

MONMOUTH MUSIC THEATRE

PRESENT

THE ZOO

A SHORT MUSICAL COMEDY BY SULLIVAN AND ROWE

Followed by a Quiz

At the following venues

Friday 24th October - Drybridge House, Monmouth

Saturday 25th October - Parkend Village Hall

Friday 31st October - Kynin View School, Wyesham, Monmouth

Saturday 8th November - Dingestow Village Hall

Tickets - £8.00 to include finger buffet and glass of wine

All performances start at 7.30 p.m.

For more information ring 01600 716220 or visit www.monmouthmt.co.uk

DON'T FORGET PIRATES OF PENZANCE

1 - 4 APRIL 2009

OFF CENTRE THEATRE

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1112602

Presents

Men of the World

A Comedy by
John Godber

18 October 2008


Llanishen Village Hall

23 - 25 October 2008

The Savoy Theatre

Monmouth



 PLATFORM ONE

**Graphic Design
Consultants**

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Best wishes to OCT for a happy
and successful production



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We would like to wish OCT every
success with their production of
Men of the World

34 MONNOW STREET
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TELEPHONE 712015

John Godber - the author



John Godber was born the son and grandson of miners in Upton, West Yorkshire in 1956. He trained as a teacher of drama at Bretton Hall College. After graduating he became head of drama at Minsthorpe High School, the school he attended as a student. Whilst teaching there he won almost every major award at the National Student Drama Festival between 1981 and 1983. He has also won five Edinburgh Fringe First Awards and in 1984 won the Laurence Olivier Comedy of the Year Award for *Up 'n' Under*.

In 1984 he was appointed Artistic Director of the Hull Truck Theatre Company. When he first took up the post the theatre was struggling financially and was on the brink of closure. "I suppose I came with a mission to make theatre viable in a city that hadn't been able to make theatre work. My mission was to write plays that would attract people who perhaps weren't traditional theatre goers." Godber transformed the traditional company into a local community theatre, performing plays which reflected people's lives. Since then the company has established itself as one of the best contemporary theatre groups in Britain, often performing Godber's own plays.

His most popular play, *Bouncers*, was nominated for Comedy of the Year in 1985 and won seven Los Angeles Critics Circle Awards and five awards in Chicago in 1987. *On The Piste* was nominated for the Comedy of the Year in 1993 and *April in Paris* (performed by Off Centre theatre in 1997) was nominated Comedy of the Year in 1994. He has written over 50 plays which include *Teachers*, *Happy Jack* and *September in the Rain* all of which have been performed in Monmouth by members of OCT - directed by Jim Newcomb. His most recent play is *Horrid Henry—Alive and Horrid*, based on Francesca Simon's children's novels, it was premiered in August this year.

He has directed many plays other than the first productions of his own including *Twelfth Night*, and *The Glass Menagerie*. John's TV work includes *Crown Court*, *Grange Hill* and *Brookside*.

He successfully auditioned for a part in *The Full Monty* but turned it down to work on making his first feature film of his play *Up 'n' Under*.

John is married with two daughters.

He is reckoned to be the third most frequently performed British playwright after Shakespeare and Ayckbourn.

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Wishes
Off Centre Theatre
all the best
for their
Production of
Men of the World

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Wishing OCT every success with their production of *Men of the World*

About Men of the World

Men of the World was premiered at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield in 2002 and is set in the early years of Tony Blair's government

Preparing for a mystery trip to Scarborough ("she wouldn't book till Dennis told her where we were going") three Northern coach drivers pass the time remembering more exciting trips from the past, such as the last one, down the Rhine Valley to Heidelberg. Stick hates his passengers and wishes he was doing the Spanish run instead of Johnny Mac. Larry is a Mario Lanza fan who's been making trips for as long as anyone can remember and Frank ("don't ask...it'll only shock you!") is their female counterpart.

These three actors take turns playing an assortment of passengers, from the dotty old complainers to the retired miners seeking excitement too late and on too little money. Escape is on everyone's mind but no one knows quite what they're escaping from and how to go about it. As Sissy says, it is "better going somewhere when you're seventy-nine than going nowhere". A touching, often hilarious, bitter-sweet play, full of John Godber's usual clever, perceptive view of "men of the world".



Thank you from
**OFF CENTRE
THEATRE**



Thank you to the following, for their support and help with this production:

Andy Sherwill and the Monmouth Free Press,
Monmouthshire Beacon,
Nelson Museum Monmouth,
Beaver Framing
The Savoy Theatre
Monmouth Library

Church Wardens & PCC of St Mary's Church, Monmouth.

Cast



Frank	Anne Macfarlane
Larry	Chris Ryde
Stick	Jim Newcomb

Directed by
Geoffrey Manning & Jim Newcomb

Men of the World is set in 2002





About Off Centre Theatre



Off Centre Theatre (OCT) was established in 1986 with its first production - *Maria Marten*. Since then it has gone from strength to strength and established itself as Monmouth's premier amateur dramatics company. It has produced over 90 productions since 1986 which you can see listed on the next page

- OCT's productions range from traditional plays, variety shows, pantomimes, outdoor productions and events (in June 2005 on the Kymin in partnership with the National Trust) and touring shows.
- Though many of our productions have a cast of all ages we also specifically have productions for Junior and Youth members
- In February 2008 OCT joined with the professional Stennett Company to stage *Robin Hood and the Babes in Wood*. As the name suggests Stan Stennett, the veteran entertainer, was in the production - he had contacted OCT to suggest we join forces. This very successful joint production shows how OCT is able to produce performances of a professional standard.
- All ages and abilities are welcome to join. It doesn't matter if you have no previous experience and there is no pressure for you to appear on stage.
- You may have an interest in working backstage, helping front of house, making costumes or you may just want to be social member—everyone is welcome.
- We organise theatre trips, have play readings and hold club nights on the first Thursday of most months in our clubroom above Barclays Bank in Agincourt Square.

OCT are a registered charity - the Charity Commissioners recognising the contribution OCT makes to the local community. Do you want to join in?

Annual membership fees: Juniors (under 16) £10, Adults £15, Household membership £35.

As a member you will be kept up-to-date with a monthly newsletter.

Contact the Barbara Spence - 01600 715699
or e.mail: offcentre@btopenworld.com.

OCT's Past productions

1986	Aug	Maria Marten	1997	Jan	Dick Whittington(1)
	Nov	Mixed Doubles		April	Witness for the Prosecution
	Dec	Babes in the Magic Wood(1)		Jun	Summer Showtime(1&3)
1987	Aug	Sweeny Todd		Oct	April in Paris
	Dec	Land of the Christmas Stocking (1)	1998	Jan	Beauty and the Beast(1)
1988	Mar	Three one act plays		Mar	Unhand Me Squire(4)
	May	Outside Edge		May	Tons of Money
	Oct	Oh What a Lovely War		Oct	Thursday's Ladies
	Dec	The Grand Old Duke of York(1)	1999	Jan	Sleeping Beauty(1)
1989	Feb	The Maids		Mar	Uncle Vanya
	May	Happy Families		May	Happy Jack
	Oct	The Art of Course Acting		July	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs(4)
	Dec	The Wizard of Oz(1)	2000	Jan	Aladdin(1)
1990	April	Crown of Thorns		Jun	Sinbad the Sailor(4)
	April	Party Spirits		July	Summer Show - Camel Tour(3)
	April	Abigail's Party(2)	2001	Jan	Cinderella(1)
	Oct	Habeas Corpus		Nov	Frayne Evening
	Dec	Toad of Toad Hall(1)	2002	Jan	Robinson Crusoe(1)
1991	April	The Crucible(1)		Jun	Humpty Dumpty(4)
	Oct	Suddenly at Home		Jun	Euro Touro(3)
	Dec	Goldilocks and the Three Bears (1)		July	Quartet for One
1992	Feb	The Collection & The Lover		Oct	Blithe Spirit
	May	What the Butler Saw(2)	2003	Jan	Robin Hood & the Babes in the Wood(1)
	July	The Canterbury Tales		May	Happiest Days of your Life (1&2)
	Oct	House Guest		Jun	Sporting Showcase(3)
1993	Jan	Aladdin(1)		Oct	The Importance of Being Earnest
	April	Bedroom Farce	2004	Jan	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs(1)
	June	Fish out of Water(1)		Feb	Two
	July	Summer Showtime(1&3)		June	See How They Run(2)
	Oct	Murder is Announced		July	It's Entertainment(1&3)
	Nov	Under Milk Wood		Oct	How the Other Half Loves
1994	Jan	Cinderella(1)	2005	Jan	Jack and the Beanstalk(1)
	April	When We Are Married		Feb	Lord Arthur Saville's Crime(2)
	June	Gaslight		June	Nelson's Touch(1)
	July	Summer Showtime(1&3)		Oct	Murder at Priorswell Manor(2)
	Sept	Hip Hip Horatius(4)	2006	Feb	The Dumb Waiter
	Oct	House on the Cliff			The Virtuous Burglar(2&4)
1995	Jan	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs(1)		My/Ju	Wind in the Willows(1)
	March	Fools Paradise(1)		Sept	Horne a plenty
	April	A Cabaret for Miss Sophie(2)		Oct	Summer End
	May	La Ronde	2007	Jan	The Odd Couple
	July	Summer Interlude(3)		My/Ju	The Wizard of Oz(1)
	Oct	Picallilli Circus(4)		Oct	Little Box of Oblivion
	Oct	Green Form	2008	Feb	Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood (1)
	Oct	Teachers(4)		May	The Rose and Crown & What's for Pudding
1996	Jan	Jack and the Beanstalk(1)			
	March	The Admirable Crichton			
	July	A Cruise for Miss Sophie(3)			
	Oct	Ah, Cruel Fate!(4)			
	Oct	Interior Designs & Pity About Kitty			

Key: (1)Cast of all ages (2)Award Winner
(3)Variety Show
(4)Junior /Youth production