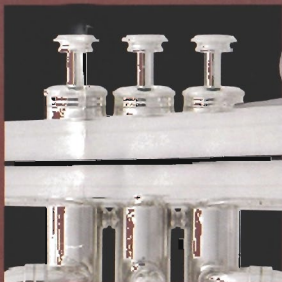


[www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk](http://www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk)

# Brassed Off



Adapted by **Paul Allen** from  
**Mark Herman's** screenplay

March 2011



I am delighted to welcome you to this performance of **BRASSED OFF**. We look forward to entertaining you with this stirring and, at times, poignant play. **HOOK NORTON BRASS BAND** have been a vital part of this production and we were delighted when they agreed to partner us. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with the band and tonight's performance is followed by a short concert from them.



We were all saddened to hear of the death of Pete Postlethwaite who, so brilliantly, brought *Danny* to life on film. An appreciation of this most distinguished actor appears in this programme.

Preparations are already underway for **WYRD SISTERS** in May. Adapted by Stephen Briggs from Terry Prattchett's® novel, it takes *Macbeth* and turns it up until the knob comes off. A wicked Duke and Duchess, the ghost of a murdered king, strolling players and a land in peril with only one three witches standing between the Kingdom and Destruction. Can *Nanny Ogg*, *Granny Weatherwax* and young *Magrat* save the day?

We close our season in July with **THE GARDEN PARTY** by Jimmy Chinn and Hazel Wyld. It is Richard's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and the family gather on a glorious summer day, to celebrate. But the happy family scene turns into a day and a night of argument and revelation...

I look forward to seeing you again during this season and add that our Play Selection Committee continue their quest to put together another highly entertaining season in 2011/2012. If you have any suggestions for plays you'd like to see, please talk to our Front of House staff or mail your ideas to us on [mail@banburycrossplayers.co.uk](mailto:mail@banburycrossplayers.co.uk).

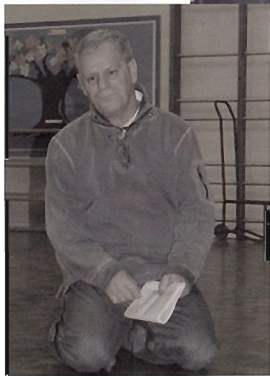


Amidst budget cuts and rationalisation, **Banbury Cross Players** continue entertaining audiences in Banbury, as we have done for over 65 years, thanks to the on-going support of you, our audience.

Our web site - [www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk](http://www.banburycrossplayers.co.uk) - will keep you up to date with all our activities. Why not join us on a Tuesday night here at The Mill? We'd be delighted to see you!

May I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2011.

**John Hicks**  
Chairman



*Photography - Tara Lacey-Rousou*

IN REHEARSAL

**Director**

Clare Lester

**Musical Director HNBB**

Jenny Barrie

**Stage Manager**

Anne Bennett

**ASMs**

Gill Huband

June Ronson

**Lighting**

John Hicks

Linda Shaw

**Sound**

Mark Neale

**Props**

Christine Bonson

Jayne Buzzard

Mary Sullivan

Pippa Thompson

Anne Twigg

**Costume**

Jane Shanahan

**Make Up**

Mandy Hobbs

Jenny Tustian

**Choreographer**

Rowena Gaston

**Set Design**

Richard Ashby

**Set Build**

Richard Ashby

Peter Bloor

Nik Lester

**Rehearsal Prompt**

Bob Clement

# Brassed Off

Shane

Phil

Jim

Harry

Andy

Vera

Rita

Gloria

Sandra

Danny

Craig

Melody

Bailiffs

Nurses

Militant Wives

Max Taylor

Jem Turner

Nik Lester

Heward Simpson

Rob Hall

Elizabeth Riley

Karen Stiff

Tara Lacey-Rousou

Helen Williams

Andy Allen

Zac Lacey-Rousou

Amiya Lacey-Rousou

Steve Hatt / Mike Jack

Becc Calverley / Janice Lake

Members of the Crew

**Grimley Colliery Band***Bandroom Scenes & Finale*

**Cornets/Flugel**  
Martin Quartermain  
Tina Vine  
**Euphonium/Baritones**  
Dawn Jennings  
Paul Brook-Nolan

**Horns**  
John Eades  
**Euphonium/Baritones**  
Garry Keen  
Nick Wilson

**Trombones**  
Ken McDougall  
**Basses**  
Trevor Shepherd  
**Percussion**  
Graeme Groom

*Finale*

**Cornets/Flugel**  
Nigel Greaves  
Rachel Hemmings  
Katie Gardner  
Chris Aldcock  
Dave Redhead  
Mick Taylor

**Horns**  
Janette Harbron  
Bill Randall  
**Euphonium/Baritones**  
Bob Sæmmons  
Liz Dixon-Smith

**Trombones**  
John Tolmie  
**Basses**  
Jamie Bennett  
John Taylor

The action takes place in a mining community in the north of England, parts of Lancashire, and the Royal Albert Hall, London.

1990s

**Production Manager**

Jem Turner

**Front of House Managers**

Dave Ellis, Mike Jack

**Foyer Display**

Clare Lester

Members of the Society

built the Set and

staffed Front of House

The Mill Management &amp; Staff

Banbury Guardian

The Banbury Cake

Radio Horton

Four Shires Magazine

Castle Quay Shopping Centre

Fairprint UK

Alan Davies Photography

Pan Designs

Mr Fenemore

St Mary's Church

Christopher Rawlins School

KallKwik

Northampton General Hospital

Hook Norton Brewery

Daw Mill Colliery

Kineton Convenience Stores

Holt Hotel

**Pete Postlethwaite** was born in Warrington in 1946 and did a short stint as teacher before training at Bristol Old Vic. Early roles included a spell at the Everyman Theatre, Liverpool alongside Bill Nighy, Alan Bleasdale and Jonathan Pryce.



In the 1980s, he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company and, after an introduction to the Queen at a performance of *Taming Of The Shrew*, he remarked: "My mother thought acting was a phase .. when she saw me with the Queen, she finally accepted that I was serious about it."

Screen work began with bit parts in *Coronation Street*, *Minder* and *Casualty*. He took small roles in *Last of the Mohicans*, *Alien 3* and *Zeffereilli's Hamlet* before landing the career-changing role of Giuseppe Conlon in the 1993 film *In The Name of the Father* earning him an Oscar nomination. Roles in *The Usual Suspects*, *Luhrmann's Romeo and Juliet*, *Brassed Off* and *Amistad* followed.

In 2003, he was made an OBE for his services to drama. In 2008, he returned to the Everyman to play *King Lear*. Recent film roles included *Clash of the Titans*, *Inception* and the 2009 film about global warming, *The Age of Stupid*.

He once said he had been politically motivated throughout his career: "In works like *Brassed Off* or *In The Name Of The Father*, we were trying to say something, we were trying to convey a message."

He continued to work, despite receiving treatment for cancer, first diagnosed in the 1990s. He died in hospital in Shropshire after a lengthy illness on 3 January 2011.

experience the  
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or visit [www.hooky.co.uk](http://www.hooky.co.uk)

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## MARK HERMAN / PAUL ALLEN

**Mark Herman** was born in Bridlington, East Yorkshire and, at 27, was making cartoons at Art College before studying film at Leeds College. He trained as an animator at the National Film School but moved away from animation, spending two years at the BBC as a screenwriter and also finding time to write lyrics for The Christians. His first feature-length film was *Blame in on the Bellboy* (1992) starring Dudley Moore.



*Brassed Off* followed in 1996, *Little Voice* in 1998, *Purely Belter* in 2000 and *Hope Springs* in 2003. His most recent work was directing and adapting *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* in 2008 starring David Thewlis and Sheila Hancock.

**Paul Allen** grew up East Kent, singing in church choirs and playing the trombone in his school orchestra. After university, he moved to Sheffield, trained as a reporter, married and still lives there. He has worked as a writer and broadcaster (Radio 3's *Night Waves* and Radio 4's *Kaleidoscope*) and written a score of radio and theatre plays. His books include a biography of Alan Ayckbourn.



He teaches at Sheffield and Warwick Universities and is currently working on a book about Shakespeare's *Falstaff*.

## HOOK NORTON BRASS BAND

In 1886, a group of railway workers joined together with local villagers in Hook Norton to form a band. The very first rehearsals were held at the brewery because the founder member (and first bandmaster) John Harris was one of the brewery's Directors.

The band flourished during the first part of the 20th century but village bands generally declined after the Second World War. HNBB survived by moving to Banbury and attracting players from a wider area.

The band was granted charitable status in 1999 and

has a large stock of instruments so that no-one is prevented from playing for lack of an instrument.

Although the band is based in Banbury, they are proud of their strong links with Hook Norton. The brewery is the main sponsor and the current Managing Director, James Clarke, is President - as was his father and grandfather before him.

HNBB are proud to announce being awarded second prize in the Oxford and District Brass Band Association Entertainments contest, held in September 2010.



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Terry Pratchett's ®  
**Wyrd Sisters**

adapted by Stephen Briggs

**18 - 21 May 2011**

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**THE GARDEN PARTY**

by Jimmie Chinn & Hazel Wyld  
July 2011

