

Tony Ford (02/04/1938 – 02/09/2011)

Tony, born Anthony Gordon Ford, was born in Bristol in 1938. He was brought up in Downend/Fishponds where he spent most of his early life and was a family man with very close ties to his mother. Later on, having qualified as a teacher, he was instigational in producing a respected drama department at Speedwell School.

Tony (known to many as A G Ford) was well-known for his work in amateur drama. He had acted for more than sixty-five years, receiving nominations for, and the award of, "Best Actor" for his superb performance as The General in Peter Ustinov's Romanoff and Juliet at the Rose Bowl Awards, held annually in Weston Super Mare.

He also directed a wide range of productions, from musicals to Shakespeare. His successes included the first public performance in his home city of a Tennessee Williams play, which received four awards. He also wrote plays and musicals including his script and screenplay of the feature film Uncertain Proof.

Tony was a longstanding member of St Paul's Players (Southville) Drama Group and was its current Life President.

For almost ten years he was involved with touring productions in the south of England including performances at the Minak Theatre and TheTrelowarren Estate. He would always say that "Playing Shakespeare in the open air is great fun, but when the rabbits come out to play on the hillside behind you the audience tends to let their attention wander".

In the mid 1980s he bought a ruined Victorian church and converted it into his home, including using a large part of it as a theatre, rehearsal area and scene dock. He also found great joy in his "newly acquired family" of Andrew and more recently Sally and his two grandsons, Jaden and Recce.

As the Screenwriter and one of the main characters, Tony put his heart and soul into the making of Uncertain Proof, for which we shall be forever thankful.

Thank you Tony, sleep well and we hope that your friends will enjoy "Tony's Film".

Tony was a great personal friend and he will be sadly missed.

Steve Andrews

Programme Secretary

BFVS

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