

CHRISTMAS IN '63 THE SKETCH**SCENE ONE:****A MODERN LIVING ROOM**

Christmas Day. Present Day. Three children, Hannah, Luke and Abigail are seated at the feet of their grandparents, Tony and Angela. They each have a hi-tech toy in their hands. A small artificial Christmas tree is placed upstage, out of the way.

HANNAH: ***(Excited)*** Look Grandad an iPad!

LUKE: I've got an Xbox!

ABIGAIL: I can't believe it. My very own mobile!

OLDER TONY: You children are so lucky!

OLDER ANGELA: Spoilt I call it!

OLDER TONY: Now, now dear, don't be like that! When we were kids our grandparents used to say that all they got for Christmas was an orange and a bag of nuts!

(All laugh.)

HANNAH: What was Christmas Day like when you were our age?

OLDER ANGELA: Well, our parents didn't have the kind of money to splash out on expensive presents, that's for sure!

OLDER TONY: Still, we were always pleased with what we were given weren't we love?

OLDER ANGELA: Yes we were. It was more the surprise than anything. I used to get so excited!

LUKE: Ooh, I love surprises!

ABIGAIL: Me too, as long as they're *nice* ones.

OLDER ANGELA: The Christmas that I really remember was 1963.

OLDER TONY: Yes. It had been a funny old year. We'd had three months of snow to start with and then the news from around the world always seemed to be filled with doom and gloom!

OLDER ANGELA: ***(Dreamily)*** But then we had the Beatles!

ABIGAIL: I hate insects!

OLDER TONY: ***(Laughing)*** Not *those* kind of beetles. Nan's talking about the pop group.

OLDER ANGELA: Such wonderful memories. I wish we could go back to those days. They were so magical and we didn't have a care in the world!

TRACK 16:**SFX GOING BACK IN TIME****SCENE TWO:****A "1963" LIVING ROOM**

Modern-Day cast move off stage as the 1963 cast come on who position themselves around the stage as follows:-Angela and Tony should be downstage right centre seated on the stage. The Cindy doll should be in Angela's hands and the Mouse Trap game (if available) should be behind Tony's back. Belinda and Vince should be downstage left centre seated on the stage. The record player and the record should be beside Belinda and the guitar beside Vince. Joyce and Arthur (Belinda and Angela's mum and dad) should be behind Angela and Tony on chairs. Elsie and Norman (Vince's mum and dad) should be behind Belinda and Vince on chairs. Gladys (Vince's grandmother) should be sitting in a chair (a rocking chair would be great!) extreme downstage left, sideways on to the audience, taking in the whole scene. She should be knitting. Colin and Margaret (Tony's parents) should be sitting behind Tony on chairs. In this way, the audience should get an idea of the family relationships. The Christmas Tree can remain where it was in Scene One. Cast members should bring their own props on stage where possible.

TONY: *(To Angela)* It's great spending time with you at Christmas Angela. It was really nice of your mum and dad *(nods in their direction)* to invite us round when our pipes burst.

ANGELA: No problem! *(Looking over)* My sister, Belinda, seems very keen on her boyfriend doesn't she?!

TONY: You're telling me. It's like they're glued together.

ANGELA: I'm never having a boyfriend. Boys are horrible!

TONY: Oi!

ANGELA: Oh, apart from you Tony, *obviously!*

BELINDA: This is a bit of a bore isn't it Vince?

VINCE: Yeah, I'd rather be down the coffee bar listening to some rock and roll on the jukebox.

BELINDA: Rock and roll? Ugh! I *much* prefer the Beatles *(sings)* "She loves you, yeah, yeah yeah."

VINCE: Well, I reckon those Beatles are mummy's boys. Give me Elvis anyday! *(Sings)* "You ain't nothin' but a hound dog."

BELINDA: Paul McCartney is so good looking. Sadly, he's in love with Jane Asher. *(Sighs)*

VINCE: So.....what's *he* got that *I* haven't got?

BELINDA: Hmm! Let me see now..... Talent, money, fame..... shall I go on?

(They start play-fighting. Belinda's dad, Arthur, looks up.)

ARTHUR: Cut that out you two!