

SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5030

The Clulow Challenge Cup

This cup was presented in 1970 by Mr. and Mrs. Clulow for verse speaking 17 years and over. Miss Hilary Clulow, AGSM, was a member of the Executive Council and convenor of the Test Pieces Selection Sub-Committee for Speech and Drama.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5040

The Kathleen Stone Cup

Awarded at 1974 Festival for Verse Speaking, 14 and 15 years, own choice from "Poets of Our Time", edited by F.E.S. Finn (pub. John Murray). No other information found.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5050

The Olive Owers Plaque

Mrs. Olive Owers, LRAM, ARCM, a member of the Musical Council, offered this trophy in 1974 for class 155 Verse Speaking (12 and 13 years).











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5080

The Daniel Radcliffe Cup

Daniel Radcliffe is the son of Marcia Gresham, who for many years was a very keen competitor in the Southend Musical Festival – so much so, that when she moved on to pursue her career, she gave the "Gresham Cup", to be awarded to a group of Verse Speaking classes.

This group of classes has proved to be so popular that Marcia offered to donate another cup to the Festival – in November 2001 – named after her son, Daniel. Daniel has always been very interested in Speech & Drama, and is now making his own way in the world of television, films and theatre.

The Festival congratulates the winner of this Cup and wishes him or her every success in the future.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5090

The Julie Hall Memorial Cup

Nothing for this trophy in archive folder











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5100

The Gresham Cup

This cup was originally given by Miss Marcia Gresham for Dancing (under 9) but, as it was no longer used, it was agreed in 1994 that it be used in the Speech and Drama Section for under 9's. The Gresham Cup is awarded for the highest mark in verse speaking, classes 7 years and under.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5110

The Lightfoot Cup

This cup, donated to the Festival by the Lightfoot Family, was originally awarded to William Cushing in the 1930s.

Mr Cushing had a love of music and drama, and his Daughter showed great talent in these areas. He would take her all over the country to Music and Drama festivals and asked her to donate this cup to a festival that celebrated these arts.

As the family now resides in and around the Southend area and his Great Grandchildren are regular competitors at this festival it seems a fitting choice to donate it to the Southend Musical Festival.

This cup is a symbol of great parental support and a belief that talent should be nurtured.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5220

The Lottie Noel Memorial Cup

Mrs. Irene Creigh, LRAM (Speech and Drama), ALAM (Act), ALAM (Eloc), a member of the Executive Committee and the Test Piece Selection Sub-Committee for Elocution, presented this cup in 1959 in memory of her Mother. It was for a new class, 138, Choral Verse Speaking, small groups (3-11 voices), ages 16 years and under.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5230

The Gilbey Pollitt Trophy

This trophy was donated to the Festival in 2009 by Mrs Gilbey and Mrs Pollitt, both of whom are parents of young Choral Speaking performers who had competed in a group from Crowstone Preparatory School in the previous year's Speech & Drama Section.

At that time, the 10 years and under Choral Speaking class for 3-15 voices had no trophy assigned to it, and so – to the disappointment of the children and their parents – there was nothing but a certificate and a single gold medal to take back to school. An appeal by the Festival Secretary was met by an immediate offer from the above two ladies, the result of which is the trophy being presented from this year onwards to the winners of this young Choral Speaking class.

The award is made in recognition of the hard work and dedication of the children and their teachers, and the support and encouragement provided by their parents and by the school itself.

The Festival is delighted that each year's winners will have the thrill of taking a trophy back to school to be put on display, and very grateful to Mrs Gilbey and Mrs Pollitt for making this possible.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5240

The Le Page Challenge Shield

This shield was presented by Miss Le Page, Headmistress of Alexandra College (Crowstone Road) in 1932, for Choral Verse Speaking, for candidates over 11 years old. Teams of not less than 12, and not more than 20. The college was a private boarding school, opened in 1910 by three sisters, and located in Crowstone Road. It was attended by daughters of gentlemen. Pupils and the college participated in the Festival.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5250

The Claire Angel Challenge Cup

Miss Claire Angel LRAM. (ELOC) LGSM, member of the Executive Committee and a member of the Test Pieces Selection Sub-Committee for Elocution, donated this cup in 1933 for Choral Verse Speaking, 11 years and under.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5260

The Jackie Curtis Cup

Mrs. Jackie Curtis, Vice President of the Focus Theatre Workshop and a Former Mayoress of Southend-on-Sea, offered this trophy in 1988, to be awarded to the winners of a new Choral Speaking Class for the very young. Class 161B Choral Speaking (7 years and under) any number of voices, own choice, not to exceed three minutes. Listed in 1988 syllabus.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5310

The Percy B Renshaw Shakespeare Cup

Alderman Percy B Renshaw, ISO, was Chairman of the Festival for 10 years -1946-1956. A new cup was donated in 1972 for a new class, Shakespeare (open) aged 16 years and over.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5320

The Margaret Stone Memorial Bowl

This trophy appears in 1980 for a Shakespeare Class (open), ages 13-15 years, own choice from the works of William Shakespeare.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5350

The Cecily Moore Challenge Cup

Miss Cecily Moore, a member of the Executive Committee and Convenor of the Test Pieces Selection Sub-Committee for Elocution, donated this cup in 1947 for a Dramatic Scene (adults, modern) Class.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5370

The Irene Creigh Challenge Cup

From the age of 16 Irene Creigh had always wanted a stage career but family circumstances had not allowed it to happen. So towards the end of WW II she began to study speech and drama and in 1947 passed ALAM acting, (LAMDA). This was followed by a period in repertory theatre in South Wales, and later in Southchurch, Essex, near where she lived. She went on to qualify for LRAM (speech & drama), gained ALAM (elocution) and special awards from Poetry Society Shakespeare Recitals, including a special award during their Jubilee Year for "maintaining highest traditions of Verse speaking & Verse Drama"

Irene had been teaching acting students privately and in schools since 1946 – among them, the Bush-Davies school. In 1955, at the age of 48, she began teaching History, English and French in State schools.

During her teaching years, she formed Highlands Theatre Group where she directed and acted in many plays by well-known authors. She also wrote plays and songs for her actors and this experience led her to the writing of her Poems and Stories. .Her daughter is in the process of compiling a book of Irene's work.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5400

The W V Higby Memorial Cup

Mr. Higby, Headmaster of St. John's School, Billericay, offered this cup in 1993 for Class 431, Dramatic Scene (13 years and under) clubs, academies, schools etc. Scene or part scene for 3 or more characters. As there were no entries for this class in 1993, it was agreed that the cup be awarded for the highest marks in all the other Dramatic Scenes classes.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5450

The W Camm Bacon Memorial Cup

Miss Laura Bacon, A.G.S.M, L.V.C.M., a member of the Musical Council, presented this cup in 1949 in memory of her uncle, Mr.W Camm Bacon, for many years interested in former festivals in early days. Cup awarded in Class 92, junior elocution, aged 8 years and under.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5520

The "Les Voix Perdues" Mime Challenge Cup

Peter and Jill Monk presented this cup in 1983 for Solo Mime. Les Voix Perdues (The Lost Voices) Mime Company was founded in 1973 by Peter Monk who also directed and performed with the company. The main aim of the company was to perform wherever possible, and take the art and history of mime into schools. The performances were in the style of pure (white faced) mime, which Peter still teaches in schools and colleges, and at festivals up and down the country. In 1977, as part of Les Voix Perdues, Peter formed Harlemime Street Theatre Company, the aims of that company being, with a firm grounding in mime and improvisation, to take Commedia Dell' Arte onto the streets as well as into schools. Peter is still a professional performer, among his many other skills. For a few years, Peter was also on the Southend Music Festival Committee and part of the Drama Test Piece Selection Committee.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5630

The James Frost Memorial Shield

Presented to the Festival in 2009 by Pearl Bailey, in memory of her son, James Frost, who loved children, and assisted at several schools, before being taken prematurely with Huntington's Disease.

The shield will be awarded annually to the winners of a group class for young children in the Speech & Drama Section of the Festival.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5700

The Beryl Scholfield Memorial Trophy – Seniors

Beryl Scholfield was born in Southbourne Grove in 1920 and lived there her entire life, supporting and showing her pride in Southend-on-Sea.

She attended Westcliff High School for Girls, excelling in music and drama. When war broke out, she joined a concert party billed as a soubrette/comedienne.

In 1941 she met and married her handsome Army Captain, Mick Scholfield, and they went on to have four children. Also, eight grandchildren completed this happy family.

Both Mick and Beryl were mayors of Southend in their own right, and Beryl's outstanding contribution to the town was recognised in 1998, when she was made a Freeman of the Borough.

Amongst her many stage and performance credits, Beryl appeared in cabarets and in the early 50's was picked for Southend's Top Town Team and appeared on national television 4 years running.

Beryl's energy and infectious enthusiasm was evident everywhere she went and she proudly supported local organisations, too many to count: many in the role of President. She endlessly encouraged the youth of the town in all aspects of the arts, and it was with exceptional pride that Beryl watched many youngsters choose this career path. So it is with great pleasure that the Beryl Scholfield Memorial Fund is donating this beautiful trophy, and a cash prize, to be awarded annually at the Southend Musical Festival for an outstanding performance in a Senior Speech & Drama Class.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5710

The Beryl Scholfield Memorial Trophy – Juniors

Beryl Scholfield was born in Southbourne Grove in 1920 and lived there her entire life, supporting and showing her pride in Southend-on-Sea.

She attended Westcliff High School for Girls, excelling in music and drama. When war broke out, she joined a concert party billed as a soubrette/comedienne.

In 1941 she met and married her handsome Army Captain, Mick Scholfield, and they went on to have four children. Also, eight grandchildren completed this happy family.

Both Mick and Beryl were mayors of Southend in their own right, and Beryl's outstanding contribution to the town was recognised in 1998, when she was made a Freeman of the Borough.

Amongst her many stage and performance credits, Beryl appeared in cabarets and in the early 50's was picked for Southend's Top Town Team and appeared on national television 4 years running.

Beryl's energy and infectious enthusiasm was evident everywhere she went and she proudly supported local organisations, too many to count: many in the role of President. She endlessly encouraged the youth of the town in all aspects of the arts, and it was with exceptional pride that Beryl watched many youngsters choose this career path. So it is with great pleasure that the Beryl Scholfield Memorial Fund is donating this beautiful trophy, and a cash prize, to be awarded annually at the Southend Musical Festival for an outstanding performance in a Junior Speech & Drama Class.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5740

The Beatrix Potter Readers Award

Donated by Hilary Williams in 2021. This award has come to this Festival from the Leigh Music Festival so that it can continue to encourage youngsters to enjoy not only reading her books but reading them out loud.

It has also in a way encouraged adults......... One year when all the members of the LMF Committee where "encouraged" by their chairman to enter an Adult Beatrix Potter Class with a smaller "Peter Rabbit Cup" as the prize, they did to a man! This not only helped them realise the preparation and the nerves involved in doing something in front of an audience, but for those who had performed before a reminder of the joys of performing!

Maybe it might happen here?











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5750

The Focus Ladies Rose Bowl

In 1995, the Focus Ladies presented this bowl to be awarded to the winner of class 450, Prepared Prose Reading, 16 years and above.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5820

The Dickens Cup

This cup was given by the Dickens Fellowship (Southend Branch) in 1971 to be presented for the best reading from his works. This was an open class and competitors could be of any age. Following an award in 1993 to a new junior class, this cup was awarded to age 17 years and over.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5850

The Derek Lowe Memorial Cup

Trophy awarded in 1989 for Original Poetry Competition (15 years and over).

Derek Lowe, who lived in Westcliff, was a playwright, poet, and "Man of the Arts". He was a regular contributor to TVs 'That Was The Week That Was', hosted by David Frost and featuring such people as John Cleese, Ronnie Barker, Ronnie Corbet, Lance Percival and singers Millicent Martin and Jake Thackeray.

He was a published poet and founder member of the Southend Poetry Society and PMG (Poetry Music Group). He was also a regular performer at both 'Expression' and the Palace Theatre Lunch Time Concerts, run by Peter Monk, presenter of the Les Voix Perdues Mime Challenge Cup. A dab hand with an artist brush and pencil, he often exhibited paintings and sketches at the Beecroft Gallery, Westcliff.

Commissioned by Sir Bernard Miles, founder and director of the Mermaid Theatre, in Puddle Dock, London, Derek wrote a play on the life and times of John Donne. It was completed a few months before his death. Derek also worked as an English Teacher in South East Essex before the prolonged illness leading up to his death. However, he recovered sufficiently from his illness to start work as an information officer at Southend Tourist Bureau.

Derek, an artistic inspiration to all who met him, celebrated his 51st birthday a few days before he died. He left a wife and three daughters.

Friend involved in the arts in Southend contributed towards the cup with the desired wish that there should be a class in the Southend Music Festival set up and named Original Poem, and that his cup should be awarded in that class. Any changes to this would be notified to and agreed by Mr. Peter Monk on behalf of the remaining Lowe Family.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5910

The Pat Wateridge U3A Cup

PAT WATERIDGE 8th May 1936 - 15th September 2019

This trophy is given by the Hadleigh Castle U3A Creative Writers Group (University of the 3rd Age) in 2021 to symbolise the respect and affection they hold for one of our exceptional members, Pat Wateridge. Like a magnet her warm personality attracted members of the U3A who knew her through all the groups and activities she belonged to and trips travelled. The U3A Creative Writers Group listened to her stories describing vivid experiences in her life. Her ability to transport us all back to a time long ago was not only evocative but could be hilarious, turning even sad events into a smile. Pat had an innate ability to communicate with wit, intelligence and warmth to all who met her. This was evidenced in the instant pleasure on peoples faces as they greeted her. Her portrayal of an elf in the U3A Drama Group demonstrated her ability to portray the fun and mischief of the part with her usual sparkling bright eyes familiar to us all. Pat's personality not only shone through the performance but in all she did, making her so memorable. Regardless of age or obstacle, her stoic determination to attend the U3A activities secured her attendance. Now her absence at the U3A leaves a void that will be ever held for her, impossible to replace. This trophy in remembrance of Pat Wateridge serves as a reminder of the warmth, joy and goodwill that can be shared on our journey through life, as demonstrated by our dearly remembered friend and member Pat Wateridge.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5940

The Alice Jeffery Bible Reading Award

When this trophy was first donated to the Festival, in 2004, Alice Jeffery had been a regular and successful competitor in the Festival for several years - in 2003, the last year in which she was eligible to enter the 11 & under Bible Reading class, Alice won the gold medal. Alice has loved all forms of literature: from as young as four and a half, she has performed in front of audiences, reciting poems, prose, sight readings and of course Bible readings. Doing this gave her the confidence and skills to perform readings at two of her sisters' weddings, at her secondary school church carol service, and numerous other public events. The Jeffery family hopes that the winner of this trophy will have as much pleasure in Speech & Drama as we have had over the years.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5000, 5010

The Ridley-Batchelor Cup

Miss Peggy Batchelor L.G.S.M., member of the Test Pieces Selection Sub-Committee for elocution, gave this cup in 1960 for the highest mark in the Gold and Silver Classes. Miss Batchelor ran the well known Ridley Studios for Dance/Drama Training, in Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5270, 5280, 5290, 5300

The Doris Freyer Cup

Mrs. Doris Freyer LRAM (Speech and Drama), FTCI, donated this cup in 1956 to be competed for in the Acted Ballad Class. In the syllabus of 1956, the cup was allocated to an open class for Acted Poem or Story with narrators for small parties from clubs, schools, etc.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5310, 5320,

5330, 5340

The Southend Shakespeare Trophy

The Southend Shakespeare Company was formed in 1951 and its main aim was to perform Shakespeare on a regular basis which they have continued to do for 70 years. They decided to present this Trophy for "the most impressive performance in the Shakespeare classes" in order to encourage the performances of Shakespeares' works.











SECTION: Speech & Drama

CLASS NO/S: 5380, 5390, 5400, 5410, 5420, 5430, 5440

The Helen Thatcher Trophy (Dramatic Scene)

Trophy shown in 1935 syllabus, class 92, Dramatic Scene (competition for small parties from girls' schools). Given by Miss Helen Thatcher BSc, Member of the Musical Council.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5580, 5590,

5600, 5610

The Hayley Ann Cresswell Challenge Cup

Hayley Ann Cresswell was a drama student member of Basildon Youth Theatre. She entered as a member of the team in classes at the Southend Musical Festival – and especially loved Dance Drama.

Tragically, in 1990, Hayley Ann was diagnosed with bowel cancer and by March 1991, at the age of 19, she died. In her honour, Basildon Youth Theatre presented this Challenge Cup, to be awarded for Dance Drama classes, so that her love of the Festival would never die, and her memory live on forever.











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: 5760, 5770, 5780, 5790, 5800, 5810

The Philpott Performance Cup

This trophy was donated in 2022 by Anita Philpott.

"I believe that standing up and performing for an audience is exhilarating and brave and instils a sense of confidence that never leaves you. A teacher introduced me to Shakespeare and told me about the theatre. I was fascinated. She entered me in a festival. I didn't win but I loved the experience. When I had my own children I filled their time with books, drama and concerts and with many visits to the theatre. We practiced verse speaking and mime and they took part in the festivals. Each of them has gone on to earn their living within the arts, as actors, producers, directors, writers and musicians working on TV, in theatres and grand orchestras. They first dipped their toes in the water at the Festivals. I gained The Poetry Society medals as a teenager. I have written several children's stories, have a published book of poetry and currently have a novel awaiting publication. I hope that whoever receives this cup will always remember the faces of the audience smiling back at them and remember how brave they were and what they achieved. Well done! Anita Philpott"











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: Overall Award

The Basildon Youth Theatre Challenge Cup

Basildon Youth Theatre absolutely loved being part of the Southend Musical Festival for many years. Twenty years after their final appearance, the Festival celebrated its

Centenary – members of Basildon Youth Theatre came from all over the country, and were thrilled to be part of the celebration and to return to the excitement once more. In honour of this special occasion, the Challenge Cup was presented, so that Basildon Youth Theatre would always have a place in the Festival. The Cup is to be presented, at the Adjudicator's discretion, to the most outstanding 12 years and under performer in the Festival – and Basildon Youth Theatre sends this message to each year's winner: "Basildon Youth Theatre would like to congratulate YOU for winning this trophy and just hope that you have had as much pleasure from being part of the Festival as all the Youth Theatre members always had."











SECTION: Speech & Drama CLASS NO/S: Overall Award

The Focus Theatre Workshop Cup

At a Committee Meeting held on 15th April 1981, it was announced that the Focus Theatre Workshop wished to present a cup for Drama to any solo, duo or group entry, considered by the adjudicator to be a performance most deserving of the trophy. The cup is awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator at the end of the Speech and Drama section.







