therefore now in its sixth year. The Tring area is remarkably well endowed with Amateur Dramatic societies and the nascent Frayed Knot had to work hard to establish itself. As we were an unknown company with very little working capital, customary wisdom may have suggested that our best course of action was to perform a very well-known play to attract the largest possible audience - 'fraid not ! The at-that-time unnamed Frayed Knot performed **Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman** an unknown play by an unknown author - with the help of Phoenix Theatre Company. The first performance being at Marsworth Village Hall, to an audience of about fifteen. The play was well received and the cast enjoyed performing it and so it was decided that the sequel, **African Moon** would be the next production. Frayed Knot produced this in Spring 1992 as the company's first solo venture. 1993 was an important year for the company, firstly because we performed two shows in the year, secondly because we performed our first "Course Acting" play, **Moby Dick**, and thirdly because we were able to put the show on at Pendley, something which would have been financially unthinkable a couple of years before. In 1994, as well as the now customary Marreau, we staged our first well-known play **Blithe Spirit**. Last year saw the fifth of the Marreau sequence and our first melodrama, **Sweeney Todd, the barber**. 1996 was an adventurous year for the company, as we staged three productions; in April we performed a production of the **Farndale Macbeth** - our most technically tricky show to date - which was very well received. Then in September we performed the sixth - and probably final **Marreau**, in his fateful encounter with the *Clouds of Death* and in November we performed the comedy, "**Party Piece**" - which had our most complicated set to date. The Importance of Being Earnest is the first of our three productions for 1997 - and an excellent way to start the season it is !

The company is continuing to grow steadily, and we are looking forward to many more successful shows in the coming years. - we hope we will have the pleasure of your company once again at our next production in September - Three comedies - see below for details.

Rob Farrow, Publicity Officer.

Our Next Production

*Three One-Act Comedies :
Knightsbridge, Never the Twain and Pastiche*

September 17th - 20th 1997

FRAYED KNOT THEATRE COMPANY

presents

The Importance of Being Earnest

by

Oscar Wilde

Previous Productions

1991

Marreau and the Chocolate Policeman
(A 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
Blithe Spirit

1995

Marreau and the Sword of Carthage
Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber

1996

Farndale Macbeth
Marreau and the Clouds of Death
Party Piece

Forthcoming Productions

1997

Three One-Act Comedies
(Knightsbridge, Never the Twain and Pastiche)
and a show near Christmas

At The Court Theatre, Pendley.

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

The Cast

John (Jack) Worthing J.P.	Ian Wells
Algernon Moncrieff	Matt Cox
Lady Bracknell	Sue Tumelty
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax	Vi Malcolm
Cecily Cardew	Jessica Harrison
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D.	Colin Bryer
Miss Prism	Lynda Hunt
Merriman (Butler)	Stephen Gilson
Lane (Manservant)	Mick Sane

<i>Directed by</i>	Ken Hayes
<i>Assistant Director</i>	Jacqui Hildreth
<i>Producer & Stage Manager</i>	Kate Harvey
<i>Technical Director</i>	Johann Meadows
<i>Wardrobe Mistress</i>	Maria Cook
<i>Lighting</i>	Jeff Yates
<i>Sound</i>	Norman Ward
<i>F.O.H. Manager</i>	Colin Hunt
<i>Publicity & Programme</i>	Rob Farrow
<i>Set Dressing & Crew</i>	Matthew Barret
	Sarah Hawkins
	Neil Gurney

Thanks to all who helped with set construction

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

Scenes

ACT I

Algernon Moncrieff's flat, Half-Moon St., London

ACT II Scene 1

Garden of the Manor House, Woolton

== Interval of 20 minutes ==

ACT II Scene 2

The same, a moment later

ACT III

Drawing Room, the Manor House, Woolton

We would like to thank our sponsors, Matthew Homes Ltd. for their support

Director's Note

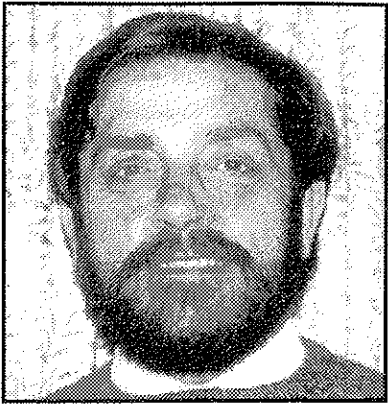
The Importance of Being Earnest is Wilde's masterpiece. "It is exquisitely trivial, a delicate bubble of fancy, and it has its philosophy", he said of it. That philosophy, he explained, was "that we should treat all the trivial things of life seriously, and all the serious things of life with sincere and studied triviality"

Set in the elegant and luxurious world of English manor houses and Mayfair at the end of the nineteenth century, it is the most light hearted of comedies. Its nine characters are as enjoyable as they are altogether impossible. "The first act is ingenious" said Wilde, "the second, beautiful, and the third abominably clever."

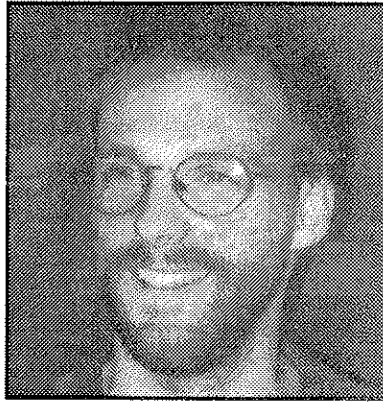
I feel very fortunate indeed in being allowed this play for my debut as a director and am indebted, as I'm sure you'll agree, to such a hugely talented cast and crew that have worked so hard to bring you this truly "ingenious, beautiful and abominably clever" production.

We've enjoyed it enormously - we hope you will too.

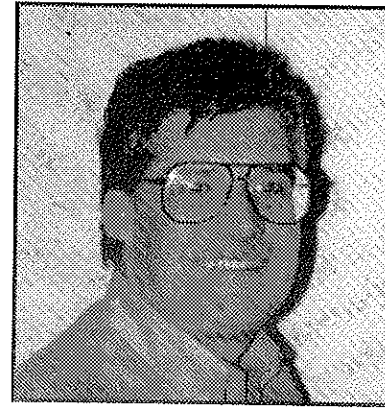
Ken Hayes, Director.



Jack Worthing - Ian Wells



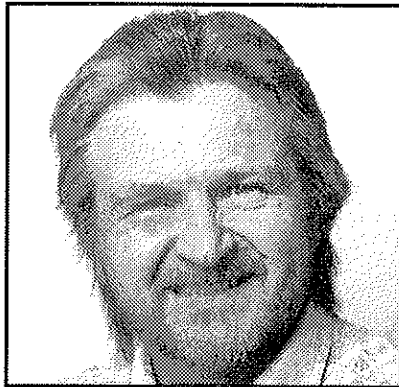
Algernon Moncrieff - Matt Cox



Rev. Chasuble - Colin Bryer



Miss Prism - Lynda Hunt



Director - Ken Hayes



Lady Bracknell - Sue Tumelty



Gwendolen Fairfax - Vi Malcolm



Cecily Cardew - Jessica Harrison



Merriman - Stephen Gilson



Lane - Mick Sane

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

Here are a few phone numbers

Jacque Hildreth (01296) 662732 {Home}

Sue Tumelty (01442) 822212 {Work}

Kate Harvey (01442) 826600 {Home}

Rob & Jackie Farrow (01442) 381739 {Home} (01707) 655550 {Work}

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