



Up Front from your Chairman

Dear APS. members,
I hope you all had a very happy Christmas, and a big thank you to Adrian and Myoko for hosting our Christmas party, wonderful welcome and delicious food.

We have a full programme for 2014, quiz, play readings, workshops, Theatre visits, evening meal and summer party and hope you will be able to join us in as many events as possible.

As a committee we are very excited with the forth coming collaboration with the RSC in 'The Merry Wives of Windsor', and although almost fully cast, we are looking to all members for help in bringing this production to a resounding success. Please look out for contact details of the production team and if you could help please be in touch with them.

A very HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all.

Helen Smith



Getting it in early - mid-December the sign on our clubhouse proclaims the coming of 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' in April.



Performances Thurs 10 to Sat 12 April

be part of it.

Rehearsals for the April production of 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' will be getting underway on 14th January. Many thanks to all those who came to the auditions in December; it is just a shame that parts could not be found for everyone. Principal roles have been cast as follows:

Sir John Falstaff - Adrian Thorpe
Mr Ford - Alan Morris
Mrs Ford - Sylvie Lord
Mrs Page - Bev Taylor-Wade
Mrs Quickly - Gilly Savage
Pistol - Roy Catchpole
Slender - Matt Taylor-Wade
Shallow - David Smith
Host of the Garter Inn - Mike Brown
Other casting will be announced shortly.

There are still a number of vital roles still to be filled on the creative team. We need a **Production Manager**, a **Business Manager**, a **Stage Manager and ASMs**, an **Assistant to the Director**, **Prompt**, **Movement Director**, **set designer**, **set builders and painters**.

If you are interested in getting involved in what I am certain will be an exciting project, please come forward and contact John Crabtree at this email address: jcrabbers@aol.com

Christmas Party 2013



Our Christmas Party at The Cider House sparkled with merry talk and spangled with happy laughter in an evening of good food, drink and festive cheer. Many thanks to to our hosts Myoko and Adrian for their warm hospitality.

Someone left a big oblong tray behind - white plastic decorated with a photo of an old-style market stall. Owner is welcome to pick it up. Contact Adrian on 01935 422141.

APS 2014

Upcoming Events

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.

Fri 11 July

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



- One production a year
- Two productions a year
- One major production, plus a minor production i.e. a couple of one act plays

This was the topic raised at the last meeting of your committee. Now they would like to know what you think.

You can have your say in the determining the future of the APS by emailing your comments, observations etc to me at jim.reville@btinternet.com and I will pass them on to the committee for their consideration.

APS RendezVous evening

Around £1400 was raised for the RendezVous by that fantastic band of APS entertainers.



"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



Gilly's Fish & Chip Quiz Night

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 Quiz Night at 7.30 pm on Friday 17 January** in our Clubhouse.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A warm welcome to new member Jillian Crossthwaite-Eyre, and already involved in the staging of 'The Merry Wives of Windsor'.

NODA SUMMER SCHOOL 2014 INFO

NODA Theatre Summer School 2014 will run from Saturday 2nd - Saturday 9th August 2014 and will be held again at the University of Warwick..

It offers an unrivalled training opportunity for all those involved in amateur theatre. Following the latest trends in professional theatre, we offer a wide variety of week long and 3 day courses in a mix of disciplines for performers, directors and technicians.

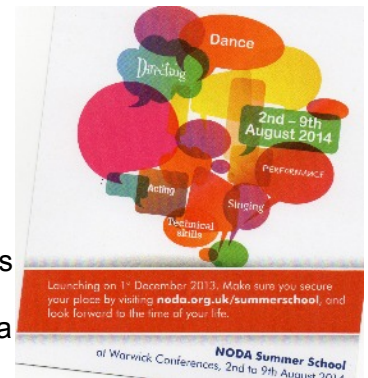
The school is the only one of its kind, offering an activity holiday with a difference:

- quality professional training with real, lasting benefits to performers and technicians alike
- a fully residential experience in a hotel quality conference centre
- an opportunity to meet and socialise with like-minded people who are 'PASSIONATE ABOUT THEATRE!'

With competitive course fees and top class residential facilities at the University of Warwick you are guaranteed a fun packed week of top quality training, morning warm-ups, optional evening activities, great food and plenty of time for socialising.

To browse the courses on offer and read about the vast range of experience amongst the professional tutors click on the link below:

www.noda.org.uk/summerschool



WHAT'S ON

A selection of what's on around and about



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'.

SWAN 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.



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



Fallen Angels
By Noel Coward

National
Theatre
Live

cineworld
Yeovil

Thursday 30 January 7 pm
Coriolanus

Thursday 27 February at 7 pm
War Horse

Thursday 1 May at 7 pm
King Lear

Wednesday 14 May at 7 pm
Henry IV Part 1

Wednesday 18 June at 7 pm
Henry IV Part 2

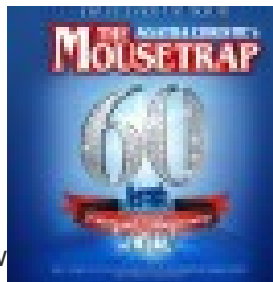
THE MOUSETRAP 60 YEARS ON

The *Mousetrap* is famous around the world for being the longest running show of any kind in

the history of British theatre. With over 25,000 performances it's a play to be proud of. And to celebrate 60 incredible years on stage, it's on tour for the first time, giving you a once in a life-time opportunity to see this masterpiece at the Salisbury Playhouse.

It's on from Monday 27 January to Saturday 1 February at 7.30 pm. Matinees Wednesday to Saturday 2.15 pm. Box Office: 01722 320333

www.salisburyplayhouse.com



Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe star as best friends Julia and Jane, in a new production of Noël Coward's sparkling comedy.

With their passionless husbands away playing golf, a mutual long-ago lover announces his intention to pay Julia and Jane an impromptu visit. All in a fluster, there's clearly only one thing to do: hit the bottle! Or rather, pop open the bubbly.

Each successive glass loosens their tongues, hidden jealousies surface, the claws come out, and all attempts at demure behaviour go out of the window. But it's not until the unexpected early return of their golfing husbands that the women's evening really hits its frenzied peak...

It's on at the Theatre Royal, Bath from Monday 17 Feb till Sat 1 March. See page 4 for details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**January 2014**

Wed 8 to Sat 11	Talon Gothic thriller	Bristol Old Vic 7.30 pm
Mon 13 to Sat 18	The Perfect Murder	Theatre Royal, Bath Times see page 3
 Fri 17	Gilly's Fish & Chip Quiz night	Our Clubhouse 7.30 pm
Mon 20 to Sat 25	A Fine Bright Today The Swan Theatre company	The Swan, Yeovil 7.45 pm
Tues 21 to Sat 25	Moon Tiger Stars Jane Asher	Theatre Royal, Bath Times see page 3
Mon 27 to Sat 1 Feb	The Mousetrap Agatha Christie classic	Salisbury Playhouse 7.30 pm Mats Wed to Sat 2.15 pm
Tues 28 to Sat 1 Feb	Dick Whittington Pantomime	Octagon, Yeovil 7.15 Tues-Fri 1.30 & 6.30 Sat
 Thurs 30 Jan	Coriolanus NT Live	Cineworld, Yeovil 7 pm

February 2014

Sat 1	The Complete works of God (abridged) Arena Theatre	Sturminster Newton Exchange 7.30 pm
 Thurs 13	Method Workshop Led by Sylvie Lord	Our Clubhouse 7.30 pm
Thurs 17 to Sat 1 March	Fallen Angels Noel Coward	Theatre Royal, Bath Mon/Wed 7.30 Thurs Sat 8 pm Matinees Wed and Sat 2.30 pm
Wed 19	The Girl with no shoes	Cerne Abbas Village Hall 10.30 am
Thurs 20 to Sat 1 March	Making Money By Terry Pratchett	Studio Theatre, Salisbury 7.30 pm
Fri 21	Jack at the Beanstock Cafe	Nether Compton Village Hall 10.30 am
Mon 17 to 1 March	Hammer & Tongs Theatre Alibi	Phoenix Theatre, Exeter 8 pm Mats Wed 1.30 Fri 10.30 am
 Thurs 27	War Horse NT Live	Cineworld, Yeovil 7 pm

Bristol Old Vic: Box Office 0117 987 7877 www.bristololdvic.org.uk

Sturminster Newton Exchange: Box Office 01258 475137

Nether Compton Village Hall: Call Joe Puszet 01935 413220

Theatre Royal, Bath: Box Office 01225 448844 www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Cerne Abbas Village Hall: Call Sandy and Alan Morrell 01300 341332

Octagon: Box Office 01935 422884 www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

Salisbury Playhouse: Box Office 01722 320333 www.salisburyplayhouse.com

Studio Theatre: Salisbury Information Centre 01722 332860 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

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

Newsletter

DEADLINE

If you would like any local performances mentioned in the newsletter please email details to: 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. **FEBRUARY Copy Deadline: Thursday 30 January, 2014**