

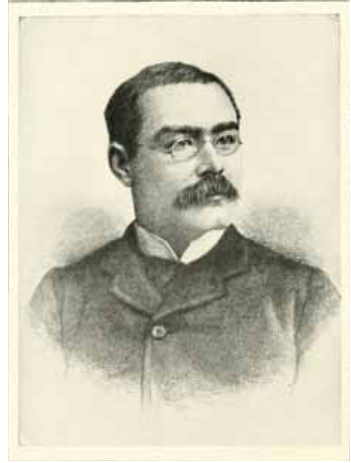
David Haig's
MY BOY JACK



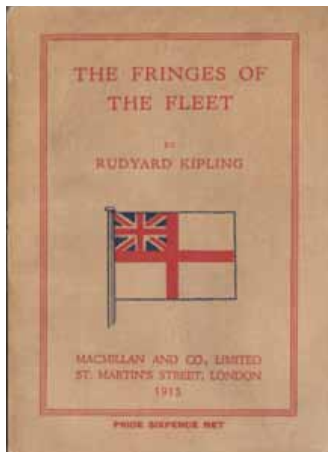
www.banburycrossplayers.org.uk

Feb 2018

Rudyard Kipling was an English writer, perhaps best known for writing *The Jungle Book* and his *Just So Stories*. A keen imperialist and patriot, he enthusiastically wrote poems and pamphlets that supported England's intent to restore Belgium, after it had been occupied by Germany.



In September 1914, Kipling was asked by the British Government to write propaganda, on their behalf, for the war, which proved to be very popular with the British public.



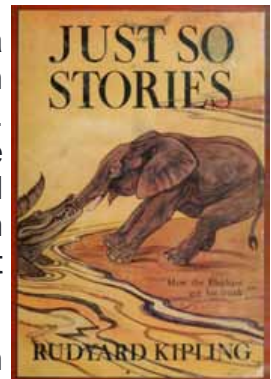
Kipling believed in the fight and would often write statements that 'Britain was standing up for the cause of good'. He had great disdain for those men who dodged their duty to fight in the war. In *The New Army in Training* (1915), he concluded the piece by saying:

"... But what will be the position in years to come of the young man who has deliberately elected to outcaste himself from this all-embracing brotherhood? What of his family, and, above all, what of his descendants, when the books have been closed and the last balance struck of

sacrifice and sorrow in every hamlet, village, parish, suburb, city, shire, district, province, and Dominion throughout the Empire? ..."

Kipling's son, John, was commissioned as a second lieutenant into the 2nd Battalion, Irish Guards on 15 August 1914, having just turned 17. After reports of the Rape of Belgium and the sinking of the RMS Lusitania in 1915, Rudyard came to see the war as a 'crusade for civilisation against barbarism', and was even more keen that his son should see active service.

John Kipling was at the Battle of Loos in September 1915. He had just turned 18.



Directors

Kerrie McCormick
Helen Watson

Stage Managers

Kate Fricke & Janice Lake

Assistant Stage Manager

Jayne Ryman

Lighting

John Hicks & Linda Shaw

Sound

Michiel van Niekerk

Projections

Rob Hall

Props Co-ordinators

Lucy Byford & Helena Boughton

Props Team

Gill Huband, Mary Sullivan & Anne Twigg

Costume

Brenda Williams

Make Up

Jenny Tustian

Hair

Daria Grilech & Anne Twigg

Prompt

Roger Riley

Set Design

Chris Garrett

Set Construction

Richard Ashby, Chris Garrett & Nik Lester

MY BOY JACK

CAST

Rudyard Kipling
Carrie Kipling
John ('Jack') Kipling
Elsie ('Bird') Kipling
Guardsman Bowe
Guardsman McHugh /
Major Sparks / BBC Announcer
Guardsman Doyle
Mr Frankland / Col Pottle

Philip Fine
Deborah Watson
Joe Deakin
Dani Turner
John McCormick

Jem Turner
David Hornsby
Stephen Rouse

Act 1 Sc 1 - Oct 1913, Batemans, Kipling family home, Burwash, East Sussex
Act 1 Sc 2 - Oct 1913, Army Medical Board Headquarters, London
Act 1 Sc 3 - Oct 1913, Batemans
Act 1 Sc 4 - Oct 1914, Armed Forces Recruiting rally
Act 1 Sc 5 - Oct 1914, two weeks later, Batemans
Act 1 Scs 6, 7 & 8 - Sep 1915, The Western Front, Battle of Loos

INTERVAL

Act 2 Sc 1 - Oct 1 1915, Batemans
Act 2 Sc 2 - 1904, Batemans
Act 2 Sc 3 - Sep 1917, Batemans
Act 2 Sc 4 - 1924, Batemans
Act 2 Sc 5 - 1933, Batemans

Patrons are requested to switch off mobile phones before the performance and are reminded that photography and video recording are strictly prohibited.

Emergency exits are to the left of the stage and to the rear of the auditorium.

In case of emergency, please follow instruction from Front of House staff.



Production Manager

Liz Riley

Front of House Manager

Mike Jack

Foyer Display

Clare Lester

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Tradeprint
Pan Designs
St Mary's Church
Oxfordshire Drama Wardrobe
Wacky Wardrobe
The Riverside Players

Wedding Dress designed and
made by Fiona Andrew

Jim Muller Photography
Mike Watling

This production is presented
by arrangement with
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Happy New Year to you all and welcome to our first production of 2018 - an appropriate time for *My Boy Jack* - commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War. Director, Helen Watson, has stepped up to her first full length production for BCP, having first directed our 2016 Festival Play, *The Regina Monologues*. Kerrie McCormick is making her directing debut for BCP.



Another new directing face this season is Ray Atkinson who heads up our April production, *People* by Alan Bennett. Already in rehearsal, *People* tells the story of Dorothy living in a run-down stately home which she can't afford to maintain. She considers various options for the future of the house - each with its own hilarious consequences.

Following our Festival success last year, John McCormick directs *Warm, Hot, Getting Hotter* by Lou Treleven for the one-act Drama festivals at Lighthorne and Abingdon in June. Read through and auditions for this play will be at The Mill, 7.30pm, on Tuesday 3rd April 2018. Do come along if you would like to be involved.

Director, Chrissie Garrett, takes on Martin McDonagh's *The Cripple of Innishmaan* in July. It's 1934 in Innishmaan - a small island off the West coast of Ireland - and life is turned upside down with the arrival of a Hollywood film crew intent on making a film of local life.

BCP are always on the lookout for new members - actors, directors, set design, backstage and technical crew. If you would like to be part of this dynamic, creative environment – no experience necessary - please do come along to one of our Tuesday evenings here at The Mill, 7.30pm. See our website - www.banburycrossplayers.org.uk - for details or have a chat with one of the Front of House staff tonight.

We thank you and our Sponsors for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at future productions.



Robin Williams
Chairman

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