



It was the unlikeliest of encounters in the unlikeliest of places, but when Chaplin and Gandhi met in Canning Town, the men had more in common than they realised. They both knew cockney rhyming slang, they had similar nicknames (Little Tramp and Little Leader), and they both stuck up for the underdog. This play tells the story of Gandhi's remarkable 1931 visit to London, where he spent twelve weeks in the East End. While staying at Kingsley Hall, Gandhi met with local children, teaching the youngsters from the rough-and-tumble streets of East London his non-violent approach to the world. Charlie Chaplin, beloved across the world and in London at the time for the premier of his new film *City Lights*, requested to see Gandhi believing they had a special affinity for the poor and the working class.

About the author

James Kenworth is a professional freelance playwright and creative writing workshop leader/devisor. His plays include *Johnny Song*, *Gob*, *Polar Bears*, issue-led plays *Everybody's World* (Elder Abuse), *Dementia's Journey* (Dementia), and site-specific plays [When Chaplin Met Gandhi](#) (Kingsley Hall) and *Revolution Farm* (Newham City Farm). You can read more about James on his [website](#).

His play, *Dementia's Journey*, won the 2015 University of Stirling International Dementia Award in the category, Dementia & the Arts. He has recently been awarded Main Programme Funding from The Royal Docks Trust to write a play about Keir Hardie, founder of the Labour Party, the first Socialist MP in Parliament and Labour MP for West Ham South.

He has extensive experience of planning, preparing and teaching playwriting and creative writing programmes/workshops for a wide variety of age groups and learners including children, young people, students and adult learners. He has worked on a regular basis on the delivery of these creative writing programmes with leading organisations such as Spread The Word, Cardboard Citizens, Workers Educational Association, Newham Adult Learning Service, Newham Libraries, Soho Theatre, and University of East London.

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