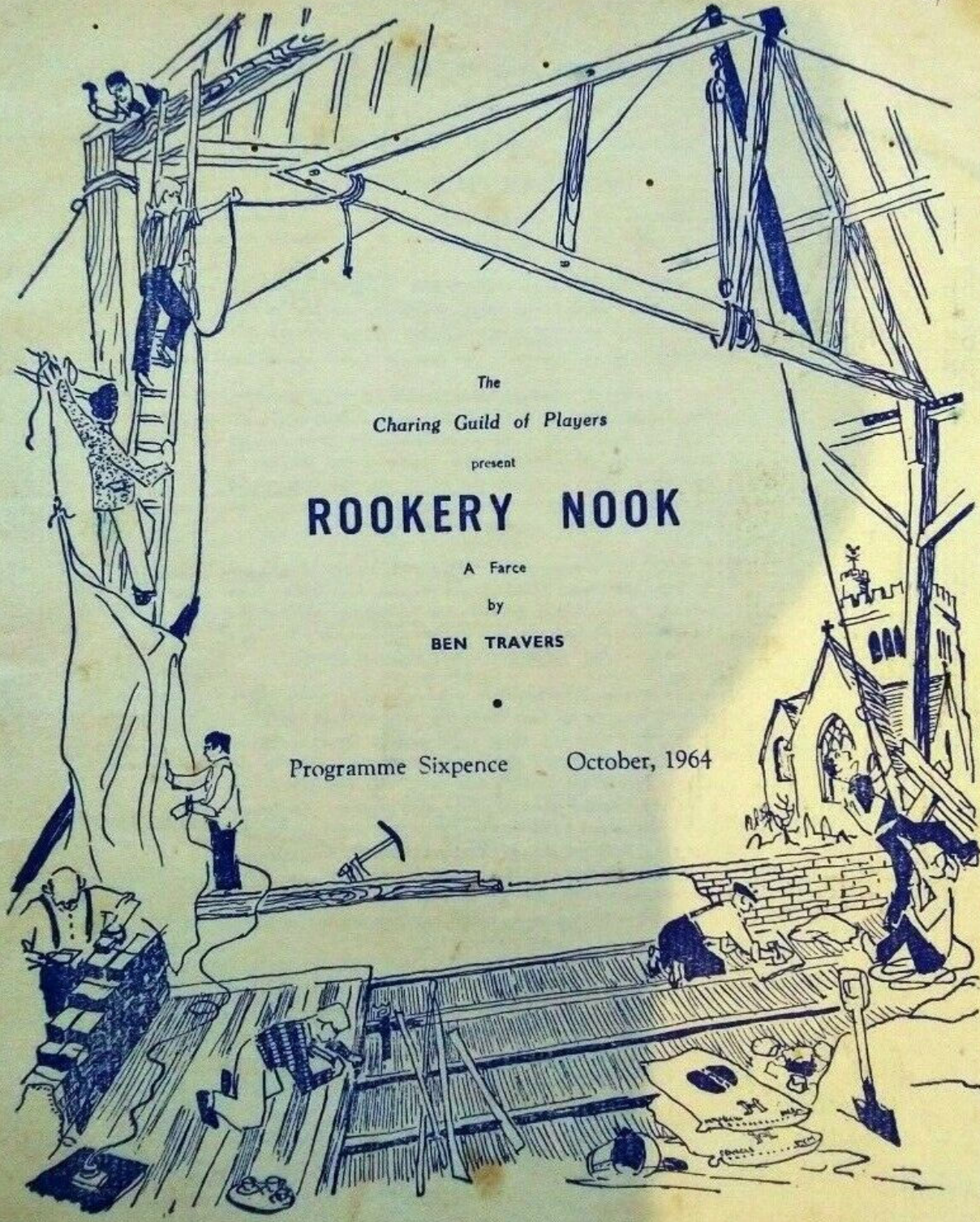


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The
Charing Guild of Players
present

ROOKERY NOOK

A Farce
by
BEN TRAVERS

Programme Sixpence October, 1964

About the Play

Ben Travers wrote "ROOKERY NOOK" during the run of "A Cuckoo in the Nest," which was the first of nine Travers farces produced at the Aldwych Theatre between 1925 and 1933.

Speaking of "Rookery Nook" and the Aldwych Company, Ben Travers once said "After 'Cuckoo in the Nest' I'd got them all pretty well taped personalities, and then the job started of writing plays for these people. I had the job of devising a story in which the action and the lines would introduce two leading characters of the same importance. Not only that—getting the same number of laughs!"

And of the technique of writing farce, he had this to say—"I remember once telling Pinero that I had learnt stage technique from studying his plays, and I asked him which of the lot had been his favourite, and he put his face close to mine and said 'My boy, the one that made the most money.'"

And one last story. In rehearsal, Ben Travers had a constant struggle to keep the peace between Tom Walls and Ralph Lynn. One day, when a girl new to the company was being rehearsed, Travers decided that she wasn't right for the part. "Tom Walls wouldn't hear of it. He said 'Don't you make any mistake—she's as clever as a monkey.' So I went back to Ralph and I said 'It's no good Ralph, we've got to have that girl. Tom says she's as clever as a monkey.' And rehearsal went on, with this girl, that same morning, and I saw Ralph staring towards me, and he came to the chair where I was sitting and whispered to me 'Some monkeys are not so bloody clever.'"

Well, we don't seem to have said much about "Rookery Nook." Perhaps that's because it's better to see it than to talk about it. You're going to see it now. After six weeks' rehearsal, it still makes us laugh. We hope very much that you'll share our pleasure this evening.

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ROOKERY NOOK

Characters in the order of their appearance:—

GERTRUDE TWINE	BIDDY HOLMAN
MRS. LEVERETT	...	...	...	...	MARGERY YAXLEY
HAROLD TWINE	...	...	...	...	FRED BODDY
CLIVE POPKISS	...	...	...	...	PHILIP HOLLAND
GERALD POPKISS	...	...	...	...	GORDON PAYNE
RHODA MARLEY	...	...	...	...	JENNY BURGESS
PUTZ	...	...	...	...	BOB YAXLEY
ADMIRAL JUDDY	...	...	...	...	PETER ROBBINS
POPPY DICKEY	...	...	...	...	GWEN HAFFENDEN
CLARA POPKISS	...	...	...	...	YVONNE HARVEY
MRS. POSSETT	...	...	...	...	PAT WINZAR

The Play Directed by **GEORGE HUTCHINSON**

Decor by **JESS HUTCHINSON**

The action of the play takes place in the lounge-hall of "Rookery Nook," Chumpton-on-Sea, Somerset.

- ACT I. - a night in Summer
ACT II. - next morning
ACT III. - about two and a half hours later
Time - The Twenties
-

There will be an interval of ten minutes between Act I. and Act II., and of five minutes between Act II. and Act III.

STAGE MANAGER	...	...	...	...	JOHN PURVIS
Assistant Stage Manager	...	...	...	...	Margaret Ruglys
Stage Crew	...	...	...	...	Don Woof, Frank Darby
Setting	...	...	...	built and painted by Jess Hutchinson and Members of the Guild	
Lighting by	...	...	...	...	David Cackett, Allen Ramsey
Sound by	...	...	...	...	Tony Bryan, Kevin Hart
Properties	...	...	...	...	Marjorie Machin, Peggy Foreman
Costumes	...	...	...	...	The Guild of Players Wardrobe
Make-up	...	...	...	...	Ruby Bowles

The Charing Guild of Players is most grateful to all those who have helped in so many ways to make this production possible.

It is requested that gifts intended for members of the Company should not be presented during the performance, but should instead be left at the Stage Door.

**THE CHARING GUILD OF PLAYERS
CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION**

"THE GOLDEN PLAIT or -The Stone Cage"

by NICHOLAS STUART GRAY

A Play for children of all ages

Directed by FRED BODDY

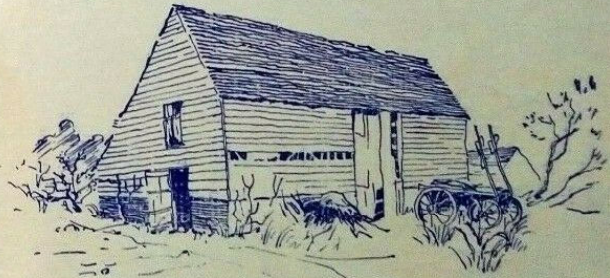
The Box Office will open to Members and Friends of the Guild on Wednesday, December 9th, and to the general public on Wednesday, December 16th.

Full details of membership, and of the Friends of the Guild of Players, may be obtained from Miss Marjorie Machin, Richmond House, Charing (Charing 366) or from the Secretary, Miss Margaret Ruglys, Forge House, Charing (Charing 513).

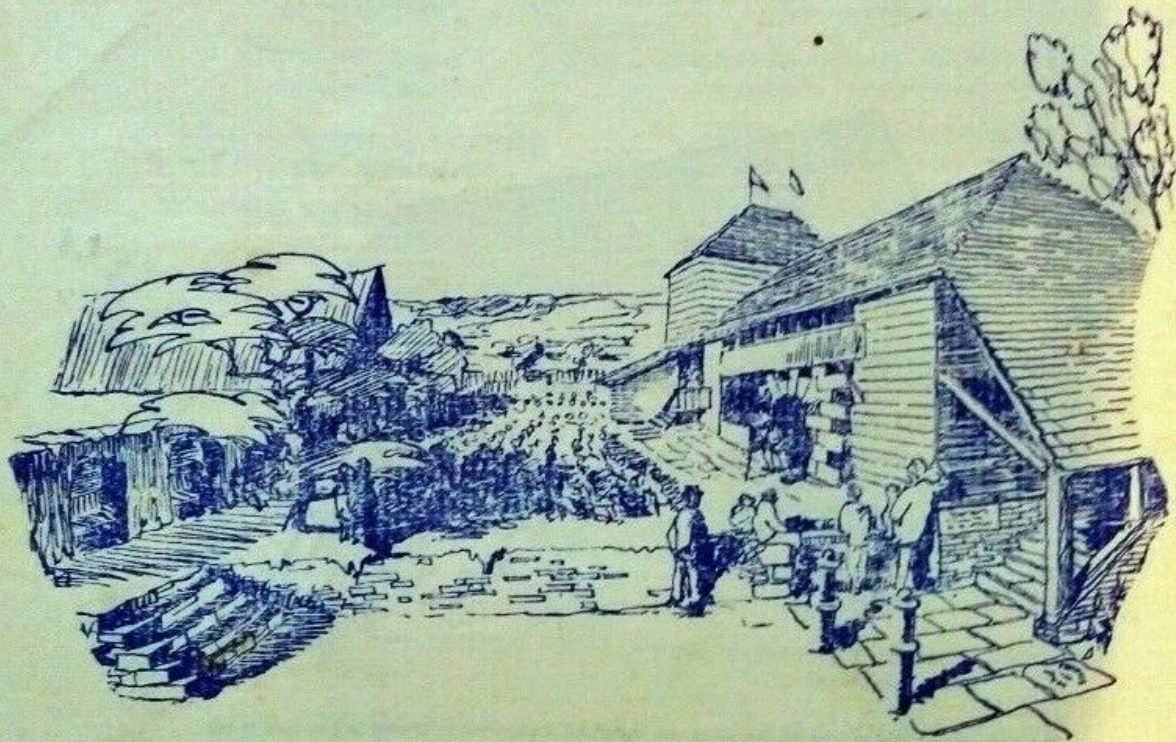
Previous Productions by The Charing Guild of Players

- "QUIET WEEKEND"
by Esther MacCracken
- "TREASURE HUNT"
by M. J. Farrell and John Perry
- "THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS"
by William Douglas Home
- "THE HOUSEMASTER"
by Ian Hay
- "WHEN WE ARE MARRIED"
by J. B. Priestley
- "GASLIGHT"
by Patrick Hamilton
and in the Church Barn:
- "THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING"
by Christopher Fry
- "AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT"
by Eugene Labiche and Marc-Michel
- "ARMS AND THE MAN"
by Bernard Shaw
- "THE CITY GALLANT"
by John Cooke
- "THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE"
by John Dighton
- "TOAD OF TOAD HALL"
by A. A. Milne
- "DUCKLING CREEK"
by Philip Holland (First Production)
- "MY THREE ANGELS"
by Sam and Bella Spawack
- "CHRISTMAS IN THE MARKET PLACE"
by Henri Gheon, translated by Eric Crozier
- "THE RECRUITING OFFICER"
by George Farquhar
- "THE RESTORATION REVUE"
Book and Lyrics by Philip Holland Music by Ron Shephard
- "POET AND PHEASANT"
by Willis Hall and Lewis Jones
- "BEAUTY & THE BEAST"
by Nicholas Stuart Gray
- "THE PARAGON"
by Roland and Michael Pertwee
- "THE EDWARDIAN REVUE"
Book and Lyrics by Philip Holland Music by Ron Shephard
- "HOBSON'S CHOICE"
by Harold Brighouse
- "NEW CLOTHES FOR THE EMPEROR"
by Nicholas Stuart Gray
- "ALL MY SONS"
by Arthur Miller
- "BLITHE SPIRIT"
by Noel Coward
- "THE HOLLY AND THE IVY"
by Wynard Browne
- "OUR TOWN"
by Thornton Wilder

By the kind co-operation of Mr. and Mrs. H. Foxon, the Box Office for the Productions of the Charing Guild of Players is at FOXON'S STORES, Charing (Tel.: Charing 245)



The 17th century barn at High Helden which was dismantled, transported to Charing and re-built at the Church Barn, Charing



The Church Barn, Charing was designed by Francis Pym, F.R.I.B.A. and built by voluntary labour. It was completed in 1958, and in 1959 was awarded a certificate by the Civic Trust under the County Amenity Award Scheme.