

Rochester
CATHEDRAL



Great Expectations – 11th February 2012



Commitment to the Communities we serve

Southern Water is delighted to support this celebration of Charles Dickens at the cathedral that inspired him so much and we are grateful to the Dean & Chapter for allowing us this opportunity. Rochester and the Medway towns are at the heart of our Kent operation and we would like to thank the people of Medway for their support in our recent meter installation campaign.

Save water, save energy, save money

The South East has been classed by the government as an area of 'water stress'. Population growth in the region will continue to increase the demand for water, whilst at the same time climate change is likely to mean drier summers and more frequent droughts. That means water resources will need to stretch further.

In a work programme lasting until 2015, Southern Water is installing 500,000 water meters for the majority of its customers to help ensure it can continue to supply top quality water across its region. On average, households with a water meter tend to use 10 per cent less water and metering is seen by many people as the fairest way to charge for water as people pay for what they use. Southern Water's metering programme, alongside tackling leakage and developing new water resources, is an important part of the company's long-term strategy to manage water resources for the future.

Southern Water Limited



We are also very pleased to welcome The Worshipful, The Mayor of Medway and distinguished guests.

Rochester Cathedral believes in the power of people to bring the cathedral's heritage and history alive through activities and events led by inspiring individuals and partnerships. We are passionate about working with people and communities to encourage them to reach in to the cathedral in new ways via a specially devised programme including exhibitions, performances, lectures and workshops linking our heritage past present and future into our everyday lives.

We are grateful to our partners for the Evening



6.30	Reception—Mulled wine and pastries
7.10	Beverley Thompson, Southern Water Geoff Clark, BBC Radio Kent Welcome & Prayer Canon Dr Phil Hesketh, Acting Dean of Rochester
7.25	'Magwitch' (a short production by Viola Films) Introduction by Sam Supple, Director
7.45	'Great Expectations' a David Lean Production
9.45	Closing Comments

On Christmas Eve, young Pip, an orphan being raised by his sister and her husband, encounters a frightening man in the village churchyard. The man, a convict who has escaped from a prison ship, scares Pip into stealing him some food and a file to grind away his leg shackle. This incident is crucial: firstly, it gives Pip, who must steal the goods from his sister's house, his first taste of true guilt, and, secondly, Pip's kindness warms the convict's heart. The convict, however, waits many years to truly show his gratitude.

Great Expectations is a 1946 British film which won two Academy Awards (Best Art Direction and Best Cinematography) and was nominated for three others (Best Picture, Best Director and Best Screenplay). It was directed by David Lean, based on the novel by Charles Dickens. The screenplay was written by David Lean and the film was produced by Ronald Neame. It was the first of two films Lean directed based on Dickens' novels, the other being his 1948 adaptation of *Oliver Twist*.

Cast



John Mills	Pip (adult)
Jean Simmons	Estella (girl)
Valerie Hobson	Estella (adult)
Finlay Currie	Abel Magwitch
Francis L Sullivan	Mr Jaggers
Bernard Miles	Joe Gargery
Alec Guinness	Herbert Pocket (adult)
Anthony Wagner	Pip (boy)
Martita Hunt	Miss Havisham



English cathedrals are a vital part of our national heritage and yet, unlike most European cathedrals there is no state funding. Alongside playing an essential role in the nation's spiritual life it is also recognised that cathedrals play an important part in the nation's economy with 12 million people annually visiting an English cathedral. During the Christmas Dickens Weekend in 2011 we counted nearly twenty thousand people through the west doors of Rochester Cathedral in just two days.

At Rochester we are committed to remaining open free of charge so that this sacred place can be enjoyed by all; this remains a constant challenge. Income from visitors last year (2010/11) was estimated at £81,000 although our total expenditure was £914,000; which is about £2,500 a day. In recent years we have been successful in obtaining Heritage Lottery Funding which has enabled us to improve the experience of visitors and pilgrims, but with such an ancient building, the second oldest in the country, funding for more mundane projects is more difficult, yet equally vital.

We are delighted to host this screening of David Lean's classic adaptation of Charles Dickens' 'Great Expectations' and extend a warm thanks to BBC South East in collaboration with Southern Water for making this evening possible.

Dickens, of course, had a long association with Rochester and a love for the Cathedral, wishing to be buried within its hallowed confines, until popular acclaim whisked him away to Westminster Abbey. I'm sure he would be delighted to know that he is inadvertently helping this beloved cathedral remain open for future generations, both rich and poor alike.

Canon Dr Philip Hesketh
Acting Dean of Rochester

For more information on the Development of Rochester Cathedral please visit our website www.rochestercathedral.org

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Nurturing the Radical Hope of Human Flourishing In Jesus Christ

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