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SOUTH LONDON PERFORMERS TAKE THEIR SUCCESSFUL NEW SHOW

CHEERS!

TO COLOGNE, GERMANY

"WITNESS ACCOUNTS" 50 YEARS AGO AND TODAY THEATRE BY THOSE WHO LIVED IT 9-17 NOVEMBER 1995

No sooner has the applause died down for THE GOOD COMPANIONS debut performances of *Cheers* than they are off to premiere the show in Germany. Age Exchange's resident inter-generational theatre company had a wonderful reception when they performed their new show to fellow performers from around the world during "A Time To Remember", the first European Reminiscence Theatre Festival.

The festival which commemorated the end of World War II gave older members of previously allied and enemy countries the chance to share poignant memories of the end of the war, communicating through the medium of theatre. The FREIES WERKSTATT THEATER in Cologne, (a partner of the European Reminiscence Network) is hosting a sister event, *Witness Accounts* as part of the festival, which will feature performances by THE GOOD COMPANIONS, Age Exchange's professional theatre group, who will perform *When The Lights Go On Again* and FWT/VHS Cologne-Mulheim, a German older people's theatre group.

The older members of THE GOOD COMPANIONS are well seasoned international travellers and this festival will be another invaluable opportunity, (rarely available) to openly share wartime experiences. While for the younger performers, aged 7 to 22 it will afford a truthful and fascinating account of the most major event of the twentieth century.

All the performers will take part in a programme of writing and theatre workshops and there will be an exhibition featuring personal pictures, documents, objects and books relating to *England and Germany 50 Year Ago*. The performers will also contemplate what life is like today for older people and compare the reality of living in England and Germany.

Release Ends. 2nd November 1995