



Pat, our Chairman, has been advised by her doctor to rest up for a while. We wish her well and look forward to welcoming her back when the time is right.

LAST MONTH'S SOCIAL EVENT

Outside the weather was wild, blustery and lashing down, while inside Over with Nether Compton it was heads down, ears cocked as the teams strove to identify the voices of famous Shakespearean actors in the 'I know that voice..' audio quiz.

It a hard fought contest just one point claimed victory for the Adrian Thorpe, Tony Gregory and Ed Oaksford team who each received fridge magnets bearing quotations from Shakespeare plays. Adrian also picked up another prize in a free raffle: a double CD set from which the audio extracts for the quiz had been taken.



Poetry Please

Tony Gregory leads another of his hugely entertaining 'Poetry Please' evenings on Tuesday 11th November at 7.30 pm in Over and Nether Compton Village Hall.

Tony has put together an evening both inspiring and through-provoking. The date has some significance.

After the mid-evening break, members will be offered the opportunity to read their favourite poems.

FUTURE SOCIAL EVENTS

What promises to be a fascinating evening is 'A Brief History of Christmas Entertainment' presented by Michael Bantz at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 3rd December in Over and Nether Compton Village Hall.

With the shops already filling up with Christmas goods and fare, it's none too soon to make a date in your diary right now for our **Christmas Party** which will be on Friday 12th December at The Cider House, Over Compton, home of Adrian and Miyoko Thorpe. Look out for more exciting details next newsletter.

REMINDER

you would like a lift or are able to take others to any of our events in Nether Compton Village Hall, please get in touch with one of the Committee

members. Lifts for Club evenings can always be had from Jennie Ward. Call her on 817567. We'd really love to see you there.

The Love of Four Colonels



OUR SPRING PRODUCTION

'When We Are Married' J B Priestley's brilliant comedy set in Yorkshire in 1900. There will be a 'Club' evening run-through play-reading in Over and Nether Compton Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Friday 28th November.

"I hope as many people as possible come to the read-through. The play's a hoot!"

Auditions will be held on 3 evenings at 7.30 pm on Monday 15th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th December to give everyone a chance to come and give their all! I know this is very soon after the run of 'The Love of Four Colonels' but production dates are very early in March, finishing Sat 14th - so much to be sorted out before Christmas, and we'll be starting rehearsals early in January. The auditions will all be held at Jim's Reville's house: The Chantry on Marston Road [814626] - just around the corner from Jennie's. For cast and character descriptions see Page 3.

Jennie



OTHER EVENTS



Hi Jinx Theatre presents '**The Other Woman**' at Gillingham School at 8 pm on 6th November. Set on a hill farm in South Wales during the First World War, the play explores the struggles of Megan Watkins, a young mother alone in an isolated farmhouse when her husband goes off to war.

The Other Woman explores the events that develop when a young conscientious objector arrives at the farmhouse, seeking refuge. When Meg agrees to help him by disguising him as Mary Anne, her cousin from Cardiff, she has no idea of the difficulties that will unfold when her husband returns from the front. For bookings call 01747 833844.

FAMOUS NAMES OF THE STAGE

Double Oscar-winner actor Sir Peter Ustinov, was one of Britain's most respected actors. He made his first stage debut in 1938 at 17 in 'The Wood Demon'. He went on to star in over 50 films such as Spartacus, Death on the Nile and Topkapi, as well as many TV shows. Despite his screen success, he continued to write for the theatre. His play 'The Love of Four Colonels' was first performed in London in 1951, before enjoying a long run in the United States where it was named Best Play of the Year by the New York Drama Critics Circle. He was famed as a raconteur and was also an ambassador for UNICEF. He died in 2004 aged 82 in Switzerland.



The Winslow Boy



Last year's Theatre Day at Salisbury proved very popular with the 25 members who went to see 'The Herbal Bed', so your Committee has decided to arrange another trip in 2009 on Thursday 12th February.

The play will be Terence Rattigan's 'The Winslow Boy'. Based on a real case, this compelling drama is a deeply moving story of passion and politics. On the eve of the First World War, cadet Ronnie Winslow is expelled from Osborne Naval College, accused of stealing a five-shilling postal order. The legal battle to clear his name provokes a national outcry, which affects the lives of all involved, and the price of justice becomes an ever-heavier burden.

TIMETABLE

- 09.26:** Leave Sherborne by train
- 10.15:** Arrive Salisbury station. 10 minute stroll to the Playhouse - or taxi if preferred.
- 11.30:** 'Theatre Day' with director and cast offering an insight into the artistic and technical processes.
- 13.00:** Lunch arrangements up to you. There is a theatre restaurant, or you can go to a restaurant in town, take your own lunch or visit the chippie.
- 14.30:** Matinee performance.
- 17.48:** Leave Salisbury.
- 18.33:** Arrive Sherborne.

I have reserved 30 seats, all in Row B, for the matinee performance at 14.30. The play finishes in time for us to walk to the station.

The total, including fares, will be from £22.50 to £23, providing fares are not increased.

To reserve your place please ring or email me. Payment will be due not later than **Monday 5th January, 2009.**

David Smith: 01935 817439
drysmith@btinternet.com

IN THIS MONTH

The Broadway premiere of Eugene O'Neill's masterpiece *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, a semi-autobiographical account of his troubled homelife, took place in November 1956. In the opening scene the lead character, James Tyrone, a retired actor, declares "Land is land, and it's safer than the stocks and bonds of Wall Street swindlers." Not a lot changed since then, some might say.



A GLOSSARY OF THEATRE TERMS

Dark Night -

The night before opening when no rehearsal is scheduled so the actors and crew can go home and get some well deserved rest, and instead spend the night staring sleeplessly at the ceiling because they're sure they needed one more rehearsal

Bit Part -

An opportunity for the actor with the smallest role to count everybody else's lines and mention repeatedly that he or she has the smallest part in the show.

Green Room -

Room shared by nervous actors waiting to go on stage and the precocious children whose actor parents couldn't get a baby-sitter that night, a situation which can result in justifiable homicide

Dark Spot -

An area of the stage which the lighting designer has inexplicably forgotten to light, and which has a magnetic attraction for the first-time actor. A dark spot is never evident before opening night.

Hands -

Appendages at the end of the arms used for manipulating one's environment, except on a

stage, where they grow six times their normal size and either dangle uselessly, fidget nervously, or try to hide in your pockets

Stage Manager -

Individual responsible for overseeing the crew, supervising the set changes, baby-sitting the actors and putting the director in a hammerlock to keep him from killing the actor who just decided to turn his walk-on part into a major role by doing magic tricks while he serves the tea

Lighting Director -

Individual who, from the only vantage point offering a full view of the stage, gives the stage manager a heart attack by announcing a play-by-play of everything that's going wrong

Makeup Kit -

(1) Among experienced community theatre actors, a battered tackle box loaded with at least 10 shades of greasepaint in various stages of desiccation, tubes of lipstick and blush, assorted pencils, bobby pins, braids of crepe hair, liquid latex, old programmes, jewellery, break-a-leg greeting cards from past shows, brushes and a handful of half-melted cough drops
(2) For first-time male actors, a helpless look and anything they can borrow

The Forebrain -

The part of an actor's brain which contains lines, blocking and characterisation; activated by hot lights

To be continued....

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**NOVEMBER 2008**

Tues 4th to Sat 8th	An Ideal Husband Taunton Thespians	The Brewhouse Theatre, Taunton At 7.45 pm, matinee Sat 2.30 pm
Wed 5th to Sat 8th	Intent to Murder Classic suspense thriller Bruce James Productions	The Octagon, Yeovil At 7.30 pm. Sat matinee 2.30 pm
Thurs 6th	The Other Woman Hi Jinx Theatre	Gillingham School At 8 pm
Tuesday 11th	'Poetry Please' Led by Tony Gregory	Over with Nether Compton Village Hall At 7.30 pm
Friday 14th	Life and Death of Sherlock Holmes Roger Llewellyn	The Exchange, Sturminster Newton 7.30 pm
Fri 14th to Sat 22nd	The Servant of Two Masters A Comedy	The Swan Theatre, Yeovil At 7.45 pm
Thurs 20th to Sat 22nd	The Love of Four Colonels By Peter Ustinov	Digby Hall, Sherborne At 7.30 pm

DECEMBER 2008

Wednesday 3rd	'A Brief History of Christmas Entertainment' Presented by Michael Baatz	Over with Nether Compton Village Hall 7.30 pm
Wed 3rd to Sat 6th	The Merchant of Venice Windmill Theatre and Propeller	Lighthouse, Poole At 7.30 pm. Matinees Thurs at 1 pm, Sat at 2.30 pm
Thursday 4th	Sherborne Comedy Brendan Dempsey, Susan Murray, Nick Stanley. Compere Tiernan Douieb	Powell Theatre, Sherborne Doors open 7.30 pm, show at 8.30pm
Thurs 4th to Sat 6th Thurs 11th to Sat 13th	Toad of Toad Hall A play with music	The Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster At 7.45 pm
Friday 12th	APS Christmas Party	The Cider House Over Compton From 7.30 pm
Thursday 18th	Sherborne Comedy Sol Bernstein, Kevin Hayes, Darren Milton. Compere Neil Cole	Powell Theatre, Sherborne Doors open 7.30 pm, show at 8.30pm

Powell Theatre: Call 01935 810579 or www.powelltheatre.co.uk for tickets.

Swan Theatre: Contact South Somerset Information & Heritage Centre on 01935 845946 for tickets.

The Octagon: Call 24 hour Hotline 01935 412282.

The Brewhouse Theatre: Call 01823 283244 for tickets.

Lighthouse: Call 0844 406 8666 for tickets and information.

Gillingham School: Call 01747 833844 for bookings and tickets

The Warehouse Theatre: Box Office opens 6-8 pm Mondays, 10-12 noon Fridays. Call 070502 189717

The Exchange: Call 01257 475137 or email info@stur.exchange.co.uk

**From Jim, your editor**

If you would like any local performances advertised in the **Dates for your Diary** section in future newsletters, please send any details to me at: jim.reville@btinternet.com or give me a ring on (01935) 814626. If I'm not there, I will ring you back.

Last Word...

"I was irrevocably betrothed by laughter, the sound of which has always seemed to me to be the most civilised sound in the world."
Peter Ustinov, actor, playwright, author, etc. 1921-2004