

The Enterprizes Drama Group celebrate their

Silver Jubilee Pantomime

1990

The Enterprizes Drama Club started back in 1964 as a result of a bid for funds for the local St. John Ambulance Brigade.

A group was formed to stage "Red Riding Hood" in the Methodist Church Hall. On the last night the commandant said the players had been "very enterprising."

They carried on, calling the club the Enterprizes – with a 'z' – just to make it different.

They put on a play in Kearns Hall, Minnis Bay, later moving to the old Church House where, in December 1965, the club staged its first pantomime, "Cinderella."

Church House was the club's home until it was demolished. In the early seventies members moved to King Ethelbert's School, though putting on shows in other venues too.

One of its successes there was "Sweeney Todd," which it later took to Ramsgate's Granville Theatre.

In January 1975 the Enterprizes presented their first show in the new Village Centre. That was "The Sleeping Beauty" and since then there have been some notable productions. They include "The Wizard of Oz," "Oliver" and the "Seaside Follies" shows. Last August the club took "The Ghost Train" to the Granville, Ramsgate as part of a Season of Plays with other drama groups.

Over the years members Simon Archer, Peggy Cleminson, John Williams and Michael Bonsor have won acting awards in Kent drama festivals.

The Enterprizes first president was the late Councillor Bill Beerling, an office now held by Marian Evans. Playwright Tudor Gates and the late Ron Young were vice-presidents, that office now filled by Councillor Neville Hudson.

The club was founded by John Milgate and Ray Macpherson, and it is fitting that John is the present chairman – as well as producer of "Tom the Piper's Son," which he sincerely hopes you will enjoy.



1966 - Panto Jack & the Beanstalk

The Enterprizes Drama Group hit a successful formula with their presentation of "Jack and the Beanstalk" at Church House, Birchington, on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The script for this well-loved pantomime was rewritten in a modern version by 13-year-old Raymond Macpherson, a member of the group, who also produced the show with Mr John Milbank.