

SPECIAL OFFER

SALISBURY THEATREGOERS CLUB

Join TODAY for HALF PRICE

FIFTY PENCE for Membership to September

Theatre-goers will issue Membership Cards in the Foyer & Bar

PROGRAMME

Saturday THEATRE VISIT to Redgrave Theatre,
26th April Farnham for "In Praise of Love"
by Terence Rattigan

Saturday MAY MARKET at the CHURCH HOUSE,
10th May Crane Street, Salisbury, 10 a.m.
to 12 noon. Cake stall, produce
stall, fancy goods, 'Bring & Buy'.
Do come for morning coffee and
bring your friends.

Saturday CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE. A
24th May coach trip will be organized for
"Cyrano de Bergerac".

Sunday WINE AND CHEESE PARTY at 161,
20th July Wilton Road, Salisbury. Mrs.
Truda Panet is very kindly giving
the Party in aid of the Playhouse
Appeal.

Saturday CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE. A
20th Sept. coach trip will be organized for
"Othello"

FESTIVAL OF COARSE ACTING

FINALS

ADJUDICATOR - MICHAEL GREEN

IN AID OF THE SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE APPEAL



Unbelievably it is over ten years since Michael Green's classic "The Art of Coarse Acting" was published. And when the idea of this festival was first discussed less than ten months ago, all three of us directly concerned said: "Oh Yes. I have a copy of course." And all three of us sheepishly admitted a day or two later that ours could not be found. The result, no doubt, of the exercise of The Art of Coarse Lending.

The book covers the whole field of theatre - indeed it is sub-titled "How to Wreck an Amateur Dramatic Society". In this Festival we have restricted ourselves to the stage itself. Teams competing in the Preliminary Round in Salisbury, in Southampton and in Weymouth were given a list of subjects from which to choose and allowed 9 to 12 minutes, and from 2 to 7 performers with which to complete their task. For the Final, the same conditions apply except that the teams may perform any piece they like. But throughout, and above all, they have been asked to enjoy themselves and to entertain you, the audience. If any team has taken itself seriously it has broken Law One of Coarse Festivals.

In tonight's Final, we have the winners from each of the three Regional heats competing against a team from the Salisbury Playhouse and invited Companies from The Questors (Michael Green's current Coarse Acting and Coarse Drinking home), and from the National Theatre. Four amateur teams taking on two professionals, so anything can happen - and should!

Books by Michael Green (including his recent release "The Art of Coarse Drinking") are on sale in the Theatre. The author has very kindly agreed to appear in the Bar after the show and to sign any copies bought during the evening. Don't miss this unusual opportunity, especially as the bar will be open.

A Coarse Actor

"Can remember the lines but not the order in which they come"

"Can remember the pauses but not the lines"

"Regards his lines rather as a machine-gunner regards a belt of ammunition: something to be shot off in the vague direction of the enemy and replaced as rapidly as possible."

A Coarse Play

"Never has a full company. I shall not easily forget a production of Henry V which coincided with an influenza epidemic there just weren't enough men to go round the only thing left to do was cut the play as we went along, omitting those on the sick list we had done it in five minutes over the hour, which as far as I know is a world record."

(Extracts from 'The Art of Coarse Acting' by Michael Green)

PROGRAMME1. THE BOURNEMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE CLUB

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (ACT IV)
by William Shakespeare

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|
| Duke of Venice | - Leon Joiner | Narissa | - Venessa Dean |
| Antonio | - John White | Shylock | - Alan Jarvis |
| Bassanio | - Philip Mutton | Portia | - Eileen Rawlings |
| Gratiano | - Derek Hyder | | |

Directed by Keith Rawlings
Back Stage: Pam Field, John Tickler

2. THE MASKERS
MR. & MRS. KENNETH HANN

with Members of the Eddystone Lighthouse Theatre in the Round Company

HAMLET (ACT I)
by William Shakespeare

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Hamlet | - MR. KENNETH HANN | Gertrude | - MRS. KENNETH HANN |
| Francisco | - Pete White | Voltemand | - John Carrington |
| Barnardo | - Kenneth Spencer | Cornelius | - Michael Shailer |
| Horatio | - John Carrington | Polonius | - Pete White |
| Marcellus | - Michael Shailer | Laertes | - Graham Buchanan |
| Ghost | - Graham Buchanan | Ophelia | - MRS. KENNETH HANN |
| Claudius | - Kenneth Spencer | | |

Directed by MR. KENNETH HANN Lighting by MR. KENNETH HANN
Costumes by MRS. KENNETH HANN Sound Effects by MR. KENNETH HANN

3. THE NATIONAL THEATRE

A SKI LIFT TO MURDER

by Dame Agatha Coward with assistance from Peter Robert Scott

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Lady Marjorie Sloane | - Jennifer Piercey |
| Harry Half-Worthington | - Harry Waters |
| Austin Catch-Ffumbler | - Philip Trewinard |
| Greta Protopopov | - Christine Edmonds |
| Inspector Percule | - Robert McBain |
| Seep, the Butler | - Michael Stroud |
| Daphne, the Maid | - Doran Godwin |
| A Body | - Peter Robert Scott |

Stage Manager - Phil Robins

4.

PITTON THEATRE CLUBTHE MIDDLE-AGED VICK

OTHELLO (ACT V)

by William Shakespeare

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Lodovico | - John Veck | Desdemona | - June Ainsworth |
| Othello | - Frank Simmons | Emilia | - Jeanne Judd |
| Cassio | - Martin Blandford | Bianca | - Irene Tevendale |
| Iago | - Jim Whitby | | |

Adaptation and Direction by Jeanne Judd

5.

THE SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE

Tenby Operatic and Dramatic Society (TOADS)

THE SEAGULL

by Anton Chekov

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Medviedenko | - Mr. Marcus Fipps (Jeffrey Perry) |
| Masha | - Miss Billa Harrod (Patience Tomlinson) |
| Vershinin | - Rev. Stratford Molesworth (Roger Leach) |
| Olga | - Mrs. Betty Askew (Tricia Thorns) |

Produced by Reginald Askew (David Grout)

6.

THE QUESTORS THEATRETHE VICAR DID IT

by Peter Out

SCENE: The drawing room of d'Arcy Towers home of Sir Henry d'Arcy somewhere in Kent

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Inspector | - David Pearson |
| d'Arcy | - Richard Gaunt |
| Mrs. d'Arcy | - Margaret Turner |
| Hubert | - John Wilbourn |
| Major | - John Turner |
| Vicar | - David Crewes |
| Cook | - Lorna Duval |
| James | - Michael Langridge |

Directed by - anyone who happened to be passing at the time

MESSAGE FROM

HON. APPEAL DIRECTOR .

Robert Hawkings

Which of us, when this competition was first suggested, would have forecast that as many as fifteen amateur companies from five counties and from as far afield as Bridport, Bristol and Tonbridge, would take part in the qualifying round? This splendid response arose, I am sure, from the close links which the Playhouse has always enjoyed with its amateur neighbours. I trust that each team got so much fun out of their rehearsals that they found the whole exercise well worth while.

But we should never have started were it not for the brilliance of Michael Green's writing and his original conception of Coarse Acting as a competitive activity. We thank him for the encouragement which he has given us and above all for being here tonight. He has made time to come from London especially to support the Appeal and to act as Adjudicator.

To The National Theatre and to The Questors Theatre we are grateful for the effort they have made to take part - another demonstration of the willingness of theatrical people to help each other. It would be right too for me to pay tribute to the members of the Playhouse Company - not only the actors who have done their best to ruin "The Seagull", but to those others whose activities are not quite so obvious.

To-night too, Front of House and back stage we have been helped by members of The Maskers, The Studio Players and the Godshill Players. Thank you, all of you.

I have left to last the man who in his own words "... was foolish enough to suggest the Festival and then got landed with running it".

Denys Nelson, Secretary of the Godshill Players, wrote letters, made phone calls and drove miles to persuade people to help. He even managed to bully the staff of the Appeal Office into doing what he wanted when he wanted it! Money has been raised but, above all, literally hundreds of people actively concerned with Theatre, have been involved and have, I trust, become more and more aware of the need to help raise funds for our new Playhouse.

Have we had your support - by gift or covenant?

The Appeal Office is now in the Playhouse building and the staff there will be delighted to explain the many ways in which help - large or small - can be given.

FORTHCOMING APPEAL EVENTS

| | |
|------------|---|
| 27th April | Henry Irving "The Knight from Nowhere" Turner-Syms Hall, Southampton 7.30 p.m. |
| 2nd May | Clarendon May Ball at Clarendon Park, Alderbury. Details from Appeal Office. |
| 11th May | "Merry Wives of Windsor" Performed by The Maskers of Southampton 7.15 p.m. in the Playhouse, Salisbury. |