



EVERYMAN THEATRE ASSOCIATION

FRIENDS OF THE EVERYMAN THEATRE

WELCOME TO

THE EVERYMAN THEATRE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018 NO: 272



Love From A Stranger



Sherlock Holmes



Movie Mischief



Trial by Laughter



The Messiah

SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL THEATRE

After remaining at the same price for many years, ETA Membership is being increased as of 1st May 2018 to £35 for single memberships; £60 for double memberships; £80 for 3 year single memberships and £145 for 3 year double memberships. We feel that membership is still superb value for money. It is very competitively priced and offers more in the way of benefits than many other theatres too! To remind you:

- Savings of £3.50 off the top two ticket prices for most main house shows and £1.50 off most Studio shows
- Regular invitations to VIP Meet the Cast parties, Director's Drinks receptions and launches
- Backstage tours and talks

- Advance notice when shows go on sale
- Priority access
- Free programmes on renewal
- Discounts at various Gloucestershire stores and organisations
- Regular social events
- The opportunity to get involved and support your local theatre. Membership income really does help us to offer the diverse range of events and first class quality theatre which the Everyman has become renowned for, along with providing an excellent education and community programme

In addition to these benefits, we will continue to offer members complimentary drinks from time to time and some free tickets for selected shows.

NEW – COMPETITIONS

WIN TICKETS for Griff Rhys Jones and the comedy *The Messiah*, prior to the West End!

- Win 2 tickets to comedian Griff Rhys Jones' new stand-up comedy show on **Monday 2nd July**. Simply answer the following question
 - Name the TV comedy sketch show Griff Rhys Jones starred in alongside Mel Smith?
- Win a pair of tickets to the hilarious ***The Messiah***, a comedy of biblical proportions from the writer of *The 39 Steps* on **Monday 12th November**, starring **Hugh Dennis** and **Lesley Garrett**, complete with 2 VIP Directors' Lounge passes.
 - Name the TV comedy Hugh Dennis starred in with Claire Skinner?

Email your answers by Friday 11th May to vip@everymantheatre.org.uk

The winners will be drawn at random.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I hope you have been able to come to some of our ETA events since our last Newsletter and have enjoyed the varied Everyman programme.



In January members much enjoyed Hayley Spicer's talk about the pantomime costumes, with a tour backstage. Hayley's organisation is always very impressive, and this event gives us an insight into just what is involved backstage during the show.

In February the first night of *Quartet* was a great success. ETA members were offered complimentary pre-show drinks with Mark Goucher, and the show was followed by a Meet the Cast party. It was good to see Sue Holderness here at the Everyman again. You will remember her previous performance here in 2015 in *Mrs Warren's Profession*. A group of university students joined us at the party and were effusive in their thanks for the opportunity to talk to the actors. Cast members presented to Mark Goucher a cheque for £5,000 for the theatre on behalf of the ETA.

In March, before the first performance of David Haig's *Pressure*, we were once again invited to pre-show drinks – this time in the Studio with Paul Milton, the Everyman's Creative Director, who talked to us about the play and about the forthcoming Studio programme. The play itself was gripping, and David Haig gave a magnificent performance. It was interesting that several of the audience that night had links to flying, and the play revived their memories of the importance of meteorologists' weather predictions. *Pressure* was a very apt title. As usual we enjoyed having the opportunity to talk to the cast afterwards, and David Haig presented to Mark Goucher on our behalf a cheque for £5,000. As is customary, the cast members at both these parties were complimentary about the welcome extended to them at the Everyman.

Our plans for the ETA AGM on March 18th were all in place and we were looking forward to lunch on stage afterwards and an entertainment by the BTEC students. Alas, the overnight snowfall meant that some members, particularly in outlying areas, would have been unable to come, and, sadly, we made the decision to cancel. We are delighted to announce the new date for the AGM on **Sunday 29th April** – arrangements as before. If anyone would like to book who wasn't on the original list, please contact me on 01242 237484 or e-mail limb4@btinternet.com

I mentioned in our last Newsletter that the time has come to raise the ETA subscription which has remained the same for many years. The new rates are set out overleaf, and, as I said then, the ETA offers excellent value. These higher rates are still comparable and in most cases less than those charged by other theatres, and the ETA benefits go well beyond what is on offer elsewhere. You will have noticed the invitations to members to complimentary drinks before performances – something which we appreciate very much and which are in addition to the regular ETA benefits. So... do please continue to support us! The money raised by our subscriptions is all fed back to the theatre, and any money raised at our ETA events is used for worthwhile Everyman projects.

Details of some of our future ETA events are in **Dates for your Diary**, and I look forward to seeing you then. Other events are planned, so please check our website for details.

I hope you will enjoy the forthcoming Everyman programme.

Janet Limb, Chairman

WORLD WAR ONE COMMEMORATION – A HUNDRED YEARS ON

The Everyman will be marking the centenary of the end of the First World War this Autumn and we caught up with Paul Milton, our Creative Director to tell us more about his plans...



At 11am on 11th November 1918 the Armistice was signed at Compiègne in Northern France, between the Allies and Germany, to cease fighting. This agreement signalled the end of World War One, known as the Great War. The Everyman will be marking the centenary this Autumn and we caught up with Paul Milton, our Creative Director, to tell us more about his plans...

On **Sunday 11th November** at 4pm, we are planning an Armistice Day Tribute, commemorating the end of the First World War in style. This epic musical one-off event will feature professional actors, the Songbirds music group, the Everyman's community choirs and youth



theatre, together with Cheltenham's own Silver Band. Leading the evening will be writer and broadcaster Pam Ayres. It will be a lavish celebration of music, poetry and dramatic scenes. Let's see how many musicians, singers, actors and entertainers we can get onto the Everyman stage!



Cheltenham Ladies College Archive

We are also presenting **On The Mend**, a romantic musical play about the nurses and patients who spent time in Cheltenham's Volunteer Aid Detachment (VAD) hospitals during the First World War. It will be staged during the w/c 22nd October 2018. Presented by the Everyman Theatre, it features professional actors alongside a number of local performers. It's a site specific show, so doesn't actually get a performance in the theatre building. Excitingly, it'll be shown on the sites of the WWI VAD Hospitals themselves to create a truly authentic experience: Parabola Arts Centre, Gloucester Road School, Cheltenham Racecourse, Leckhampton Village Hall and the University Park Campus. **On The Mend** promises to be a moving, topical, funny, family-friendly production and is not to be missed. Tickets are free, but need to be booked through the Everyman's Box Office. **On The Mend** is a unique project for us and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come along to see the performances.

Paul Milton, Creative Director

Cheltenham Remembers.

These two Everyman Theatre events form part of **Cheltenham Remembers**, a year-long series of activities throughout Cheltenham and beyond, to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice, which includes a concert, a re-enactment, talks, exhibitions, open days and a Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial on the Promenade. For more information visit www.cheltenhamremembers.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday 8th May

Post-show Meet the Cast of *Great Expectations* starring Nichola McAuliffe as Miss Havesham in the Charles Dickens' timeless classic.

Monday 12th November

Post-show Meet the Cast of hit comedy *The Messiah* starring Hugh Dennis and Lesley Garrett.



Tuesday 20th November

Post-show Q & A with Ian Hislop & Nick Newman, the writers of new comedy *Trial by Laughter*

Find out more about this intriguing story when the two writers join us for a post-show discussion. FREE for Tuesday night's ticketholders.



Thursday 13th December

ETA Christmas Studio Event

An exclusive ETA performance of Dickens' *The Old Curiosity Shop* performed by Hammerpuzzle Theatre Company who produced last year's popular *A Gloucestershire Midwinter*. Tickets to the show followed by festive refreshments with the cast & Director just £18. Max 2 tickets per member. Be sure to book early as this event always sells out!

EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR!

Gin tasting with the very successful local Cheltenham distillery Sibling Gin; our annual **Christmas Dinner** in Matcham's and an evening at one of Cheltenham's oldest and best Chinese restaurants, **The Mayflower**. More information to follow.



Hammerpuzzle previous production.

Welcome to the Everyman Theatre's knitting group

Join us on Friday mornings in the Circle Bar (accessible via the lift) at the Everyman between 10.30am – 11.30am.



Whether you are an expert knitter or 'needle little' help, everyone is welcome to come along and join in. You can bring your own needles, yarn and patterns or use the ones the Everyman staff and friends have kindly donated.

If you know anyone who particularly might benefit from getting out of the house and spending time with others, please pass this flyer on. There is no cost to join the group and no weekly commitment is expected. For more information, please contact Caro on caro.day@everymantheatre.org.uk

everymantheatreassociation.org.uk

facebook.com/everymantheatreassociation

Twitter: @EverymanFriends

Instagram: everymanfriends

The Everyman Theatre Association is a registered charity (number 240273)



EVERYMAN
THEATRE ASSOCIATION