

## Charles Gardiner's radio dramas

Also included are three broadcasts (marked \*) which included many of the Cotswold participants, but not Charles Gardiner himself.

Year	Date	Title	Precis	Author	Producer	People
1934	17 <sup>th</sup> October	The Microphone at Large *	"This 'outside' broadcast is intended to give a picture of life in the old Cotswold town of Chipping Campden ..."	N/a	Owen Reed	Unknown, but Lionel Ellis remembered taking part.
1935	9 <sup>th</sup> January	The Campden Wonder *	"The true story of the Campden Wonder — or Mystery - the drunken John Perry, sends himself and his mother and brother to the gallows for a murder of which none of them was guilty— but its historical importance cannot be over-rated, for it was the direct cause of the passing of the Habeas Corpus Act in 1871. Masefield's play, first produced at the Little Theatre, in 1907."	John Masefield	Owen Reed	The company assembled by Mr. Percy Dewey: Mr. Lionel Ellis Mr. George Hart, jnr, William Payne, Miss Minis Nichols Miss Beatrice Orange, Mr. Garnet Keyte.
1936	18 <sup>th</sup> March	Motor Cars or Hosses	"Being a Truthful Account of one of the more Deplorable Episodes in the History of the Parish Council of the Cotswold Village of Upper Slocombe." "Synopsis: The Squire, living as he does in a fine manor house with irreplaceable antiques and old masters, looks askance on the Parish Council's horse-drawn fire equipment. Possibly he had heard of both engine and firemen being ready and the horses out somewhere drawing the local 'fly'. However that may be, he offers to pay half the cost of a motor fire engine. The opposition shown by a powerful element of the Council who fear the other half of the	Charles Gardiner	Owen Reed	Edward Carter, H. Raymond Smith, Mark Warner, John Lodge, and John Liley (all of Evesham), and P. S. Dewey, Lionel Ellis, and William Payne (of Campden).

			cost will fall on to the rates, leads to a battle and an ingenious denouement.”			
1936	13 <sup>th</sup> November	The Fatal Step	Grice was responsible for the plot. Not stated, but seems likely that Gardiner wrote the script.	Co-writers: Charles Gardiner and Rev. R.E. Grice-Hutchinson (Weston-sub-Edge)	Owen Reed	No cast mentioned.
1937	12 <sup>th</sup> April	The Vale of Evesham	Feature (i.e. documentary) on fruit growing, from Evesham: “men and women who are actually engaged in the fruit growing industry come to the microphone to tell of their work.”		Robin Whitworth	Charles Gardiner
1937	16 <sup>th</sup> May	Pump & Circumstance	“A Faithful Account of another Deplorable Episode in the History of the Parish Council of the Worcestershire Village of Upper Slocombe. Reconstructed from the Unofficial Records by C. H. Gardiner and Re-enacted by a Group of Local Inhabitants.”	Charles Gardiner	Owen Reed	
1938	5 <sup>th</sup> April	Down on the Farm	Featuring four local men. Hawkins turned up in his full shepherd’s regalia. Recorded in Evesham Town Hall, scripted by Gardiner.	Charles Gardiner		George “Shep” Hawkins, Harry Emms (Ebrington), Bill Payne, Ted Carter
1938	5 <sup>th</sup> September	Pump & Circumstance	“A faithful account of another deplorable episode in the History of the Parish Council of the Worcestershire village of Upper Slocombe. Reconstructed from the unofficial records by C. H. Gardiner. Re-enacted by a group of Local Inhabitants. The first 'deplorable episode' reconstructed by C. H. Gardiner, who is	Charles Gardiner	Martyn Webster	Garnet Keyte, Lionel Ellis, Charles Gardiner

			<p>Clerk to Evesham District Council, concerned a conflict between advocates of ' bosses ' and ' motor ' for a new fire engine. The present play deals with a dispute about whether the parish pump, the water of which is contaminated, shall be replaced by a piped water supply. Pump and Circumstance will be acted by Worcestershire players in the local dialect. It was first broadcast in May last year, when Owen Reed was the producer.” Charles Gardiner sang “The Village Pump”.</p>			
1939	12 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> July	The Strength of the Land	<p>“A programme in praise of the English village, the villager, and his institutions. This programme will begin with an impression of everyday village life today, afterwards giving a survey of the story of village liberties - how they were established even in feudal times and have been fought for down the ages. Then it will show what can be done through making full use of the parish council's power. Examples of improvements in village life and amenities through co-operative effort in the Midlands will be cited by villagers from different parts of the Region - building a village hall and making playing fields by local effort, for instance.”</p>	Charles Gardiner	Robin Whitworth	William Hughes, Hugh Morton Edward Benbow also Jim Price of Laxton, William Mustoe of Badsey, John Hall of Bretforton, Ralph Smith of South Littleton, Bill Payne of , Mrs. Irene Sheaf of Honeybourne and Albert Haines of Bretforton
1939	13 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Coronation Chimes	<p>“Being a truthful account of the Coronation celebrations in the Cotswold village of Upper Slocombe. Compiled from the official records by Charles Gardiner. The third Cotswold dialect comedy by</p>	Charles Gardiner	Anthony McDonald	William Payne , George Hart , Garnett Keyte , John Lodge , Mildred Forster , Mark Warner , and Lionel Ellis

			<p>Charles Gardiner , the two earlier ones having been Motor-Cars or 'Osses and Pump and Circumstance. Gardiner was born in the Cotswolds, lives at Bretforton, and has been Clerk to the Evesham District Council for eleven years. He has collaborated with Robin Whitworth in several feature programmes (including '<b>The Strength of the Land</b>', broadcast last month), and has interviewed country people for '<b>In Town Tonight</b>'. (A recording of this programme will be broadcast on Saturday: Midland, 6.40)"</p>			
1940	6 <sup>th</sup> January (repeat)	The Strength of the Land	<p>As above, plus "If we neglect to preserve those rights which our fathers fought and bled for, then we are unworthy sons of worthy sires."</p>	Charles Gardiner	Robin Whitworth	<p>William Hughes, Hugh Morton, Edward Benbow also Jim Price of Laxton, William Mustoe of Badsey, John Hall of Bretforton, Ralph Smith of South Littleton, Bill Payne of Ebrington, Mrs. Irene Sheaf of Honeybourne and Albert Haines, of Bretforton.</p>
1947	24 <sup>th</sup> September	For Men May Come	<p>Along with 'Feathered Philosophy,' by Frank Layton – "Midland Comedies"</p>	Charles Gardiner		
1948	2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Liberty Hall	<p>(Midland) A Cotswold Comedy          "An account of the manner in which the inhabitants of Upper Slocombe succeeded in building a new village hall"          Reconstructed from local records.</p>	Charles Gardiner	William Hughes	<p>Bob Arnold, Bill Payne, Robert Mawdesley, Leonard Crabtree, Kay Hudson, William Avenell.          With: George Hart, Garnet Keyte, Charles Gardiner, Lionel Ellis, Stanley Williams, Tom Brown, Reg Johnstone, Hilda</p>

						Birch, June Walker and Vera Ashe.
1949	3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Alfred Williams	(West) Full Script in Vaughan Williams Memorial Library, with songs	Charles Gardiner		Bob Arnold
1950	14 <sup>th</sup> July	Upper Slocombe on Guard		Charles Gardiner		
1950	25 <sup>th</sup> September	Uncle Hiram's Chair	"A Cotswold Comedy"	Charles Gardiner		
1950	22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Black and White	"A Cotswold Story"	Charles Gardiner		Read by Bob Arnold
1951	17 <sup>th</sup> December	Festival at Upper Slocombe	"A Comedy by Charles Gardiner"	Charles Gardiner		
1952	5 <sup>th</sup> January	Festival at Upper Slocombe		Charles Gardiner		
1952	26 <sup>th</sup> January	Cuckoo Corner	"A comedy by Charles Gardiner about the Cotswold village of Upper Slocombe".	Charles Gardiner		
1953	13 <sup>th</sup> February 20 <sup>th</sup> February 27 <sup>th</sup> February 6 <sup>th</sup> March 13 <sup>th</sup> March 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Preparations for the Coronation		Charles Gardiner		
1953	9 <sup>th</sup> June	Upper Slocombe Celebrates		Charles Gardiner		
1953	30 <sup>th</sup> October	Liberty Hall	"A Cotswold Comedy"	Charles Gardiner		

1955	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	The Silver Bowl *	The story of The Campden Wonder in 6 parts. This had originally been produced as a live event in Chipping Campden itself, as part of the Festival of Britain celebration in 1951.	Georgie Herschel		Lionel Ellis, Bill Payne, Garnet Keyte, George Hart, Bob Arnold
1955	20 <sup>th</sup> October	Charity Begins in Upper Slocombe		Charles Gardiner		
1956	12 <sup>th</sup> June	A Good Tip for Slocombe		Charles Gardiner		
1956	20 <sup>th</sup> September (repeated 11 <sup>th</sup> December)	Songs of the Cotswolds	“Remembered and sung by Charles Gardiner and Bob Arnold accompanied on the accordion by Nick Capaldi.”			Charles Gardiner and Bob Arnold
1957	5 <sup>th</sup> April	Woman’s Hour	Includes a short feature: “Songs of the Cotswolds: sung by Charles Gardiner and Bob Arnold, with Nick Capaldi.”			
1957	25 <sup>th</sup> June	Woman’s Hour	Includes a short feature: “Summer Songs from the Cotswolds: Charles Gardiner and Bob Arnold accompanied by Nick Capaldi.”			
1957	16 <sup>th</sup> December (repeated 9 <sup>th</sup> January 1958)	People Today *	“A gallery of portraits of British individuals in close up. Lionel Ellis market gardener of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire in a conversation with Philip Donnellan.”		Philip Donellan	Lionel Ellis