



Albert Nobbs

a comedy by Gordon Steel

PROGRAMME

27 FEB - 5 MAR 2011

About the play...

As far as I can tell this play isn't put on very often by amateur companies, even less so south of Stoke. Albert and Connie's relationship is quite frank, in that they can argue together but still they love each other. They are old in body but not in spirit, and besides, who's to say what's "old" these days?!

The time frame moves occasionally within a scene to flash back to the couple's youth, which is a little indeterminate if you go by the script, nonetheless they are vibrant people with lives and experiences much like our own.

The humour harks back to the sitcoms and sketches of the 70s and 80s. We've all had fun in rehearsals recalling characters and shows we remember from way back, and seeing what we could use from them, however the characters speak for themselves. I always thought they were very clearly drawn, with opportunities for sadness as well as light comedy, which makes them great parts to play.

In the original production the parts of Alice and Rose were played by the same actress. I chose to separate them on this occasion as the actresses who came forward were particularly well suited to the casting. It would be an interesting challenge for one person, but with sometimes limited options for good parts for certain ages I wanted to spread the happiness as best I could!

We hope that you enjoy the show as much as we've enjoyed putting it together. I think we have a wonderful cast and crew, and our thanks to everyone else that has helped in the background around the club for this show.

Thanks also to Sheffield's *Now And Then* magazine, ClareMacKenzie.com and to Yorkshire Tea for their generous assistance in this production.

Angela Gibbins, Director

Next **Teddington Theatre Club** production

The Drowsy Chaperone

The award winning musical within a comedy

Sun 20- Sat 26 March at Hampton Hill Playhouse

Sun at 6pm / Mon - Sat at 7.45pm

BOX OFFICE 0845 838 7529 / www.teddingtontheatreclub.org.uk

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

Albert Nobbs

by Gordon Steel

CAST

Albert	TONY MILBURN
Connie	MICHELLE HOOD
Alice	HELEN SMITH
Rose	ANGELA DIX

Director	ANGELA GIBBINS
Stage Manager	MART STONELAKE
Sound	HARRY JACOBS
Lighting	VICKY HORDER
Set	LAURA CORBETT and ALAN CORBETT
Wardrobe	MARGARET WILLIAMS
Props	PENNY HEIGHES
Prompt	SUSAN CONTE

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About the writer...

GORDON STEEL burst on to the theatre-scene with his first play, DEAD FISH, which won a Fringe First Award at the 1993 Edinburgh Festival. It toured nationally and was the beginning of a fruitful relationship with Hull Truck Theatre. Since then Gordon has written LIKE A VIRGIN, STUDS, A PAIR OF BEAUTIES, ALBERT NOBBS, KISSING MARRIED WOMEN, A KICK IN THE BAUBLES and WILDE BOYZ for Hull Truck Theatre. Gordon is also the author of JUMPING THE WAVES which was commissioned for the opening of the Arc Theatre, Towbridge. Gordon has also worked extensively as a director, and directed the premieres of LIKE A VIRGIN, A PAIR OF BEAUTIES, DEAD FISH, STUDS, ALBERT NOBBS and KISSING MARRIED WOMEN. .

For television, Gordon wrote COCK AND BULL which was included in the Channel Four Sitcom Festival. He is currently developing some new ideas for television, including an adaptation of STUDS and is writing a new play for Hull Truck Theatre.

Feb \ March 2011

About the actors...

TONY MILBURN Albert

Tony is a new member of TTC. Previously he has played Jim, the miners' leader, in *Brassed Off*, David Bliss in Coward's *Hay Fever*, and Hugh Bedales, the priapic podiatrist, in Michael Palin's only play, the comedy *The Weekend*. In addition he recently played Bill Slater the booze loving hen-pecked husband of Marge, in Vanessa Brook's comedy *Let's Pretend* (Ill at Claygate Dramatic Society). Also a variety of parts in pantomimes and one act plays.

MICHELLE HOOD Connie

Michelle was last seen at TTC in *A Voyage Round My Father* and before that *The House of Bernarda Alba*. She also directed *After Mrs Rochester* and *We Happy Few* and musicals such as *The Secret Garden* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. She is currently the Artistic Director of TTC and has been a member of the club for over 20 years.

ANGELA DIX Rose

This is Angela's TTC debut, having moved here from South London. Previously, she acted with Balham's Southside Players and West Norwood's South London Theatre. Her roles have included parts in plays by Mike Leigh, Noel Coward, John Godber, Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Terry Pratchett and Laurie Lee.

HELEN SMITH Alice

Helen has been involved in amateur dramatics for many years and is experienced in all areas of stage work, from costumes and set design to stage crew and directing. She has directed both plays and musicals. These include a selection of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and more modern pieces such as the *The Baker's Wife*. Her first love is acting and she has a collection of nomination certificates for 'Best Actress' including Sister George in *The Killing of Sister George* and Martha Livingston in *Agnes of God*.