

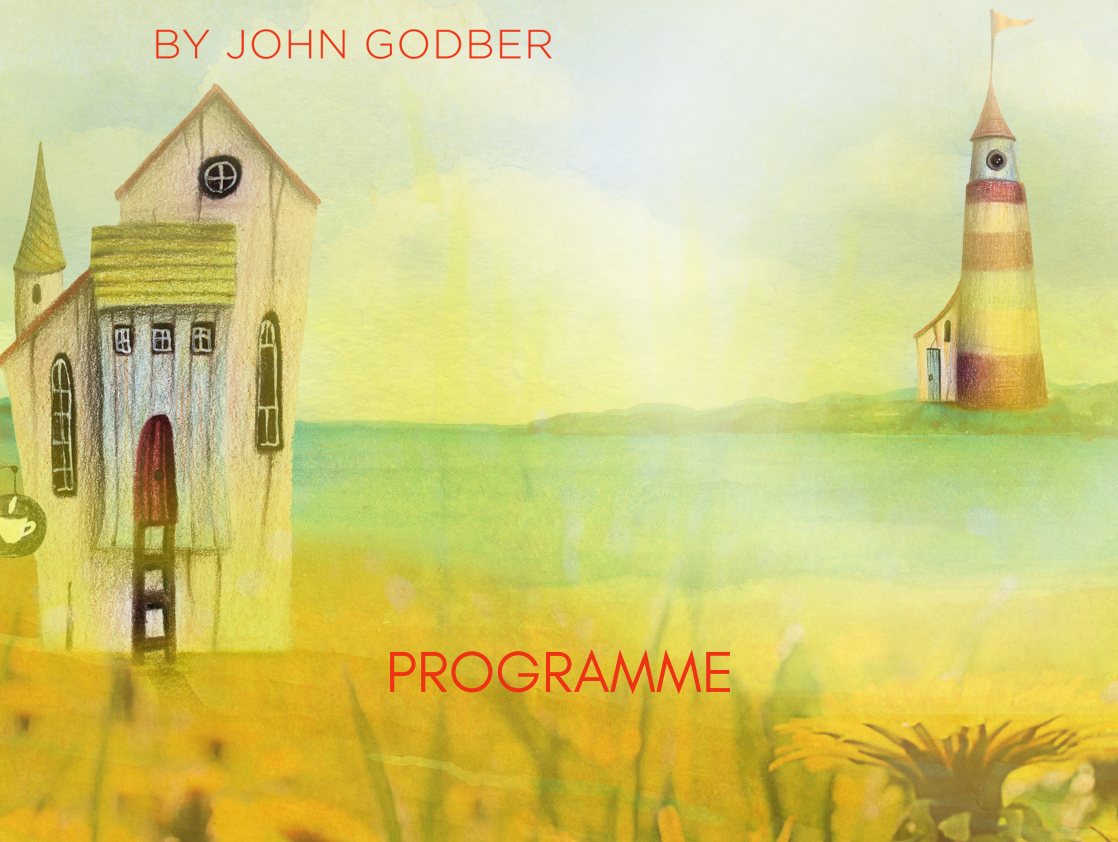
**John
Godber**
COMPANY

theatre
**Royal
Wakefield**
production



SUNNY SIDE UP!

BY JOHN GODBER



PROGRAMME



WELCOME



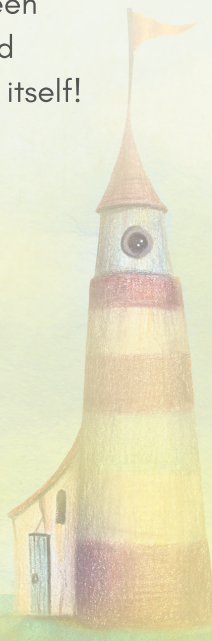
We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for making the effort to attend today's performance. We have been a fastidious bubble of four since March 2020.

In June of that year, Paul Robinson from the Stephen Joseph Theatre asked if, since we were a bubble, we had anything to perform in the last week of September 2020. I put *Sunny Side Up!* together and we did five socially distanced performances in Scarborough.

Paul and the audiences really liked what they saw, so the idea of developing the play into a full evening's entertainment became an option. We are still a tight bubble of four almost eighteen months later, the play has developed and we have enjoyed working together and living together...but there's a play in itself!

We hope you enjoy the show!

John Godber

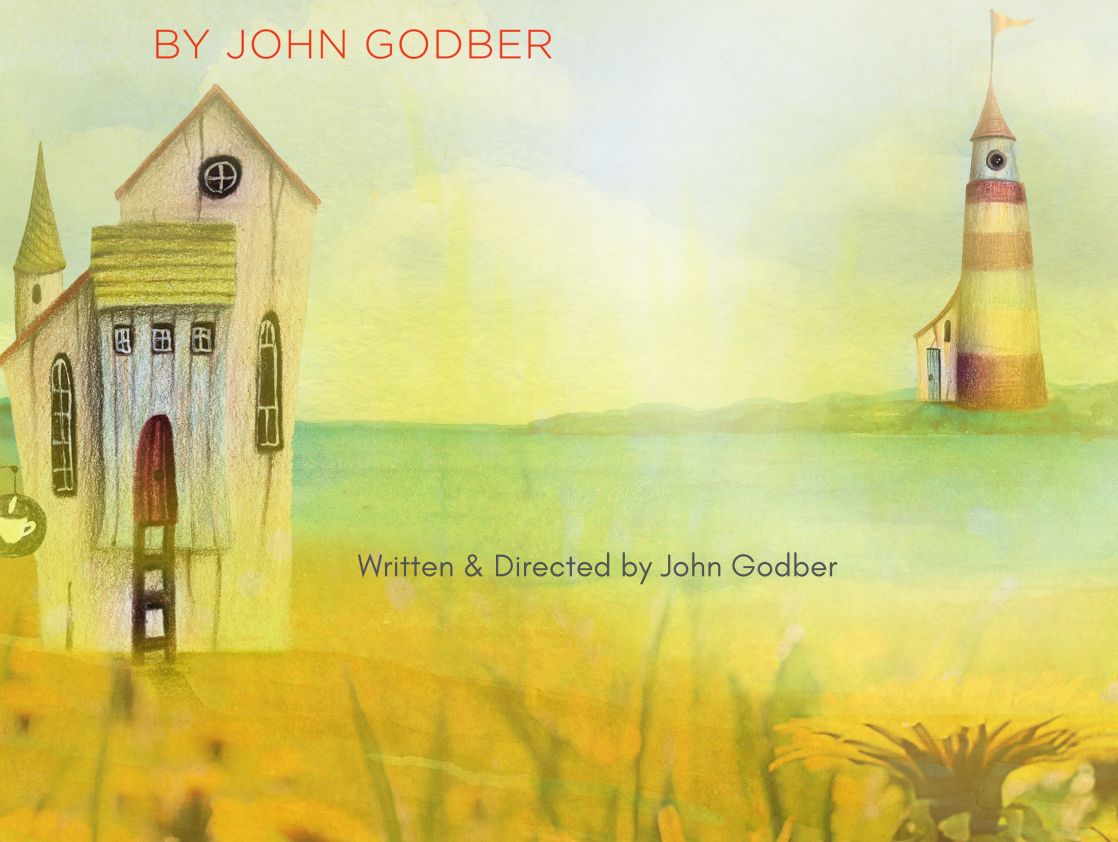


The John Godber Company & Theatre Royal Wakefield
presents



SUNNY SIDE UP!

BY JOHN GODBER



Written & Directed by John Godber

CAST & CREW



Cath.....Martha Godber
Tina.....Jane Thornton
Barney.....John Godber

Writer & Director.....John Godber
Assistant Director.....Neil Sissons
Production Manager & Designer.....Graham Kirk
Stage Manager.....Elizabeth Godber

Artwork by Anonymous Design

We'd like to say a big thank you to
Wykeland Group & Mollie Thornton





MARTHA GODBER

Cath

Martha Godber was born and raised in Hull and graduated from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) where she studied Acting.

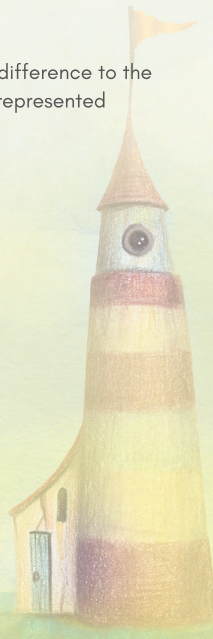
Martha has appeared in *Residue* (Matador Pictures), *South Riding* (BBC1) and *The Last Laugh* (Visualize Films).

Radio Credits Include: *Forget Me Not* (BBC Sounds), *The Gift*, *Fact to Fiction*, *D for Dexter* all for BBC Radio 4 and most recently, *Talk to me: HP Lovecraft* (BBC Audio Drama Winner Best Director 2020).

Theatre work includes: *Seasons in the Sun* at Theatre Royal Wakefield, *POP* at Oldham Coliseum (Winner of best play Greater Manchester Fringe), *I Want That Hair* (East Riding Theatre), *Three Emos* (Tour), *The Remarkable Tale of Dorothy Mackaill* (Smashing Mirrors Theatre), *Up N Under* (Hull New Theatre), *Kings* (Slung Low Shorts), *This Is Not Right* (Wiltons Music Hall), *RIGHT* (The Old Vic), *Angels of the North* (Theatre Royal Wakefield), *Sunny Side Up!* (Stephen Joseph Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (JLA Productions) and most recently *Moby Dick* (John Godber Company).

Martha was a finalist in the prestigious Spotlight Showcase 2018 and was awarded the Joan Plowright Lady Olivier Award 2018.

Martha is the founder of The Godber Theatre Foundation and is passionate about making a difference to the lives of aspiring dramatists in Hull and East Yorkshire, the foundation helps those from underrepresented backgrounds make their way into the industry.





JANE THORNTON

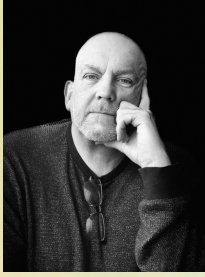
Tina

As an actor, Jane appeared in the original theatre productions of *Up 'n' Under*, *Happy Jack*, *September in the Rain* and *April in Paris* for Hull Truck and for TV, *Coronation Street*, *Heartbeat*, *Hollyoaks* and the screen plays of *Up 'n' Under*, *My Kingdom for a Horse* (where she played opposite Sean Bean), and *Thunder Road*. She often works in radio most recently appearing with her husband in both *September in the Rain*, *Happy Jack*, *April in Paris* and *Shafted!* for Radio 4 Classic Theatre as well as playing Alice in the award-winning *D for Dexter* and Lilian in *Blue Eyed Boy*. She has also been a reader for two episodes of *With Great Pleasure*, for comedian Mark Thomas and writer Gervase Phinn and has written and presented her own radio documentary *My Life On Paper* for Radio 4. Recent acting work includes appearing alongside her husband as Dot in a national tour of *Shafted!* and as Vicky in the original *Empty Nesters' Club* both for the John Godber Company. She can currently be seen playing the leading role of Joan in the film *Last Laugh* for Visualize films.

Jane's stage writing credits include *Say It With Flowers* (Hull Truck Theatre), *All the Fun of the Fight* (Theatre Royal Wakefield), *Sold* (co-written with John Godber), *I Want That Hair* and *Wuthering Heights* (Hull Truck Theatre), *Shakers and Shakers The Musical* (co-written with John Godber), *Amid the Standing Corn* (Joint Stock), *Back to the Walls* (Red Ladder) and *Lost* (Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough). For television, she co-wrote the BAFTA-winning *Odd Squad* (BBC), *Bloomin' Marvellous*, *Shakers*, *Chalk Face* (BBC) and *It's Happy Hour Again* (Channel 4). Jane has also written a number of plays for children including *Mollie of the Midfield* for York Theatre Royal and *The Sculptor's Surprise* (Theatre Royal Wakefield and The Hepworth Gallery) and *The Big Sleepover* (Theatre Royal Wakefield), both of which enjoyed successful tours in schools around Yorkshire. Writing for radio includes two series of *Spread a Little Happiness* (Watershed Productions/BBC, co-written with John Godber), *Dreaming in English*, *Bully* and *The Gift*. She has twice been a judge for the International Student Play Script Competition and writer in residence at BBC Radio Humberside and Hymers College Hull. She has recently been teaching play-writing classes at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough.

As a director Jane has worked for Big Telly Theatre Company in Northern Ireland, Hull Truck, Nottingham Playhouse, Derby Playhouse, The Old Red Lion, the Edinburgh Festival and the Ambassadors Theatre in London.

In 2017 Jane wrote and directed the highly acclaimed *Ocho* about eight men from Hull who went to fight in the Spanish Civil War, with music by Dave Rotheray of The Beautiful South. It was performed in and around Hull by Archbishop Sentamu Academy Spotlight students and at the Institute of the Arts in Barcelona. Archbishop Sentamu School lies in one of the most deprived areas of the UK and Jane is very proud that as a result of this production two students were gifted Scholarships at the prestigious Institute of the Arts in Barcelona and 12 others at leading British drama schools and universities.



JOHN GODBER

Barney

Writer/Director

John was born the son of a miner in Upton, West Yorkshire. He trained as a teacher of drama at Bretton Hall College. Whilst he was Head of Drama at Minsthorpe High School, the school he attended as a student, he won every major award at the National Student Drama Festival between 1981 and 1983.

John's plays are performed across the world. He has the distinction of being one of the most performed writers in the English language. He has won numerous awards for his plays, including a Laurence Olivier Award and seven Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards.

His plays include: *Bouncers*, *Up 'n' Under*, *April in Paris*, *Teechers*, *Blood, Sweat and Tears*, *Cramp*, *Happy Jack*, *September in the Rain*, *Salt of the Earth*, *Passion Killers*, *Happy Families*, *Up 'n' Under II*, *Gym and Tonic*, *Dracula*, *Lucky Sods*, *Hooray for Hollywood*, *Weekend Breaks*, *It Started With a Kiss*, *Unleashed*, *Thick As a Brick*, *Big Trouble in the Little Bedroom*, *Seasons in the Sun*, *On a Night Like This*, *Our House*, *Departures*, *Men of the World*, *Reunion*, *Screaming Blue Murder*, *Black Ties and Tales*, *Perfect Pitch*, *Going Dutch*, *Christmas Crackers* and *Crown Prince*.

His first play for the John Godber Company was *The Debt Collectors*, a co-production with Theatre Royal Wakefield which garnered critical acclaim and rave reviews from the national press after touring to 14 venues across the country.

Since then the company has successfully toured revivals of *Teechers*, *Bouncers*, *Weekend Breaks*, *A Kind of Loving* and *On the Piste* amongst others. Within his extensive career in writing and directing in TV and film, John also devised the BBC2 series *Chalkface*, and his screenplay *My Kingdom for a Horse*, starring Sean Bean, was nominated for an Alternative BAFTA Award.

John's first feature film, *Up 'n' Under*, was released in January 1998. In 2005, he cowrote *Odd Squad* for BBC2 with his wife, Jane, which was shot in Hull using local actors. *Odd Squad* won two British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards in the Schools Drama category and in the BAFTA Original Writer section. John has an MA from Leeds University, an hon DLitt from Hull University, an hon DLitt from Lincoln University, a DUni for the Open University and was a PHD research student for five years at Leeds University.

He is a professor of contemporary theatre at Liverpool Hope University, a visiting professor of Drama at Hull University, a professor at Sheffield Hallam University, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a fellow of Regents University, London. John was Artistic Director of Hull Truck for 26 years, taking it from bankruptcy in 1984 to its new home in a £15 million theatre in 2010. In 2011, he set up The John Godber Company with his playwright wife, Jane, and formed a partnership with Theatre Royal Wakefield to produce two tours of his work each year. Since then his plays have continued to tour the UK and have been seen by over 200,000 people.

Recently John adapted *Moby Dick* for outdoor performance at Stage@TheDock in Hull, and has had *April in Paris* on a national tour with Joe Pasquale. *On The Piste* performed at Antonio Banderas' theatre in Malaga and *September in the Rain* at Salisbury Playhouse.

NEIL SISSONS

Assistant Director



Neil was born in Sheffield and studied drama at Bretton Hall College and Leeds University. He was founder of Compass Theatre Company, which he led as Artistic Director for almost 30 years. Compass' repertoire was entirely based on the classics and toured not just in the UK and Europe, but throughout the world. It encompassed drama from across the canon; from Sophocles and Shakespeare, to Buchner, Beckett, Miller and Pinter.

Neil has worked with John Godber on a range of projects over the last 30 years. He was an Associate Director at Hull Truck for 8 years and has since worked with John on a number of productions for the John Godber Company, including the recent highly successful *Scary Bikers* in London's West End. He is delighted to have the opportunity to make a contribution to *Sunny Side Up!*

In his other life, Neil is currently a Senior Lecturer in Performance for Sheffield Hallam University, where he has won 3 Inspirational Teaching Awards and the Vice Chancellor's Award for his work as a lecturer.



GRAHAM KIRK

Production Manager & Designer



Graham trained at East 15 Acting School, before touring the length and breadth of the country, and beyond, for many years as Stage Manager.

After spending a number of years as Production Manager for Hull Truck Theatre Company, Graham formed Kirk Production, specialising in Production Management, Lighting Design, Scenic Design and Construction.


During his professional career Graham has worked with numerous companies on over 350 Theatre, film, and TV productions.

Having spent most 2020 in the garden, Graham is glad to return to the touring world with this production of *Sunny Side Up!* During the recent restrictions, Graham was Production Manager for the socially distanced outdoor production of *Moby Dick* at Stage@The Dock, Hull and has recently designed *Shirley Valentine* for Esk Valley Theatre.



ELIZABETH GODBER

Stage Manager



Elizabeth is a graduate of Hull University and Leeds University, and is a current doctoral candidate at the University of Hull.

Elizabeth's previous stage management work includes: *Up N Under* (Hull New Theatre), *Wuthering Heights* (East Riding Theatre), *This Is Not Right* (Wilton's Music Hall), *Angels of the North* (Theatre Royal Wakefield), *OCHO* (Tour), *I Want That Hair* (Howden Shire Hall), *Three Emos* (Tour), *Festive Spirits* (Hull City Hall), *Dracula* (Institute of the Arts, Barcelona), and many more.

Elizabeth runs her own theatre company, Smashing Mirrors Theatre, which is committed to creating dementia-awareness and dementia-friendly work. Elizabeth is a trustee of the charity Dementia Friendly East Riding and is dedicated to making theatre more accessible for those living with Dementia.





TOUR DATES

Theatre Royal Wakefield

Thu 9 - Sat 18 Sep

www.theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk

Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

Mon 27 - Wed 29 Sep

www.theatreroyal.org

Mansfield Palace Theatre

Thu 30 Sep - Sat 2 Oct

www.mansfieldpalace.co.uk

Stephen Joseph Theatre

Thu 7 - Sat 9 Oct

www.sjt.uk.com

The Viaduct Theatre, Halifax

Tue 12 - Sat 16 Oct

www.theviaducttheatre.co.uk

Oldham Coliseum

Tue 19 - Sat 23 Oct

www.coliseum.org.uk

New Vic Theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme

Tue 26 - Sat 30 Oct

www.newvictheatre.org.uk

Hull Truck Theatre

Mon 1 - Sat 6 Nov

www.hulltruck.co.uk



SUPPORT US



Not everyone knows it, but Theatre Royal Wakefield is a charity and doesn't receive any regular public funding, they rely on the generous support of people like you.

There are lots of ways you can support the Theatre, their work with the community and also help to ensure that amazing live theatre continues in our spectacular Grade II* listed building.


[Click here to donate to Theatre Royal Wakefield](#)

The Godber Theatre Foundation is an initiative aiming to support a select number of young people from the Hull and East Yorkshire area who are studying Drama and Theatre Arts. This is realised through financial support, mentorship and professional experiences.

Any donation, however large or small, will help young people from Hull and East Yorkshire alongside their higher education training.


[Click here to donate to The Godber Theatre Foundation](#)

Thank you for your generous support!



THE TEAM

For Theatre Royal Wakefield



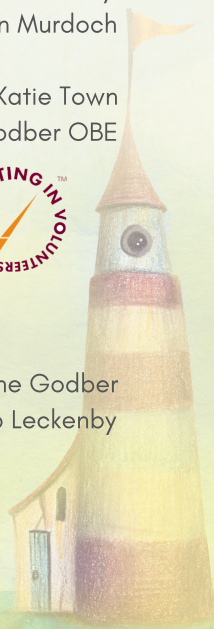
Box Office Assistants	Dawn Hunt, Ann Kendall, Dean Ramsden & Kay Westerman
Customer Services Manager	Paul Mellin
Duty Manager	David Royston
Bar Staff	Bryonny Beedle, Brian Sheen-Heggie, Charlotte Parker, Matthew Pearce, Dean Ramsden & Catherine Smart
Head of Communications & Programme	Kealey Woodward
Communications & Programme Manager	Emma Proctor
Head of Participation	Rhiannon Hannon
Participation Officers	Janine Heseltine & Gavin Leonard
Head of Development	Sarah Shooter
Development & Events Officer	Isobel Walter
Production & Technical Manager	Di Clough
Theatre Technicians	Fran Cousins, Debbie Harlow & Joe Lowrey
Head of Finance & Operations	Rosie Dewsbury
Finance Manager	Robin Murdoch
Executive Director	Katie Town
Creative Director	John Godber OBE

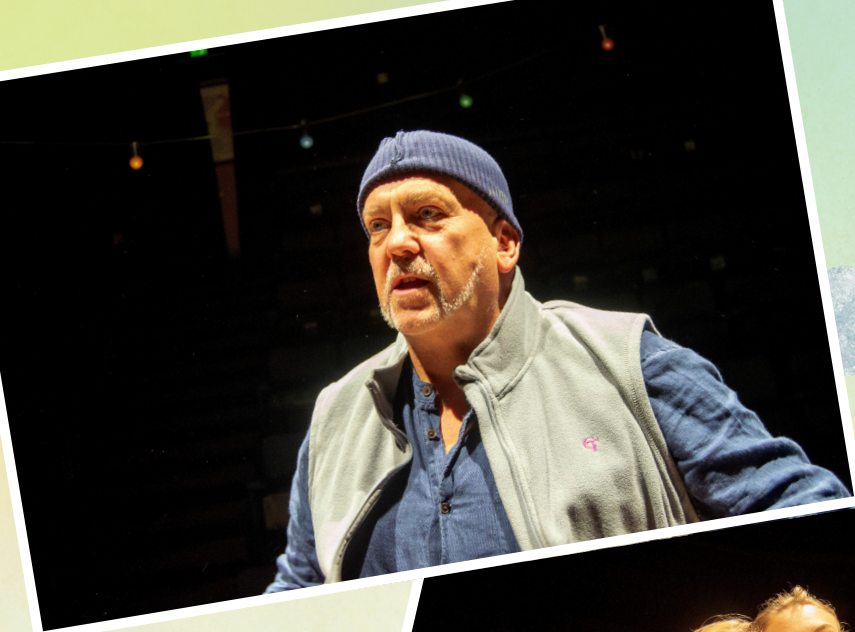
Theatre Royal Wakefield would like to thank all the stewards who give their time voluntarily.



For The John Godber Company

Company Directors	John Godber & Jane Godber
Associate Artists	Robert Hudson, William Ilkley & Pip Leckenby







THE GODBER THEATRE FOUNDATION

Inspiring talent from Hull and East Yorkshire

An initiative from the John Godber Company, supporting a select number of talented young people from the Hull and East Yorkshire area who are studying Drama and Theatre Arts at University via financial support, mentorship and professional experiences.

**To find out more head to:
thegodbertheatrefoundation.org**