



**Moot House Players**

present



# Ali Baba



**February 5th - February 7th, 2009 at 8pm**  
**Saturday matinee at 3pm**

# THE STORY OF ALI BABA

as told by Sharazad to King Shahryar

adapted and directed by Bett Hewlett

## Cast :

Voice of Shahrazad

Ali Baba

Kasim, Ali's brother

Yasmin, Ali's wife

Fatima, Kasim's wife

Omid, Ali's son

Morgiana, a slave

The Robber Chief

Mustafa

An Apothecary

Robbers

Henrietta Branwell

Robbie Chittick

Jon McNamara

Bridget McAlpine

Jennifer Southwell

Dan Powell

Claire Quley

David Schacht

Geoff Leeds

Tony Edwards

Michael Caswell,

Tony Edwards,

Jon McNamara etc!

Set designed and painted by Paul Regeli, Bett Hewlett,  
Anne Farr and Poppy Jackson

Set built by Phil Waite, Paul Regeli  
and members of the company

Costumes by Rosemary Caswell

Props by Michael Caswell

Kasim's head by Paul Regeli

Lighting designer Phil Waite

Sound designer Michael Branwell

Sound operator Amy Waite

Prompter Anne Farr

The Story of Ali Baba is one of a collection of tales supposedly told one at a time by Queen Shahrazad to King Shahryar in order to save her life.

The first half of the story tells of a family disrupted by the chance discovery of untold wealth. Wealth that fires the greed of one brother and leads him to a dreadful fate. The second part of the story is really a duel between the leader of the robbers and the slave girl, Morgiana.

This story contains several elements that appear in many other tales. One is almost breathtakingly casual bloodshed. This is also found in many of the tales collected by the Brothers Grimm. Another element is the description of unimaginable wealth, lovingly depicted in wonderful detail. The punishment for excessive greed is also often dwelt upon.

The evening should be colourful and exciting with, perhaps, moments of sheer farce.

We hope you all enjoy it.

**There will be a reading/audition for the May production of “Lysistrata” on Sunday, February 15th starting at 3.00 in Moot Hall. Rosemary Caswell, who will be directing the play, wants to encourage new people to get involved with the Moot House Players, so do come along and enjoy a robust afternoon with one of Aristophanes’ funniest plays in a modern translation. Please don’t come if you are likely to be offended by the subject or the explicit language - it’s not for the faint-hearted! The afternoon is open to everyone who would like to be in the play as well as others who would be happier in an off-stage, supporting role - we have room for you all.**

**Performances will be from May 14th to 16th.**

The Players had planned to present “An Inspector Calls” in March - this is one of the set texts for the year - but have been stymied by the publisher, Samuel French, who entered into an exclusive agreement with The National Theatre. At very short notice, therefore (a week before the start of rehearsals!) it has been decided to present “Home” by David Storey. Tony Edwards, who will be directing the play, has managed to find a cast willing to change from a classic period-piece to a modern play and we hope you will come and support this production.

The setting is a lovely day in a sunny park. Two elderly gentlemen chat for a while before being joined by two equally elderly and chatty ladies. All is bright and cheerful, the chat like that heard in any bar or bowling club, ranging over many different topics. But gradually it becomes apparent that all is not as it seems. This is a funny and touching play, premièred in 1970 with John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson.

“Home” was first performed by Moot House Players in 1974 with Jack Mitchley and Ken Collins in the leads. This time the cast will be Robbie Chittick, Geoff Leeds, Joan Lanario, Jennifer Southwell and Dan Powell.

If you are not on our mailing list, please leave your name and address at the Box Office - if you have an e-mail address we can use, please let us have it, as we can, more easily, reach everyone by e-mail in advance of each production.

Moot House Players acknowledges, with thanks,  
the help of their parent organisation,  
the Mark Hall and Netteswell Community Association.

Moot House Players can be contacted at

**[moothouse.players@ntlworld.com](mailto:moothouse.players@ntlworld.com)**

Details of past and future productions can be found on  
the Company's website

**[www.moothouseplayers.com](http://www.moothouseplayers.com)**

please visit and bookmark the site!