

Summer 2011

'Fun' draiser

Saturday July 23rd, doors open 7:00pm

Pentyrch Village Hall

Tickets £6.00 includes Refreshments & Lic. Bar

Mortimer Dexter gathers the family for the reading of his late step-father's Will.

Bizarre revelations occur from the reading of the Will

Unexpected Characters arrive

Shock Announcements & Confessions

Laughter

Mayhem

A DAY IN THE LIFE

BY GARY DIAMOND & RAY LAWRENCE, DIRECTED BY RICHARD JONES, PERFORMED AS A ONE ACT PLAY

Plus Musical Review
Box Office: 02920 899600

Hilltop Theatre Company present

Frank Vickery's TRIVIAL PURSUITS!

An Hilarious Comedy



Souvenir Programme

www.hilltoptheatre.co.uk

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Good evening ladies & gentlemen, and welcome to Hilltop Theatre Company's 3rd and final production of it's 9th season. On offer tonight is a very funny play by the highly popular local playwright Frank Vickery, directed for us by Jan Stapleton. Jan and her team have worked tirelessly to bring this production to fruition, and I am sure you will agree that their efforts have been worthwhile.

Whilst this is the last of the full productions for year 9, we actually finish the year on July 23rd, with our usual one night fundraiser. These have proved very popular over the last few years and the evening will follow the usual format of a one act comedy, this year a play entitled "A Day In The Life" directed by Vice Chairman Richard Jones, followed by some musical routines after the interval. Some light refreshments will be served.

It follows, of course, that as this is our 9th year, when we start next season in September we will be embarking on a landmark 10th year, for which we will organise some celebrations. Just for interest, at the end of year 1 in July 2003 we finished the year with 27 fully paid up members. This year the number is precisely double that with 54. We have, for the last 7 years or so, had over 1,000 people per year through the door to watch our 3 main productions. In addition to our members who are required to be over 16 years of age, we often require children in our productions, and during the 9 years over 100 under 16's have appeared in our productions.

Clearly Hilltop has been a wonderfully successful venture and my thanks go out to all the people who have been actively involved, and no less to our audiences, without whom there would be no point in doing it.

Enjoy the evening & hope to see you back for the fundraiser.

Bob Petersen

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

At a summer evening's barbecue we explore the joys & heartaches of amateur dramatics. The complex relationships emerge as moments of pure slapstick & farce alternate with ones of real drama & pathos. This hilarious comedy is an ensemble piece which requires sound characterisation, a sense of fun, good timing, slick comedy business & above all, teamwork. I am extremely lucky to have had a cast who have embraced every aspect of this complex & very funny play. I thank them enormously for their dedication & hard work. Thanks also to all the hardworking backstage team without whom there would be no show.

Rehearsals have been full of fun & laughter so we hope that you'll have a fun evening with plenty of laughs & go home with a smile on your face.

Jan Stapleton

Halo Unisex Salon



TAILOR MADE WEDDING PACKAGES

TIGI BEDHEAD & CATWALK PRODUCT STOCKIST

L'OREAL PROFESSIONAL

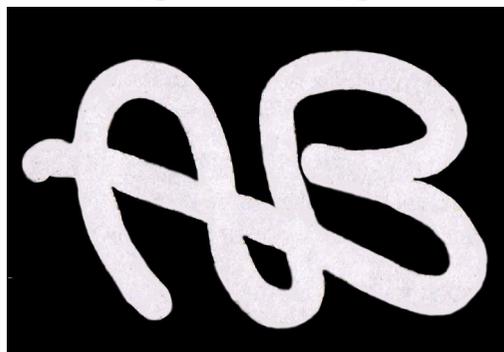
Unit 2,

Temperence Court,
Bronllwyn, Pentyrch,
Cardiff, CF15 9TN

Contact Jayne Gleave: 02920 891911



Stage Lighting Services



Sound Equipment

Pyrotechnics

Rigging

Hardware

Stage Lighting, Special Effects, Access Equipment & Rigging

Hire, Design, Install, Operate

Unit 3, Fieldway, Maes y Coed road, Heath Cardiff, CF14 4HY

Contact: 029 20 613577

Pentyrch Village Hall's

Upcoming Events

10th September 2011

Fundraising 'AUCTION' for Pentyrch
Village Hall improvements.

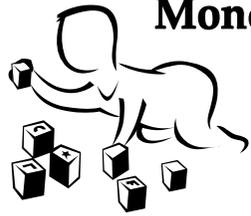
All unwanted treasures welcome, to be
dropped off by Sat 3rd Sept.



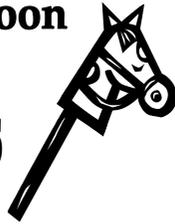
For further info Contact Sue Gambarini on 02920 899600

Pentyrch Nursery

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:30noon



Contact Name: Victoria Lewis



Contact Number: 07891257368
Email Address: V.Lewis@hotmail.co.uk

Zumba

Tuesday 8:00pm - 9:00pm

Contact Name: Jessica Lane



Contact Number: 07920176788

Email Address: sensiilane@hotmail.com

ABOUT HILLTOP

We opened in September 2002 with the intention of performing three good quality productions a year, including plays, pantomimes & musicals. We currently meet every Thursday & Sunday at Pentyrch Village Hall from 7:30pm to 10pm. If you are interested in theatre & fancy trying your hand at it, either on stage or in the many backstage activities, all you have to do is turn up and introduce yourself. You can also make yourself known to one of our front of house staff after the show or email us at:

info@hilltoptheatre.co.uk

Please visit our website on:

www.hilltoptheatre.co.uk

APPEAL FOR BACKSTAGE

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Technical &
Backstage

Properties &
Costumes



Acting not for you?

Why not come & lend a hand to the Hilltop technical team? For every show we need people to stage manage the productions, design, build & paint scenery & operate lighting & sound. If these don't appeal to you, then how about helping with properties or costumes? Please make yourself known to any of our front of house staff if you are interested in joining our team. Thank You.

REHEARSAL



Top Left: Deidre, Pearl, Roz, Jessica & Teddy

Top Right: Joyce & Derek Bottom Left: Mona

Bottom Right: Teddy, Nick & Eddie

JEKYLL & HYDE

Directed by Liam Daly

It was hard to believe that this was an amateur company that had only rehearsed Jekyll & Hyde twice a week for twelve weeks. A superb performance that is difficult to find enough superlatives to describe. The minimalist scenery made by the company perfectly suited the small stage, well lit & apparently easily handled by the cast & crew which enabled the players to enter & exit with ease, although it was probably much more difficult than it appeared & was achieved by a lot of thought & organisation on behalf of Liam Daly, directing his first musical with style & ideas that would be envied by many more experienced directors.

The electrifying start to the production with the thunder & lightning effects provided by Llwyd Herniman stunned the audience into a silence for entry of Dr. Jekyll, superbly portrayed by Michael Bennett who really lived the part & acted & sang with great energy & made the difficult transition to & from the menacing Edward Hyde most convincing. Melanie Stevens gave a stunning performance as Lucy Harris, her strident vocal ability was impressive & filled the hall with sound every time she sang. Excellent supporting performances by Tim Driscoll as Jekyll's friend John Utterson, Sarah-Jen Gazzard as Jekyll's fiancée Emma Carew & Joey Giles as Simon Stride.

The strength in depth of the company was evident by the portrayal of hypocritical Board of Governors of St. Jude's Hospital by Martin Lench as the Bishop of Basingstoke, Sue O'Halloran as Lady Beaconsfield, Phil Davies as General Lord Glossop, Tony Burnell as Sir Archibald Proops & John Crimmins as Lord Savage, most of whom came to a grisly end at the hands of Edward Hyde.

Special mention must be made of John Saddler who played the part of Emma's father Sir Danvers Carew with excellent vocal ability & strong sensitive stage presence. The chorus were musically secure & well drilled, one member Iain Campbell, prominent in the number of costume changes & the strong & spirited enthusiasm that was matched by the whole ensemble.

Excellent costumes for the production were put together by members of the company. Choreography by Laura Hallas was well devised & very effective & worked well in the confined space available.

A standing ovation by the audience proved that this was a highly polished well staged production. In all a performance of which Hilltop Theatre Company can be very proud.

Reviewed by Dennis Williams

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES

Directed by Siân Williams

The real white crisp snow that lay outside could not have been a more perfect setting for this magically atmospheric production of Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales. In his unique style, the audience was treated to an account of Dylan's real life recollections and reflections of his childhood Christmas' on 'Cwmdonkin Drive' in 1930's Swansea. Competently narrated by Mike Beavan, the audience was transported back in time. Young Dylan was superbly played by Mathew Brettle, a respected familiar young face at Hilltop. His mother and father wonderfully and warmly characterised by Helen Jones and Iain Campbell depicted a nostalgic Christmas family setting. On Christmas day the household gradually received a fascinating array of characters - aunts, uncles, cousins and locals who were to 'alight' into their home to share the festive celebrations.

As young Dylan played outside on Christmas morning with his friend Tom played by Chris Conway, a new young face at Hilltop, they spontaneously burst into song with their own rendition of the well known Welsh hymn 'Ar Hyd Y Nos'. Their lyrics depicting the quirks and foibles of aunts and uncles alike;

Auntie Bessie 'aspirin sinker' played by Helen Page, Auntie Hannah 'secret drinker' played by Pat Beavan, Uncle Tudyr 'dreadful moaner' played by Dai Williams, Uncle Gwyn 'fat garage owner' played by Steve Williams and Uncle Glyn 'left wing broker' played by Tim Driscoll, who also provided us with an entertaining interpretation of Dai the Post as he delivered Christmas parcels to the household and to partake in some festive 'sprit'. Young Dylan held a fascination for the wistful Aunt Eleri beautifully portrayed by Fleur Greening. Also Auntie Nellie, convincingly played by Sue O'Halloran who created a nostalgic family gathering with the telling of ghost stories satisfyingly scary for the entertainment of all.

The young Dylan escaped often to meet his friends - Jack played by Meredith Edwards, another young newcomer to Hilltop and Jim well played by Joe Morris, joined by Tom and cousins the feisty Glenda played by Carla Gambarini and the bewildered Brenda played by Jenna Claridge. They encountered the wrath of the 'Parky' played by Mark Pinches who also took the part of Old Smokey The Fireman who extinguishes the burning turkey, along with his colleague fireman played by Rhys Stapleton in a riotous scene involving a fire hose. Murgatroyd, played by Bill Pithers, saved the day when he delivered another roast turkey gratefully received by all. While playing at the park, the children disturbed the local tramp and spied on the 'lovers' played by Laura Hallas and Rhys. The imaginative world of play and make believe was delightfully portrayed by this talented ensemble.

The set design by Rhys Stapleton was effective with the central feature consisting of a detailed artist's impression of a winter's scene of Swansea Bay.

Competently directed by Siân Williams this production was rich in nostalgia and clearly defined characterisations. The interaction between the large cast was spontaneous with good pace, humour, chaos and the sheer joys experienced by this family as portrayed when they would burst with gusto into enthusiastic renditions of Welsh songs including 'Calon Lan'.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent with Hilltop Theatre Company where memories were captured and cherished by those who still remember.

Reviewed by Norma Bousfield Vice Chairman, ARC

PHOTOGRAPHS



Top: Jessica, Deidre, Pearl, Eddie, Nick & Roz

Bottom Left: Roz & Nick Bottom Right: Pearl & Roz

CAST

Teddy	Tim Driscoll
Joyce	Linda Coombes
Mona	Jayne Edwards
Pearl	Karen Claridge
Roz	Siân Williams
Jessica	Becky Church
Derek	Bill Pithers
Nick	Iain Campbell
Deidre	Tracy Richards
Eddie	Dai Williams

The action of the play takes place in the garden of Nick & Roz's suburban home. Time - the present

ACT I	7:30pm on a Saturday evening in August
ACT II	Scene 1 Later that evening
	Scene 2 Ten minutes later

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer/Director	Jan Stapleton
Assistant Producer/Director	Rhys Stapleton
Assistants to Director	Anne Morris, Roz Jones
Stage Manager/Lighting	Wayne Brewer
Set Design/Scenic art & painting	Rhys Stapleton, Wayne Brewer, Tracey Fox
Properties	Lynne Newbury, Anne Morris
Wardrobe	Sue Gambarini
Marketing	Richard Jones, Rhys Stapleton
Business	Rhys Stapleton
Programme	Rhys Stapleton
Bar Manager	Iain Campbell
House Manager	Sue O'Halloran
House Staff	Sue Gambarini, Roz Jones & Members of Hilltop
Box Office	Sue Gambarini