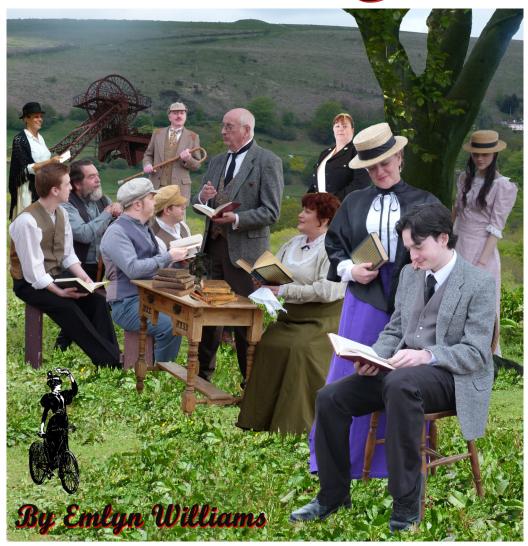


BOX OFFICE: 01443 202959

Doors open 7pm

# The Company Proudly Present Speech



Thursday 21st - Saturday 23rd June 2012

Programme

### CHAIRWOMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Hilltop Theatre Company's final production of the 2011/2012 season – "The Corn is Green", written by noted Welsh playwright Emlyn Williams. This is our 30th full production & it marks the end of a decade of drama in Pentyrch. Over the last 10 years we have brought a wide variety of theatre to the stage of the Village Hall – musicals, serious drama, comedy, pantomime, farce, murder mystery – not to mention our many different fundraisers, bringing even more entertainment to our audiences.

"The Corn is Green" was originally written as a semi-autobiographical play & made into a film in 1945 with Bette Davis as the schoolteacher, Miss Moffatt. In 1979 it was remade with Katharine Hepburn in the lead role. It certainly captivated Karen Claridge, who is no stranger to the role of director, having already directed "The Importance of Being Earnest" & assisted Anne Morris on "A Chorus of Disapproval". Karen is also a frequent performer with Hilltop & this wealth of experience is evident in the excellent production you will see tonight.

We will be holding our annual summer fundraiser entitled "Sounds of the West-End" over 2 nights, Friday 13th & Saturday 14th July. Included will be a hot supper & dessert. Iain Campbell has put together a programme featuring some of your best loved songs from your favourite musicals. This, importantly, helps to finance our programme for the coming season. Book your tickets soon to avoid disappointment!

Thank you for coming this evening. The support of our audiences has been greatly appreciated over the last decade. I'm sure you'll agree that tonight's production serves to underline the excellent quality of what we do best. Long may it continue & here's to the next ten years!

Siân Williams





### Pentyrch Village Hall's

Upcoming Events





### Friday 12th October 2012 Quiz night 7-11pm

For further info Contact Sue Gambarini on 07554 632894

# Pentyrch Nursery

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

Contact Name: Victoria Lewis

www.pemtyrchmursery.co.uk4

**Contact Number: 07891257368** 

Email Address: V.Lewis@hotmail.co.uk

### The Creative Kitchen

Caterors & Events Management Completely bespoke catering created with imagination & style

We do; Weddings, all parties & functions, banquets, bbq's,

corporate events, cakes

Drinks packages, staffing, bars, design & decoration

Contact us on 07446530881 to discuss your individual requirements

### CAST PHOTOGRAPHS





#### Villager Cast Female/male

Abby Dawson, Alice Liney, Bethan Evans, Bethan Roberts, Cadi Karroumi, Elinor Brockhurst, Freya Roberts, Hanna Davies, Holly Dow, Jenna Claridge, Lauren Dow, Mali Karroumi / Connor Dunne, Iestyn Jones, Morus Jones

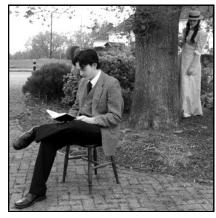
Villager Cast Adults

Bethan Karroumi, Carla Gambarini,

Elaine Thompson, Hayley Dunne, Irene Dow, Pamela Lewis, Sara Pickard

### CAST PHOTOGRAPHS

















# SWEENEY TODD

NODA REVIEW

#### **Directed by Helen Page**

Murder most foul. The harrowing tale of Sweeney Todd, the Demon barber of Fleet Street, graphically told in a chilling play by C. G. Bond.

Martyn Lewis gave a fine performance as Sweeney Todd, with many nuances of darkness, despair & revenge-seeking anguish. Fleur Greening, as Mrs Lovett, purveyor of the worst pies in London, played with an edgy, nervous intensity in her collaboration with Sweeney, and culinary disposal of his victims.

Becky Church was sweetly innocent as Sweeney's long lost daughter Johanna, with Phil Davies, disturbingly repulsive as her guardian, the lascivious & corrupt Judge Turpin, abetted by Dai Williams, as the unpleasant & menacing Beadle.

A sound performance by Tim Driscoll, as Anthony the romantic sailor in love with Johanna. Helen Page, as the sad, demented Beggar Woman, a confident performance by Meredith Edwards, as the young & trusting lad Tobias, with supporting roles by Mark Pinches (Alfredo). John Sadler & Rhys Stapleton, completed an able & worthy cast.

Direction by Helen Page, had good atmosphere & sense of period with chilling scenes of darkness & gore with the tension relieved, at times, with moments of black humour.

Set design by Rhys Stapleton, accommodated the many scenes & maximised the limited playing area conveying the stark squalor of the time. A good evening of shock horror.

Reviewed by Frank Wooles (NODA)

# **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



u

#### **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.

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It is with tremendous joy that I welcome you to tonight's production of; 'The Corn is Green'. Its description traverses several genres including; drama, melodrama & comedy. At its core, it is a semi-autobiographical story, beautifully written by & about the Welsh playwright, Emlyn Williams. The play was first presented in London in 1938 with Emlyn Williams himself playing the role of Morgan Evans.

Set in a remote Welsh mining village in the late 1890's - be prepared to enter a world where twelve year old boys work down the mines & "in one week they are old men", with very few having access to an education.

If you have not come across them before, hopefully you will get to know the fascinating, broad range of characters & share their experiences as you witness the story unfold, discovering unexpected twists & turns along the way.

The cast & crew of this play have been an absolute pleasure to work with, I will treasure every moment of our time, which has had to come to an end much too soon. Without the help & continued support of certain individuals it would not have been brought to the stage this evening. I would like to thank Anne Morris as assistant director for her calm, reassuring & diligent approach & attention to detail. I also thank Jan Stapleton & Sue Gambarini, for their tireless work & achieving spectacular results with costumes & props. The numerous artistic skills & talents of Rhys Stapleton have been essential along with those of Wayne Brewer, a quiet hero of Hilltop Theatre Company. Thanks also to the backstage crew & John Grainger - a newcomer behind the scenes. Specialist support & advice was generously given by Hywel Davies, a new face on the Hilltop stage. I am truly grateful for everything you have all done - Thank you.

It was whilst playing the part of Bessie Watty in 1978 that I caught the 'bug' for amateur theatre & with no sign of recovery, I share with you tonight the source of my contamination!

I hope you enjoy the experience of 'The Corn is Green'.

Karen Claridge

#### 'THE CORN IS GREEN' SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Place: The living room of a house in the Welsh mining village of Glansarno in the late 1890's

#### ACT I

Scene I: An afternoon in June

Scene II: A night in August, six weeks later

#### **ACT II**

Scene I: An early evening in August, two years later. Scene II: A morning in November, three months later.

#### ACT III

Scene I: An afternoon in July, seven months later.



# CAST

	Order of appearance
Hywel Davies	Mr John Goronwy Jones
Cerys Morling	Miss Ronberry
Jared Chinnock	Idwal Morris
Becky Church	Sarah Pugh
Rhys Stapleton	Groom
Huw Williams	The Squire
Flora Kerridge	Bessie Watty
Fiona Jackson	Mrs Watty
Delyth Coleman	Miss Moffat
Chris Conway	Robbart Robbatch
Conor Brewer	Glyn Thomas
Tom Powell	Morgan Evans
Donald Johnson	Old Tom



Acknowledgements
R.A.T.S & Beulah for the loan of costumes
Rhondda Cadet Unit for use of hall



# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director
Assistant Director
Prompt
Stage Manager/LightingWayne Brewer
Set DesignWayne Brewer, Rhys Stapleton
Scenic painting/ConstructionRhys Stapleton,
Wayne Brewer, John Grainger, Carla Gambarini
PropertiesJan Stapleton, Laura Thompson
WardrobeJan Stapleton, Sue Gambarini
Make-up/HairNikki Jones/Victoria Northbrook
MarketingRhys Stapleton, Richard Jones
Business
Programme/PosterRhys Stapleton
BarRay Claridge
House ManagerIain Campbell
House StaffSue Gambarini, Roz Jones
& Members of Hilltop
Box OfficeBrenda Slaughter