



# NOISES OFF

*APS newsletter December 2013*

## A CHORUS OF APPROVAL



Very many thanks to everyone involved - whether on stage, back stage or wherever - in turning out a solidly professional and brilliant APS production. And which was well rewarded each evening by good-sized audiences who clearly had a jolly good time. And, with takings over £3K, looks like giving a welcome boost to our finances.

And now, a few words from our NODA rep and past APS member, Peter Wheeldon in an email to Pat.

“Just a few lines to thank you for your invitation to your play, and to congratulate you, and everyone involved, on an excellent production. In addition to some really convincing characterisations by the members of the cast, there were all the signs of some good directing. It was nice to see an almost full house in the Digby Hall, and there was no doubt that everyone certainly enjoyed the evening.”



**Friday 13 December**

**Full details see Page Two.**



**From your committee**

**Newsletter**

Kindly note that the January 2014 issue of your newsletter will be a little later than usual.

It's all something to do with the festive season, apparently!



Casting for our spring production of 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' is in the process of taking place. A big 'thank you' to all those of you who are already showing a lot of interest and enthusiasm in the project. A full cast list will be issued as soon as auditions have been held. In the meantime, there are a lot of jobs on the creative team that need to be filled. We are looking for:

**Production manager** – to handle the 'nuts and bolts' of the show

**Business manager** – to take care of the finances

**Publicity manager** – to ensure that the play is well marketed throughout the area

**Movement director**

**Voice coach**

**Assistant to the director** – to maintain a 'book' of the production

**Designer**

**Set builders and painters**

**Stage manager**

**Deputy/Assistant stage manager (s)**

**Prompt**

**Front of House manager**

If you would like to be part of what promises to be an exciting and fun project please get in touch with John Crabtree on 01935 814720 or by email at [jcrabbers@aol.com](mailto:jcrabbers@aol.com) as soon as possible.



# APS 2014

## Upcoming Events

**Fri 13 December**  
 Christmas Party at The Cider House, Over Compton 7.30 pm

**Friday 17 January 2014**  
 Gilly's Fish and Chip Quiz Night

**Thurs 13 February**  
 Method Workshop led by Sylvie Lord.

**Monday 10 March**  
 'The Dark of the Moon' play reading. Led by Gilly Savage.

**Fri 4 to Sun 13 April**  
 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' production period. Performances Thurs 10 to Sat 12 April.

**Tuesday 29 April**  
 Play-reading led by Eve Simmonds.

**Fri 16 May**  
 Annual Dinner, Butterfly House Castle Gardens.

**Tues 10 June**  
 Two Arnold Bennett farces: 'A Question of Sex' and 'The Stepmother'. Produced by Jim Reville.

**July**  
 AGM and Summer Party. Gainsborough House by kind invitation of Jim Schofield.

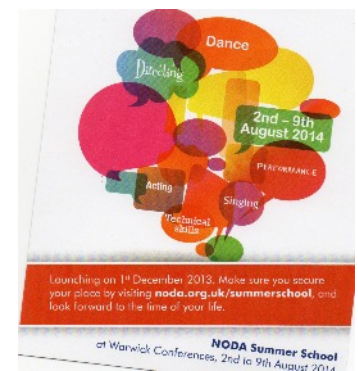
## CHRISTMAS PARTY!

It all begins at 7.30 pm on Friday 13 December in The Cider House at Over Compton, home of our generous hosts, Adrian and Miyoko Thorpe. Cost £5 - pay at the door - includes food and your first drink. Subsequent drinks at generous APS prices.

Feel free to dress for the season, but above all come with festive cheer. **Please bring KFS, bowl and plate.** Glasses provided.

The Cider House is directly opposite Trencherman's at Over Compton. Parking in the courtyard is for those with walking difficulties and essential deliveries - food and drink. Parking available along the wall outside and in St Michael's Church car park on the other side of the church.

### NODA SUMMER SCHOOL 1 DEC LAUNCH



At 12:01am on Sunday 1st December NODA will launch full details about their Summer School 2014. It will again be held at the University of Warwick and run from Sat 2 to Sat 9 August. For full details click on the link below:  
[www.noda.org.uk/summersch](http://www.noda.org.uk/summersch)

**"THE PLAY'S THE THING!"**

And our autumn production for 2014 is... Yes, already we need to be thinking ahead and coming up with a play - and a director - for November 2014. All ideas, suggestions and offers to direct contact any member of your committee.

## COMING SOON



The BBC Good Food website rates fish as number two in the top ten foods that boost your brainpower. So, if you and/or your team aren't doing too well to start with you can bet your life you'll all be storming ahead after the break in **Gilly's Fish and Chip Night at 7.30 pm on Friday 17 Jan** in our Clubhouse. Here's a puzzle for you - clue is gogs, answer -----/----

## TOP 10 Plays

According to Samuel French - here are London's Top-10 most licensed plays over the last year.

'The 39 Steps' made it into the top ten despite still being restricted.

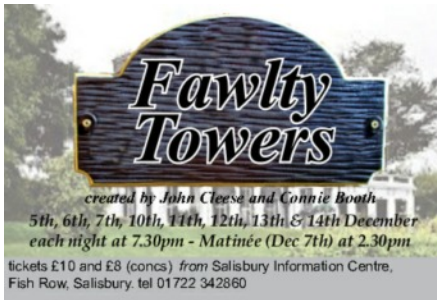
1. **Calendar Girls** by Tim Firth
2. **'Allo 'Allo** by Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft
3. **Teachers** by John Godber
4. **Last Tango in Little Grimley** by David Tristram
5. **Confusions** by Alan Ayckbourn
6. **Blithe Spirit** by Noel Coward
7. **Blood Brothers [play]** by Willy Russell
8. **When We Are Married** by J B Priestley
9. **Peter Pan** by J M Barrie
10. **The 39 Steps** by Patrick Barlow and John Buchan






# What's On

A selection of what's on around and about



On at the Studio Theatre, Salisbury at 7.30 pm 5-7 and 10-14 December, matinee Sat 14, is 'Fawlty Towers'.

Created from unexpurgated scripts of the most celebrated TV sit-com, Fawlty Towers is the best-loved bad hotel in the world and here we meet the snobbish, manic Basil; his over-coiffeured domineering wife, Sybil; the hopeless but ever-hopeful waiter Manuel; the calm and capable Polly — and, of course, the steady stream of abused guests.

**JANE EYRE** Charlotte Bronte's classic novel of romance and mystery comes to the Cygnet Theatre, Exeter in a new vibrant production.

Orphaned Jane lives miserably with her aunt, Mrs Reed until she is sent to Lowood, a place of fleeting moments of joy and friendship amid the privation and challenges of school life.

Moving to Thornfield Hall as Governess, Jane meets the brooding Mr Rochester. Her emotions blossom and marriage beckons. However, Rochester hides a secret which threatens to tear them apart.

At 7.30 pm Tues 10 - Sat 14 December, matinee Sat 14 at 2 pm.



## THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK AT STRODE THEATRE



Following their success with 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'Great Expectations,' Strode College Performing Arts students present another contemporary classic play, based on the vivid and moving diary of a Jewish teenage girl in German-occupied Amsterdam in World War II.

Performances at 7.30 pm Tues 3 and Wed 4 December. Contact details page 4.



## WITNESS 'A PERFECT MURDER'

Victor Smiley and his wife Joan have been married for a long time. But their marriage has reached crisis point and Victor has decided there is only one way to get Joan out of his life forever... but he's about to get a nasty

surprise. As young Detective Roy Grace starts to investigate his very first homicide case, dark forces intervene and Grace begins to fear that nothing is quite as it seems.

It's on at the Theatre Royal, Bath Mon 13 to Sat 8 January. Same times as 'Moon Tiger'.



## Moon Tiger prior to West End

Compelling, moving and eloquent, one of the great novels of the 20th century is brought to the stage for the first time. Winner of the 1987 Booker Prize, Penelope Lively's **Moon Tiger** is a haunting story of loss and desire. It spans the time before, during and after World War II.

Starring Jane Asher, it's on at the Theatre Royal, Bath prior to the West End, Tuesday 21 to Saturday 25 January at 7.30 pm Tues/Wed 7.30 pm, Thurs/Sat 8 pm, Matinees Thurs and Sat at 2.30 pm



**cineworld**  
**Yeovil**

Thursday 30 January 7 pm  
**Coriolanus**

Thursday 27 February at 7 pm  
**War Horse.**

## ALL SET FOR 'A FINE BRIGHT TODAY'

Since the death of her husband Margaret Harvey has lived with her daughter Rebecca in a small cottage. Rebecca is moving out, so when she meets Milton Farnsworth, an American in the area to paint the landscape, she invites him to lodge with Margaret. Margaret has become set in her ways, but with patience, humour, and cheap wine, Milton gradually encourages her to relinquish her hold on control. Warm, funny and moving,


'A Fine Bright Day Today' explores love in later life, and is on at 7.45 pm in The Swan, Yeovil Monday 20 to Saturday 25 January.





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### *December 2013*

Mon 2 to Sat 7	<b>The Woman in Black</b> Christmas ghost story	Theatre Royal, Bath Mon:Wed 7.30 Thurs:Sat 8 pm
 Tues 3 and Wed 4	<b>The Merry Wives of Windsor Auditions</b>	Our Clubhouse 7.30 pm
Tues 3 to Wed 4	<b>The Diary of Anne Frank</b> Strode Theatre Performing Arts	Strode Theatre 7.30 pm
Wed 4 to Sat Jan 11	<b>Dick Whittington and his Cat</b>	Salisbury Playhouse Time various
Thurs 5 to Sat 7 and Tues 10 to Sat 14	<b>Fawlty Towers</b>	Studio Theatre, Salisbury 7.30 pm Mat Sat 7 Jan at 2.30 pm
Tues 10 to Sat 14	<b>Jane Eyre</b>	Cygnets Theatre, Exeter 7.30 pm Mat Sat 2 pm
Wed 11 to Sat 14	<b>A Christmas Carol</b> Charles Dickens	The Warehouse, Ilminster 7.30 pm Mat Sat 2.30 pm
Thurs 12 to Sat 5 Jan	<b>Snow White &amp; the 7 Dwarfs</b>	Octagon, Yeovil Times various
 Fri 13	<b>APS Christmas Party</b>	The Cider House, Over Compton 7.30 pm

### *January 2014*

Wed 8 to Sat 11	<b>Talon</b> Gothic thriller	Bristol Old Vic 7.30 pm
Mon 13 to Sat 18	<b>The Perfect Murder</b>	Theatre Royal, Bath Times see page 3
 Fri 17	<b>Gilly's Fish &amp; Chip Quiz night</b>	Our Clubhouse 7.30 pm
Mon 20 to Sat 25	<b>A Fine Bright Today</b> The Swan Theatre company	The Swan, Yeovil 7.45 pm
Tues 21 to Sat 25	<b>Moon Tiger</b> Stars Jane Asher	Theatre Royal, Bath Times see page 3
Tues 28 to Sat 1 Feb	<b>Dick Whittington</b>	Octagon, Yeovil
 Thurs 30 Jan	<b>Coriolanus</b> NT Live	Cineworld, Yeovil 7 pm

**Bristol Old Vic:** Box Office 0117 987 7877 [www.bristololdvic.org.uk](http://www.bristololdvic.org.uk)

**The Warehouse, Ilminster:** Box Office 07943 779880 [www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk](http://www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk)

**Theatre Royal, Bath:** Box Office 01225 448844 [www.theatreroyal.org.uk](http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk)

**Strode Theatre:** Box Office 01458 442846 [www.strodetheatre.org.uk](http://www.strodetheatre.org.uk)

**Cygnets Theatre:** Box Office: 01392 277189 [www.cygnets-theatre.co.uk](http://www.cygnets-theatre.co.uk)

**Octagon:** Box Office 01935 422884 [www.octagon-theatre.co.uk](http://www.octagon-theatre.co.uk)


**Salisbury Playhouse:** Box Office 01722 320333 [www.salisburyplayhouse.com](http://www.salisburyplayhouse.com)

**Studio Theatre:** Box Office 01722 334956 [www.studiotheatre.org.uk](http://www.studiotheatre.org.uk)

**Cineworld, Yeovil:** Call 0871 200200 or save 10% by booking online, Google cineworld yeovil

**The Swan Theatre:** Tickets on sale from 29 Dec. Call 07500 376031 or book online [www.swan-theatre.co.uk](http://www.swan-theatre.co.uk)

**NB: As Diary Dates are compiled in advance, do check with the venue for any programme changes.**

 If you would like any local performances mentioned in the newsletter please email details to: [jim.reville@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.reville@btinternet.com) or call me on 01935 814626. Please leave a message if I'm not available and I'll ring you back. **DECEMBER Copy Deadline: Saturday 4 January, 2014**