



The Guild Players are part of Finchley Methodist Church but we also have many people connected with us from the surrounding community. New members are always welcome, whether you are interested in acting or backstage roles. If you would like further details of the Players or would like to join, please contact our membership secretary, Betty Robertson, on 020 xxxx xxxx.

Our production dates for 2004 are planned to be:

- Touring Easter Production April 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>
- Spring Production May 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>
- Autumn Production November 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to receive details of our forthcoming productions, please phone the Box Office on 020 xxxx xxxx and ask to be added to the Guild Players Mailing List.

For more information, including photos of past productions, visit our extensive website at [www.guildplayers.org.uk](http://www.guildplayers.org.uk)

### Past Guild Players Productions

1993	The Old Country	Dick Whittington
1994	See How They Run	Alphabetical Order
1995	The Vigil	Jack And The Beanstalk
1996	Rebecca	The Marry-Go-Round
1997	Four Plays For Coarse Actors	Aladdin
1998	A Murder Is Announced	Trelawney Of The Wells
1999	Barefoot In The Park	Robinson Crusoe
2000	Lord Arthur Savile's Crime	It Runs In The Family
2001	The Importance Of Being Earnest	Cinderella
2002	Absent Friends	Holmes Sweet Holmes
2003	Will You Take This Woman?	



[www.guildplayers.org.uk](http://www.guildplayers.org.uk)

present...

# the wonderful story of Mother Goose

a  
traditional  
family  
pantomime  
by  
Norman  
Robbins

at  
Finchley Methodist Church Hall  
Ballards Lane, Finchley  
London, N3

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 10th December at 7.45 pm  
Thursday 11th December at 7.45 pm  
Friday 12th December at 7.45 pm  
Saturday 13th December at 3.00 pm and 7.45 pm

**W**elcome to The Guild Players autumn production.

As is our usual custom, The Guild Players do not charge for your programme. However there are a number of collecting boxes for 'The Friends of Finchley Memorial Hospital' in the foyer and we would be grateful if you could make a contribution to this good cause.

Your generosity at our last six productions has raised around £750 to support our local hospital.

Please be generous again. Many thanks.

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Profit from the performance on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December will be donated to two small local charities:

- The Joseph Fox Youth Trust
- The Renee Heatherington Memorial Trust

### The Joseph Fox Youth Trust

Joe Fox was a member of The Guild Players and involved in youth work in Finchley Methodist Church for many years. The Trust set up in his name gives small grants to help children and young people in youth groups in Barnet to attend residential events, training courses, camps etc. The Trustees have given almost £1000 in grants in the last year.



Registered  
Charity  
No. 1046287

### The Renee Heatherington Memorial Trust

Registered Charity  
No. 1058667

Renee Heatherington played many leading roles in Guild Players productions and directed some of the Players most successful offerings. For 34 years she was one of this country's leading counsellors. The Trust provides bursaries for needy students studying for counselling qualifications and has recently also supported work in prisons, training inmates in counselling skills.

## Putting the production together...

### Director - Mike Sparks

Mike is an experienced actor and director. This is his sixth pantomime for the Guild Players. He collaborated with Carole Catley in writing the music for Laurie Heatherington's promenade musical 'Fancy'. Mike is a published songwriter in the English Folk style whose material is widely heard.

### Musical Director - Carole Catley

A music graduate from Middlesex University, Carole has been Musical Director for all the previous Guild Players pantomimes as well as many other productions. Carole has also directed music for other companies. She worked with Mike Sparks in writing the music for the musical 'Fancy' and is leader of the local 'Mysteries Folk Dance Band'.

### Front of House Manager - John Savage

Trained in Drama, John is a well known local actor, director and set designer. He can, and does, undertake any role in the theatre. John regularly works with a number of local groups. For the Guild Players he directed the acclaimed productions of 'The Mysteries', 'Larkrise' and 'Candleford' as well as undertaking many leading roles.

### Scenic Artist - Mari l'Anson

A well-known local artist with many exhibitions to her credit, Mari is also a keen member of the group and has appeared in a number of Guild Players productions. Mari has also painted much of the scenery for Guild Players pantomimes and other productions.

### Publicity and Set Design - David Constable

A former college lecturer, David not only undertakes the publicity and programme production roles, but has also directed the set building for many recent Guild Players productions, including the creation of special effects. He is also an accomplished actor having performed in a variety of roles for the Guild Players.

## Production Team

Director	Mike Sparks
Musical Director	Carole Catley
Choreographer	Kelly Rubin
Stage Manager	Nick Johnson
Set Design & Construction	David Constable Mike Sparks & members of the cast
Scenic Artist	Mari l'Anson
Costumes	Jenny Sparks Irene Sparks
Lighting	Brian Clayfield Jon Sparks
Prompt	Betty Robertson
Rehearsal Pianist	Simon Andersen
Company Support	Vera Mitchell
Front of House Manager	John Savage
Box Office	Betty Burgess Norman Burgess
Programme & Publicity	David Constable

Lighting & technical equipment supplied by CWNewton

[www.cwnewton.com](http://www.cwnewton.com)

# The Wonderful Story of Mother Goose

by  
Norman Robbins

Director Mike Sparks

Musical Director Carole Catley

Choreographer Kelly Rubin

Pantomime is theatre for all. How many of us had our first theatrical experience seeing a panto? It is good to see that pantomime is experiencing a sort of a renaissance. In addition to local professional performances which often include the odd soap star, there are many organisations who put on productions which engage their local communities and keep the spirit of pantomime alive.

Acting in pantomime is quite unlike acting in any other theatrical performance. Whereas the actor is normally required to focus their attention and concentrate on what is happening with their character on the stage, in panto the reverse is true. Many theatrical taboos are broken in playing to the audience and engaging them in the action. This is not easy to do, particularly for those in roles such as Dame or the 'Silly Billy' character. Perhaps this is why these roles are often played by comedians rather than actors.

This is our sixth pantomime, with some familiar faces in the cast alongside a number of newcomers. Everyone is important to us and so are you. I hope you enjoy the performance.

Mike Sparks MBE

## Act 1

### Prologue

1. The Village of Merrilea
2. A Quiet Street
3. The Village School
4. A Quiet Street
5. The Ballroom of Goose Grange

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Interval Refreshments will be served in the foyer

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## Act 2

1. The Grounds of Goose Grange
2. Outside Cheatem Hall
3. Beside the Witch's Pool
4. A Quiet Street
5. The Court of the Fairy Queen
6. Back in Merrilea
7. The Ballroom of Goose Grange

## Band

Piano	Simon Andersen
Cello	Jill Clarke
Flute	Kirsty Tavendale
Keyboard / Recorder	Carole Catley
Guitar	Harry Mackie
Drums & Percussion	Charles Harvey

Please SWITCH OFF all mobile phones  
whilst in the auditorium

## Cast

The Fairy Queen	Margaret Johnson
Harmony the good fairy	Emma Brown
Discord the wicked fairy	Judith Shrank
Clarence Creep the village Squire	Laurie Heatherington
Jill Goose the village belle	Kirsty Lincoln
Colin her sweetheart	Michelle Nympe
Billy Goose Jill's elder brother	Paul Manel
Sage & Onions the Squire's bailiffs	Lynda Gordon David Constable
Mother Goose a poor widow	Alan Jobson
Priscilla the magic goose	Victoria Harris
Village People also goose guards, schoolchildren, & pool goblins	Cecilia Briginshaw Bill Davey Ari Gnanamuttu Ann Hefford Mari l'Anson Jennifer Lewis Stewart Shrank Paul Sparks

NO flash photography or video cameras may  
be used during the performance