

Kenneth Grahame's

# *The Wind in the Willows*

Dramatized by Joseph Baldwin

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

### PRINCIPAL ROLE

**Mr Toad:** male, young adult, singer

Toad is adventurous, rich, free-spirited, irresponsible, good-natured, childlike, charming, dashing, generous with his friends but causes them grief and concern with his selfish behaviour, addicted to speed and cars, loves to sing about his adventures and himself; must be able to crawl under the stage in 2.4

### KEY SECONDARY ROLES

**Mole:** male/female, teen/young adult

Mole is shy, gentle, warm, loyal friend to Toad, near-sighted and squints a lot; must be able to crawl under the stage in 2.4

**Rat:** male/female, teen/young adult

Rat is outspoken, warm-hearted, very active/alert, a bit gullible, good friend of Toad; must be able to crawl under the stage in 2.4

**Badger:** male, senior teen/adult

Badger is the respected older leader of the others, wise, serious, dignified, clever planner, moves with a cane, friend of Toad and Toad's father; must be able to crawl under the stage in 2.4

### SECONDARY ROLES

**Jack Weasel:** male, senior teen/young adult

Jack is a typical weasel: wiley, bold, disreputable, deceptive, party-boy, active, slim/lithe, takes advantage of Toad's good nature and his misfortune to take over Toad Hall; singer

**Jen Weasel:** female, senior teen/young adult

Jen is Jack's wife, follows his lead in everything

**Mrs Otter:** female, adult

Mrs Otter is a motherly widow, devoted to her youngster, Portly; brave in her search for Portly when he is lost and then kidnapped by the weasels; must be able to crawl under the stage in 2.4

**Bill:** male, adult (role to be doubled with Chauffeur)

Bill is the brash, inquisitive, friendly fireman of the steam locomotive Toad escapes on; loves competition

**Alf:** male, adult (role to be doubled with Jailer)

Alf is the driver/engineer of the locomotive and very proud of his job; kind, sentimental, relishes showing off his train's ability

**Penelope:** female, senior teen (role to be doubled with Tilly Weasel)

Penelope is the Jailer's young daughter, smart, warm-hearted, charmed by Toad and helps him escape jail

## **SUPPORTING ROLES**

**Tom Weasel:** male, senior teen (role may be doubled with Policeman)

Tom is a cousin of Jack's and a typical weasel in action and personality

**Tilly Weasel:** female, senior teen (role will be doubled with Penelope)

Tilly is Tom's wife, happily participates in the Weasel family's take-over of Toad Hall

**Weasel Cook:** female/male, adult

Cook is a plump weasel because she tastes all her cooking for the family, shouts a lot

**Portly Otter:** male/female, small child

Portly is a shy, only child, always wandering off in search of company and tagging along with other animals, gets kidnapped by the weasels and made to work for them

**Chauffeur:** male, adult (role to be doubled with Bill)

Chauffeur is the snobby driver of the automobile Toad "borrows"

**Policeman:** male, adult (role may be doubled with Tom Weasel)

Policeman is a country constable, implacable sense of duty; arrests Toad for stealing the car

**Jailer:** male, adult (role to be doubled with Alf)

Jailer is a gentle man, authoritative but kind, sense of duty

**Off Stage Voices:** voices of Toad's cell mates