

*Llangwm Local History Society presents*

# WW1: A VILLAGE OPERA

*A moving story of love, war & history*

*Composer: Sue Howley*

*Librettist: Peter George*



*November 12 & 13*

*November 15*

*November 28 & 29*

*Cleddau Reach VC School*

*Newport Memorial Hall*

*Merlin Theatre, Haverfordwest*







## **WW1: a Village Opera**

The production was the brainchild of a small group of committee members of Llangwm Local History Society. They wanted to commemorate the start of World War 1, and settled on an ambitious plan: to write and produce an opera.

Local composer Sue Howley was brought in, and Sue suggested Peter George from Newport as librettist.

A grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund set the ball rolling, History Society members went about researching the historical background - and all that remained were the many hours of hard work that's resulted in the performance you'll see tonight.

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Musical Director	Sue Howley
Director	Carol Mackintosh
Stage Manager	Fin Mackintosh
Lighting	Lee Maris
Sound	Pam Hunt, Neil Martin
Costumes	Ann Donovan
Set	Patrick Wordsworth
Props	Jacqui Wordsworth

## **Thank you to:**

*The Heritage Lottery Fund, the Community Covenant, Milford Haven Port Authority, Llangwm Community Council. Also to the Torch Theatre, County Music Service, Tin Shed Laugharne, Milford Haven Museum and Pembrokeshire College. And to Stuart Beresford for printing.*

*Please switch off mobile phones, and for copyright reasons we ask you not to record the performance, in sound or vision.*

## ***THE CAST (in order of appearance)***

Craig  
Josie  
Sergeant  
Crown Prince  
Kaiser  
German politician  
British politician  
Admiral  
German General  
Mary  
Tom  
Officer  
Martha  
Sergeant (BEF)  
Rector  
Molly  
Harry George  
Leslie James  
Angel  
Wounded man  
Wounded German soldier  
Oberleutnant  
Hilda  
Rosie  
Post Office man  
May  
British General  
Will  
Older Mary

Sam Lawrence  
Luzelle Davies  
Marcus Lewis  
Ben Asson  
Andrew Ross  
Will Oliver  
Bob Phillips  
Nigel Alderman  
John Roach  
Louise Hales  
Dave Moore  
Stephen Allsopp  
Liz Rawlings  
Bob Chesmer  
Nigel Davies  
Sarah Middleton  
Marcus Lawson-Earley  
Ethan Lawson-Earley  
Elinor Davies  
Connor Lewis  
John Roach  
Owain Roach  
Mary Kinder  
Jasmine Cutting  
Graham Brace  
Liz Whitelaw  
Bill Hirst  
Calum Daniels  
Jen Scoble

*Chorus: Anna Wilson, Caitlin Davies, Claire Phillips, Jane Mills, Kate Brittain, Suzanne Hawkins, Daniel Berry, Dave Grayshon, Richard Kelly, Angela Davies, Corinne Evans, Fiona Cutting, Fran Evans, Georgina Jeremiah, Imogen Allsopp, Liz Whitelaw, Madeline Tasker, Tesni Docherty-Bowen, Graham Stephens, Jenny Roach.*

**Musicians:**

*Timpani: Ellen Mason  
Keyboard: Seimon Morris*



## **SUE HOWLEY**



**S**ue was born in the Rhondda Valley and studied at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama. She's well known as a singer, pianist and composer and works include her 'Three Shakespeare Sonnets' premiered last year, 'Four Byron Songs' for Sir Thomas Allen, and 'Sonata for Recorder and Piano'.

"When I was asked to compose the music for this project, I knew I didn't want to create a 'musical' that would devalue the subject. I hope that the music has given a different dimension to Peter's words that will help to fix in the memory the sacrifice given at that dark time in our history".

## **PETER GEORGE**



**P**eter is a poet, librettist and novelist based in Newport. He was awarded a Hawthornden Fellowship in 2010, is a member of the Society of Authors, the Performing Rights Society and an associate member of Literature Wales. He's currently working on a third poetry collection.

"From the beginning I intended this opera to centre on the lives of ordinary men and women who bore the heaviest burden during a war not of their making. The village depicted here could be any village".

## **CAROL MACKINTOSH**



**C**arol Mackintosh is a recently-retired GP who has worked in her home town of Milford Haven for over 30 years. She is passionate about theatre in all its forms and is a founder member of Touch and Go and Artistic Licence theatre companies.

"It is a real privilege to be involved with such an enthusiastic community group in developing this fascinating and poignant new work".



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