

**NEW AUDITION
DATE SCHEDULED**

A GHOST ON TIPTOE

Digby Hall - Thurs 25th to Sat 27th March
Co-authored by Robert Morley and Rosemary Anne Sisson, **A Ghost on Tiptoe** is our spring production. It will be directed by David Smith.

Although enough stout souls braved the elements for a laughter-filled readthrough at The Mermaid last Thursday evening, many more were not able to get there.

Crossing fingers for more amenable weather conditions, another audition date has now been scheduled. **It will be at 7.30 pm on Friday 15th January at David Smith's house at Fortunes Fold, Long Street, Sherborne DT9 3DE.** You can get in touch with David on 01935 817439 or at drysmith@btinternet.com

About the play: When Cuthbert Barnstaple is told that he has only a few months to live, he at first tries to keep it secret but before long he cannot resist the temptation of telling friends and family, invariably being disappointed by their reaction. Realising that his situation opens up a whole world of opportunity, he plans to do everything he wished he had done earlier in his life, with hilarious results. New situations and new acquaintances present unexpected challenges both for him and for those around him but, undaunted, he presses on to be confronted with unforeseen consequences.

To those members who have a computer but have been unable to view the emailed version of our monthly newsletter here is good news. Thanks to Mark Lambert we now have our very own brand new website. It's online now at: www.aps-sherborne.co.uk Don't forget to bookmark it and add it to your favourites. Oh, and we also have our very own exclusive Member's Page. If you email me jim.reville@btinternet.com I'll email back the user name and password to get into it.

CANCELLED It is with great disappointment that John and I feel we have had to cancel the afternoon of Jan 24. Jakki Gregory.

From NODA with praise

noda
SERVING AMATEUR THEATRE SINCE 1899

23rd November, 2009

Dear Adrian,

This comes with many thanks, both for a most entertaining evening and for your hospitality at the 'Tons of Money' presentation Friday last.

Congratulations to APS on reaching the grand old age of seventy five and still going strong - no small achievement in these times when the popular media through television is so severely undermining the survival of the live arts.

Congratulations too on marking the occasion by re-staging the very first APS production and on making such a good job of it. Fred would have been delighted.

Finally, well done to your archivist for the really excellent display of APS productions over the decades. Lost of nostalgia there for many people, including me.

Here's hoping that the society will continue to thrive for many years.

Best wishes to all

Peter Wheeldon
Regional Representative

Get your 'Tons of Money' photos here

For those of you who missed the performances or want photos from



the production go to: www.mark-lambert.co.uk Click on his 'Client galleries' and scroll down to below the weddings to 'Theatre'. Click on the Tons of Money cast photo and the gallery will open.

You will see a number of thumbnails. Click on any thumbnail for a larger image. To see all the thumbnails on one scrollable page, click 'all' at the end of the row of page numbers at the top.

If you want to view the images in a slideshow,

there is a slideshow button at the bottom of any large image page. So that the images fit more or less onto your screen, it is probably best to view the slideshow using full screen (Press F11 on your keyboard -- press F11 again to come out of full screen mode)

Right click has been enabled for this gallery and the images are not watermarked, so you are welcome to copy and save images if you wish. Bear in mind though that they are only 700 pixels max dimension. Fine for viewing on your computer, but not much good for printing.

There is no shopping cart with this gallery, but you can order photos from Mark Lambert by post (no email orders, please, as payment is required with order) You can order a CD of all the photos (high resolution jpegs, suitable for printing) for £2.00.

And/or you can order prints:

6" x 4" £1.00

7" x 5" £1.50

8" x 6" £2.00

Larger sizes available. POA

If you order images that are cropped to odd sizes, only the longer dimension of the image will correspond to the longer dimension of the print size ordered. Example: an 8" wide print of image number 026 will be just under 3" high. Please add 50p to cover postage (£1.00 if ordering 10 prints or more). Please enclose payment with order and send to:

Mark Lambert
Ridge Farm
King's Stag
Sturminster Newton
Dorset DT10 2AU

OUR MAILING LIST NEEDS YOUR HELP



Our mailing list -- the list of people to whom we send A5 leaflets about forthcoming productions -- is declining. This is not good, as it is probably one of the most important forms of advertising/promotion that we do. At one stage there were over 400 people on the list. At the time of writing there are 284, and this number is reduced at every mailing when leaflets are returned because the recipients are no longer at the address or send it back as 'not wanted'.

So could everyone PLEASE take a moment to think of friends or acquaintances who might like to receive information about forthcoming productions and pass their names and addresses

If you would like to see who is currently on the list you can do so by downloading this file <http://www.mark-lambert.co.uk/aps-mailing-list.zip>

Unzip (extract) the folder and you will find an Excel file within. Those who don't already have Microsoft Excel on their computers will have to install Excel Viewer -- a copy of the setup file for this is also included in the zipped folder.

SEE THE HISTORY BOYS PLAY IN BATH

One of the great plays of the decade, *The History Boys* is set in a school in the North of England where a boisterous bunch of bright, funny sixth-form boys are attempting to gain entrance to Oxford and Cambridge whilst fending off the distractions of sport and sex. In Alan Bennett's much-loved play, staffroom battles and the anarchy of adolescence provide a rich vein of comedy.



It's on at the Theatre Royal, Bath in January from Tues 26th to Sun 31st. Tues to Wed 7.30 pm, Thurs to Sun 8 pm, Matinees Thurs, Sat & Sun 2.30 pm. Call Box Office 01225 448844 or look up: <http://www.thetheatreroyal.org.uk>



IT'S THE VERTICAL HOUR AT THE SWAN

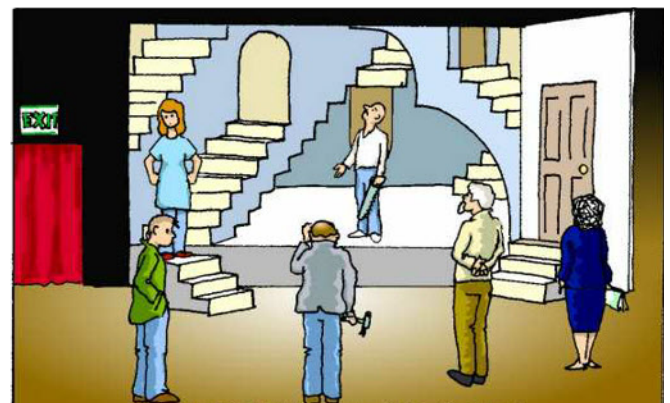
Nadia knows exactly what her stance is on Iraq. A former war reporter and Professor at Yale, she has advised the President and seen action in Sarajevo and Baghdad. She is sure of her place in the world and her opinion of it. Until, that is, she meets an equally opinionated and knowledgeable man - her boyfriend's father - over a weekend in Shropshire. His intervention has far-reaching consequences for them all.

It's David Hare's gripping play *The Vertical Hour* and it's on at The Swan from Mon 1st to Sat 6th February at 7.45pm. Bookings open Monday 18th January. Call 01935 845946.



ARTSREACH IS TWENTY!

Artsreach celebrates its twentieth year. View/download its latest programme at: www.artsreach.co.uk



"Beats me, I don't even know what's holding it up..."

Viva La Vidal

Sombreros and gayly coloured ponchos and long, black, drooping moustaches (not only confined to the males) were much in evidence at our highly enjoyable Mexican-themed Christmas Party at The Cider House last month.

Very many thanks to the hospitality of our generous hosts Miyoko and Adrian (who, as the magnificent banner proclaimed, served as UK ambassador to Mexico).

The Mexican meaning of the expression 'Viva La Vida' is used to exclaim and celebrate life. Fairly, it can be concluded we did just that!



MIRRORS: It is very unlucky to use real mirrors on stage. An actor, also, should not look into a mirror over the shoulder of another, so that the two reflections are seen together. Doing this will bring certain mis-fortune to the one overlooked. It is also considered unlucky to wear real jewellery on or back stage.

The Origin: Real mirrors on a stage have a tendency to play havoc with a lighting design, reflecting rectangles of light into places never intended to be. Also, actors tend to be vain, and a mirror is simply an unnecessary distraction. Real jewellery, also, reflects the lights in obscure and unwanted ways. Also, jewellery is often lost on or back stage.

PEACOCK FEATHERS: Actors strongly dislike peacock feathers on the stage or in any part of the theatre

The Origin: The most probable reason for this superstition is that the ever-open 'eyes' on the feathers have become associated with the Evil Eye, a portent of horrible misfortune, including death.

To be continued...

What's in a name?

There are many reasons for choosing a stage name instead of using your birth name. Often names are changed because they don't have the right sound or they are thought to be too plain and ordinary. Sometimes people wish to conceal their family origins. Another reason for changing a name, particularly in the acting profession, is that many acting organisations specifically prevent more than one member having the same name. Mind you, some have achieved stardom without the name change - Renee Zellweger, Leonardo DiCaprio, Hilary Swank and David Duchovny to name but a few.



Alan Alda - Alphonso D'Abruzzo
 Woody Allen - Allen Konigsberg
 June Allyson - Ella Geisman
 Julie Andrews - Julia Wells
 Fred Astaire - Frederick Austerlitz
 Lauren Bacall - Betty Joan Perske
 Anne Bancroft - Anne Italiano
 Brigitte Bardot - Camille Javal
 John Barrymore - John Blythe
 Eddie Albert - Edward Albert Heimberger
 Frankie Avalon - Francis Thomas Avalonne
 Tony Bennett - Anthony Dominick Benedetto
 Irving Berlin - Israel Baline
 Joey Bishop - Joseph Gottlieb
 Victor Borge - Borge Rosenbaum
 Big Bopper - Jiles Perry Richardson

To be continued...

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**JANUARY 2010**

Thurs 14th to Sat 23rd	Aladdin Pantomime	Brewhouse Theatre, Taunton Times: check website or Box Office
Wed 20th to Sat 23rd	Santa in Space Pantomime	Shaftesbury Arts Centre 7.30 pm Matinee Sat 2.30 pm
Thurs 21st	The Revenge of Rumpelstitskin	Bridport Arts Centre 7.30 pm
Thurs 21st Jan to Sat 20th Feb	Private Lives By Noel Coward	Salisbury Playhouse Times: Check Box Office or website
Tues 26th to Sun 31st	The History Boys Alan Bennett	Theatre Royal, Bath Times, etc see Page 2
Tues 26th to Sat 30th	Time of My Life Alan Ayckbourn	Mission Theatre, Bath 7.30 pm Matinee Sat 2.30 pm

FEBRUARY 2010

Mon 1st to Sat 6th	The Vertical Hour By David Hare	The Swan, Yeovil 7.45 pm
Mon 1st to Sat 6th	My Wonderful Day Written & directed Alan Ayckbourn	Salisbury Playhouse Times: Check Box Office or website
Wed 3rd to Fri 5th	Little Shop of Horrors Musical	The Octagon Yeovil 7.30 pm
Wed 10th to Sat 13th	Arabian Nights Pantomime	The Exchange Sturminster Newton 7.30 pm Matinee Sat 2.30 pm
Thurs 11th to Sat 13th	September in the Rain Two-hander by John Godber	Mission Theatre, Bath 7.30 pm
Thurs 11st to Sat 20th	The Country Wife Restoration Comedy	Bristol Old Vic 7.30 pm Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30 pm
Saturday 20th	Miss Havisham's Ghosts Performed by Trish Knight-Webb	Shaftesbury Arts Centre 8 pm
Tues 23rd Feb to Sat 6th March	Hedda Gabler Henrik Ibsen	Salisbury Playhouse Times: Check Box Office or website
Wednesday 24th February	 Theatre Quiz Led by Charles Napier 	The Mermaid 7.30 pm

Mission Theatre: Call Box Office 01225 428600. More info www.missiontheatre.co.uk

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

The Swan: Bookings for The Vertical Hour open Mon 18 Jan. Call 01935 845946

Theatre Royal, Bath: Call Box Office 01225 448844 or www.thetheatreroyal.org.uk

The Brewhouse Theatre: Call 01823 283244 or www.thebrewhouse.net

The Octagon, Yeovil: Call Box Office 01935 283884 or www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

Bridport Arts Centre: Call Box office 01308 424204. More info www.bridport-arts.com

Salisbury Playhouse: Box Office 01722 320 333 or www.salisburyplayhouse.com

The Exchange Sturminster Newton: Box Office 01258 475137 www.stur-exchange.co.uk

Shaftesbury Arts Centre: Call Jenny Parker 01747 854321.

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



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

February COPY DEADLINE: Thurs 28 January

Last Word...

The most effective moments in the theatre are those that appeal to basic and commonplace emotions--love of woman, love of home, love of country, love of right, anger, jealousy, revenge, ambition, lust, and treachery. CLAYTON HAMILTON, *Theory of the Theatre*