

Redwood Productions presents.....

# 'Table Talk' - an evening with **Coleridge**

compiled and performed by Dennis Harkness

"...selection beautifully  
interwoven and  
persuasively performed..."

"..costume and the props  
too - all absolutely right..."

"A real feast of words and  
fascinating name-dropping..."

"...a bravura performance!"

"...completely charmed by  
your sympathetic and  
realistic portrayal"



Tickets: £12.50  
Concessions £10.00

**Saturday 18th October 2008 @ 7.30pm**  
**St. Mary Redcliffe Church, Bristol**

All proceeds to The Bradgate / Addis Alem Link

[www.for-ethiopia.com](http://www.for-ethiopia.com)

# 'Table Talk' -

an evening with Coleridge

in the Church where Coleridge was married in 1795

(compiled and performed by Dennis Harkness)

For his final 18 years, Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834) lived in Highgate, London. A literary celebrity, he often sat at table regaling visitors with his views on matters political, religious and philosophical; thus exercising those charismatic powers of speech which marked his entire life (at the age of 9 he entertained an uncle's acquaintances in London's taverns and coffee houses with his precocious talk).

Certain devotees wrote down his sayings, which were published after his death as 'Table Talk'. These records together with Coleridge's own notebooks, letters and poems, form the source for this bravura performance by Dennis Harkness, who has toured his one-man shows for over thirty years, in festivals, arts centres and theatres including the Bristol Old Vic, the National, the Cheltenham Everyman, Gulbenkian Canterbury and the RSC Swan at Stratford.

This production portrays an imagined evening towards the end of the poet's life. It focuses on his humanity and the preoccupations which coloured his personal journey - the history of his opium addiction; his relationship with women; his poetry; his friendships - in an entertaining and informative attempt to be faithful to the genius who gave us *Kubla Khan* and *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*.