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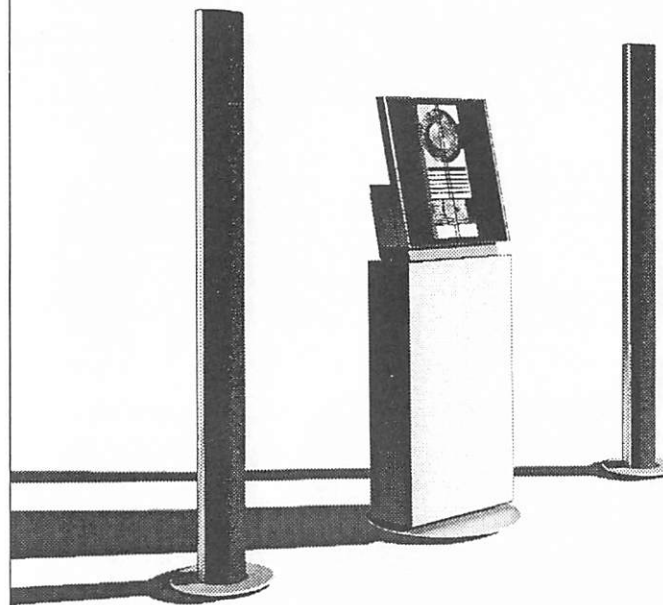
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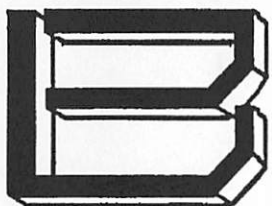
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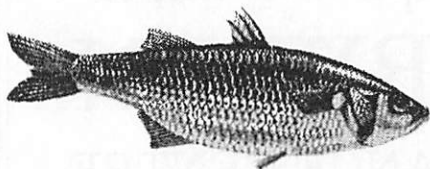


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### EXHIBITIONS

The gallery has about eight varied, quality exhibitions throughout the year.

### CRAFTSCHOOL

Many courses are run throughout the year, both for adults and for children in the holiday periods.

Walford Mill is open every day, 10am - 5pm (closed Mondays January - March)  
Free entry, adjacent car park, facilities for disabled visitors



cottage (centre) where George Viccars, the first of the disease on September 7th 1665.



Wimborne Drama would like to thank **Family Fabrics** for making the costumes for William Mompesson and Thomas Stanley for this production

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The centre of Eyam village with Mrs Cooper's plague victim was lodging when he died

### *Wimborne Drama*

*The Roses of Eyam is our final play  
in our current season.*

Our new season is launched in October when, to mark the centenary of Noel Coward's birth we will stage a production of his well loved comedy

### ***Blythe Spirit***

Look out for details of this and our productions in Spring and early Summer, 2000.

*Wimborne Drama present*

# *The roses of eyam*

*A play by Don Taylor*

*directed by Geoff Whipp*

## Wimborne Drama

1998 - 1999 SEASON

This time last year we were looking back on a difficult year of ever rising prices and dwindling audiences.

We had much discussion as to what could be done to (a) raise money to finance our productions and (b) how to court a larger audience to come and support us.

We decided to seek wider financial support, but more importantly, we asked you, the audience what type of plays you wanted to come and see.

As a result of this we have had a varied year: firstly last Autumn we staged a

simple, basic comedy - *Fur Coat And No Knickers* - and, despite fears that it wouldn't go down very well; it was just *too* silly; it was too dated; etc. etc. etc., we were delighted at the laughter which greeted our opening performance and continued for the entire run. The play made a profit and we were heartened by a good audience response at the start of the season. Earlier this year we had another comedy, although *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime* was a comedy from an entirely different stable. Oscar Wilde's touch was indelibly written on this adaptation of his short story.

Once again our audiences loved it,



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## ... THE BLACK DEATH

disappearing from the map altogether. Indeed, Wimborne Minster's population was slashed by 20% in 1638 when over 400 of her inhabitants died in one particular outbreak. There are many other accounts of how the plague visited and desolated many other towns, villages and settlements in the county at the time, but what made the occurrence in Eyam particularly noteworthy is how the villagers, under the guidance of the rector, William Mompesson and his predecessor Thomas Stanley chose to contain the plague within the village.

It is recorded that, in 1665, Mary Cooper, a widow, lived in the village with her two young sons and that she took in a journeyman tailor, George Viccars as a lodger. Tradition has it that a box of materials 'relating to his trade' were delivered. The box contained fashionable second hand clothing from London, some of it possibly taken from the bodies of plague victims. On arrival the contents were found to be damp and were therefore laid out in front of the fire to be dried off. Once the fleas were released from the cloth they would move out in search of nourishment. Though they would normally feed on the blood of the rat, they would also take food from other sources - so it was that George Viccars was infected. He became ill shortly afterwards and his funeral is recorded in the parish records as having taken place on 7th September 1665.

The only record of Viccars' passing was that entry in the parish register - as an outsider he had no-one to pay for a headstone or any other tangible testimony to his passing. The 350 inhabitants of the village who witnessed his death were innocently unaware that over the next fifteen months 260 of them would follow.

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# Some recipes

In ye time of plague, let the person either infected or fearful of ye infection take a pennyworth of Dragon water, a pennyworth of oyle Olive, Mithrodite 1d. and treacle 1d., then take an unyon and fill it full of pepper, w'n you have fcraped it, then roaft it and after that put in to ye liquor and ftrain and drink it in ye morning, and if you take ye same at night lay foap and bay falt at your feet, and fwheat upon it and with God's blesfing you fhall recover.

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# the plague at bay



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*Both taken from John Wesley's collection of  
preventions and cures for the plague.*



To prevent, infuse Rue, Sage  
Mint, Rosemary, Wormwood;  
of each a handful, in two  
quarts of the sharpest vinegar,  
over warm embers for eight  
days. Then strain through a  
flannel and add half an ounce  
of Camphire, dissolved in three  
ounces of rectified spirit of  
wine. With this wash the loins,  
face and mouth, and sniff a  
little up the nose when you go  
abroad & smell to a sponge dipt  
therein when you approach  
infected persons or places.

# More recipes to keep

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If there doe a blotch appear;  
take a Pigeon and pluke the  
feathers off her tail, very bare,  
and set her tail to the sore; and  
she will draw out the venom till  
she die; then take another, set  
too likewise, continuing so till  
all the venom be drawne out  
which you shall see by the  
Pigeons, for they will die with  
the venom as long as there is  
any in: also a chicken or henne  
is very good. All should  
studiously avoid dancing,  
running, leaping about, lechery  
and bathing.

# to allay the plague



*Salamander*

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**V**ictims of the plague were buried as soon as possible to avoid the disease from spreading, and this often meant that they were interred in gardens, on waste land and in the surrounding fields. As you walk around the village you are constantly reminded of this as many of the headstones are still standing. The graves of Mrs Hancocks family, for example,



are set in a stone walled enclosure on a hillside just outside the current village boundary. In just seven days Mary Hancock buried her husband and each of her six children.

People living across the valley at Stoney Middleton are said to have watched Mrs Hancock as she single handedly dug the graves prior to dragging the bodies from her home, across the field, where she was the sole mourner as she laid them to rest.

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The inscription and epitaph on the headstone of Mrs Hancock's husband's tomb reads:

John Hancock, sen.,  
 Buried August 7th, 1666.

Remember man

As thou go'st by,

As thou art now,

Even once was I;

As I doe now,

So must thou lie,

Remember man

That thou must die.

Elizabeth Hancock, Buried Aug. 3, 1666.

John Hancock, Buried Aug. 3, 1666.

Oner Hancock, Buried Aug. 7, 1666.

William Hancock, Buried Aug. 7, 1666.

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'Cucklett Church' - a natural stone arch  
to the south of the village, which was used  
for church services after the village  
church was closed for public prayer.

## The Church at the

In 1666, the date of the play, and for many  
years before England had been divided by  
Civil Wars - a time when whole villages and  
even families had been at odds with one  
another.

Eyam, like many other parishes had, for the  
past thirty years or so, gone through  
particularly troubled times.

Two rectors, Shoreland Adams and Thomas  
Stanley had served the parish for thirty four  
years. Adams had been appointed in 1630,  
but was ejected in 1644 when the Puritans  
came to prominence. He was replaced by  
Thomas Stanley who was rector for sixteen  
years until 1660 when Adams was  
reappointed as rector when the Royalists  
once again gained control. It is perhaps  
important to remember that Thomas Stanley  
looked after the spiritual needs of the  
villagers throughout the turbulent period  
covering the Civil Wars and that it was him  
these often uneducated people looked to for  
guidance and advice on all matters. He was,  
in short, a figure who they looked up to and  
depended on in very difficult times.

When Reverend Mompesson arrived on the  
scene he had a number of seemingly  
difficult problems of his own to face up to.  
Firstly he was a stranger, a newcomer  
straight out of university in what he saw as  
a cultural backwater. It was almost as if he  
saw his initial task as a kind of missionary,  
taming the savages. At the beginning of the  
play he says to his patron, Sir George  
Saville that "... in Eyam I shall lay the  
first foundation of God's house, I won't  
begin by making concessions to the  
material" at which Saville laughs in order  
"... to bring you back to earth my boy.  
You won't see anything looking down from  
your pedestal". He later asks Catherine, his

Joan Wilson	4th
Mary Darby	4th
William Abell	7th
George Frith	7th
Godfrey Ashe	8th
William Halksworth	9th
Robert Wood	9th
Humphrey Merril	9th
Sarah Wilson	10th
Thomas Mozley	16th
Joan Wood	16th
Mary Percival	18th
Francis Mortin	20th
George Butterworth	21st
Ann Townsend	22nd
Ann Glover	23rd
Ann Hall	23rd
Francis Halksworth	23rd
- Townsend (infant, unchristened)	29th
Susanna Mortin	29th

### October, 1666

James Parsley	1st
Grace Mortin	2nd
Peter Ashe	4th
Abram Mortin	5th
Thomas Torre	--
Benjamin Mortin	--
Ann Bands	--
Elizabeth Mortin	--
Alice Taylor	--
Ann Parsley	--
Agnes Sheldon	--
Mary Mortin	--
Samuel Hall	--
Peter Hall	--
Joseph Mortin	--

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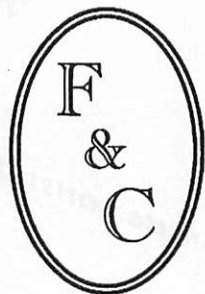
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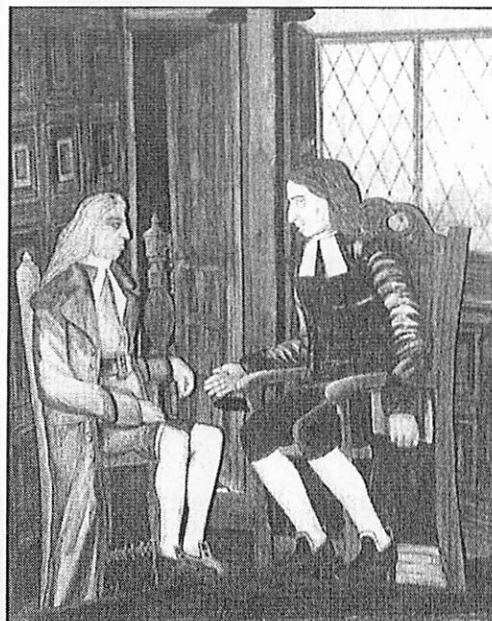
Thomas Bilston	16th
Thomas Frith	17th
Joan French	17th
Mary Yealott	17th
Sarah Mortin	18th
Elizabeth Frith	18th
Ann Yealott	18th
Thomas Wragge	18th
Ann Halksworth	19th
Joan Ashmore	19th
Elizabeth Frith	20th
Margaret Mortin	20th
Ann Rowland	20th
Joan Buxton	20th
Frances Frith	21st
Ruth Mortin	21st
- Frith (infant, unchristened)	22nd
Lydia Kempe	22nd
Peter Hall	23rd
- Mortin(infant, unchristened)	24th
Katherine Mompesson	25th
Samuel Chapman	25th
Ann Frith	25th
Joan Howe	27th
Thomas Ashmore	27th
Thomas Wood	28th
William Howe	30th
Mary Abell	30th
Catherine Talbot	30th
Francis Wilson	30th
William Ashmore	30th

### September, 1666

Elizabeth Frith	1st
William Percival	1st
Robert Trickett	2nd
Henry Frith	3rd

## time of the plague

wife, "... What language shall I speak to barrel makers and farmers who dig themselves insensible all day and snore their nights through without one thought of God"? Secondly he was much younger than Thomas Stanley who, although ousted from the Rectory, was still living locally and had the unfailing support of half of the villagers. The main problem facing Mompesson, however, stemmed from the



*Thomas Stanley and William Mompesson meet in the Rectory, from a painting by James Ford.*

fact that he and the ever present Stanley had totally opposing religious beliefs, differing viewpoints which had made them sworn enemies long before the two of them ever met each other in the late Summer of 1665, differences which would be virtually impossible to put aside, but would certainly need to be if they were to find a solution to the overwhelming problems that were soon to face the entire village.

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# More recipes

A remedy approved by the  
College of Physicians:

Take a greate onion,  
hollow it,  
put in a fig one cut small  
and a dram of Venice treacle;  
put it close stopt in wet paper,  
and roast it in the embers;  
apply it hot into the tumour  
lay three or four,  
one after the other;  
let one lie three hours

Elizabeth Hancock	3rd
Margaret Buxton	3rd
Robert Barking	3rd
Margaret Percival	4th
Annie Swinnerton	4th
Rebecca Mortin	4th
Robert French	6th
Richard Thorpe	6th
Thomas Frith	6th
John Yealott	7th
Oner Frith	7th
John Hancock	7th
William Hancock	7th
Abraham Swinnerton	8th
Alice Hancock	9th
Ann Hancock	10th
Francis Frith	10th
Elizabeth Kempe	11th
William Halksworth	12th
Thomas Kempe	12th
Francis Bocking	13th
Richard Bocking	13th
Mary Bocking	13th
John Tricket	13th
Ann Tricket (his wife)	13th
Mary Whitbey	13th
Sarah Blackwall	13th
Bridget Naylor	13th
Robert Hadfield	14th
Margaret Swinnerton	14th
Alice Coyle	14th
Thurston Whitbey	15th
Alice Bocking	15th
Briget Talbot	15th
Michael Kempe	15th
Ann Wilson	15th

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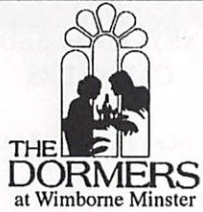


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Thomas Thorpe	22nd
Robert Thorpe	22nd
Robert Talbot	24th
John Nealor	25th
Thomas Heally	25th
Richard Talbot	25th
Joan Nealor	26th
Joan Talbot	26th
Ruth Talbot	26th
Anna Chapman	26th
Lydia Chapman	26th
Margret Allen	29th
John Torre	29th
Samuel Ealott	29th
Rowland Mower	29th
Thomas Barking	30th
Nicholas Whitby	30th
Jonathan Talbot	30th
Mary Whitby	30th
George Mower	30th
Sarah Ealott	31st
Joseph Allen	31st
Ann Mortin	31st
Robert Kempe	31st

**August, 1666**

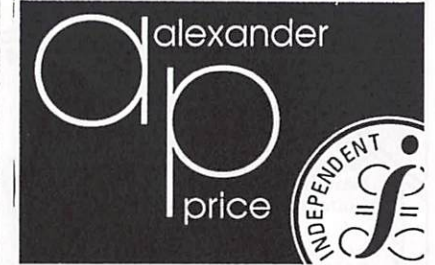
George Ashe	1st
Mary Nealor	1st
John Hadfield	2nd
Robert Bunton	2nd
Ann Naylor	2nd
Jonathan Naylor	2nd
Elizabeth Glover	2nd
Alexander Hadfield	3rd
Jane Nealor	3rd
Godfrey Torre	3rd
John Hancock, jnr.	3rd

William Boghurst, an apothecary,  
applied the following remedy  
to a female patient:

I laid a great Mastiff Puppy Dog  
upon her breast two or three  
hours together, and made her  
drink Dill, Pennyroyal,  
Fennell and Aniseed Water,  
for she was a fat woman  
and could bear it.

to allay  
the  
plague

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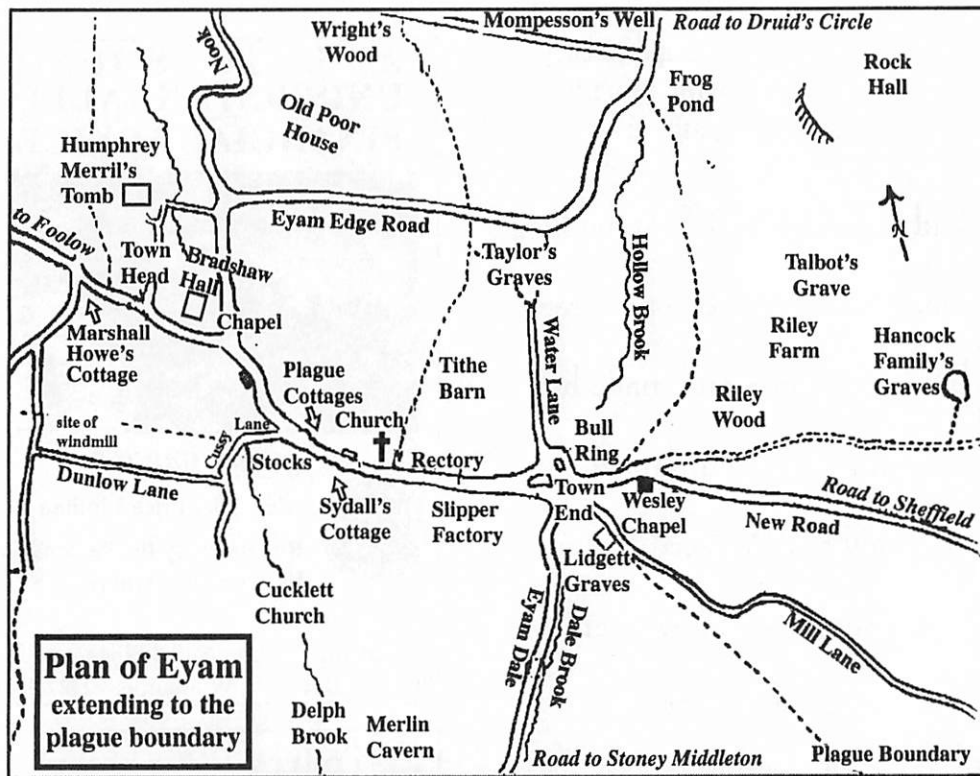
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- |                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Jane Townsend           | 25th |
| Emmot Heald             | 26th |
| John Swanna             | 29th |
| <b>July, 1666</b>       |      |
| Elizabeth Heald         | 2nd  |
| William Lowe            | 2nd  |
| Eleanor Lowe (his wife) | 3rd  |
| Deborah Ealott          | 3rd  |
| George Darby            | 4th  |
| Anna Coyle              | 5th  |
| Briget Talbot           | 5th  |
| Mary Talbot             | 5th  |
| John Dannyel            | 5th  |
| Elizabeth Swanna        | 6th  |
| Mary Thornley           | 6th  |
| John Townsend           | 7th  |
| Ann Talbot              | 7th  |
| Francis Wragge          | 8th  |
| Elizabeth Thorpe        | 8th  |
| Elizabeth Lowe          | 9th  |
| Edytha Thorpe           | 9th  |
| Anne Lowe               | 13th |
| Margaret Taylor         | 14th |
| Alice Thornley          | 16th |
| Jane Naylor             | 16th |
| Edytha Barking          | 17th |
| Elizabeth Thornley      | 17th |
| Jane Talbot             | 17th |
| Robert Whyteley         | 18th |
| Catherine Talbot        | 18th |
| Thomas Heald            | 18th |
| Robert Torre            | 18th |
| George Short            | 18th |
| Thomas Ashe             | 18th |
| William Thornley        | 19th |
| Francis Wood            | 22nd |

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John Wood --  
Mary Buxton --  
Ann Blackwell --  
Alice Halksworth --

### April, 1666

Thomas Allen 6th  
Joan Blackwell 6th  
Alice Thorpe 15th  
Edward Bainsley 16th  
Margaret Blackwell 16th  
Samuel Hadfield 18th  
Margaret Gregory 21st  
- Allen (infant, unchristened) 28th  
Emmot Sydall 30th

### May, 1666

Robert Thorpe 2nd  
William Thorpe 2nd  
James Taylor 11th  
Ellen Charlesworth 24th

### June, 1666

Isaac Thornley 2nd  
Anna Thornley 12th  
Jonathan Thornley 12th  
Anthony Skidmore 12th  
Elizabeth Thornley 15th  
James Mower 15th  
Elizabeth Buxton 15th  
Mary Heald 16th  
Francis Thornley 17th  
Mary Skidmore 17th  
Sarah Lowe 17th  
Mary Mellow 18th  
Anna Townsend 19th  
Abel Archdale 20th  
Edward Thornley 22nd  
Ann Skidmore 25th



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We dedicate this production to the men, women and children of the village of Eyam in Derbyshire who died there during the plague years of 1665 & 1666

## September, 1665

died	
George Viccars	7th
Edward Cooper	22nd
Peter Halksworth	23rd
Thomas Thorpe	26th
Sarah Sydall	30th
Mary Thorpe	30th

## October, 1665

Matthew Bands	1st
Elizabeth Thorpe	1st
Margaret Bands	3rd
Mary Thorpe	3rd
Sythe Torre	6th
William Thorpe	7th
Richard Sydall	11th
William Torre	13th
Alice Torre (his wife)	13th
John Sydall	14th
Ellen Sydall	15th
Humphrey Halksworth	17th
Martha Bands	17th
Jonathan Ragge	18th
Humphrey Torre	19th
Thomas Thorpe	19th
Mary Bands	20th
Elizabeth Sydall	22nd
Alice Ragge	23rd
Alice Sydall	24th
George Ragge	26th
Jonathan Cooper	28th
Humphrey Torre	30th

# of eyam

Richard Neal  
Jean Dishington  
Hannah Welton  
James Love  
Howard Lovejoy  
Amanda Brown  
Jeremy Austin  
Martin Matthews  
Brian Scotford  
Dawn Hollington  
David Pile  
Mike Hutchings  
Geoff Whipp  
Carolyn Howe  
Amanda Brown  
Antony White  
Andy Day  
Ray Sargeant  
Anne Whiteside  
Enid Davies  
Ann Pond  
Carolyn Hewitt  
Daphne Young  
Margaret Pope  
Sheila Smith  
Vicky Smith  
Saliann Colton  
Eddy Colton

Mrs Cooper Eileen Dunnochie  
Edward Cooper John Williams

Sarah Thornley Daphne Young  
Issac Thornley John Whelan  
Edward Thornley Paul Dodman  
Elizabeth Thornley Ann Pond  
William Thornley Derek Westlake  
Mary Thornley Jac Westlake  
John Thornley Christopher Barton

Ellen Frith Margaret Pope  
Ann Frith Penny Scotford  
Thomas Frith Ian Ferguson  
Mary Frith Kate Mounce  
Francis Frith Margaret Coleman  
Elizabeth Frith Rebecca Love  
George Frith Fred Brown

Joseph Mortin Eddie Colton  
Ruth Mortin Saliann Colton  
Abram Mortin Paul Wilshaw

Ann Parsley Heather Shew  
James Parsley Peter Coley

Jane Naylor Enid Davies

Elizabeth Swanne Clare Downs

We would like to express our thanks to the sponsors for this production:

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as well as Family Fabrics for making William Mompesson's and Thomas Stanley's costumes, The Faculty, Primizia Restaurant and Minster Flowers for sponsorship of posters and tickets, and all of the programme advertisers, without whose financial support we would not have been able to stage 'The Roses of Eyam'.



