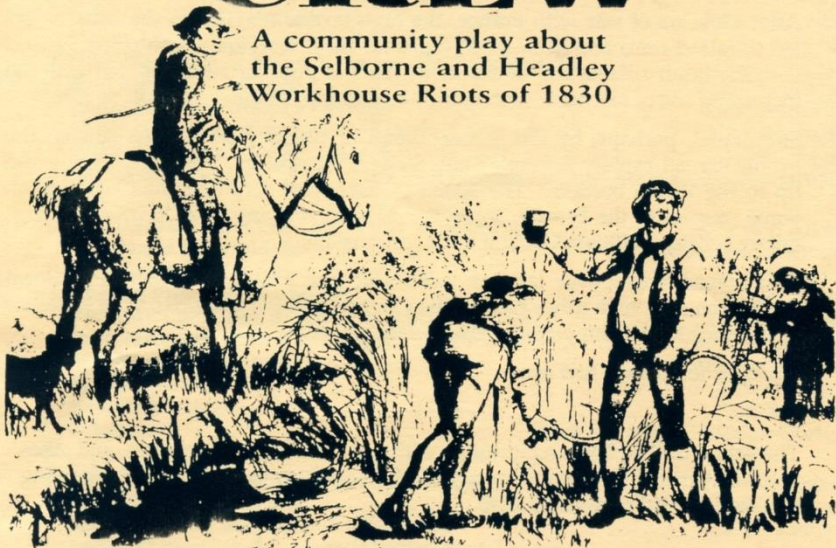


THE SELBORNE PLAYERS  
PRESENT  
**THIS  
BLOODY  
CREW**

A community play about  
the Selborne and Headley  
Workhouse Riots of 1830



**TO BE PERFORMED AT**

Selborne Village Hall:	Thursday 21st October
	Friday 22nd October
	Saturday 23rd October
Mill Chase Community School:	Tuesday 26th October
Headley Village Hall:	Friday 29th October
	Saturday 30th October

**ALL PERFORMANCES AT 7.30 PM**

TICKETS: £4 (£3 CONCESSION FOR STUDENTS,  
UB40s AND SENIOR CITIZENS)

**TELEPHONE BOOKINGS AND FURTHER INFORMATION  
FROM JO SMITH 0428 712892**

SUPPORTED BY EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



# THIS BLOODY CREW

A community play about the Selborne and Headley  
Workhouse Riots of 1830

*written by Jo Smith*

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After 22 years of war with France, the high taxation levied on the landowners led to raised rents and decreased wages for rural workers. High prices caused by trade interruptions and intermittent years of poor harvests coupled with the increasing use of mechanisation culminated in the Labourers' Revolt of 1830.

Stimulated, perhaps, by the earlier 'Bread or Blood' riots in East Anglia, the events spread rapidly through Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and up to the Welsh borders. The speed of the revolt confused the Government. Some suspected the French, some the hand of the mythical 'Captain Swing', others believed William Cobbett to be responsible.

Widespread anger over lack of work and low wages was fuelled by local frustration over high tithes paid to the Church, and the reliance on the existence of the Poor Rate to supplement insufficient wages.

The time for change had come.

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The action of the play is continuous with one interval of 10 minutes, and takes place in various locations over a period leading up to, during and following the 22nd & 23rd November 1830.

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Direction . . . . .	Paul Roberts, John Guest
Musical director . . . . .	Andy Johnson
Stage manager . . . . .	Dil Williamson
Assisted by . . . . .	Daphne Brittain, Debbi Williamson
Lighting . . . . .	Steve White
Assisted by . . . . .	Paul Kosinski
Wardrobe . . . . .	Sandra Baker, Nita Heaton-Harris
Poster design . . . . .	Teena Lee
Publicity . . . . .	Jo Smith

The assistance throughout this project of Julia Fry, Assistant Community Development Manager with East Hampshire District Council, is gratefully acknowledged.

Our thanks to Anne Mallinson for the loan of properties from her collection.

## CAST

**William Cobbett**, radical author and politician . . . . . John Wheeler

**John Cobb**, Selborne labourer . . . . . Rachael Shaw

**Aaron Harding**, Selborne labourer . . . . . Tony Grant

**Thomas Harding**, Kingsley labourer (Aaron's brother) . . . . . Mike Measures

**John Heath**, Carpenter of Selborne (born in Headley) . . . . . Ray Bower

**William Hoare**, Selborne labourer . . . . . Robert Curtis

**Robert Holdaway**, Publican of Selborne . . . . . Steve Povey

**Sarah Holdaway**, his wife . . . . . Susan Trower

**Henry James**, Knife-grinder, brazier, tinman . . . . . Andy Pead

**John Newland**, Selborne labourer (the 'Trumpeter') . . . . . Kevin Siggs

**Ann Newland**, his wife . . . . . Christine Curtis

**James Painter**, Kingsley labourer . . . . . Andy Johnson

**Matthew Triggs**, Bricklayer of Headley . . . . . Nick Benham

**William Triggs**, Matthew's brother . . . . . Kevin Siggs

**Selborne children** . . . . . Jocelyn Henderson, Ben Marnan, Rosie Marnan

**Rev William Rust Cobbold**, Vicar of Selborne . . . . . Simon Allen

**Mrs Maria Cobbold**, his wife . . . . . Maureen Lowther

**Housekeeper** of the vicar at Selborne . . . . . Alice Cooper

**Charles Fitt**, Selborne farmer . . . . . David Faddy

**Timothy Loe**, Clerk to Selborne vestry . . . . . Trevor Storey

**John Harrison**, Master of Selborne Poor House . . . . . Andrew Gibson

**Mrs Harrison**, his wife . . . . . Christine Ruffell

**Harry Harrison**, their son . . . . . Ben Marnan

**Selborne villager** . . . . . Paul Roberts

**Narrators** . . . . . Nick Benham, Christine Curtis

**Rev Robert Dickinson**, Rector of Headley . . . . . John Wheeler

**Mrs Dickinson**, his wife . . . . . Freda Lodge

**John Lickfold**, Shopkeeper of Headley . . . . . Dale Lodge

**James Shoesmith**, Master of Headley Poor House . . . . . Jo Smith

**Mrs Shoesmith**, his wife . . . . . Debbi Williamson

**Eli Smith**, Headley farmer . . . . . Craig MacDonald

**Mr Tend**, foreman of decorators at Headley Rectory . . . . . Hank Marnan

**Richard Rook**, Headley labourer . . . . . Paul Roberts

**Mrs Budd**, wife of magistrate Henry Budd . . . . . Maureen Lowther

**Captain of 5th Dragoons**, at *The Anchor*, Liphook . . . . . Rod Bamber

**Mrs Dowling**, Landlady of *The Anchor*, Liphook . . . . . Pip Cooper

**Baron (Sir John) Vaughan**, Judge at the trials . . . . . Rod Bamber

**Sir Thomas Denman**, Attorney General at the trials . . . . . Jo Smith

**Usher**, at the trials . . . . . Pip Cooper

**Gaoler** on the prison hulk York at Gosport . . . . . Craig MacDonald

**Witnesses** . . . . . Rachael Shaw, Freda Lodge

**Narrators** . . . . . David Faddy, Christine Curtis

## SCENES

(Cast shown in order)

### Act 1

**On the Hulk 'York' at Gosport:** Gaoler, Aaron Harding, John Heath, Henry James, Robert Holdaway, Thomas Harding, Matt Triggs, John Painter.

**William Cobbett rides through Selborne in 1823:** William Cobbett, Selborne villager

**A meeting of Vestry members in Selborne:** Timothy Loe, Charles Fitt, Robert Holdaway.

**In Selborne Vicarage, Saturday 20th November:** Rev Cobbold, Mrs Cobbold.

**At Selborne Workhouse, same day:** John Harrison, Aaron Harding, Narrators.

**A Back Room in 'The Compasses', evening, same day:** Robert Holdaway, John Newland, Aaron Harding, John Heath, Charles Fitt.

**At the Workhouse, midnight that evening:** John Harrison, Mrs Harrison.

**In the Newlands' Cottage, later:** Ann Newland, John Newland.

**Inside 'The Compasses', next morning:** Sarah Holdaway, Robert Holdaway.

**In Selborne Vicarage, early, Monday 21st November:** Charles Fitt, Housekeeper, Rev Cobbold.

**The Mob Gathers in Selborne, later that morning:** Aaron Harding, Thomas Harding, Robert Holdaway, John Newland, 2 mob members, John Cobb.

**Outside Selborne Workhouse, later:** John Cobb, members of the mob, Mrs Harrison, Harry Harrison, Robert Holdaway, John Newland, Charles Fitt.

**Outside Selborne Vicarage, later:** Robert Holdaway, Rev Cobbold, John Cobb, 2 mob members, Aaron Harding, John Heath, Charles Fitt.

**At 'The Anchor', Liphook, later that day:** Mrs Dowling, Dragoon Captain, Mrs Harrison, Harry Harrison.

**In Selborne, later that day:** Robert Holdaway, Charles Fitt.

**On the Road to Headley, morning, Tuesday 23rd November:** Aaron Harding, John Heath, Thomas Harding, Robert Holdaway, Henry James.

- The Interval separates the



## THE PLAY

(speaking for each scene)

### Act 2

**On the Hulk 'York' at Gosport:** Robert Holdaway, Matt Triggs, John Heath.

**At Headley Workhouse, 8am Tuesday 23rd November:** Matthew Triggs, William Triggs, James Shoesmith, Mrs Shoesmith.

**Headley High Street, later:** John Lickfold, Mr Tend, Matthew Triggs.

**On Headley Green, later:** John Lickfold, Matthew Triggs, Rev Dickinson, Mrs Dickinson.

**At Headley Workhouse, 10am the same day:** John Lickfold, Robert Holdaway, James Shoesmith, Eli Smith, Henry James.

**On Headley Green, later:** Matthew Triggs, Robert Holdaway, Rev Dickinson, John Lickfold.

**At Headley Workhouse, midday:** James Shoesmith, Henry James, mob members.

**Outside the 'Holly Bush', at the same time:** Robert Holdaway, 2 bystanders, Eli Smith.

**At Headley Workhouse, soon after:** Eli Smith, Robert Holdaway, Aaron Harding, Thomas Harding, James Painter, Judge Vaughan, 2 witnesses, Henry James, Matthew Triggs, John Heath.

**Kingsley, late Afternoon:** Robert Holdaway, John Heath, Judge Vaughan.

**The Leaders of the Mob are Arrested:** John Lickfold, Mrs Budd, William Cobbett.

**The Trial at Winchester:** Narrator, Usher, Attorney General, Rev Cobbold, Robert Holdaway, Charles Fitt, Judge Vaughan, Richard Rook.

**Reaction to the Sentences:** Narrator 1, Narrator 2, Bystander.

**Epilogue:** James Painter, Henry James, Thomas Harding, Aaron Harding, John Newland, Rev Cobbold, John Heath, Matthew Triggs, Robert Holdaway.

ents at Selborne and Headley -

## Historical Calendar of Events

### November 1830

- Saturday 20th* Shots fired into the Selborne workhouse at midnight.  
*Monday 22nd* Selborne workhouse sacked & vicar mobbed.  
*Tuesday 23rd* Headley workhouse sacked and rector mobbed; Kingsley threshing machine broken.  
*Thursday 25th* Arrests began.

### December 1830

- Monday 20th* Trials began at Winchester.  
*Thursday 30th* Sentences passed.

### February 1831

- 3rd - 10th* Prisoners transferred to the hulk 'York' at Gosport.  
*Saturday 19th* Aaron Harding, John Heath, Robert Holdaway, Henry James & Matthew Triggs sail for New South Wales on the 'Eleanor', arriving 25th June.

### March 1831

- Thursday 14th* Thomas Harding sails for Tasmania on the 'Proteus', arr. 4 Aug.

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The script of **This Bloody Crew**, and a companion history textbook **One Monday in November** written by the same author, are both available for sale at the front of house. *The author will be happy to sign copies.*

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*"Gallon Loaves" kindly baked  
and donated by:*



## The Queens Selborne



*After the Selborne productions,  
come and see Robert Holdaway  
behind the bar*