

The Phoenix Theatre in association with  
The Bordon War Memorial Association present

The Phoenix

# Frisbys at war

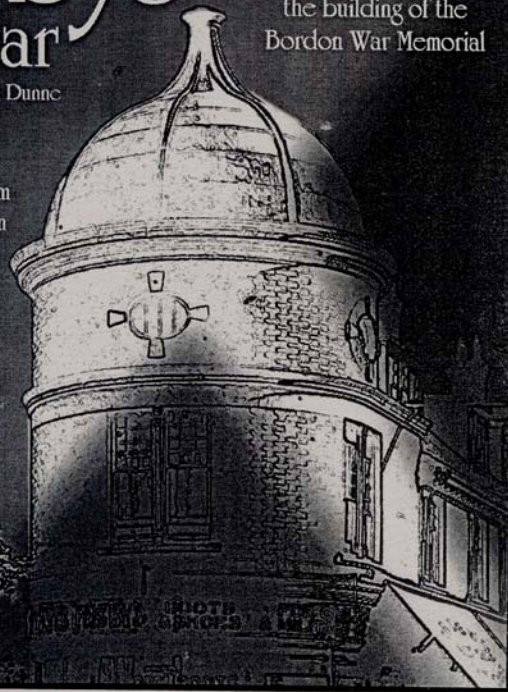
Written by John Dunne

To commemorate  
the building of the  
Bordon War Memorial

November  
Saturday 9th at 7pm  
Sunday 10th at 7pm

Tickets  
£4.00

Contact -  
The Box Office  
The Phoenix  
Station Road  
Bordon  
Tel 01420 472664



## Frisby at War and Peace

The white road straight 'tween lofty pines  
Passes the hutted army lines.  
Heavy falls the studded boot,  
On trampled sand that makes its route  
A nation marching, booted feet,  
To drummer's metronomic beat.  
Then on a hill a dome appears  
Raising the soldiers' silent cheers  
For now they know the camp is near  
And look forward to a Naffi beer.  
This Frisby shop has seen them all,  
The long, the short, even the tall.  
Saluting the cheering victory crowd,  
This local landmark stands so proud.

Michael F Wearing  
2002

## Frisbys at War

*Written by John Dunne*

### Cast

Sarah White	Alison Birch
Mary White	Jenny Freeman
Bert Hill	Don Morrison
Annie Hill	Margaret Morrison
Postman Tom	James Morley-Smith
Charlie Hill	Stephen Allen
Switchboard Lil	Jo Rogers
Switchboard Daisy	Lee White
Meg	Chloe Budd
Beth	Katie Allen
Tom	Joshua Dixon
Dick	Jordan Toovey
Harry	Connor Foreman
Katy	Natalie Mills
Queenie	Alice Budd
Arnold	Christian Wood
Warden	Lyssa Badger
Publican	Hannah Mitchell
Spiv	George Keefe
Vicar	Ben Macara
Floosie	Kristina Seviour
Housekeeper	Sarah Hanney
Nurse	Nicole Seviour
Teacher	Leanne Baker
German Officer	Becky Reffold
German Guard	Connor Foreman

Director	John Dunne
Assistant Directors	Vicki Risley Settle Ali Somerfield-Jones

Singer	Maureen Aldridge
Cellist	Vicki Risley-Settle

Lighting and Sound	Jane Dawes
Technical Support	John Bezer Mike Winfield
Costumes and props	Phoenix Wardrobe

Poster Design: Programme	The Studio Gabrielle Knight
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### With Thanks To:

The Bordon War Memorial Association, Maggie Allen, Jenny Carpenter, Bev and Paul Edwards, Mark Hoare, Davina Hudson, Steve Johnson, Sam Owens, Peni Parfitt, Chris Wain, Mike Wearing

## *Frisbys at War*

*Frisbys at War* is officially the third in a *Frisby* trilogy of plays commissioned by the local community. I say third in a trilogy because I shouldn't forget the *Frisby Murder Mystery* which took the *Frisby* characters into a new territory of murder and mayhem!

The first *Frisby* was commissioned a few years ago to celebrate a hundred years of Bordon's history. Produced by the then Barbados Players, and directed by Sam Owens, the play charted the life and times of two main families - the Whites and the Hills (Whitehill - get it!). The play had a successful airing at The Phoenix and Sam produced a second version with students from Mill Chase School.

*Frisby's* second outing occurred a year or so later with *Photographing Frisbys* which was commissioned by the Archaeological Society to mark the finding of hidden photographic plates which showed Bordon in all its graphic detail between 1907 and the outbreak of the first world war. Using key characters of the first *Frisby* play, a drama was spun out of scant details to produce an intriguing play about Louis Hayward, the photographer in question. *Photographing Frisbys* became the template for the *Frisby Murder Mystery*, which as I say, took the characters into a darker world of mystery and intrigue. So you can imagine my delight when The Phoenix was once again asked to produce another *Frisby*, this time to mark the building of a war memorial for those that have fallen in conflicts over the years.

*Frisbys at War* is, however, a quite different play from the others. As an army child, born and raised in garrison towns, I well understood the relationship between billeted soldiers and their families and local people. I also understand the nature of conflict as it affects such towns and it was with some enthusiasm that I attacked this play. I wanted to make a strong point that *Lest We Forget* is not a glib phrase trotted out by poppy wearing veterans, but a real cry from the heart given the dangerous world situation in which we all live. The rhetoric surrounding the Second World War, in which the play is set, is chillingly matched with modern day utterances. I am so pleased not to be writing these notes while a shooting war is being waged in Iraq - yet!

*Frisbys at War* is also what one might call a 'rough cut' production. Commissioned two months ago, there was little time to write the script, gather together volunteers and enrol eighteen children into the project. Wiser people than me urged that two months was not enough time to write and produce such a play - especially since the war memorial itself wasn't going to see the light of day until next June. However The Phoenix has always enjoyed a challenge and we decided to go ahead with the project, with a pledge to produce the play again next June, an outdoor performance perhaps, to run alongside a smaller scale school production of the same play.

So *Frisby* lives on and long may it continue to inspire dramas that say something about Bordon and its people. I hope that you enjoy the play!

John Dunne  
Writer and director