



St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Son-et-Lumière

22 – 25 September 2004

Programme



Programme
Son-et-Lumière – St. Peter's Church Bekesbourne
22 – 25 September 2004

The Son-et-Lumière traces the history of the village of Bekesbourne and its church through the ages and highlights the events great and small that have taken place here.

The Prologue

Spoken by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams

Act 1 The Anglo-Saxon Period

- Scene1* The arrival of the Anglo-Saxons in the mid-fifth century and their settlement along the Bourne
- Scene2* The conversion to Christianity and the building of the wooden Anglo-Saxon church
- Scene3* The interior of the Anglo-Saxon church
- Scene4* The Viking raid of 865 AD and the burning of the village

Act 2 The Norman Period

- Scene1* The Commissioner takes details of Bekesbourne for the Domesday Book
- Scene2* The building of the Norman stone church
- Scene3* The Norman church enlarged
- Scene4* The boat supplied by Bekesbourne as its due for the Cinque Ports privileges

Act 3 The Medieval and Tudor Periods

- Scene1* The Black Death
- Scene2* Cranmer coming to the aid of King Henry VIII
- Scene3* The stripping of the altars
- Scene4* The burning of Archbishop Cranmer
- Scene5* The meeting at Bekesbourne of the Cinque Ports' Court of Shepway

Interval

Act 4 From Queen Elizabeth to Queen Victoria

- Scene1* Sir Henry Palmer of Howletts misses the Armada
- Scene2* Demolition of the Old Palace
- Scene3* Stephen Hales, scientist and reformer
- Scene4* Payments to the poor
- Scene5* A marriage service
- Scene6* The Dame School
- Scene7* The "peaceful years" before the arrival of the railway

Act 5 The early modern period

- Scene1* The arrival of the railway
- Scene2* Dr. Beke's funeral
- Scene3* The restoration of the Church
- Scene4* The aerodrome in World War I
- Scene5* Hop picking – the Londoners
- Scene6* Hop picking – the locals
- Scene7* The village attacked in World War II

Act 6 The post-war period

- Scene1* The Village school
- Scene2* Ian Fleming and James Bond
- Scene3* John Aspinall and Howletts Zoo
- Scene4* Village Celebrations – The Silver Jubilee
- Scene5* The Weather – the great storm, the floods
- Scene6* Village Celebrations - The Millennium, The Golden Jubilee
- Scene7* The future of the village and the church

Cast

John Ash, Georgina Bates, Harriet Bates, Zan Clifford, Jonathan Cowans, John Dutfield, Pauline Fagg, Russell Feast, Stuart Field, Margaret Gabbe, David Gilmour, Rick Griggs, Guy Griggs, Bob Hopkins, Joyce Hopkins, Malcolm Howells, Peter Hutson, Mark Jenner, Paul Kusel, Lawrie Kingston, David Millyard, Sid Moon, Bill Oakey, Lucy O'Brien, Andrew Pearson, Hugh Pearson, Ruth Redfearn, Pam Rees, Jeanie Sandiford, John Shorrocks, Brian Skinner, Robbie Thomas and the children of Classes 3 & 4 Littlebourne School.

Production

Executive Producer – David Gilmour
Lighting Director – Phil Edmonds
Sound Director – Jim Lennox
Front of House Managers – Gill Moon & Jill Thomas
Musical Director – John Shorrocks
Casting Director – Zan Clifford
Box Office Manager – Romany Cowans
Stage Managers – Jonathan Cowans & Hugh Pearson
Script Editor – Jane Shorrocks
Marketing Director – Jane Millyard

Valuable assistance has been rendered to this project by an endless list of people including Joan Atkins, Veronica Crisp, David Millyard, Paul Filmer, Ann Gilmour, Jonathan Jennings, Mike Lee, Joy Smith, Jill Thomas, Allan Wicks, and all those whose old photographs we have been able to use in the presentation; last but not least the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams.

The inspiration for this *Son-et-Lumière* came from Ann and John Purchase who wrote and produced the original *Son-et-Lumière* performed here first in 1974. Some of the scenes of that original production performed by the villagers of that era have been re-used in this production

The producers gratefully acknowledge financial assistance from *Awards for All* and the Canterbury City Council *Can-do* fund.