

As Time Goes By

Stoking the embers of a young romance

In the early 1950s, a young Army officer and a student nurse fell in love. Thirty-eight years later, they meet again. Can the old magic last or are they too old and set in their ways?

Oscar-winner Judi Dench stars with Geoffrey Palmer in an evergreen comedy by Bob Larbey, one of Britain's finest, funniest and most successful scriptwriters. He is best known for his partnership with John Esmonde, which produced the classic comedies *The Good Life*, *Brush Strokes* and *Ever Decreasing Circles*. He also wrote *A Fine Romance*, which also stars Judi Dench.

The young Lionel and Jean enjoyed a passionate but brief affair, but they were separated when Lionel was posted to Korea. His letter went astray and they lost touch.

Jean, now a widow, owns a secretarial agency. An irascible new client needs sorting out, so she sends in her feisty daughter Judith. Judith combines beauty with brains and makes such a good impression that Lionel invites her out to dinner. And, as mother and daughter share a house, the inevitable happens – Lionel and Jean are reunited.

A few misunderstandings need clearing up, but it soon becomes clear that Lionel and Jean still have strong feelings for each other. Though the white heat of youth has gone, they can now take their time to get to know each other properly.

As the two try to recapture a lost romance, they find much has changed. Can they move in together, can they live with each other's irritating habits, is marriage really necessary at their age? Things were so different when they were young...

Judi Dench is one of Britain's best-known actresses and won an Oscar for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth in the multi-award-winning *Shakespeare in Love*. She has won numerous other awards for her work, which includes *A Room With A View*, *A Handful of Dust*, *The Browning Version* and the BBC film *Mrs Brown*, for which she received a Golden Globe award and an Oscar nomination. Geoffrey Palmer is also an extremely well-known face. His credits include *Butterflies* and *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin*.

Starring **Judi Dench**,
Geoffrey Palmer, **Moira Brooker**,
Philip Bretherton
Written by **Bob Larbey**
Producer/director **Sydney Lotterby**

A Theatre of Comedy/D L Taffner
production for BBC Television

Entertainment

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