

AUGUST 2016

# newsletter

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sewellbarn

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THEATRE

## Coming Soon

### Accolade

by Emlyn Williams | directed by Clare Williamson

**20-22 & 26-29 October at 7.30 pm, matinée 29 October at 2.30 pm**

As we write, the first play of the new season is about to begin rehearsals; more details and rehearsal photographs will follow next month. In the meantime, here's a word from the Director:

“Even though the News of the World is no more, there's still an irresistible desire to find out about the sex lives of public figures - and lots of newspapers left to report it. As we've recently been discovering, some of them stop at nothing to get the stories: hacking voicemails, paying bribes and wrecking families along the way. This is the subject matter of *Accolade* and, what makes it even more fascinating is that it was written and set in 1950.

Emlyn Williams provides us with a tense and revealing portrait of a newly-knighted novelist, Will Trenting, who finds that his private appetite for promiscuous sex parties is about to be exposed to scandal and the threat of blackmail. This is not a traditional blackmail tale – Trenting's wife accepts his sexual proclivities. In the end, he has to decide which is more important: family life or the debauchery which has given him his literary material and the audience shares these moral challenges.

This was a bold play for its time with resonance for the present. Williams, who was candid about his own bisexuality, enters a plea for tolerance and understanding that anticipates later plays of the decade such as Rattigan's *Separate Tables*.”

The full cast has just been announced (see details later in this newsletter), and the team are very much looking forward to beginning work on this exciting and fascinating play. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Booking

Tickets for all shows at the Sewell Barn Theatre can be booked at **Prelude Records** who are located on St Giles Street in the city centre. With this new service, you can continue to buy tickets in person and over the phone by calling **01603 628319**. We've also introduced online booking, available on our website and via Prelude Records (small booking fee if you use a credit card online).



PRELUDE  
RECORDS

# Lark Rise to Candleford

As notified to all our members and patrons earlier this month: it is with deep regret the Sewell Barn Company has to announce that due to circumstances beyond our control we are unable to proceed with the productions of Lark Rise and Candleford that were scheduled to be performed in September of this year. We apologise for any inconvenience that this decision has caused.

The cast and Director are deeply saddened by this decision and express our heartfelt apologies to everyone who had supported us so early in the purchasing of tickets. Whilst we offer a refund, as an alternative, you may wish to transfer your purchase to another production. Either way, please speak with Prelude Records (01603 628319) to arrange what is most convenient for you.

If you purchased through Ticket Source you will be charged £1.00 admin. Please arrange with Prelude to reclaim this cost. It would be very helpful if we could conclude the refunds as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming you to shows in our new 2016/17 season, beginning with Accolade in October.

## Our Previous Production

### The History Boys

by Alan Bennett | directed by Michelle Montague



Photography: Michael Stanislaw

The History Boys was a triumph, both commercially and artistically. The reviews from our audiences, across social media, by email and in person in the theatre, were hugely enthusiastic and appreciative; and the House Full sign went up for nearly every performance – the best ticket sales we have had for a long time. Here are just a few comments:

"Congratulations to all of you in the cast. A fantastic performance which captured the poignancy, power and humour of Alan Bennett's great play. You brought 80s Yorkshire (and beyond) to life superbly. Loved it." *John B*

"I had very high hopes for the production of The History Boys at Sewell Barn this evening with Charlie Skinner and David Nicholas Green and I was not disappointed. All those who know me, know how critical I am when it comes to the theatre and how high my standards are, so when I say that it was like watching a professional company I mean it. Congratulations to the director as the brilliant yet demanding script and the space available must have made the task

challenging but I can say, with ease, that the direction appeared faultless and creative. The whole cast played their characters with excellent timing, depth and subtlety. I especially admired the seamless and creative scene changes. A thoughtful, funny and heartfelt performance of a brilliant play and I cannot recommend it highly enough. Congratulations to all involved xxx" *Laura W*

"Congratulations to the cast and crew of History Boys. Went to see the show last night and it is both a credit and testament to the work of Miche Montague. Not just on this production, not just her work at Sewell Barn, but her work in the wider Norwich drama community. The sheer strength and ability of the boys in this production (all of whom have come through the ranks at the Theatre Royal under Miche's teaching and mentorship) is a delight. I'm sure they would have given the boys in the original professional production a run for their money.... this was a show that relied on the ability of a strong ensemble performance. And they all delivered in spades... An absolute credit to Sewell Barn. Well done." *Nick M*

For more reviews of this and other productions, visit our blog at [sewellbarntheatre.blogspot.co.uk](http://sewellbarntheatre.blogspot.co.uk). You can also see a display of some of our favourite reviews of the most recent production in the foyer.

## Casting for the first two shows of 2016-17

We are delighted to announce the full casts for the first two productions of the 2016-17 season.

### Accolade : 20-22 & 26-29 October

**Will Trenting** Nick Meir

**Albert** Jim Green

**Rona Trenting** Emma Kirkham

**Thane Lampeter** Cassie Tillett

**Marian Tillyard** Joanie Gray

**Ian Trenting** Will Sellgren

**Phyllis** Ruth Bennett

**Harold** Jonathan Redding

**Daker** Rob Fradley Wilde

**Director** Clare Williamson

**SM** Anne Giles

**Tech** Karl Hartland

### Lord Arthur Savile's Crime : 1-3 & 7-10 December

**Lord Arthur** Matt Scantlebury

**Mr Podgers** Matthew Tucker

**Herr Winklekopf** Will Hooper

**Baines** Roger Gardiner

**Sybil** Nicola Myers

**Lady Windermere** Mandy Kiley

**Lady Clementine** Anne Giles

**Lady Julia** Glenda Gardiner

**The Dean of Paddington** John Hare

**Nellie** Rebekah Bigwood

**Director** Rob Morris

**Tech** Tony Cannell-Smith

**We are still looking for a Stage Manager** for **Lord Arthur Savile's Crime**; if you are able to help with this, please contact [artisticdirector@sewellbarn.org](mailto:artisticdirector@sewellbarn.org) as soon as possible.

## Prompts please!

We don't use prompts during performances, but they are a vital part of the team during the rehearsal process – usually during the last month or so between books-down and curtain-up. If you would like to help in this very important way, please contact Peter Wood on [prompt@sewellbarn.org](mailto:prompt@sewellbarn.org).

# Workshop: Get Involved with Front of House

## An evening for Stewards and Bar Helpers

Calling all of you who help Front of House or on the Bar - or who would be interested in doing so!

In order to comply with licensing laws, it is essential that all staff are trained. We will be holding a workshop on **Wednesday September 28th at 7.30 pm** in the Barn. It is important that you all try to come along as there are a few changes that you will need to know about. Even if you have been doing FOH for years, please come to this workshop to get up to date. Please join us for an entertaining as well as an informative evening.

The evening will be led by Rick Fuller (our new licensee) and Jane Page. For more information, please contact Jill on [chairman@sewellbarn.org](mailto:chairman@sewellbarn.org). We look forward to seeing you there.

## Membership renewals

A final reminder that **membership fees are now due**. As a Friend, you are entitled to have your say in the running of the company using your vote at the AGM (see below). It's also an excellent way to show your support for our work at the Sewell Barn, and we very much appreciate it. It costs £10 for a year, £15 for a couple at the same address, or £50 per person for lifetime membership. Please email [membership@sewellbarn.org](mailto:membership@sewellbarn.org) with any queries, or write to the Membership Secretary at The Rectory, Somerton Road, Winterton-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth NR29 4AW.

## AGM

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Friends of the Sewell Barn will be on Sunday October 2nd at 7.30 pm in the Barn. All are welcome, but only paid up members are eligible to vote. Please try to come along as we also are using the occasion to say thank you to Robert Little and Michelle Montague, who have been our very successful Artistic Directors for the last five seasons.

The doors will be open at 7.15 and the meeting, usually quite short, will follow at 7.30 pm. Afterwards the bar will be open and nibbles will be provided.

Please let the secretary, Dan Taylor ([daniel180@btinternet.com](mailto:daniel180@btinternet.com)) know if you are coming; apologies to Dan too, please.

*Jill Fuller*

## What else is on in the area?

### Maddermarket Theatre

***Witness for the Prosecution*** by Agatha Christie

23 September to 1 October at 7.30 pm

matinées 24 September & 1 October at 2.30 pm



### Great Hall Theatre Company

***The Noble Spaniard*** by W Somerset Maugham

27 September to 1 October at 7.30 pm, matinée 1 October at 2.30 pm

