

THE EAST END PREMIERE OF..

*Ring out the  
Bow Bells*

Charity Concert Performances of  
Ruth Allen's Cockney Musical at  
St Mary-le Bow-Church, Cheapside  
23 & 24 June 2008



*Ring out  
Ruth Allen*

*Ring Out The Bow Bells* was written by Ruth Allen - a singer/songwriter whose career has spanned four decades and two continents. Her music and sophisticated lyrics prompt the listener to recall the golden days of such great composers as Jerome Kern and Cole Porter, while they remain completely original and uniquely her own.

London-born Ruth first emerged as the very young, beautiful and accomplished cabaret artiste - Ronnie Graham. She wowed elegant audiences throughout London's club land, particularly at the chic Astor Club in Berkeley Square, where - as top of the bill - she performed for an unprecedented one year residency.

Her continuing success took her to Paris, where she performed at the famous jazz venue, the Mars Club, and met the legendary Billie Holliday, who saw her show and invited her to dinner.

During her year at the Astor, she met and fell in love with an American flyer, married her handsome serviceman and returned with him to the States. Whilst living at Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Ruth heard that the great Duke Ellington was to appear at the base with his big band. Well, she had to go, of course, and after the show she made sure she met the great man.

When "The Duke" found out Ruth was a singer, he invited her to go to New York with a view to getting a record deal. Ruth's husband drove her to Columbia Studios in New York where she cut a dozen 'audition' tracks. When the label executive started to talk to her about intensive touring across the States to promote her records, Ruth stopped him in his tracks by announcing that - with a baby only six weeks old at home - she couldn't possibly go on tour, and she returned to Cape Cod and her family.

After an extended period back in London, performing in the prestigious American Bar at the Savoy Hotel, Ruth has returned to the States and is living just outside New York City. Her songs and her singing may be unmistakably American, but Bow Bells is a wonderful reminder of her London roots!

Since returning to the States, Ruth has appeared at Carnegie Hall for Michael Feinstein, as well as the Mabel Mercer Foundation Cabaret Convention.

*Ring out the  
Bow Bells*

**Written by Ruth Allen  
Directed by Glen Hayes**

**A charity performance on behalf of  
The St Mary le Bow Young Homeless Charity  
Wingate Golden Oldies  
The Three Score Club**

**23 & 24 June 2008**

**With support from  
The Worshipful Company of Grocers  
and Fuller's London Pride**





The Scene

The Bow Bells, a typical East End pub set in an East End market, not long ago...

# Ring out the Bow Bells

Lil ..... Julia Burnett  
 Rose ..... Collette Kelly  
 Charlie ..... Ian Adams  
 Kitty ..... Tiffany Todd  
 George ..... James Purcell  
 Joe ..... Glen Hayes  
 Bill Goode ..... Tony Parkin  
 Julia ..... Jeanne Mitchell  
 John ..... David Oakley  
 Mr. Monday ..... Norman Hoskins  
 Mr. Tuesday ..... Meke Meys  
 Mr. Wednesday ..... Wally Hayford  
 Mr. Thursday ..... Ian Britten-Hull  
 Mr Friday ..... xxx  
 Narrators..... Nick Cressey, Gilly Wadmore

Accompanist: Laurence Payne

Director: Glen Hayes

*Within the sound  
of Bow Bells...*

### **A little about the charities you are supporting tonight**

#### **St Mary-le-Bow Young Homeless charity.**

This small charity takes up to ten young homeless people out of the emergency hostels and off the streets of London.

Some are ex offenders, few have any qualifications, many are affected by drug, alcohol, mental problems. We take them into safe flats rented to us by the Peabody Trust at less than market rent.

We give them time to recover and the support they need to do it. We help them develop some confidence. We help with further education, perhaps in literacy, or training, perhaps to drive a truck.

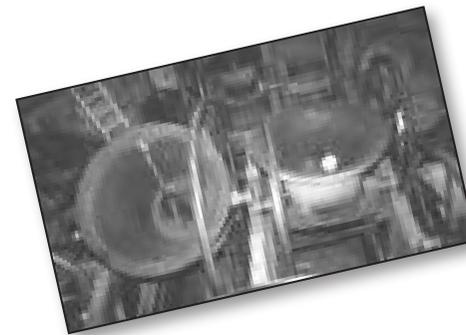
We help them to get jobs.

They may stay for as long as they need to stay. When they are stable and ready for independence, we help them to their own flats. They can come back to us if they need to return.

They do not go back to being homeless.

**The Three Score Club**, on the City of London Corporation's Middlesex Street Estate, and the **Wingate Golden Oldies**, on the Guinness Trust's Mansell Street Estate, both in the Ward of Portsoken, exist to foster friendship and companionship among the retired and elderly of the eastern fringe of the City of London. Entertainment and education are on their agenda, along with shared meals and trips to places of interest.

The members of both clubs have an appreciation of the joys of life, undimmed by the passing years or infirmity.



Bow bells are probably the most famous in the world and for many hundreds of years have been woven into the folklore of the City of London. In 1392 Dick Whittington heard Bow bells call him back to London to become Lord Mayor; to be born within the sound of Bow bells was the sign of a true Londoner or Cockney; and Bow bell's authority ends the medieval nursery rhyme Oranges and Lemons, 'I do not know says the Great Bell of Bow'.

During the Second World War the BBC's World Service broadcast a recording of Bow bells, made in 1926, as a symbol of hope to the free people of Europe. This recording is still used as an interval signal.

*Ring out our  
special thanks to...*

The Rector of St Mary-le-Bow, the Reverend George Bush

The Worshipful Company of Grocers

Miss Anne Blanchard

Simon Meyers, The Steeplekeeper of St Mary-le-Bow

Bow Flowers

Fullers Brewery